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A woman with dark, wavy hair is posing in a room with dark wood paneling. She is wearing a white, sleeveless, square-neckline gown with a fitted bodice and a full, flowing skirt. Her right hand is on her hip, and her left hand is behind her head. The lighting is soft and focused on her.

# KELSEY ROSE

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EST. 1912

ELLIS

[WWW.ELLISBRIDALS.CO.UK](http://WWW.ELLISBRIDALS.CO.UK)



A full-length portrait of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a white strapless gown with a cuffed neckline and a full skirt. She is standing on a grassy area in front of a modern building with large glass windows and wooden pillars. The lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early evening.

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# WELCOME

A new year means new beginnings and for many of you, the start of something extraordinary. Whether you said 'yes' over the holidays or have been quietly planning for months, we're thrilled to begin 2026 with you.

Scotland's wedding scene has never felt more alive. From windswept coastlines to historic castles, modern city spaces and everything in between, our country continues to redefine what weddings can look and feel like. It's an industry driven by creativity, courage and craft – and this issue celebrates that spirit in full.

Inside, you'll find editorial shoots that inspire, real weddings that tell stories of identity and heart and trusted suppliers who raise the bar year after year. These pages reflect a community of professionals who are not only exceptional at what they do, but deeply passionate about giving couples unforgettable experiences. Their talent is shaping the future of Scottish weddings – bold, personalised and beautifully intentional.

Wherever you are on your planning journey, let this issue be a reminder that your day should feel like you. Authentic, joyful and entirely your own. The traditions you honour, the moments you create and the people you choose to support you will define the celebration more than anything else.

Here's to fresh ideas, pushing the boundaries of what's possible and, of course, the remarkable suppliers who help turn couples' visions into reality every single day.

2026 is set to be an extraordinary year and we're honoured to share it with you.

*LESLEY TRAYNOR*

DIRECTOR



Lesley Traynor  
DIRECTOR

[lesley@yourscottishwedding.co.uk](mailto:lesley@yourscottishwedding.co.uk)



Claire Muir  
FEATURES EDITOR

[claire@yourscottishwedding.co.uk](mailto:claire@yourscottishwedding.co.uk)



Charlene Epsie  
HEAD OF SOCIAL MEDIA & STRATEGY

[charlene@yourscottishwedding.co.uk](mailto:charlene@yourscottishwedding.co.uk)



Leah Hodder  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

[leah@yourscottishwedding.co.uk](mailto:leah@yourscottishwedding.co.uk)



Tsitsi Lynn Makuni  
SALES MANAGER

[tsitsi@yourscottishwedding.co.uk](mailto:tsitsi@yourscottishwedding.co.uk)

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Hayley Paige

A LOVE LETTER IN THE FORM OF GOWNS

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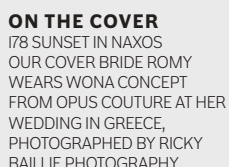
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Coastal calm and understated  
Highland luxury

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Historic ruins, sea air and weekend-long  
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Iconic views, impeccable service and  
quiet confidence

**278** MAR HALL  
Grand Scottish romance with a  
modern edge

**280** LADYBURN HOUSE  
Intimate, restorative weddings rooted  
in connection







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Gwenne Broxburn  
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# WEDDING COUNTDOWN

Your engagement marks the beginning of a beautiful story – one filled with decisions, discoveries and unforgettable moments. From first ideas to the final toast, each stage of planning shapes the day you'll remember forever. Here's how to enjoy every part of the journey with purpose and poise...



12+ MONTHS

# VISION

Before you get swept up in the details, take a step back and dream big. Imagine the atmosphere you want to create – intimate garden gathering or grand city celebration? Start with what feels true to you both.

Set your budget early and talk openly with your families about contributions. Once you've established the scale of your celebration, begin exploring venues and book the one that feels right.

This is also the time to secure the essentials: celebrant, photographer, videographer, band or DJ, and any key suppliers whose calendars fill quickly. Send your Save the Dates, explore outfit ideas for you and your wedding party, and take out wedding insurance. Above all, enjoy this creative beginning – the vision stage is where your story takes shape.



PHOTOS BY ZOE

9+ MONTHS

# DESIGN

With the big bookings in place, you can begin to design the look and feel of your day. Think about colour, texture, and mood. Are you drawn to timeless elegance, modern minimalism, or wild romance? Refine your Pinterest boards, gather inspiration from venues, florists and stylists, and consider whether to work with a professional planner or designer to bring your ideas to life.

Book your hair and make-up trials, order your wedding rings, and confirm your florist and cake designer. As your aesthetic starts to come together, it's time to imagine how each element will photograph, flow and feel.



## 6+ MONTHS

### DETAIL

Now it's all about the finer touches – the kind that transform a day into an experience.

Order your stationery and send invitations, choose your ceremony music, and finalise transport and accommodation for the wedding party and guests.

If you're travelling for your honeymoon, secure your bookings and double-check passports.

Confirm menu tastings, gifts for your wedding party, and organise your outfit fittings. These weeks are about shaping the details that express your personality as a couple – thoughtful, seamless, and beautifully you.



PHOTOS BY ZOE



CAPTURE THE MOMENT

## 3+ MONTHS

### REFINE

With the big picture in place, the final three months are all about refinement. This is when couples fine-tune the details that shape the flow of the day; confirming timings with suppliers, finalising readings, playlists and transport plans, and making sure every element works together smoothly.

Beauty trials happen now too, from hair and make-up to any last dress or suit adjustments. It's also the moment to update guest lists, lock in table plans and share key information with the venue. Small, thoughtful tweaks here bring clarity, confidence and a welcome sense of calm.







YOUR WEDDING DAY

CELEBRATE

The week of the wedding is pure magic. Pack your honeymoon suitcase, drop off decorations at the venue and take time to pause before the celebrations begin.

On the day itself, breathe, be present and let go of the to-do lists. Whether it's a candlelit dinner, a ceilidh, or a dance under the stars, this is your moment – the culmination of months of dreaming and detail.



POST-WEDDING

REFLECT

After the final song fades, the story continues. Return your marriage schedule within three days, send your thank-you cards, and choose your favourite images for your album. Have your outfits cleaned, and relive the joy of the day with your new spouse – not through tasks, but through memories.

Every couple's journey is different, but this is your beginning – one that deserves to be savoured, celebrated, and remembered for a lifetime.





# THE SCOTTISH WEDDING SHOW



JAMES PORTER  
JEWELLERS & SON SINCE 1858

14 - 15 FEBRUARY 2026 | SEC GLASGOW

GET READY TO FALL IN LOVE  
ALL OVER AGAIN!



# **The Scottish Wedding Show is back at the SEC on 14-15 February 2026 and it's going to be the ultimate Valentine's weekend celebration of love, inspiration, and all things wedding!**

## **ENDLESS INSPO**

With over 200 suppliers across every category you can think of - from dresses and décor to florals and cakes, there's inspiration for every kind of couple!



## **LIVE MUSIC ACTS**

Hear from Scotland's top wedding entertainment acts live on stage, helping you get first dance song inspiration and curate your wedding playlist.



## **PROSECCO AND COCKTAIL BAR**

Hosted by Manorview, you can indulge in a glass of prosecco or a bespoke cocktail while taking a break from the magical world of wedding planning.

Whether you're newly engaged or putting the finishing touches on your big day - we're the one-stop shop for all your wedding needs!



## **RUNWAY FASHION SHOWS**

Scotland's biggest wedding runway sponsored by the RAD Hotel Group is packed with must-see designers and trendsetting collections in bridal, groomsware, bridesmaids and the mother-of-the-marrier looks.



## **VIP PACKAGES**

Start your wedding planning in style and book VIP tickets. You'll enjoy perks such as a glass of bubbly, prime runway seats, all day access to the VIP Lounge and an exclusive Clarins goody bag.



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# Meet the winners of the —2025—



Scotland's FINEST wedding TALENT stepped into the SPOTLIGHT at *Your Scottish Wedding Awards*.

**Y**our Scottish Wedding Awards returned in 2025 with a night of celebration, recognition and community spirit that felt truly special for everyone involved.

Scotland's wedding industry gathered to applaud the people and businesses who go above and beyond for couples – the planners, venues, designers, photographers and creators whose work turns a wedding vision into an unforgettable reality.

More than a showcase of talent, the awards honour excellence in service and experience, recognising suppliers who put couples at the heart of everything they do. Voted for by newlyweds and judged by industry peers, the accolades reflect both client trust and professional respect – a combination that marks out Scotland's most cherished wedding suppliers.

On a night filled with laughter, applause and heartfelt speeches, winners took to the stage to share what their award means to them. For many, the accolade is more than a trophy. It validates years of dedication, long hours, late nights and early mornings, and countless moments spent helping couples craft days that feel truly personal. It's a reminder that behind every beautiful celebration are people driven by passion, care and craft.

From established names shaping trends and defining standards, to newer voices bringing fresh energy and perspective, this year's winners showcase the diversity

and strength of Scotland's wedding scene. Some spoke of the joy that comes from long-standing relationships with couples who return as friends; others reflected on the courage and growth that comes from building a business with love and resilience at its core.

In the categories that follow, meet the suppliers who are championing excellence in weddings across the country. Congratulations to every winner and here's to another year of excellence in Scottish weddings.

**Venue ...** DoubleTree by Hilton Glasgow Central

**Sponsor ...** Your Scottish Wedding, 21CC, DoubleTree by Hilton

**Supported charity ...** CHAS

**Entertainment ...** Luxe Grooves, Kaizen Entertainments, Fire & Dance

**Photography ...** Carla Marcia Photography

**Judges ...** Drew Rutherford, Luxury Scottish Wedding Limited | Nicole Mitchell, Braehead Wedding Exhibition/ WSS Media | George Gilchrist-Grodnicki, Edinburgh Wedding Directory | Nikki Stokoe, The Scottish Wedding Show/ QD Events | Tom Goodfellow, Luxury Scottish Wedding Limited | Andrew Fraser, Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition | Michelle Fraser, Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition







#### « BRIDAL DESIGNER

### Freja Designer Dressmaking

Freja Designer Dressmaking is renowned for its couture-level craftsmanship and quietly luxurious approach to bridalwear. Designer Mette creates bespoke gowns and outfits shaped around each client's personality, proportions and vision. Every piece is drafted from scratch, fitted with meticulous precision and finished by hand in the Edinburgh workroom. This award recognises a designer whose work feels modern, personal and beautifully made.

#### BRIDAL RETAILER »

### Charlotte Grace Bridal

Suzette's boutique is built on intimacy, warmth and genuine care – qualities her clients and the industry clearly cherish.

"I can't put into words how over the moon I am," she says. "It's a humbling experience and a reminder that you don't need to be massive to make a massive impact. You need passion, love and care."



#### « CAKE DESIGNER

### YiShi Cake

For Denise, cake design is storytelling in sugar – emotional, expressive and deeply personal. "This milestone reflects not only my craft but the trust my clients place in me," she explains. Her work blends fine art precision with heartfelt collaboration, resulting in cakes that are as meaningful as they are beautiful. "It's a privilege to transform ideas into experiences couples cherish forever."





#### CATERER >>

### The Lunchbox Boys

Energy, creativity and unshakeable commitment define The Lunchbox Boys – a team who have built something remarkable in the last seven years. “It means a massive amount to us,” says Sam. “This award reflects endless late nights, early starts and the graft behind the scenes.” Their work blends bold flavours with flawless service, earning them a loyal following and now national recognition.



#### << CELEBRANT

### Fiona Flanagan—IHC

Warm, heartfelt and deeply intuitive, Fiona has become a beloved celebrant across Scotland. Winning the award for a second time felt especially powerful. “It’s the biggest privilege when a couple trusts me with the heart of their wedding day,” she says. Their thoughtful testimonials – and the judges’ praise – mean everything. “Self-employment brings moments of doubt, and this award is a reminder that I am good enough to do this job I love.”



#### CONTENT CREATOR >>

### Maximising Media

As one of Scotland’s first established content creators, Maximising Media’s has helped to define a new category of wedding storytelling. “Being the first ever winner of this award reflects the relentless dedication, professionalism and high standards we bring to every wedding. Making our couples happy is at the forefront of everything we do, and we’re so grateful to those who took the time to vote for us and those who trust us to capture their special day.” >>



#### << FLORIST

### Cherry Blossom

Every wedding Laura creates is shaped by dedication, craft and wholehearted service, something her couples clearly felt in their voting. “Winning this award means everything to us,” she says. It recognises not just beautiful florals but the long hours, early starts and care poured into every stem. From bouquets to large-scale installations, her work blends creativity with exceptional customer experience. “It reflects our hard work, passion and commitment to giving couples the best.”



#### GROOMSWEAR »

### The Kilt Studio

Craftsmanship, care and humility sit at the heart of The Kilt Studio. After moving from clinical research into this industry, owner Mark admits he carried fears – not about business but about letting couples down. “I made mistakes at the start but this award shows learning and effort matter.”



#### « HAIR STYLIST

### Claire Adamson Bridal Hair

Winning has been transformative for Claire. “I’m still absolutely on cloud nine,” she says. Entering the awards for the first time, she never imagined taking home the title. “It’s shown me that hard work really does pay off and that others can see and appreciate the love I put into what I do.”



#### INDEPENDENT WEDDING PLANNER »

### The Wedding Guru – Oskar

For Oskar and Linda, wedding planning is about atmosphere, trust and connection; things their couples feel instantly. “Winning truly means the world to us,” Oskar shares. Their approach is rooted in calm presence and deep personal investment – getting to know each couple, understanding their energy and shaping celebrations that feel meaningful and immersive. “The greatest highlight isn’t the castles or candlelight. It’s the couples who become friends. This award is a celebration of everything we hold dear.”



#### « JEWELLER

### Fennes Jewellery

This award recognises a jeweller trusted for its artistry, integrity and ability to help couples mark life’s biggest moments, and Fennes Jewellery stands out for its blend of craftsmanship, knowledge and warm, attentive service. “Being nominated by customers is a testament to our exceptional service, reliability and ability to create unforgettable experiences for our couples,” says Jo.







#### « MAKEUP ARTIST

### Kirsty MacPherson Hair & Makeup Artist

With nearly 25 years in the industry, Kirsty has honed a signature style built on calm confidence and glowing artistry. Being chosen as the overall winner out of 12 nominees was an emotional moment. "I still can't quite believe it. This award means the world to me – and more than anything, it shows my brides they're in good hands."

#### MUMS OUTFITS »

### Freja Designer Dressmaking

Known for tailoring that fits flawlessly and flatters every figure, Freja Designer Dressmaking has become a go-to for modern mums. Mette's bespoke designs offer an elegant alternative to off-the-rail shopping, with silhouettes crafted to suit individual style, comfort and occasion. Fabrics, colours and detailing are chosen collaboratively, resulting in outfits that feel polished, contemporary and unmistakably personal.



#### « MUSIC

### Hot Date

One of Scotland's most exciting entertainment acts, Hot Date is an wedding band and acoustic duo with a fiery, alternative twist. Their win is especially meaningful after a year of going fully independent. "We took a huge risk, but backed ourselves," says Laura. Running every aspect of the business themselves (bookings, socials, marketing and more) makes this recognition feel powerful. "To be voted for by our clients means everything. It reminds us why we took that chance." »





#### « PHOTOGRAPHER

### Biggar Picture Photography

For Allan, this award marks a defining moment. "I'm completely blown away – winning means the world to me," he says. Years of graft, learning and creative growth sit behind every image but the heart of this win is the couples themselves. "They've trusted me with the most special moments of their lives. This award isn't just mine, it's theirs." Known for warm connection and instinctive storytelling, Biggar Picture brings emotion, ease and authenticity to every frame.

#### STATIONERY »

### A Little Bit of Loveliness

A Little Bit of Loveliness specialises in bespoke stationery inspired by colour, storytelling and meaningful details. This mother-and-daughter team focuses on relationship-building from the first hello – listening to ideas, understanding what matters and turning it all into something couples can hold in their hands. They said the "incredible award" means more than they can put into words. "It feels like a special moment for us as we look at how far we've come and where we're going next."



#### « VENUE STYLING

### Pretty Little Details

Gemma Jackson built Pretty Little Details with one purpose – to make couples feel heard, valued and supported. "To win after only two years is incredible," she says. What makes this award especially meaningful is that it's driven by her couples' words; the people she's guided from first ideas to finished spaces. "I pride myself on our level of service and for our couples to appreciate that enough to vote is just amazing." A deserved win for a stylist whose care is felt in every detail.



✧ **VENUE WEDDING PLANNER**

## Jessica Paton – Old Course Hotel

Thoughtful, intuitive and endlessly calm, Jess has redefined what modern venue planning looks like. “Winning is truly a dream come true,” she says. Only two and a half years into the role, she has already earned a reputation for blending organisation with heart – championing her couples, protecting their vision and ensuring the journey feels effortless. “I’m deeply grateful to every couple who trusts me with their special day. They’re the reason I love what I do.”



Other winners  
who couldn't  
be there on  
the night...

**Filmmaker**  
V.I.P. Wedding  
Films

**Edinburgh Venue**  
Newhall Estate

Congratulations  
to all  
*Your Scottish  
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2025  
Winners!*

**HIGHLANDS AND  
ABERDEENSHIRE VENUE »**

## Norwood Hall Hotel

This win reflects the heart of what this historic Aberdeen hotel does best – warm, attentive hosting and a team who care deeply about every celebration. “This achievement is a credit to every member of our outstanding team,” they say. Known for its characterful interiors, elegant grounds and faultless service, Norwood continues to be a beloved choice for couples seeking a classic Scottish setting. “We work tirelessly to provide the best possible experience, and we cannot thank our couples enough for voting for us.” »





#### « FIFE VENUE »

### Old Course Hotel

Few venues balance romance, heritage and world-class hospitality quite like the Old Course Hotel and this year's win reflects a team deeply committed to exceptional weddings. "This recognition means the world to us," says Laura. "It reflects the dedication of our entire team and reminds us why we're passionate about creating unforgettable memories for our couples." From iconic views to heartfelt service, it's a venue where every detail is crafted with care, and where each celebration feels unmistakably special.

#### GLASGOW VENUE »

### Boclair House Hotel

Boclair House Hotel continues to be one of Scotland's most sought-after city venues, admired for its striking architecture, boutique interiors and exceptional service. Couples love the effortless flow of the day here, from elegant ceremony spaces to beautiful grounds and an experienced team that handles every detail with confidence. This award celebrates a venue that combines luxury with warmth, offering a timeless backdrop and a level of care that makes every wedding feel truly special.



#### « STIRLING VENUE »

### Boturich Castle & Pavillion

A standout setting on the banks of Loch Lomond, Boturich blends historic charm with contemporary styling and panoramic views. Its exclusive use format creates an intimate, luxurious experience, while the team is known for flawless coordination and thoughtful hosting. The Pavilion's modern design complements the castle's heritage, giving couples two unforgettable settings in one. This award recognises a venue where atmosphere, service and scenery come together to create extraordinary celebrations.



## WEDDING SPECIALIST

### Sophie's Childcare Services

Cherished by families and venues, Sophie's Childcare Services offer safe, nurturing and joy-filled childcare on wedding days. Their calm professionalism, adaptability and genuine warmth make them a trusted presence at celebrations across Scotland. "When starting this business I never thought it would get to this point, and to be in a room with so many talented professionals in the industry was surreal," says Sophie. She gave a "massive thank you" to her amazing team who work hard at every single wedding.



## YSWA 2026...

Nominations are now open for this year's Your Scottish Wedding Awards and you can save the date for the glittering ceremony – 22 November 2026 at DoubleTree by Hilton Glasgow Central. It will be a night to remember!

## YSWA INDUSTRY WINNER 2025 >>

### Opus Couture

A longstanding favourite in Scotland's bridal scene, Opus Couture is known for exceptional service and an atmosphere where every bride feels genuinely supported. The team pairs style expertise with warmth, guiding brides through world-class collections while keeping the experience personal and relaxed. "We are deeply grateful to our dedicated team, trusted partners and wonderful brides whose support and collaboration made this achievement possible," says Sharon. This award celebrates their consistent excellence, from thoughtful appointments to fittings shaped around what makes each bride feel her most confident.





## RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION



### THE RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION DUNFERMLINE

18/01/26

Best Western Plus Keavil House  
Hotel, Dunfermline, KY12 8NN

11am to 2pm

Fashion &

Entertainment Show 12:30pm



### THE RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION GLASGOW

24/01/26

Village Hotel, Pacific Drive,  
Glasgow, G51 1DB

11am to 2pm



### THE RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION FALKIRK

01/02/26

Macdonald Inchyra Hotel &  
Spa, Falkirk, FK2 0YB

11am to 2pm

Fashion &

Entertainment Show 12:30pm

### THE RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION EDINBURGH

15/02/26

Norton House Hotel & Spa,  
Newbridge, EH28 8LX

11am to 3pm

Fashion &

Entertainment Show 1pm

### THE RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION FIFE

22/02/26

Kingdom Shopping Centre,  
Glenrothes, KY7 5NX

11am to 3pm

Fashion &

Entertainment Show 1pm

### THE RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION EDINBURGH VILLAGE

01/03/26

Edinburgh Village,  
140 Crewe Road South,  
Edinburgh, EH4 2NY

11am to 2pm

The team from The RWE would love to invite you to our Wedding Exhibitions, which are Free Entry, over the coming months. At our events we have the pleasure of over welcoming over 30 industry suppliers, many of which are Award Winning and Award Nominated, throughout the venue who will be on hand to showcase their products and services for your special day. There is also a welcome drink on arrival, goody bag and your complimentary copy of the latest edition of the Your Scottish Wedding magazine by our media sponsors at YSW.



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DEMETRIOS

[demetrios.com](http://demetrios.com) @demetriosbride



# THE EDIT

FRESH NEWS, LAUNCHES  
AND HIGHLIGHTS SHAPING  
SCOTLAND'S WEDDING SCENE

## A NEW HOME FOR COUTURE

Freja Fashion has moved closer to Edinburgh's city centre, now based on Rose Street North Lane in the same building as Edinburgh Tailoring Company. Brides, mums and wedding guests can enjoy owner Mette's multi award-winning bespoke service, with tailoring for men just a floor away – making it easier than ever to coordinate the whole wedding party in one place.

**FREJA-FASHION.CO.UK**

## RUNWAY- READY MUMS

Catwalk Falkirk is stepping into 2026 with fresh collections from John Charles and Veni Infantino, plus the welcome return of Belgian designer Linea Raffaelli. Expect youthful, modern silhouettes crafted in beautiful fabrics – perfect for style-loving mums and special guests. New season deliveries are arriving now, so keep an eye on Catwalk's social channels for first looks.

**CATWALK-FALKIRK.CO.UK**



FREJA FASHION



LINEA RAFFAELLI CATWALK FALKIRK



RACHEL SCOTT COUTURE | SOIE BY SUZANNE NEVILLE

## NEW SEASON, NEW SPACE TO PLAY

Suzanne Neville's Everlasting Grace collection has landed at Rachel Scott Couture – think sculpted silhouettes, romantic structure and modern detail. The in-store sample sale event at 19 Queensferry Street continues into 2026, with private 45-minute appointments and massive discounts on selected styles. Brides can try up to three favourites in a calm, one-to-one setting.

**RACHELSCOTTCOUTURE.CO.UK**

## GLOW FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Brides can now book Jasmin French's new Sculpt & Flow facial – a lymphatic drainage treatment designed to de-puff, sculpt and prep skin for make-up. The team has also launched wellness and fitness plans from £30, plus free consultations covering wedding beauty, hair and make-up. In the studio, expect a full line-up of hero products from Color Wow, iS Clinical, UKLash and more – or book the glam team to come to you.

**JASMINFRENCH.CO.UK**



## PEARLS, REINVENTED

James Porter & Son has welcomed luxury pearl house Yoko London to its fine jewellery line-up. Known for rare natural hues and meticulously matched pearls, Yoko London blends classic elegance with a modern edge. From statement earrings to layered necklaces, each piece is designed and handcrafted in their London workshop for brides who love a contemporary twist on a timeless gem.

Pearl studs start from £350, bracelets from £650 and necklaces from £895.

**JAMES-PORTER.CO.UK**







## BANDS WITH CHARACTER

Fennes Jewellery has introduced a new wedding band collection featuring wishbone, curved, rectangular and zigzag profiles. They're all available in 9ct, 14ct or 18ct white, yellow or rose gold, plus platinum – and set with natural or lab-grown diamonds. Hot Diamonds has also arrived, with 'create your own' necklaces designed for layering and gifting.

**FENNESJEWELLERY.COM**

## NEW SPARKLE FOR 2026

Emma Rose Jewellery's latest pieces include a new crystal colour palette and a limited edition baby blue pearl set – a soft, modern take on 'something blue'. Reimagined vintage crowns have also made a comeback, combining heirloom charm with delicate detail for modern brides. Each piece is handcrafted and story-driven – and readers can enjoy 15% off with code YSW15.

**EMMAROSEJEWELLERY.CO.UK**







## STONES WITH MEANING

Sheila Fleet Jewellery's new birthstone droplet pendants are fast becoming favourites for brides and bridesmaids. Handcrafted in Orkney, each piece combines her signature design with a chosen birthstone, making it a personal keepsake from the day.

**SHEILAFLEET.COM**

## REAL TALK, REAL CEREMONIES

Fuze Ceremonies has launched the I DO Review – unscripted celebrant conversations about what really matters in humanist wedding ceremonies, now available on YouTube and the Fuze podcast channel. Behind the scenes, the Fuze Foundation continues its year of fundraising for Beatson Cancer Charity and MND Scotland with more than £8,600 raised so far.

**FUZECEREMONIES.CO.UK**

## POWERFUL, BEAUTIFUL AND READY TO SHINE

Bonnie Pictures has launched a VIP mailing list for brides-to-be and anyone curious about a confidence-boosting boudoir shoot. Members get first access to offers, model calls and a free selfie guide to experiment at home before stepping in front of the camera.

**BONNIEPICTURES.COM**



## HAIR, MAKE-UP AND ELOPEMENT MAGIC

Lori Walker Makeup Artist is now offering bridal hairstyling alongside her make-up services for a more seamless, relaxed getting-ready experience. She's especially in demand for Scottish elopements and intimate weddings, where one artist can look after everything. (It's worth noting hair is currently only available when booked with make-up).

**LORIWALKERMAKEUP.CO.UK**





## PROTECTING THE ART OF KILTMaking

How do you protect a craft? 21st Century Kilts is reigniting a long-term campaign to safeguard the art of kiltmaking, exploring recognition such as UNESCO heritage status and formal protection for authentic kiltmaking skills.

In essence, the movement aims to ensure that the centuries-old, hand-crafted art of

Scottish kiltmaking receives the recognition and protection it deserves as a unique cultural treasure, according to Howie at 21st Century Kilts.

It's an ongoing conversation about tradition, craftsmanship and what truly defines a kilt – and one YSW will be following closely.

**21STCENTURYKILTS.COM**

## HERITAGE, MODERN HIRES

Gordon Nicolson Kiltmakers is expanding its hire collection for 2026 with new tartans and tweeds, including Auld Scotland Selkirk Tweed, Flodden Commemorative and Scottish Borderland Weathered. Each cloth is rich in Scottish-sourced wool and steeped in story, while Gordon Nicolson's Tartan Talks offer couples and families a deeper dive into the history behind the patterns they choose.

**NICOLSONKILTMAKERS.COM**

## OLD FIRM, SUBTLE NODS

Kilts 4 U has launched full accessory ranges for Rangers and Celtic fans looking to add a quiet touch of team pride to their outfit. Think co-ordinated sporrans, kilt pins, sgian dubhs (including a bottle opener version), plaid brooches and belt buckles – all designed to stay smart, subtle and ceremony-ready.

**KILTS4U.CO.UK**





## MORE CHOICE, MORE FROX

Big changes are underway at Frox of Falkirk. The boutique is expanding its designer lineup to include Fely Campo, Gabriela Sanchez, Couture Club, Gill Harvey and many more, alongside a refreshed store layout and live fashion shows at wedding events. Sizes 6–36 are available and More Frox, the sister sale shop next door, has up to 75% off selected designers.

The Frox team has noticed mums slightly stepping away from traditional neutral styles and shades. They're swapping beige and navy for bolder, statement-making shades and shapes that are still appropriate for the role – and complement modern wedding palettes. Expect fresh alternatives full of vibrancy and sophistication, ensuring a polished, feminine and confident look for mothers of the couple or other VIP guests.

**FROXOFFALKIRK.COM**



## TWO-IN-ONE CROWNS AND STATEMENT VEILS

Baba-C Designs' new 2-in-1 tiaras are a hit and can be worn as high-impact crowns or adjusted into a softer headband style. They pair perfectly with the brand's dramatic veil collection – bold, made-to-measure designs in a choice of 14 tulle shades for brides who want clean gowns with maximum veil drama.

**BABA-C.CO.UK**



## #WITHLOVE IN MILAN

Demetrios has launched #withLOVE, a new campaign celebrating real couples and authentic connection.

The first story follows Pola and David through the streets of Milan, with Pola wearing signature styles from the 2026 collections. It's all about unfiltered love, effortless style and everlasting romance that reflects your one-of-a-kind love story.

**DEMETRIOS.COM**





## NEW SEASON, NEW SILHOUETTES

Kudos Bridal is welcoming the latest Essense of Australia gowns, from minimalist satin styles to bold printed designs. Also new in is the Luna Novias collection, including Jalisa – a sleek Mikado gown that can be styled multiple ways, cape included.

[KUDOSBRIDAL.CO.UK](http://KUDOSBRIDAL.CO.UK)



## SHOW-STOPPING SUGAR ART

Fresh from demonstrating at Cake International in Birmingham at the end of last year (and following a period of incredible growth) Pauline at PR Cakes is unveiling a new 2026 collection of designs inspired by cutting-edge global cake trends. Think modern romantic florals, wafer-paper ruffles, sculpted textures, sugar artistry and fashion-inspired colour palettes.

Alongside bespoke designs for couples, PR Cakes continues to be the official cake partner for Crutherland House Hotel's wedding packages. Cake design aside, the team has been busy training to perfect the latest techniques.

They can now offer the latest trends, such as naked cakes and ruffle cakes, alongside more traditional styles. Want to admire the real thing or have a bespoke design consultation?

Pauline will be at the Blushing Brides Wedding Shows in Rosebank (11 January) and East Kilbride (15 February), plus the Paisley Town Hall Wedding Fayre on 18 January. Expect to see brand new cake designs inspired by modern art and fashion, and signature luxury finishes – from delicate sugar flowers to refined ruffles and textures.

**PR-CAKES.CO.UK**



## SHOWS SHAPING THE SEASON

**A CURATED CALENDAR OF THE KEY WEDDING EVENTS WORTH PENCILLING IN FOR 2026.**

### **THE LUXURY SCOTTISH WEDDING SHOW (EDINBURGH)**

18 JANUARY – ASSEMBLY ROOMS, EDINBURGH

### **RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION (DUNFERMLINE)**

18 JANUARY – KEAVIL HOUSE HOTEL, DUNFERMLINE

### **RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION (GLASGOW)**

24 JANUARY – GLASGOW VILLAGE HOTEL & SPA, GLASGOW

### **VIRGIN HOTELS EDINBURGH OPEN DAY**

25 JANUARY – VIRGIN HOTELS, EDINBURGH

### **RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION (FALKIRK)**

1 FEBRUARY – GLASGOW VILLAGE HOTEL & SPA, GLASGOW

### **THE SCOTTISH WEDDING SHOW**

14-15 FEBRUARY – SEC, GLASGOW

### **RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION (EDINBURGH)**

15 FEBRUARY – NORTON HOUSE HOTEL & SPA, NEWBRIDGE

### **RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION (FIFE)**

22 FEBRUARY – ROTHES HALLS, GLENROTHES

### **CULDEES CASTLE WEDDING SHOWCASE**

22 FEBRUARY – CULDEES CASTLE, CRIEFF

### **THE BIG ÒRAN MÓR WEDDING SHOW**

1 MARCH – ÒRAN MÓR, GLASGOW

### **NORTH AYRSHIRE WEDDING EXHIBITION**

1 MARCH – GEILSLAND ESTATE, BEITH

### **THE WITCHY WEDDING FAYRE**

19 APRIL – ÒRAN MÓR, GLASGOW

# BRAEHEAD WEDDING EXHIBITION

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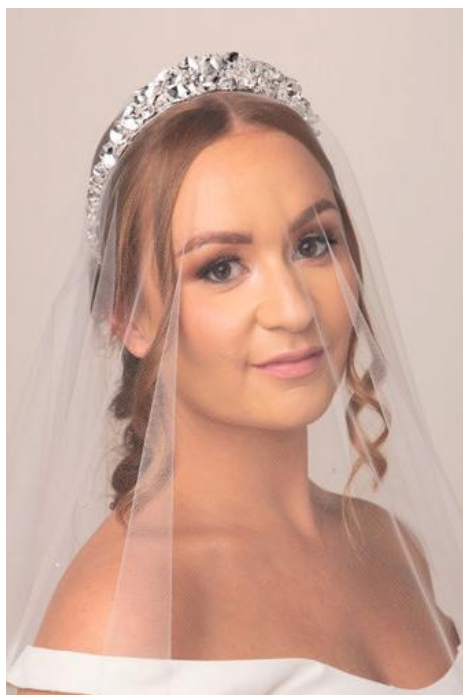
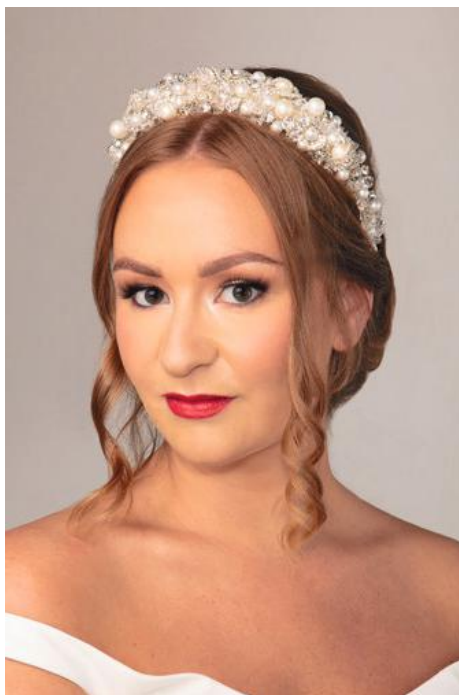
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# YOUR WEDDING JOURNEY

## Notes on Love, Style & the Art of Saying Yes

### CHLOE & TOMO

Chloe Cavanagh knows weddings. As the founder of Fairytale Fittings, a professional wedding day dress fitting service, she's helped hundreds of brides get wedding-ready – but now it's her turn to walk down the aisle. And in true Chloe style, her plans blend organisation, romance and a touch of sunshine.

She and Thomas (better known as Tomo) have been together since school: “He was the year above me – my best friend was seeing his best friend – and we met in the park after school one night. I was fifteen, he was sixteen, and that was it.”

Eleven years later, he proposed in Jamaica – think sunset, sax and a secret photographer waiting on the beach. “He completely out-planned me,” she laughs.

### THE PLANNING

With a decade in the wedding world behind her, Chloe knew what she wanted – and what to ignore. “I’ve seen how much pressure social media puts on brides to make everything perfect,” she says. “I’ve promised myself I’ll just have fun with it.”

The couple are saying ‘I do’ at Villa Antiche Mura in Sorrento, surrounded by family and friends for a week-long celebration. Their Scottish line-up is a dream team: Julieanne Whyte behind the camera, Mikey at one3 Wedding Films capturing every moment, Louise Catherine Fallon on make-up and Adam John Whyte doing hair: “They’ve all been part of my story. I couldn’t imagine the day without them.”

Next on the agenda is booking the honeymoon, and sorting flowers and favours – as well as Chloe locking in her pre-wedding wellness plans.



### THE DETAILS

*The vibe ...* Romantic, sun-soaked, effortlessly elegant.

*The look ...* Gown from Opus Couture, party dress from Odd Muse.

*Colour palette ...* Soft neutrals with golden hour accents.

*The plan ...* Legal ceremony in Scotland, wedding in Italy, honeymoon in the Maldives.





# ALYSON & LEWIS

Alyson and Lewis first met in third year of high school on a trip to Valkenburg. They were both fifteen – and somewhere between amusement parks, souvenir shops and teenage awkwardness, something clicked.

Their first dates included a trip to see *Minions* – “So romantic,” Alyson laughs – and dinner at Nando’s. “On National Girlfriend Day, Lewis finally asked (over text, of course) and that was that.”

After a few on-and-off teenage years and almost a decade together, the couple found their rhythm – and the perfect moment to make it official.

## THE PROPOSAL

Lewis proposed somewhere deeply personal; on a beach in North Uist, a place close to Alyson’s heart. The plan was disguised as a simple BBQ and drinks with their fur babies.

“He went for a run with the dogs,” Alyson says, “When they came back, our calm girl Layla trotted over with a tiny box on her collar. Inside was a ring and the words ‘Will you marry my dad?’ It was quiet, heartfelt and totally us. Lewis doesn’t get to plan much but when he does, he does good,” she laughs.



## THE PLANNING

The oval-cut trilogy ring came from Mr Harold & Son in Glasgow’s Argyle Arcade and within weeks the planning had begun. “It’s addictive. One supplier leads to another and suddenly you’ve got spreadsheets, colour palettes and a seating plan for people who haven’t even RSVP’d yet!”

So far, they’ve booked key suppliers and celebrated with an engagement party at the Leapark Hotel, complete with a cake baked by Lewis’s granny (and taste-tested by their pup Layla).

Next on the list? Dress and kilt shopping. And, as Alyson admits, “Trying to stay off TikTok long enough to make an actual decision!”

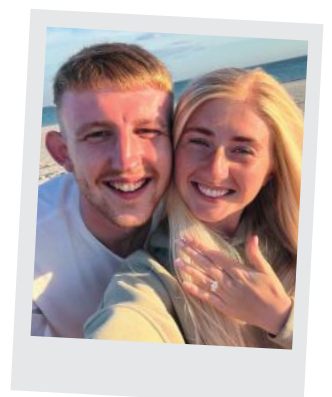
## THE DETAILS

*Engaged ...* North Uist

*Wedding date ...* May 2027

*Venue ...* Glenbervie House & Country Estate

“He doesn’t get to plan much... But when he does, he does good.”



# MARIA & MICHAEL

They met while she was working in a Glasgow cocktail bar during university. “I knew we had a new manager starting and I weirdly felt nervous about going into work,” she says. “I fancied him the minute I saw him.”

But there was one complication – she was in a relationship. A year of ‘just friends’ later, she accepted the feelings weren’t going anywhere. She ended her relationship, Michael asked her out for a drink and the rest unfolded naturally. Eleven years on, she says, “I wanted to build my business before becoming a Mrs. Now feels right.”

## THE PROPOSAL

A lifelong National Trust for Scotland devotee, Maria made the location very easy. “Michael asked where I’d want to be proposed to and I said somewhere meaningful... Probably a National Trust site,” she laughs.

He chose Pollok Country House – the heart of their early life together. After a quiet sunset walk, he gave an emotional speech about their journey (including a challenging time health-wise) then got down on one knee. “Cue tears, snotters and an immediate yes.”

The ring was a collaborative design – “an occupational hazard when you live and breathe design!” She wanted a nod to her Nana whose favourite colour was yellow, so they created a bespoke yellow-diamond ring. “A little Kate Hudson moment too.” They celebrated with their siblings in the pub that night. “Cosy, simple and perfect.”



“Now feels right.”

## THE PLANNING

Working in the wedding world meant planning began instantly. “I had a vision... then became wildly indecisive,” she admits. The clarity came when she realised a big wedding wouldn’t feel right. “Family dynamics meant I’d be anxious and feel like I was working, I wanted to be present, not managing.”

Now they’re returning to Italy where their souls live, followed by a party in April that most guests assume is the wedding. Their elopement venue, Torre Di Bellosguardo, ticked every box: family-owned, beautiful interiors, gardens for the ceremony and views over the city. The season also mattered. “Spring feels like rebirth – everything coming back to life. I wanted our marriage to carry that meaning.”

The Glasgow party will take place at The Marlborough in Shawlands; a venue she describes as “full of character and finally opening its doors to bigger celebrations.”

## THE DETAILS

*Together* ... 11 years

*Proposal* ... Sunset at Pollok Country House

*Ring* ... Bespoke yellow diamond inspired by her Nana

*The plan* ... Spring elopement in Florence then Glasgow party

*Planning mood* ... Easy, then impossible... Now perfect.



# CATRIONA & JOSH

For this pair, it all began on a night out. “I was dancing with a friend, bumped into him on the dancefloor and that was it,” laughs Catriona. Three years later, they were engaged – and now this Duo Social Studio content creator is turning her storytelling skills to her own big day.

## THE PROPOSAL

What was supposed to be a birthday weekend in Manchester turned into something far bigger. “I genuinely suspected nothing,” she says. After a drink in the hotel bar, Josh dashed back upstairs claiming he’d forgotten “one last present.”

Ten minutes later, she was called to the room – and walked into petals, candles and lights. “Completely and utterly shocked,” she says. “It was the best surprise I’ve ever had.”

The ring (an elongated cushion trilogy with pear-cut sides from James Porter & Son) was her dream design. “Now, he tells all the guys to ‘get the ring right’. He’s never had so many pats on the back.”

They spent the rest of the weekend calling family, clinking glasses and trying to eat dinner at her favourite restaurant

through the adrenaline. “We’ll need to go back – I barely touched my food!”

## THE PLANNING

They hadn’t planned to dive into wedding mode just yet but within a month, the venue was booked – the Collector’s Hall had been on her radar long before the engagement. “I always knew I’d have some celebration there, my 30th or something else. When we visited, it was instantly the one.”

Everything else flowed quickly. Her godmother, Life Moments with Mary, will be their celebrant, urbtsbestie is booked for content creation (“I adore her style”) and GeO Gospel Choir – a group Catriona has worked with for ages – will soundtrack the day. “It feels full circle. Mary marrying us and GeO singing me down the aisle.”

Planning a wedding in under a year brings a mix of calm and urgency. “I know I need to stay flexible with suppliers but we’re buzzing to crack on.”

## WHAT’S NEXT

Top of the list is the dress. “I feel pressure on this one,” she admits. “With under 11 months to go, it’s time to start appointments.” Next up are bridal party asks, hair and makeup, and evening entertainment.

## THE DETAILS

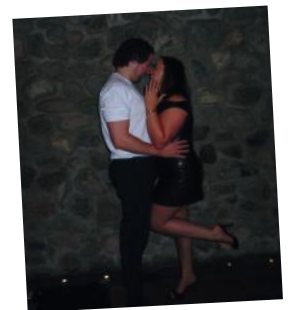
*Together ...* Three years before the proposal

*Engagement ...* Manchester hotel surprise

*Ring ...* Elongated cushion trilogy from James Porter & Son

*The plan ...* Wedding at The Collector’s Hall within a year

*Planning mood ...* Excited with a little pressure!



# BETHANY & ALLY

Bethany and Ally met back in 2014 while studying photography at college. Drawn together by a shared creative world, they became close almost immediately. “We stayed friends for a few years before we both realised it was more than that,” Bethany says.

Their friendship slowly turned into a relationship – one that’s been going strong for eight years. Now it’s time for a new chapter but photography remains the thread that’s always tied them together.

## THE PROPOSAL

The proposal happened somewhere deeply personal – Skye, where Ally’s family are from, has long been a place the couple return to whenever they can. Four days into a two-week holiday, he suggested a trip to Neist Point.

Standing on the cliff edge with the sea stretching out below them, he got down on one knee and asked Bethany to marry him. “It was completely unexpected,” she says. “Skye means so much to us; the location made the moment even more special.”

Her ring came from Chisholm Hunter: an amethyst centre stone (chosen as a nod to her birthstone) flanked by two diamonds. “It feels like me,” she says. Celebrations continued for the rest of the trip; first with Ally’s family then with a surprise visit from Bethany’s parents.

## THE PLANNING

After officially finishing their extended engagement celebrations, planning began a month or two later. Venues were the first focus and the decision didn’t take long once they found the right one.

Location mattered. Great grounds for photography were essential (no surprises there!), as was ease of travel for their families and a genuinely welcoming team on site. “It just ticked all the boxes.”

While they’ve spoken to a few suppliers, the venue booking is the biggest step so far – a solid foundation for everything else to follow.



“We’re definitely in safe hands.”



## WHAT’S NEXT

With venue details being finalised, attention is turning to décor and entertainment. The to-do list is growing, but the mood is positive.

So far, the process has been a mix of excitement and gentle overwhelm – made easier by the fact that both sets of parents work, or have worked, in the wedding industry. “My mum is a wedding accessories designer (Baba-C Designs) and Ally’s dad is John Hendy Photography. We’re definitely in safe hands,” Bethany laughs.

## THE DETAILS

*Together...* 8 years

*Engaged...* Neist Point, Isle of Skye

*Venue...* Gleddoch Golf & Spa Resort

*The plan...* Venue booked, suppliers next

*Planning mood...* Excited – with moments of overwhelm



# MEGAN & JASON

Megan and Jason first met properly at a friend's 16th birthday party back in October 2013. A few months later, they made it official in the only way that mattered at the time – changing their Facebook status to 'in a relationship'.

What began as a high-school romance grew into an 11-year partnership layered with travels, in-jokes and matching tattoos – including '224', inked in Thailand as a quiet nod to their anniversary and the promise of today, tomorrow, forever.

## THE PROPOSAL

When Jason decided it was time to ask the question, he chose Malta and a date with extra meaning – but knew an audience would be Megan's worst nightmare. After rerouting plans to avoid the crowds, he found a quiet corner at St Peter's Pool. As they posed for a photo, Jason set the timer then dropped to one knee. "I was in total shock and could barely speak," Megan says.

The date was intentional – 22 April mirrored their '224' tattoo – and her ring, a plain platinum band with an oval diamond from Chisholm Hunter, felt instantly right. They celebrated with a few more sun-soaked days in Malta before heading home to an engagement party with friends. "We'd always thought we might slip away and marry with just a handful of people but celebrating with everyone made us realise we want a proper party."

## THE PLANNING

After a client of Megan's mentioned Netherdale House, the pair booked a visit and it didn't take long to decide. "We totally fell in love with it and felt relaxed as soon as we walked in," she says. Drawn to meaningful patterns (clearly a theme), they chose 27 August 2027 for an end-of-summer wedding date that felt just right.



**"I was in total shock and could barely speak."**

They've also secured part of their catering, booking Pizza Box as the starting point for a relaxed wedding breakfast built around food trucks and garden games rather than a formal sit-down meal. Photographer Clarke Joss was another easy decision.

## WHAT'S NEXT

Next on the to-do list is getting the bridesmaids together to talk dresses and details, followed by booking a DJ to shape the dance-floor-led party they both want.

"One thing we do know is that we want it to feel like us – relaxed, joyful and full of the people we love," adds Megan.

## THE DETAILS

*Together...* 11 years

*Venue...* Netherdale House

*The vibe...* Relaxed food, big party energy

*Planning mood...* Excited (and still sinking in)!



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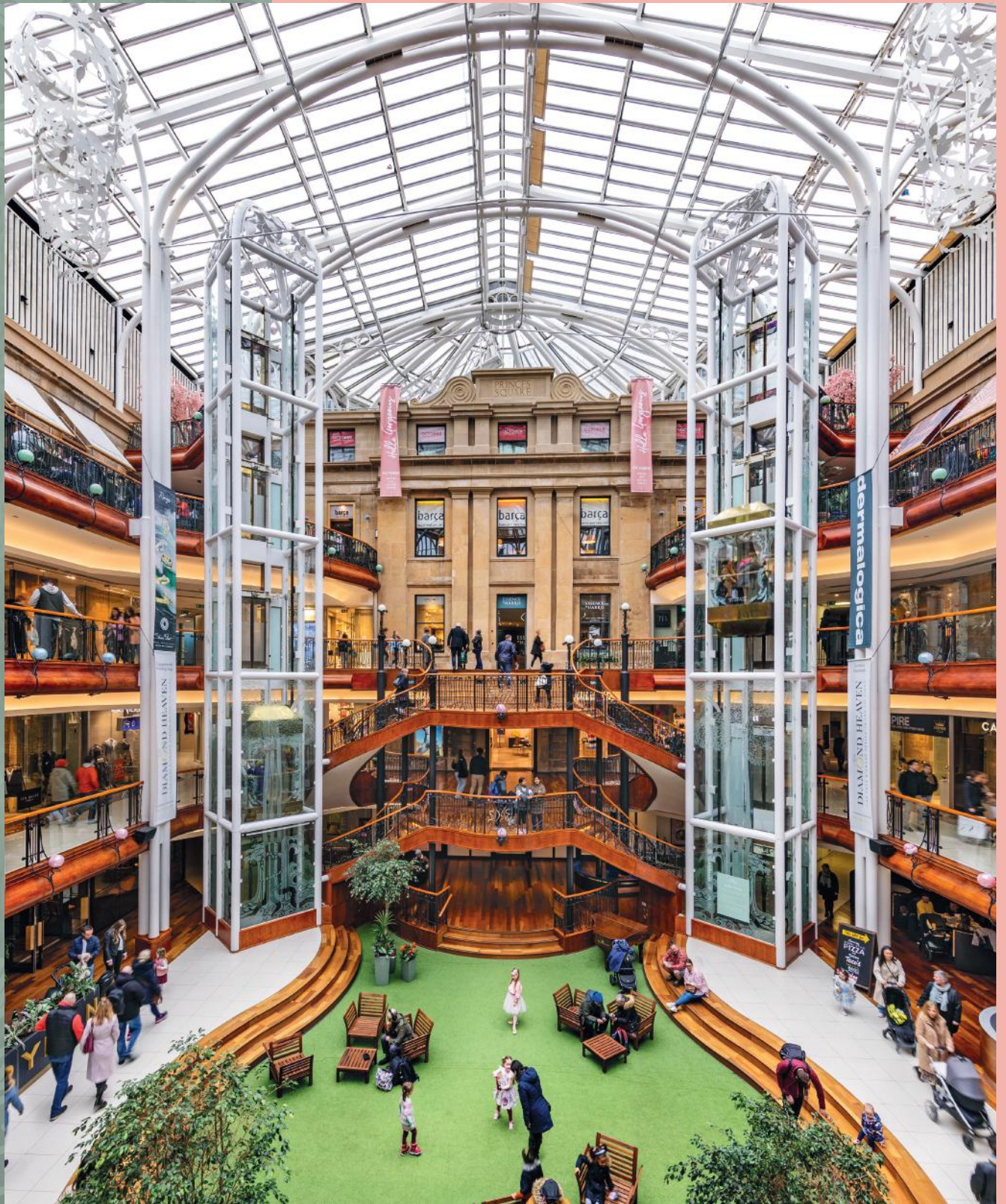
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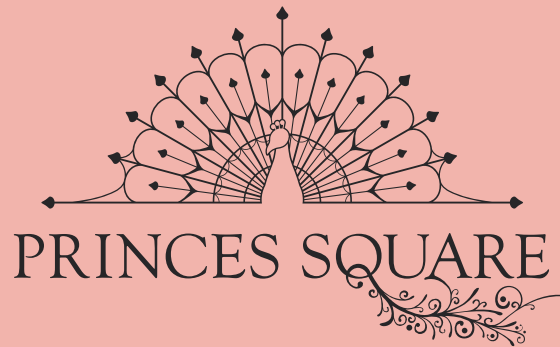
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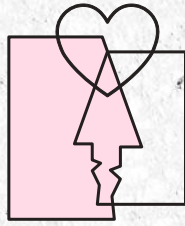
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## YOUR FRONT ROW TICKET TO WEDDING STYLE

Imagine full-on fashion week glamour, but with kilts, bridal gowns and tuxedos – welcome to the RAD Runway at The Scottish Wedding Show, sponsored by the RAD Hotel Group. **Scotland's biggest wedding runway** line-up is packed with must-see designers and trendsetting collections that will inspire every detail of your big day. Showcasing everything from the best in bridal and groomsware, to bridesmaids, and the all important mother-of-the-marrier looks.

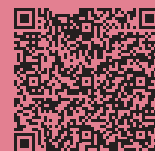
### What to Expect:

- A **45-minute show**, staged in a dedicated runway theatre with professional lighting and sound, giving you the full fashion week experience.
- A curated line-up of top bridal and menswear designers and boutiques.
- Multiple shows each day (**11am, 1pm and 3pm**) so you can pick a time that suits you.

Want the VIP experience? Upgrade and secure prime seats in the front two rows, along with other perks such as a Clarins goody bag and glass of bubbly.

The Scottish Wedding Show are offering a **Standard Entry + RAD Runway ticket** - £21.50 in advance (£23.50 on the door). Booking both together saves you £0.50 per person! Whether you're engaged, helping organise a friend's big day, or just dreaming, the RAD Runway offers a front-row seat to the very best of Scottish bridal fashion.

The show is back at the SEC in Glasgow, on 14-15 February 2026, and tickets are on sale now! It's going to be the ultimate Valentine's weekend celebration of love, inspiration, and all things wedding.



# Fashion









# RACHEL SCOTT COUTURE

*Why TODAY'S brides  
have more FREEDOM  
and CHOICE than ever*

**B**ridal styling has evolved more in the last decade than in the century before it. The rules are gone. The 'right' silhouette doesn't exist. Today's brides are embracing something far more powerful: choice. True, expressive, personal choice. And with that comes a freedom in fashion that feels new, bold and honestly... Thrilling!

This is the era where your wedding look can be wonderfully within your comfort zone and wildly once-in-a-lifetime. You don't have to pick one. You get to have both.

## FINDING YOUR ICONIC STYLE

Bridal isn't like everyday fashion. You're not trying to reinvent yourself, you're refining who you already are. The goal is an outfit that feels unmistakably you, elevated in a way that makes sense for this milestone.

Too often brides feel they must choose between two extremes - 'something that feels like me' or 'something

dramatic and different'. But the sweet spot (the magic) is where those worlds meet.

Ask yourself: What do I always feel good in? What details make me feel powerful? What elements spark joy, intrigue or curiosity? That's the foundation of a look that doesn't just photograph beautifully, it feels right in your bones.

## THE JOY OF LIMITLESS CHOICE

The most exciting shift in bridal is the sheer breadth of options now available. Innovation in fabric, construction and silhouette has opened doors that simply weren't there 20 years ago. We're no longer restricted to predictable shapes or traditional bridal cues.

We now see crisp sculptural silks; fluid, weightless jersey; architectural hems and wired collars; minimalist slips with couture-level engineering; bold texture, crinkle silks and modern sheers, and tailoring, separates and pieces designed to transform throughout the day.



This freedom means you can express your personality with total clarity, whether that's clean lines, couture drama, playful modernity or quiet luxury. It also means there's no longer a binary between 'bridal' and 'fashion'. Your dress can be editorial, iconic, architectural, romantic, rebellious – or all of the above.

## RETHINKING INSPIRATION (AND HOW NOT TO DROWN IN IT)

Social media changed everything. It brought endless inspiration... And endless noise. When every scroll shows a new must-have trend, it's easy to feel overwhelmed or unsure of what's genuinely you.

Instead of looking for the next big thing, look for patterns. What consistently catches your eye? What details do you save without thinking? What shapes make your heart speed up a little? Use social media as a mood board, not a rulebook. Your inspiration should empower, not intimidate.

## NO RULES

This is the beauty of bridal in 2026: you don't have to choose a dress that 'makes sense' to anyone but you. Not traditions, not trends, not expectations. Your look should reflect your identity, your joy and your story, crafted with purpose and intention.

But the most refreshing part is that there's no 'perfect' dress in a universal sense. There's only the perfect dress for you. And when you honour that, the entire journey (from the first fitting to the final walk down the aisle) becomes something you'll remember forever.



## ABOUT RACHEL SCOTT

Founder of Rachel Scott Couture, one of Scotland's most respected luxury bridal studios, Rachel has spent more than two decades championing design innovation, fabric excellence and a deeply personal approach to couture styling. With a background in textile science and a reputation for empowering brides through choice, craft and confidence, she brings an insider's perspective to modern bridal fashion.

## RACHEL'S STYLING NOTES

Start with silhouette ... What shapes make you feel powerful? Begin there.

Look for repetition ... The details you save over and over are your signature.

Balance is everything ... You can feel utterly yourself and once-in-a-lifetime special – never choose between the two.

Don't fear fabric ... Texture, movement and structure can transform how a dress feels on your body.

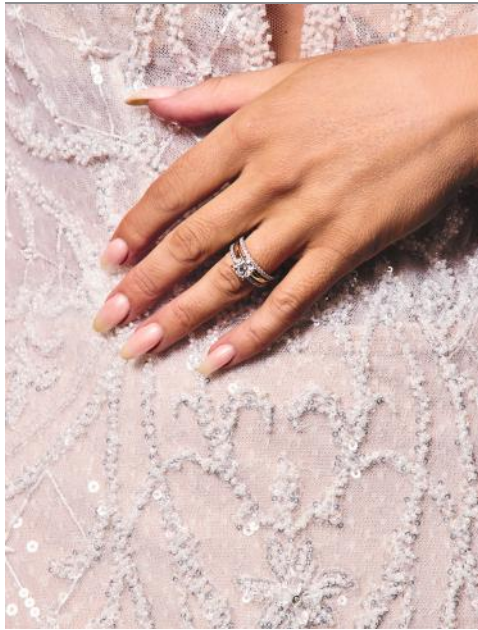
Your experience matters ... The right dress is only half of it. Make sure the process feels personal, supportive and joyful.



# Dressed to Impress







**LEFT PAGE** DRESS: MIRKA BRIDAL COUTURE | TIARA: BABA-C DESIGNS

**THIS PAGE** DRESS AND TIARA: AS BEFORE | EARRINGS: JAMES PORTER & SON | RING: JAMES PORTER & SON | FLOWERS: CHERRY BLOSSOM

**PHOTOGRAPHY** | CARLA MARCIA PHOTOGRAPHY

**VENUE** | CULDEES CASTLE ESTATE, PERTSHIRE





DRESS: MIRKA BRIDAL COUTURE |  
TIARA, EARRINGS, NECKLACE: EMMA  
ROSE JEWELLERY













DRESS: KATHLEEN RICHMOND  
COUTURE | TIARA: BABA-C DESIGNS |  
EARRINGS, NECKLACE: JAMES PORTER  
& SON | FLOWERS: CHERRY BLOSSOM









**LEFT PAGE** DRESS: KATHLEEN RICHMOND COUTURE (WITH DETACHABLE SKIRT) | TIARA: BABA-C DESIGNS | EARRINGS, NECKLACE: FENNES JEWELLERY | FLOWERS: CHERRY BLOSSOM

**THIS PAGE** DRESS: KATHLEEN RICHMOND COUTURE (WITHOUT SKIRT) | TIARA: BABA-C DESIGNS | EARRINGS, NECKLACE, RING: JAMES PORTER & SON







DRESS: KUDOS BRIDAL | HEADBAND:  
BABA-C DESIGNS | EARRINGS,  
NECKLACE: JAMES PORTER & SON |  
VEIL: KUDOS BRIDAL | RING: FENNES  
JEWELLERY | FLOWERS:  
SHE BLOOMIN GATHERED









DRESS: KUDOS BRIDAL | HEADBAND: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY | EARRINGS, NECKLACE, BRACELET, RING: SHEILA FLEET JEWELLERY |  
FLOWERS: CHERRY BLOSSOM













DRESS: RACHEL SCOTT COUTURE | EARRINGS, BRACELET: JAMES PORTER & SON





DRESS CAROLYN BAXTER BRIDAL  
COUTURE | EARRINGS, RING:  
FENNES JEWELLERY









DRESS: RACHEL SCOTT COUTURE | EARRINGS: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY













DRESS: CAROLYN BAXTER BRIDAL COUTURE | TIARA: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY | EARRINGS, NECKLACE: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY | FLOWERS: SHE BLOOMIN GATHERED









DRESS: ISOBEL FLORENCE BRIDAL | TIARA: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY |  
RING: SHEILA FLEET JEWELLERY | EARRINGS, NECKLACE: EMMA ROSE  
JEWELLERY | FLOWERS: CHERRY BLOSSOM







DRESS ISOBEL FLORENCE BRIDAL |  
HEADBAND: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY  
| EARRINGS, NECKLACE: SHEILA  
FLEET JEWELLERY | FLOWERS:  
CHERRY BLOSSOM











DRESS: PAMELA JAYNE BRIDAL | HEADBAND: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY | EARRINGS, RING: FENNES JEWELLERY | FLOWERS: CHERRY BLOSSOM





DRESS: PAMELA JAYNE BRIDAL | HEADBAND: EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY | EARRINGS, RING: FENNES JEWELLERY









# Behind *THE* Scenes

Culdees Castle isn't just a breathtaking countryside venue – it feels steeped in magic. From the moment you arrive, history, romance and a touch of mystery seem stitched into every stone. New owners Tracey and Rob (who recently married at Culdees themselves) are lovingly restoring the castle, creating a wedding playground that will include woodland hideaways, a champagne turret and a beautifully placed barn overlooking the grounds.

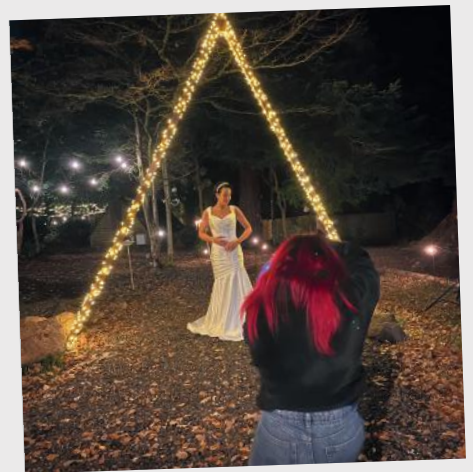
On the morning of our shoot, snow lay thick on the hills while bright winter sun lit the estate. It meant we could explore the grounds properly, taking full advantage of their scale and beauty.

Our model Julia brought endless enthusiasm, slipping into each gown with excitement while Makeup

by Leigh Blaney stayed close, keeping every detail flawless. Carla Marie Photography brought her adventurous spirit and creative eye, capturing the castle at its most atmospheric. Carrs Loch Lomond joined us too, with a luxury car that added just the right touch of drama and elegance.

Between shots, Julia was wrapped in a long puffer coat (pre-warmed by the team) and armed with a hot water bottle – the kind of behind-the-scenes reality that never makes it into the final images but always makes the day unforgettable.

It was a shoot filled with laughter, creativity, cold toes and a lot of heart. A huge thank you to Tracey and Craig for welcoming us into Culdees Castle, and to the brilliant creative team who brought the magic to life.







## DREAM TEAM

**PHOTOGRAPHY** | CARLA MARCIA  
PHOTOGRAPHY

**VENUE** | CULDEES CASTLE ESTATE,  
PERTHSHIRE

**FLOWERS** | CHERRY BLOSSOM,  
SHE BLOOMIN GATHERED

**FASHION** | CAROLYN BAXTER  
BRIDAL COUTURE, KATHLEEN  
RICHMOND COUTURE, ISOBEL  
FLORENCE BRIDAL, KUDOS BRIDAL,  
MIRKA BRIDAL COUTURE, PAMELA  
JAYNE'S BRIDAL, RACHEL SCOTT  
COUTURE

**JEWELLERY** | EMMA ROSE  
JEWELLERY, FENNES JEWELLERY,  
JAMES PORTER & SON, SHEILA  
FLEET JEWELLERY

**ACCESSORIES** | BABA-C DESIGNS

**BEAUTY** MAKE UP BY LEIGH  
BLANEY ■



# THE BIG INTERVIEW

*with CAROLYN BAXTER,  
designer and founder of  
CAROLYN BAXTER  
BRIDAL COUTURE*









## Design-led GLAMOUR, bold colour moments and COUTURE craftsmanship – CAROLYN BAXTER on STYLE, INNOVATION and Scottish brides REWRITING the RULES.

**YOUR SCOTTISH WEDDING: Tell us how your journey as a designer began.**

**Carolyn Baxter:** It all started in a tiny one-bed flat in Edinburgh. I was designing pageant dresses with patterns in my kitchen cupboards and fabric rolls piled in my bedroom. Things took off quickly, so instead of moving into a studio, I took a leap and opened a shop in Edinburgh's New Town – and I've been there for 13 years. In 2010, I started posting dressmaking tutorials on YouTube and, to my surprise, became one of the UK's most-watched creators. Eventually I had to choose between YouTube and bespoke bridal, and I'm glad I chose bridal. It's still where my passion lives.

**YSW: How would you describe your aesthetic and the Carolyn Baxter signature?**

**CB:** My work is rooted in helping women feel like the best version of themselves. I listen closely to what they love and

what they're less confident about, then design in a way that highlights their favourite features. I'm inspired by modern couture; designers like Pallas Couture, Leah Da Gloria, Berta and Galia Lahav. I love sheer fabrics, embellishment, architectural structure and creating looks that transform from day to evening. Modern femininity with a cool edge is where my heart is, and I think Scotland is ready for more of that.

**YSW: You're known for your use of colour. Why do you think non-white bridal has become so popular?**

**CB:** For a lot of brides, the dress isn't a uniform – it's self-expression. When someone asks for a sparkly jumpsuit, a black couture gown, a red ballgown or a short bridal mini, my excitement goes through the roof. Designing with colour lets a bride show her personality in a way that feels powerful and unforgettable.





**YSW: What makes the Carolyn Baxter experience different?**

**CB:** Every dress is made specifically for the bride, whether fully bespoke or a customisable ready-to-wear design. We go on a creative journey together, watching the gown evolve in real time. You're not choosing from a rack; you're part of the design process.

**YSW: What does a bride's journey look like when she comes to you?**

**CB:** We start by trying on a range of dresses to understand shapes and details she gravitates towards. Then we pull together inspiration, talk through every element that sparks something and I sketch the design. Next comes fabric selection and measurements, followed by a toile fitting to see the silhouette before the final gown is made. We pin it, draw on it, adapt it. It's hands-on and deeply personal. All of this happens in a private bridal room so the experience feels calm, creative and intimate.

**YSW: Which trends are you most excited about for 2026 and beyond?**

**CB:** Basque waists, big-volume ballgowns and detachable pieces that give two or even three looks in one. Brides love drama with versatility and so do I.



**“When someone asks for a SPARKLY jumpsuit, a BLACK COUTURE gown, a RED BALLGOWN or a short BRIDAL MINI, my excitement goes through the roof.” – Carolyn**

**YSW: Do you have a favourite gown you've ever created?**

**CB:** A silk red ballgown I designed for the launch of Fingal Edinburgh (the sister ship of the Royal Yacht Britannia). The campaign setting was pure luxury and the dress still makes me smile. Sometimes I put it on at home just for fun!

**YSW: What kind of bride gravitates towards your designs?**

**CB:** A bold, modern bride with a strong sense of style. Someone who wants something elevated, expressive and a little unexpected.

**YSW: Your new ballgown collection nods to Scottish heritage. What inspired the direction?**

**CB:** Scotland has so many extraordinary castles and I love the idea of creating gowns that belong in those spaces. Ballgowns have this beautiful mix of drama, craftsmanship and couture influence so designing a collection with those venues in mind felt natural.

**YSW: How do you see Scottish bridal style evolving and what role do you hope to play?**

**CB:** Scottish brides are becoming more fashion-forward, more expressive, more willing to explore shape, texture and colour. I want to help lead that evolution; to show that Scottish designers can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with big international names and bring something uniquely ours to the global bridal scene.

**YSW: What are your top tips for dress shopping?**

**CB:** Try a range of silhouettes (brides often surprise themselves). Create a Pinterest board of details you're drawn to then use it to spot patterns. And trust how you feel. If you can't stop thinking about a dress, that's usually your answer.

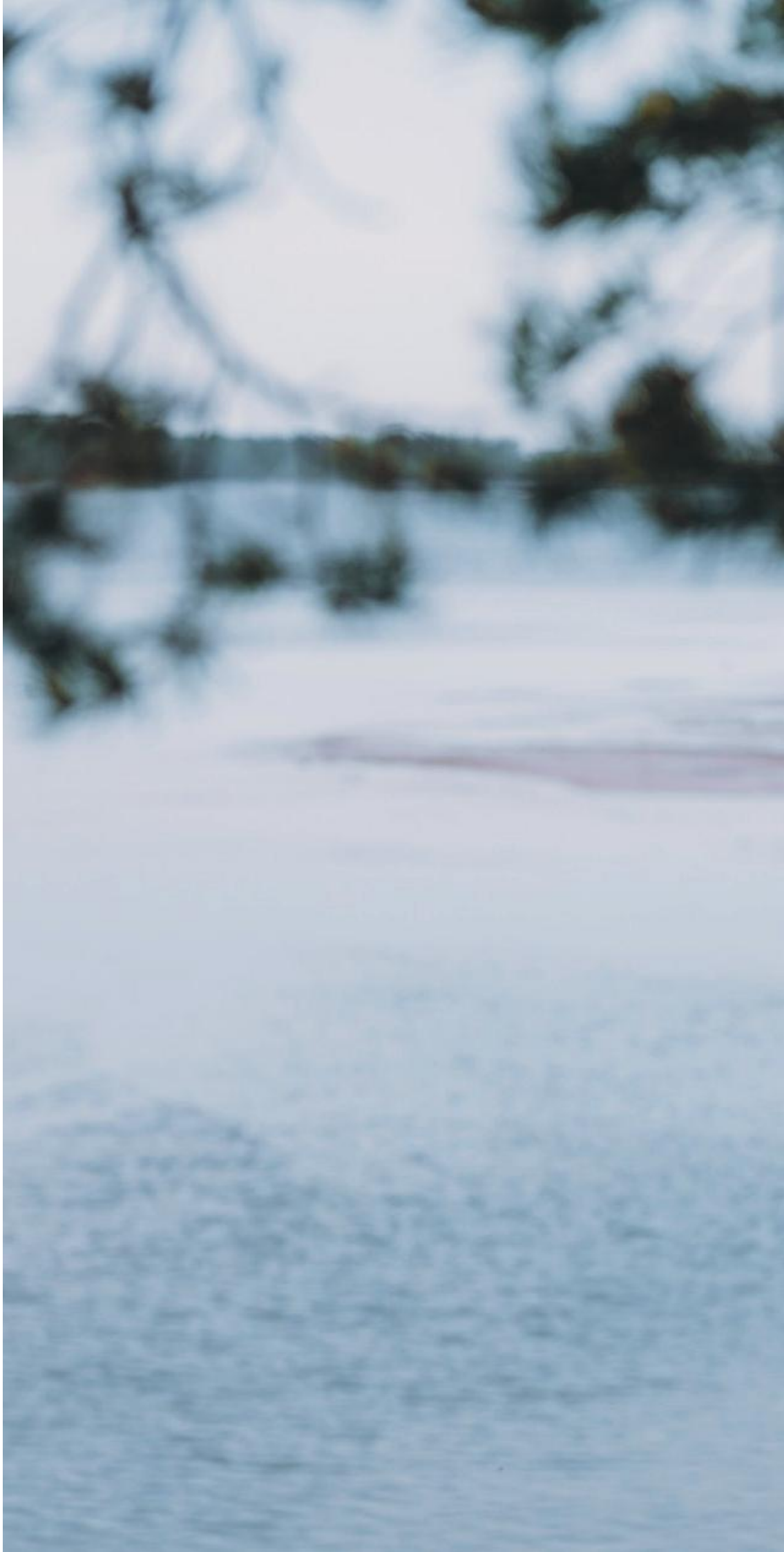
**YSW: Finally, what's next for Carolyn Baxter Couture?**

**CB:** I'm focusing on growing the Glasgow shop and developing my ready-to-wear collection for wholesale, with hopes of being stocked internationally. I've also launched a contemporary mother-of-the-bride line for women who want something chic and modern. The idea came after one of my designs went viral the same year I lost my mum. It felt like a meaningful direction to grow.

**[carolynbaxter.co.uk](http://carolynbaxter.co.uk)**



# *Groom's Room*











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# IN HIS WORDS

*With the BIG DAY just weeks away, BRIAN and PHILIP share how the FINAL WEEKS of planning are looking*

Thanks to months of hyper-organisation, these two have reached the calm-before-the-big-day stage. "There hasn't been much left to plan but our supplier check-ins are ramping up now," Philip explains. Calls with their DJ, band, cake maker and content creator have all confirmed the same thing... They might just be the most organised couple any of them have ever worked with.

They also had their pre-wedding photoshoot (a relaxed wander around Glasgow's West End) with Rachel Ross. "It helped us get to know her, understand her style and feel comfortable in front of the camera. She captured the most beautiful candid shots." A few of those photos have already made their way into wedding-day décor.

## A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER

Their joint stag-and-henny was nothing short of iconic. Fourteen friends, a train to Manchester and a weekend of fun – taking on The Crystal Maze, dinner at The Ivy (complete with surprise congratulatory desserts), being 'locked up' at immersive theatre Alcotraz, drag bingo and a Canal Street pub crawl. "Unforgettable," they agree.



*"Rachel CAPTURED the most beautiful CANDID shots."*



## THE HOME STRETCH

Even with their impressive organisation, there are still a few last minute jobs to tick off. They've been making trips to the venue to drop off décor ("No way we'd manage it all on the day"), filling goody bags, finishing crafts and handwriting notes for every guest.

The excitement is definitely building. "There's not one single moment we're most looking forward to – there are so many. But what's most overwhelming is everyone coming together for us. The effort people are making, the travel, the cost... It means everything. And I honestly can't wait to see what everyone is wearing!" smiles Philip.



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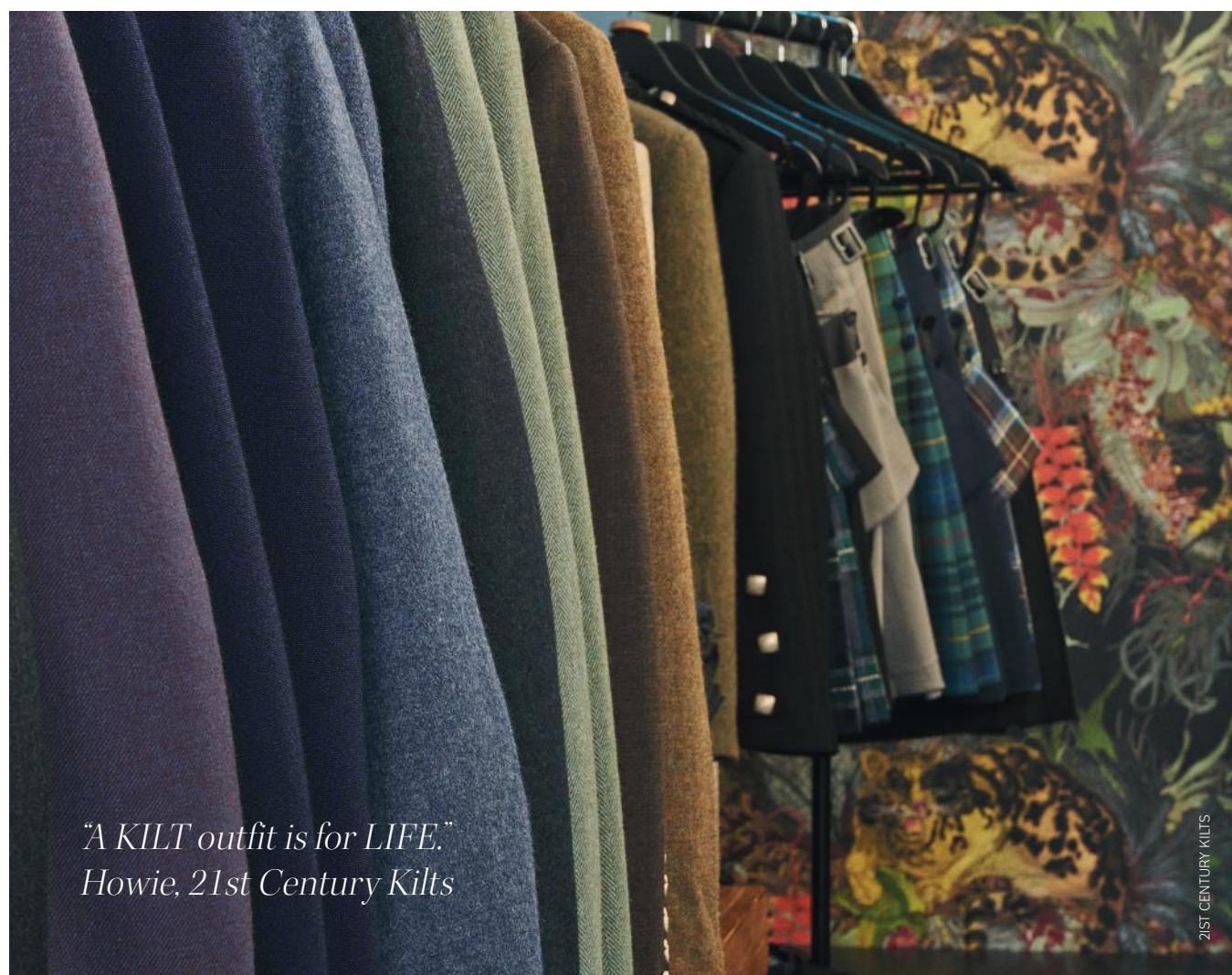


# THE GROOM'S EDIT

*Thoughtful TAILORING,  
personal DETAIL and modern  
CONFIDENCE – Scotland's  
leading Highlandwear and tailoring  
specialists share the LOOKS  
SHAPING 2026.*

Highlandwear and tailoring for weddings is becoming more intentional. In 2026, it's less about rigid rules and more about meaning – craftsmanship, heritage and subtle details that tell

a personal story. From bespoke touches to modern silhouettes, these are the trends redefining what it means to dress for the day, whether you're male, female or non-binary.



*"A KILT outfit is for LIFE."  
Howie, 21st Century Kilts*

21ST CENTURY KILTS





*"The aim is...  
An outfit that feels  
CONSIDERED,  
CONFIDENT and  
UNMISTAKABLY yours."  
Imogen, Gordon  
Nicolson Kiltmakers*





## HOWIE, 21ST CENTURY KILTS

“We don’t believe in trends – a kilt outfit is for life and has tradition at its heart. We will guide you with the correct etiquette – no tartan ties with tartan kilts and don’t wear your socks too high.”

## IMOGEN, GORDON NICOLSON KILTMAKERS

“For 2026, we’re seeing customers embrace bespoke details; the kind that feel personal rather than performative. Patterned linings, contrast stitching and tartan trims are all ways to subtly reference heritage or tell a story through the outfit. A great place to start is exploring tartans and tweeds that carry meaning, whether that’s a direct family connection, a place you love or simply a design that resonates. It doesn’t have to be traditional to be meaningful. From there, we guide you through trims, linings and custom touches during in-store or virtual appointments. Some want something understated; others prefer a bolder statement. Either way, the aim is the same – an outfit that feels considered, confident and unmistakably yours.”

*“The BIGGEST trend we’re seeing is a growing DEMAND for custom TARTAN TREWS.”*

*Graeme, 8 Yards Ltd*

## GRAEME, 8 YARDS LTD

“The biggest trend we’re seeing is a growing demand for custom tartan trews. This garment is enjoying a real revival, particularly in bolder colours like greens, blues and purples, paired with both modern jackets and traditional argyle styles. With a choice of light or medium-weight tartans, as well as military-inspired cuts or modern slim fits, grooms now have far more flexibility to tailor their look to their personal style.”



*“We’re definitely seeing more GROOMS explore a LUXURY tux.”*

*Iain, Kilts 4 U*

## IAIN, KILTS 4 U

“Kilts will always be our number one but we’re definitely seeing more grooms explore a luxury tux for themselves, with modern black tuxes hired for the groomsmen. Our made-to-measure service lets each groom personalise every detail – jacket, waistcoat, trousers, lining – through our digital portal, with instant stock checking seven days a week.”





# GORDON NICOLSON KILTMAKERS



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Joseph Ribkoff.





# The Mums' Style Edit



Sculpted SILHOUETTES, confident COLOUR and a move towards modern ELEGANCE – Scotland's leading occasionwear experts share the looks DEFINING the new-season mother-of-the-bride and groom.

**M**other-of-the-bride and groom style is evolving. Classic polish is still there but 2026 is shaping up to be bolder, fresher and more fashion-forward. Think clean lines, confident colour and silhouettes that celebrate shape rather than disguise it. Here, four Scottish specialists reveal the trends mums are embracing and why they work so well.

## OFF-SHOULDER ELEGANCE – RACHEL, RACHEL SCOTT COUTURE

Off-shoulder necklines are having a real moment – striking but never showy, glamorous yet understated. “It’s the perfect balance,” says Rachel. “Flattering, feminine and completely timeless. Suzanne Neville’s Postiano gown is one standout example.” The look offers a modern alternative to structured jackets, giving mums a graceful silhouette that feels right for 2026.

## JEWEL TONES WITH CONFIDENCE – FIONA, FROX OF FALKIRK

From emerald and sapphire to vivid fuchsia, jewel tones are set to dominate the season. “Mums are stepping away from safe neutrals and embracing confident colour and shape,” says Fiona. “With weddings more personalised than ever, these shades feel sophisticated but bold. They photograph beautifully and look effortlessly chic all day.” Fiona also highlights the ever-flattering fit-and-flare silhouette – it continues to shine, sculpting the waist and flowing beautifully over the hips.

*“Mums are stepping AWAY from safe NEUTRALS and embracing confident COLOUR and SHAPE.”*

## BOLD COLOUR, FRESH TEXTURES – LOUISE, CATWALK FALKIRK

Classic shades aren’t disappearing – navy, champagne and soft pink will always have their place, explains Louise – but mums are exploring braver palettes. Think lime, sapphire and striking pinks woven through 2026 collections. Delicate appliqués and soft florals add a contemporary feel, refreshing traditional silhouettes. The result? Modern femininity with a subtle statement edge.

## 2026 STYLE SUMMARY

Mother-of-the-bride and groom fashion for 2026 is confident, contemporary and refreshingly expressive. While classic elegance still anchors the look, there’s a clear shift towards cleaner lines, softer structures and silhouettes designed to celebrate shape rather than disguise it. Traditional jackets are giving way to fluid gowns, elegant necklines and tailoring that feels modern and effortless.

The result is a new era of mother-of-the-bride and groom style, polished yet personal, fashion-forward yet wearable, defined by modern colour, clean silhouettes and confidence at every age.



*"FLATTERING, FEMININE and  
completely TIMELESS.  
Suzanne Neville's Postiano  
gown is one STANDOUT example."*





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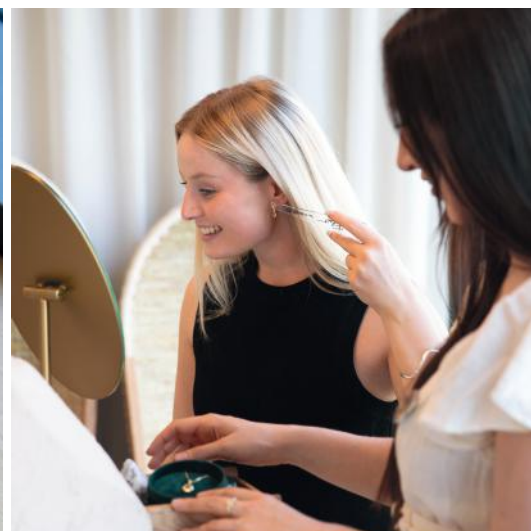
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# The Bespoke Question

Choosing wedding jewellery often begins with one big question – do you go bespoke or ready-to-wear? Four Scottish makers share what to consider before deciding.







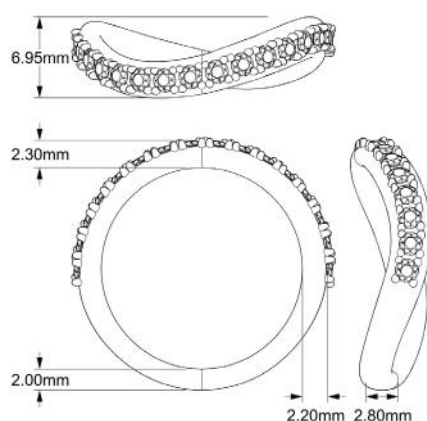
## The personal route

### CLAIRE, JAMES PORTER & SON

“Bespoke is perfect if you want something deeply personal – something with story, symbolism or design details that reflect who you are. It gives you complete freedom, from the metal and the profile to the finish and fit. It’s a chance to create a future heirloom that feels uniquely yours.

But ready-made pieces are ideal if you’re drawn to classic styles or want a beautifully made ring without the extra decisions bespoke requires. If you try something on and instantly love it, there’s no need to reinvent it.

My advice is to start by trying different shapes and widths. If nothing feels quite right, go bespoke. If something makes your heart leap immediately, trust that instinct.”



“If something makes your HEART leap immediately, TRUST that INSTINCT.”





## The ready-made advantage

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“Ready-to-wear is EVERY bit as DISTINCTIVE as bespoke.”



## Small touches, big impact

### JO, FENNES JEWELLERY

“When people think of bespoke, they often think expensive. But bespoke doesn’t have to mean a completely new design. It can simply be an element added to a plain band.

An engraved detail, a pattern from your partner’s ring or a row of stones can all bring meaning without creating something from scratch.

With the range of wedding bands available today, bespoke isn’t always necessary. But this is your forever ring, so choose something you’ll love in the future, not just right now.”

“Choose something you’ll LOVE in the FUTURE, not just right NOW.”





# For couples seeking meaning

## ANGELA, EMMA ROSE JEWELLERY

“For us, bespoke isn’t simply about customising a piece, it’s about honouring your story. Brides often arrive with something sentimental: a grandmother’s brooch, a swatch of lace or a colour from their bouquet.

From these small treasures, we shape something new – a hair vine that dances in the light or a headpiece that feels like it’s always belonged to you.

But our ready-made collection carries its own quiet beauty. Each piece is handcrafted with the same intention. Whether bespoke or ready-to-wear, the goal is the same – jewellery that feels meant for you and becomes part of your bridal chapter long after the day is done.”

“Bespoke isn’t about CUSTOMISING a piece, it’s about HONOURING your story.”



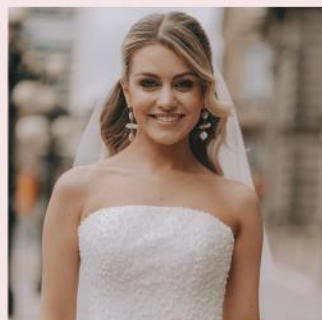
## A closing note

Whether it’s crafting an heirloom from scratch or choosing a tried-and-true design that already tells a story, the right piece is the one that feels like it belongs to you. Start with instinct – and build from there.





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# The Beauty Edit

WHAT'S TRENDING  
FOR 2026

GLOWING skin, ETHEREAL hair and SOFT, lived-in glamour – Scotland's LEADING bridal ARTISTS share the LOOKS, TEXTURES and TECHNIQUES set to define this year's most BEAUTIFUL wedding mornings.

**B**ridal beauty is shifting away from heavy trends and towards something softer, fresher and unmistakably personal. Think luminous skin, light texture, blurred definition and undone-but-intentional styling. This year, Scotland's hair stylists and makeup artists say the goal isn't to transform – it's to elevate. Here's what brides are asking for, and the looks you'll see everywhere in 2026.

## CLOUD SKIN – LEIGH, MAKEUP BY LEIGH BLANEY

Soft, blurred, healthy-looking and ethereal – cloud skin is the new complexion mood. Hydration meets soft-matte to create a diffused glow that photographs like a gentle filter without masking real texture. "Cloud skin bridges the gap between dewy and matte – it's the perfect mix of the best bits of all other skin finishes," says Leigh. "It flatters every skin type and gives that beautifully soft-focus effect. Airbrushed yet natural and still undeniably you."

## NATURALLY ELEVATED BEAUTY – ANNE MARIE, AMMAZING TEAM

2026 will see a real move towards elevated natural beauty – skin that looks like skin, eyes that feel softly defined and lips that look polished but effortless. Expect lightweight, luminous foundations or skin tints that let freckles and natural texture show through; eyeliner in rich browns, soft blacks and deep berries to enhance eye colour without overpowering it; and nude, rose or peach lip tones that simply refine your natural

shade. "Cream and liquid highlighters will give that 'lit from within' glass-skin glow rather than a chunky shimmer," explains Anne Marie. "A smudged, smoky liner along the lash line adds subtle drama that still feels bridal, while satin or balm textures on the lips give a hydrated, plump finish that photographs beautifully."

## REAL-SKIN BEAUTY – LORI, LORI WALKER MAKEUP ARTIST

Lori sees one universal request time and time again, no matter the level of coverage: comfort and authenticity. Brides want makeup that looks like their own skin, feels good and stays true to who they are – whether they're choosing soft and natural or vintage glam with a bold lip. "It's not about a mask. It's about enhancing real skin, whether coverage is light or full. Brides want to feel like the best version of themselves, not a stranger in the mirror – that's the direction things are moving in."

## SOFT GLAM, HEALTHY SKIN – JASMIN, JASMIN FRENCH

The romantic classics endure – softly defined eyes, glowing skin and tones of rose gold, brown and blush. And beneath it all, luminous skin is non-negotiable. "It's about hydrated, healthy skin and a gorgeous, dewy, even finish," says Jasmin. "Start with great skincare and facials in the run-up to your wedding. When the prep is right, everything else falls beautifully into place."









*"A SMUDGED,  
SMOKY liner along  
the LASH line adds  
subtle DRAMA that  
still feels bridal"*

ANNE MARIE,



*From top left: Caroline Stewart  
Makeup Artistry & Hair  
Styling; AMMazing Team,  
Sean Bell Photographer; Kirsty  
MacPherson Hair & Makeup  
Artist, Skaiste Klaniute; Jasmin  
French; Bride to be...; Lori Walker  
Makeup Artist; AMMazing Team,  
Sean Bell Photographer  
Opposite: Hayley  
Fraser Photography*





## ETHEREAL FLORALS – KIRSTY, KIRSTY MACPHERSON HAIR & MAKEUP ARTIST

Hair trends continue to drift towards softness – flowing texture, tumbling waves and details inspired by nature. “Flowers woven through the hair are huge for 2026,” says Kirsty. “Whether it’s glamorous pearls, porcelain blooms or fresh florals that echo the dress, it creates this delicate, ethereal finish. Floral hair is having a real moment so I’m in heaven with the possibilities!”

## ALTERNATIVE ROMANCE – CAROLINE, CAROLINE STEWART MAKEUP ARTISTRY & HAIR STYLING

Caroline has seen her brides lean towards the unconventional and predicts alternatives styles like boho, fantasy and undone glamour being popular in 2026. “Hollywood waves are moving aside. Instead we’re seeing textured hair styles and more colourful, gothic makeup tones. Brides want something freer – romantic, moody, a bit otherworldly.”

## MODERN ROMANTIC HAIR – MAUREEN, THE BRIDE TO BE...

Bridal hair in 2026 blends playful detailing with timeless romance. Think soft waves, undone texture and modern finishes like pearl clusters, ribbon twists and asymmetrical partings. Classic styles are also finding their way back – sleek chignons, polished buns and refined French twists paired with minimalist pins or lightweight veils. “This year is all about individuality,” says Maureen. “Whatever the style, it should feel authentically you.”

## THE BEAUTY SHIFT: WHAT BRIDES ARE REALLY ASKING FOR NOW

Bridal beauty in 2026 isn’t about reinvention. It’s about recognition. Across Scotland, hair stylists and makeup artists are hearing the same requests again and again, not for dramatic transformations or trend-led looks but for something softer, calmer and really personal.

Brides want to look like themselves. Just elevated, more rested, more confident and more at ease.

That shift is changing everything, from how skin is prepped to how hair is structured and how artists approach longevity. The result is a new kind of bridal beauty; one that prioritises comfort, movement and authenticity over perfection. Here’s what that really looks like...

## SKIN FIRST, ALWAYS

The move towards luminous, real skin beauty has been building for years but in 2026 it’s firmly the priority. Brides are no longer asking for heavy coverage or flawless finishes. Instead, they want skin that looks healthy, balanced and believable (in daylight, in real life and in photographs that will be looked at for decades).

Artists say the most common request is simple: “I want my skin to look like skin.” That doesn’t mean doing less – it means doing things differently. Lightweight foundations, skin tints and cream-based products are replacing traditional full-coverage formulas. Texture isn’t something to erase; it’s something to work with.

Prep has become central to the process. Rather than relying on makeup to correct everything on the day, artists are guiding brides towards hydration, barrier repair and gentle exfoliation in the months leading up to the wedding. When skin is properly prepared, makeup sits better, wears more comfortably and looks effortlessly luminous.

The result is a soft-focus glow that feels modern and flattering without tipping into shine or flatness. It’s polished but never mask-like. And elevated but still so real.

## GLOW OVER GLAM

Alongside the shift in skin comes a broader move away from traditional bridal ‘glam’. Heavy contouring, ultra-matte finishes and high-impact highlights are being replaced by something more diffused and wearable.

Glow, in this context, doesn’t mean shimmer. It’s about light – how skin reflects it, how colour blends into it and

how features are softly defined rather than sharply drawn. Blush is layered gently. Bronzer warms rather than sculpts. Highlight melts into the skin instead of sitting on top of it.

## EYES ARE STILL EXPRESSIVE, BUT IN A QUIETER WAY

Soft browns, muted blacks and deep berry tones enhance eye colour without overpowering it. Liner is smudged rather than precise. Lashes feel fluttery, not dramatic. Lips are satin or balm-finished; hydrated, comfortable and forgiving through kisses, drinks and long conversations.

This approach photographs beautifully but more importantly, it feels good. Brides are choosing makeup that wears with them through the day, rather than something they’re constantly aware of.





## HAIR THAT MOVES, NOT FREEZES

If makeup has softened, bridal hair has loosened completely. The days of rigid, immovable styles are fading fast. In their place are looks that prioritise movement, texture and comfort – hair that still feels like hair by the time the dancing starts.

Whether worn up or down, styles are being designed to evolve naturally. Loose tendrils, undone texture and gentle volume are favoured over tight finishes and heavy setting. The goal isn't to keep every strand in place; it's to create a shape that relaxes gracefully rather than collapsing.

Artists say this has changed how they think about longevity. Instead of relying on stiffness to make styles last, they're focusing on clever prep, weight distribution and working with the hair's natural behaviour. When hair is supported in the right places, it doesn't need to be frozen to stay intentional.

It's a quieter kind of craftsmanship and one that allows brides to move, hug, dance and live in their look.

## ACCESSORIES WITH MEANING

Hair accessories are also evolving. Rather than oversized statement pieces, brides are gravitating towards details that feel personal and intentional.

Pearls, delicate florals, ribbons and minimalist pins are replacing heavy headpieces. Accessories are chosen to echo the dress, the venue or the mood of the day, rather than to dominate the look. They're there to enhance, not distract.

Veils, too, are being rethought. Lighter fabrics, shorter lengths and styles that can be removed after the ceremony allow the hairstyle underneath to take centre stage. Many brides are choosing veils that feel romantic in the moment but practical for the rest of the day.

## COMFORT IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

Perhaps the most significant shift of all is how much comfort now matters. Brides are openly prioritising how their hair and makeup feel, not just how they look. Tight styles, heavy products and anything that requires constant maintenance are falling out of favour. The modern bride wants to forget about her hair and makeup once it's done, not worry about it all day.

That mindset has influenced everything from product choice to trial conversations. Artists are spending more time

talking about wearability, movement and how a look will feel after hours of emotion, warmth and celebration.

Longevity still matters but it's achieved through thoughtful prep and modern formulations, not heaviness.

## “I DON'T WANT TO LOOK BACK AND CRINGE”

Another phrase artists hear often is “I don't want this to date.” Brides are increasingly aware of how quickly trends move and many are cautious about looks that feel too tied to a specific moment online. Instead, they're opting for beauty choices that feel current but grounded; rooted in their own style rather than a viral reference.

That doesn't mean avoiding trends entirely. It means using them as tools, not rules. Cloud skin, soft glam, textured hair and ethereal details all appear in 2026 bridal beauty but they're filtered through individuality.

The most successful looks are the ones where inspiration has been adapted, refined and personalised.

## TRIALS WITH INTENTION

The role of the trial is changing too. Rather than treating it as a final rehearsal, many artists now see trials as a collaborative exploration; a chance to understand skin behaviour, hair movement and personal preferences rather than locking everything down months

in advance.

Brides are encouraged to arrive with inspiration but also openness. A trial is about finding what works for you, not recreating a photo exactly. When expectations are aligned early, the wedding morning becomes calmer, smoother and more enjoyable for everyone involved.

## THE COMMON THREAD: AUTHENTICITY

Across all of these shifts (skin, hair, accessories, trials) one theme runs through everything: authenticity. In 2026, bridal beauty isn't about rules or perfection. It's about choice, feeling seen, recognising yourself in the mirror and liking what you see.

Whether the look is ethereal, alternative or softly polished, the goal is the same – beauty that feels like home, elevated just enough for one of the most photographed days of your life.









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# *Floral, Cakes, Decor & Stationery*









# The Unseen Hours

From FLORALS and DÉCOR to CAKES and STATIONERY, the most beautiful details are often the most labour-intensive. Long before GUESTS arrive (and long after they leave) SUPPLIERS are LIFTING, SKETCHING, CONDITIONING, BAKING and PROBLEM SOLVING. Here, Scotland's wedding creatives lift the lid on the hours you don't see.

### STYLING THE IMPOSSIBLE – GEMMA, PRETTY LITTLE DETAILS

When couples walk down a perfectly styled aisle, they're seeing the final piece of a much bigger puzzle. "Behind the scenes, it's early starts, late nights and loading vans in the dark – sweating and stressing to bring every detail to life before anyone arrives," says Gemma. Turning a blank venue into a wow-factor space doesn't happen by magic. "It's our job to make it look effortless, even when it's anything but."

### WHEN THE WEATHER TURNS – RONI, ALL WRAPPED UP SCOTLAND

Furniture and décor don't move themselves – especially in storms. During Storm Amy, Roni's team worked overnight to beat potential road closures. "People see tables and chairs as practical details," she says. "But without them, there's no wedding."

### INK, WAX AND PATIENCE – NICKY, STARCA DESIGNS

Luxury stationery is built by hand. Every bow is tied, every wax seal pressed, every layer assembled with precision. "What looks effortless often takes hours of focused work," says Nicky. It's meticulous, often late-night craftsmanship, transforming paper into something deeply personal.

### THE LABOUR BEHIND FRESH FLORALS – LAURA, CHERRY BLOSSOM

Fresh flowers demand relentless prep. From sourcing vessels and checking deliveries to conditioning every stem on cold concrete floors, the work starts days before the wedding. "You can condense six days' work into three," Laura explains – often with just a few hours' sleep before delivery and set-up. "It's all worth it for the moment a bride sees her bouquet for the first time."

### BEFORE THE BLOOMS ARRIVE – LYNDSEY, SHE BLOOMIN GATHERED

Wedding floristry starts long before the day itself. "Think 5am flower market trips, endless coffees and whispered prayers balanced at the top of ladders," says Lyndsey. The work is shaped through close collaboration with fellow suppliers, early mornings, self-belief and deep pride in the craft.

And once the celebration ends, there's still work to do. "There's the slightly less glamorous clear-down after the guests have gone; part of the job people rarely see but one that matters just as much." The best bit, though? "The few seconds after the couple first see their flowers – the emotion, the relief and the excitement."











## PRECISION IN PETALS – HELEN, THE GREENSHED FLOWER STUDIO

Floristry is about timing as much as talent. Conditioning, vessel prep and installation all happen in a tightly compressed window to keep blooms at their best. Delicate pieces (buttonholes, corsages, floral crowns) are often made late the night before. “And once it’s done there’s a lot of cleaning,” Helen adds. “Floristry is glamorous but it’s also a lot of tidying up.”

## WHEN SCALE MEETS PRECISION – NICOLE, LA LUNA FLORALS

Large-scale florals don’t come together on the day. There’s already been virtual mock-ups, travel logistics, intensive prep and bucket washing, long before a single bloom arrives. “Our event days are never a one-woman feat,” Nicole explains. “It takes an experienced team to ensure set-up, flips and tear-downs run seamlessly because we’re trusted with one of the biggest days in our clients’ lives, and we don’t take that lightly.”

## DESIGNING BEFORE BAKING – ALISON, THE KILTED CAKE COMPANY

Before a single tier is baked, hours go into sketching. “Each design follows detailed consultations, research and experimentation,” says Alison. From seasonal inspiration to textures, flavours and structure, the process is slow and intentional, ensuring every cake feels truly bespoke.

## ENGINEERING THE PERFECT SLICE – LAURA, INFINITE INDULGENCE

Couples see the finished cake, not the engineering behind it. “There’s planning, pressure and countless late nights sketching and testing,” Laura explains. “I pour so much of myself into each cake because their story matters. Every tier has to hold meaning as well as structure.”

## TASTING ROOM REALITY – ZARA, ZARA’S CAKERY

Cake tasting boxes are one of the most time-intensive parts of the job. “Eight flavours, different fillings, cutting, wrapping, boxing – and the mess afterwards,” Zara laughs. It’s unseen labour, but essential to helping couples choose with confidence.

## FLOWERS THAT NEVER FADE – JULIE, JULIE SCRUMPTIOUS CAKE DESIGN

Sugar flowers may look delicate but they’re the result of lots of training. “It’s taken me seven years of specialist classes and endless practice to fine-tune this craft,” Julie explains. Each flower is shaped petal by petal to look lifelike – and often becomes a keepsake long after the cake is cut.

## CONSTANT REINVENTION – PAULINE, PR CAKES

Behind every cake is ongoing development. Pauline spends hours researching trends, sketching designs and refining flavours, alongside investing in specialist training. “Each cake is the result of artistry, precision and a commitment to improving with every single wedding,” she smiles.



LA LUNA FLORAL STUDIO | KARINA ASTIWBAY PHOTOGRAPHY





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throughout the space, while crystal chandeliers shimmer overhead, reflecting the refined luxury synonymous with Trump Turnberry. Every element has been meticulously tailored, celebrating Zahrah and Zunair's love story through thoughtful design, scale, and detail.

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# THE Wedding Planner EFFECT

CALM, CLARITY, EXPERTISE and the kind of behind-the-scenes MAGIC couples rarely see – two Scottish planners on what truly CHANGES when you're not doing it ALONE.

**T**here's a misconception that wedding planners are a luxury add-on; something reserved for big budgets or elaborate celebrations. In reality, says Gillian of We Travel To, the greatest benefit is far simpler – ease.

"When couples sit down with us, we're immediately reading body language," she explains. "Sometimes one partner is quietly compromising without saying it aloud. Sometimes they're overwhelmed before they've even begun. Our job is to help them find the wedding that genuinely feels like theirs, not the wedding they think they 'should' want."

From navigating international documentation to spotting budget mismatches long before they derail the planning, Gillian sees her role as both guide and guardrail. The reassurance starts early and lasts long after the vows. "We look after couples, families and friends from the moment they walk in until their wedding is a distant memory. You become part of our family."

For destination couples, this support stretches even further. Logistics, legalities, timings, transfers are all threaded quietly together so the couple can actually enjoy the experience. "If you're getting married abroad there will be an in-resort planner too," Gillian adds. "We work hand-in-hand with them. Couples never feel alone, even when planning something thousands of miles away."

## THE CALM EXPERTISE

Oskar, Scotland's luxury wedding planner, says the biggest transformation isn't visual – it's emotional. "For our clients, the true luxury isn't florals or fireworks. It's peace of mind," Oskar says. "Behind the scenes, we're anticipating issues before they arise, designing timelines that protect their flow, and shaping a day where they can be fully present."

This level of orchestration is often invisible. Emails answered before the couple even notices. Supplier challenges resolved quietly. Contingency plans written, adjusted and absorbed into the day without ever interrupting the atmosphere.

"Planners don't just run your wedding," Oskar explains. "We learn your energy, your pace, what overwhelms you

and what lights you up. And then we hold that – delicately but deliberately – for the entire journey."

For couples planning from overseas, this becomes invaluable. Oskar's clients, Roland and Brian, built their Scottish celebration from Washington D.C. "They trusted me to be their eyes and ears on the ground. We made site visits to their venue, guided them through the Scottish legal paperwork and curated an exceptional supplier team. For them, everything felt effortless. Guests still tell them it was the best wedding they've ever been to."

Roland and Brian are a reminder that the real value of a planner rarely shows up in the Instagram grid – it shows up in the feeling.

## WHY IT MATTERS

In an era of comparison culture, overwhelming choice and ever-increasing to do lists, planners offer things couples can't buy elsewhere – emotional spaciousness and the ability to be present; to move through the day without spinning plates and experience the celebration rather than manage it.

As Oskar puts it: "The greatest reward is when couples say they felt looked after. That's the difference we make."

## WHEN THE UNEXPECTED ARRIVES GILLIAN, WE TRAVEL TO

"We'd planned everything perfectly for Jan and Mark's re-tie-the-knot celebration in Jamaica – then Hurricane Melissa appeared on the radar. Doors were being boarded up, guests were frightened and the wedding was just days away. Because they could reach me at any time, we talked through every update together, sometimes multiple times a day. We worked with the in-resort planner to move the ceremony, reshuffle details and – most importantly – keep everyone safe and calm. They finally said their vows, post-hurricane and two days before flying home. Sun shining, nerves settled and everything exactly as it should have been. Moments like that remind me why planners matter. You're not just organising a wedding, you're holding people through one of the biggest experiences of their lives."



OSKAR – THE WEDDING GURU | DEREK CHRISTIE PHOTOGRAPHY



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# *Music & Entertainment*









# Reading The Room

The best ENTERTAINERS don't just PLAY MUSIC or put on a SHOW – they LISTEN, ADAPT and RESPOND. Five Scottish performers reveal how they tailor the ENERGY of a WEDDING and why the right CHOICES matter more than most couples realise.

## THE ART BEHIND THE ATMOSPHERE

Entertainment often gets treated like a tick-box – a band, a DJ, a ceilidh set, perhaps something visual for impact. But those who work in the industry know the real craft lies in something far subtler – reading the room.

“Don't overthink it,” urges Del from Hireaband. “Wedding guests span every age and taste. If you book an experienced band or DJ they'll be expert at reading the room and playing something for everyone.” In other words, couples don't need to micromanage – they need to choose well.

Del also notes a truth many newlyweds learn too late: “Your second half will always be livelier than the first. Guests loosen up after the buffet. Schedule it early and you'll have a better night.”

## ENTERTAINMENT AS STORYTELLING

For DJ Elisha of Luxe Grooves, personalisation starts long before she steps on stage. “I take time to get to know each couple – the festivals they loved, the gigs they remember, the songs that defined their hen or stag. I also ask about their guests' tastes so I can be fully tuned into their vibe.”

But even the best preparation doesn't replace instinct. “On the night, it comes down to reading the room. You blend what the couple loves with what keeps the floor full. That balance is where the magic happens.”

## CEILIDH CHEMISTRY

Few wedding moments are as joyfully chaotic as a ceilidh floor and managing that chaos takes finesse. “When performing a ceilidh set, we have to decide quickly what order to do the dances in,” says Scott from The Brave Ceilidh Band. “Some crowds need a little extra help; others know every step. Reading that within seconds is key.”





**"I take time to get to know each couple – the festivals they loved, the gigs they remember, the songs that defined their hen or stag"**  
**Elisha, Luxe Grooves**







“The FIRST DANCE sets the mood for your evening.” – Felicity

Communication, he adds, is everything – not just between band members but between caller and dancers. “If the room can’t hear or follow you, the energy drops. Get that connection right and the whole place comes alive.”

## MAKING YOUR FIRST DANCE MATTER

Felicity from Learn 2 Wedding Dance approaches entertainment from the angle of emotion, not volume. “The first dance sets the mood for your evening. Romantic, fun, easy-going or unique – whatever you choose should reflect you both.”

Preparation is everything. “Practice little and often. On the day you remember nothing and muscle memory takes over.”

For Felicity, choreography isn’t technical; it’s connective. “Every couple moves differently. I watch how they gel, what feels natural. The dance becomes a moment they escape into together.”

## THE POWER OF BEING SELECTIVE

In an age of maximalist weddings, Dee from Splendid Gentlemen believes restraint is underrated. “If you’ve got Scottish drummers, then a band, then fireworks, then disco-

ball dancers, it usually runs off schedule.” His advice? “Get a band that suits your vibe then pair it with one cool statement.”

Dee’s own process blends prep and improvisation. “Some book us for our rock edge; others for something more mainstream. We ask for requests and the feel they’re going for then on the night we read the crowd, take live requests and keep the set bespoke.”

## SPECTACLE WITH SOUL

For fire performer Lauren of Fire & Dance, tailoring begins with understanding the couple’s world.

“I always encourage couples to personalise their entertainment. Your performance should reflect who you are – the colours, the music, the mood.”

Guest mix matters too. “If you have little ones, older guests or a wide range of abilities, small adjustments can make the experience more enjoyable for everyone.”

Every show she creates is bespoke. “I send a questionnaire, we talk through options and I adjust in real time. Weather changes, venue layouts, crowd responses – you adapt so it stays smooth, safe and magical.”

## WHAT WILL 2026 BRING?

Ultimately, the most memorable wedding entertainment isn’t about how much you book, but how well it’s chosen. When performers are trusted to read the room, adapt in the moment and put people first, the result is an atmosphere that feels effortless, personal and genuinely alive.



“I always ENCOURAGE  
couples to PERSONALISE  
their ENTERTAINMENT.”

Lauren, Fire & Dance





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# *Your Wedding Day*













# Naxos Sunset in

ROMY MCCAHLILL &  
STEWART BURT

A clifftop GREEK SUNSET  
where everything felt  
MEANT TO BE with all their  
FAVOURITE people

Romy and Stewart's story began through mutual friends. Romy met Hazel while working in clubs and Hazel had grown up with Stewart. "Stewart later told everyone he finally understood what people meant by love at first sight," laughs Romy.

Eight years later, on New Year's Eve in Florida, Stewart proposed – moments before midnight, fireworks bursting above them. "It was my gran's birthday too, so it felt even more special."

The rings came later, in the most laid-back way. "We were in Dubai on holiday and spent one afternoon at Cara choosing our favourites. Then we went for dinner. It felt so us."

"I'll NEVER  
FORGET it."

SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2025  
VENUE: ROTONDA, NAXOS, GREECE  
PHOTOGRAPHER: RICKY BAILLIE  
PHOTOGRAPHY





## THE PLANNING

"We always wanted an abroad wedding – a whole week with our closest people," says Romy. They briefly considered Croatia and Italy but it was Naxos, a place Romy's mum had visited since her twenties, that instantly felt right.

The decision was sealed by chance. "My mum and dad overheard a couple raving about a restaurant they'd eaten in and how perfect it would be for weddings. The next morning, we all hired a car to check it out and that was it."

With a soft lemon palette inspired by Romy's *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* obsession, she kept everything clean and elegant. "I wanted Greece to do the talking – the sunset, the sea, the simplicity." Draping, candles and subtle soft-blue accents framed the ceremony arch, and each bridesmaid carried a single rose.

Romy hand-made personalised perfumes for her bridal party, tying each bottle with lemon ribbon. They also gifted remembrance pins and bracelets to honour late grandparents. Rotonda handled everything else, from local musicians to plate-smashing and fireworks. "They're family-run, so it meant as much to them as it did to us."

## THE LOOK

Having modelled bridalwear for years, Romy knew what suited her but she surprised herself. "I always imagined wearing something bold and different. But I realised I wanted to feel pure and angelic."

The team at Opus Couture understood immediately. Together with their seamstress,



the dress evolved organically. The Grecian-inspired corset with soft sparkle under the skirt and a pearl-lined silhouette glimmered beautifully in the sunset and "felt meant to be."

Stewart wore a custom cream velvet tuxedo from Kilts4U with embroidered family names and their wedding date inside the jacket.

## THE DAY

The morning began quietly and beautifully. Romy and Stewart took a stroll for iced coffees, joined by Hazel, just like the early days. Back at the apartment, Romy laid out gifts and robes before the bridesmaids arrived and the excitement kicked in.

She walked down the aisle to *Idea 22* by Gibran Alcocer, a piece she and Stewart both love. Their close friend Scott officiated. "It meant the world. He did such an incredible job."

They hid the rings under guests' chairs so friends and family could play ring-bearer – with one hilarious glitch. "It took my uncle five minutes to realise the ring was



## BEHIND THE DAY

### BRIDE'S DRESS

WONA CONCEPT, OPUS COUTURE

### BRIDE'S EARRINGS

CHANEL

### BRIDE'S HEADPIECE

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### BRIDE'S SHOES

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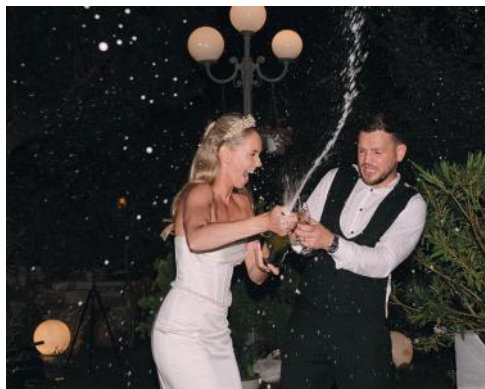
under his seat. The longest five minutes ever!" Romy laughs.

The atmosphere was pure magic. They had kept the venue location secret from guests, handing out only the coach meeting point. "People travelled winding mountain roads for 45 minutes then walked through the gates to this cliffside view with the sun setting. Everyone said they loved going in blind."

Dinner was a relaxed Greek exquisite buffet (inspired by a wedding they attended in Brazil) with traditional musicians playing as the sun dipped. Their friend Mhairi, acting as MC, introduced the top table to a dance-style version of Zorba the Greek, complete with guests swinging napkins.

Instead of a cake cutting, everyone took part in plate-smashing. "Ninety Scots smashing dishes was absolute chaos!" says Romy.

Their first dance took place on the balcony overlooking the island. "We didn't choreograph anything, just went with it. And as Stewart lifted me for the first chorus, the fireworks went off. Completely unplanned and completely perfect."



## REFLECTING

Some things went wrong – the guests were 50 minutes late due to a mix-up, the DJ equipment wasn't confirmed until the day before and Romy had footprints on her skirt before she even stepped out of the car. "But you genuinely laugh about it after," she smiles. "In no world was me planning a whole wedding ever going to be smooth!"

The moments that matter stand out clearly – the music, the speeches, the views, the laughter, and her dad singing the song he wrote for her when she was little. "I'll never forget it."

### PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"I loved Romy and Stewart's laid-back approach to their wedding. They wanted their day to feel like a celebration of love between friends and family, enjoying time together in a place that means a lot to them.

Photographing a model was always going to be a beautiful collaboration – styling her and posing her was probably the easiest I've had it as a photographer!" ■

**RICKY, RICKY BAILLIE  
PHOTOGRAPHY**



# Perfectly balanced

ELBINA AVDICH &  
ROSS CHRISTIE



A day of CALM, COLOUR  
and effortless JOY at the Old  
Course Hotel in St Andrews

DATE: SATURDAY 2 AUGUST 2025  
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ST ANDREWS  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
DUKE PHOTOGRAPHY

Ross was Elbina's gym crush for almost a year during her first year at university. And they've been inseparable since she finally worked up the courage to message him. Five years later, the pair were on holiday in Dubai visiting Elbina's family when Ross proposed – a moment she describes as “completely perfect and utterly unexpected”.

They'd planned a relaxed desert dinner at Bab Al Shams Resort, encouraged by Elbina's mum. As the sun began to set, Ross suggested exploring the upper terrace, which appeared to be

empty. “Then he told me how much he loved me and wanted to spend his life with me,” explains Elbina. “I still didn't realise what was happening until he got down on one knee!”

## THE PLANNING

As soon as they got home from Dubai they booked the Old Course Hotel, a venue close to their hearts from their time studying in St Andrews. “There's nowhere more beautiful. And that view is unbeatable,” says Elbina.

Their theme was lilac with touches of yellow (a nod to their golden engagement





sunset). Ever the creative, Elbina designed all the stationery herself with an illustration of the hotel drawn by her youngest sister running through each detail.

Planning came easily. “I’m very organised – a total Type A,” she laughs. “With Jess and the team at the Old Course, everything felt calm and under control. Ross took charge of the music and I handled the rest!”

## THE LOOK

Ross wore his Royal Marines dress uniform for part of the day then changed into a kilt in weathered MacKenzie tartan – chosen by accident but later discovered to belong to his mother’s clan. “It couldn’t have been more perfect.”

For Elbina, finding her dress was a joint effort with her mum. “She has incredible taste and suggested one I instantly fell in love with. We later picked an evening dress, and she was right again,” she smiles.

Her ceremony gown by Tony Ward Couture and evening dress by Solace London were paired with Sophia Webster heels – a personal full-circle moment. Years earlier, Elbina had entered a naming competition for the designer’s bridal line, suggesting Deya, her sister’s name. Months later, a pair of heels by that very name was released. “Whether coincidence or fate, I knew they had to be mine.”

Yellow-stone jewellery tied her look to the colour palette, echoing their Dubai proposal.

“There’s nowhere more  
BEAUTIFUL. And that  
view is UNBEATABLE.”







## THE DAY

After days of rain, the skies cleared to perfect sunshine. "It felt like a blessing. I just knew the day would be beautiful." The couple shared a private first look before a ceremony that blended traditional Scottish elements with personalised vows that captured their shared sense of adventure and devotion.

During the drinks' reception, their 30 guests were treated to a performance by Pipe Major Scott Methven, whose military background and role as the late Queen's piper made it especially meaningful for Ross.

Dinner (a choice of two tasting menus perfected by the Old Course team) followed, with Achillea Glasgow providing floral décor and a touch of summer freshness. After heartfelt



## BEHIND THE DAY

### **BAND**

BORROWED BLUES

### **BRIDE'S DRESS**

TONY WARD COUTURE

SOLACE LONDON

### **BRIDE'S SHOES**

SOPHIA WEBSTER

### **CELEBRANT**

REV DR DONALD MACEWAN

### **CAKE**

JANNETTAS GELATERIA

### **DÉCOR**

ACHILLEA GLASGOW

### **FAVOURS**

CAKES BY LEONA

### **FLOWERS**

ACHILLEA GLASGOW

### **GROOM'S OUTFIT**

KIRK WYND HIGHLAND HOUSE

### **HAIR**

SOPHIE BUTLER HAIRDRESSING

### **PIPER**

PIPE MAJOR SCOTT METHVEN

### **RINGS**

MALCOLM ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES



speeches, the party moved to the ballroom, where Borrowed Blues filled the night with energy. “They were easily the best band we’ve ever heard,” says Elbina. “Everyone danced all night.”

### REFLECTING

Looking back, Elbina says the day couldn’t have gone better. “All our suppliers were incredible and everything came together perfectly. Seeing our friends and family from all over the world in one place was overwhelming in the best way.”

Her advice for couples planning their own day? “Don’t lose yourself in the planning. Enjoy being engaged and trust the people you’ve chosen. It’s not as scary as it seems.”



“All our SUPPLIERS  
were INCREDIBLE.”



### PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

“Bina’s dad was unable to make it so she and Ross walked down the aisle together. Their first look was magical. Seeing them both in that first moment and how they supported each other was so beautiful.” ■

**DOM, DUKE  
PHOTOGRAPHY**



# Homegrown happiness

JENNA BRAND &  
PETE BROWN



A HEARTFELT farm wedding filled with SUNFLOWERS and the most PERSONAL handmade touches, all brought to LIFE in the grounds of Jenna and Pete's FAMILY home.

DATE: FRIDAY 25TH JULY 2025  
PHOTOGRAPHER: EILIDH ROBERTSON PHOTOGRAPHY  
VENUE: SKEDDOWAY FARM, FIFE

Jenna and Pete's love story began through mutual friends years ago but conversation really started to flow during lockdown 2020.

Four years later, on a quiet walk across their farm, Pete stopped, pulled out a silver band stamped with 'marry me,' and asked the question.

The ring was made in secret by Jenna's friend, Kirsty Stewart Jewellery. Later, Kirsty crafted an engagement ring using gold and diamonds from her gran and mum – a champagne diamond centre stone framed with six smaller stones. "I love that our families are literally part of it," says Jenna.

## THE PLANNING

The photographer was their priority. "Eilidh was the first message I sent once our families knew," Jenna laughs. "We picked the date based on her availability."

Choosing the venue was even simpler. With open countryside and a beautiful garden, Skeddoway Farm felt like the obvious choice. They installed a stretch tent from Present Tents, creating a relaxed, rustic setting that felt completely true to them. "All our memories will forever be right here," says Jenna.

Their colour palette evolved from bright pink and orange to rustic rosy tones, bronze accents and bursts of





“The **WHOLE** day was  
just **SO HAPPY**”

yellow sunflowers. “The whole look became warm, cheerful and so us.”

DIY was at the heart of everything. Wedding stationer Jenna designed all the signage and stationery, created sunflower and potato-box place cards, and printed personalised bar panels. Her dad built the wooden octagon that hung from the tent; mums and bridesmaids arranged the flowers; and Jenna and her team styled the entire space. “The bridal party pulled together. It really did take a village.”

## THE LOOK

Dress shopping took a few twists. “I had a clear idea... Then chose the complete opposite!” she laughs. Her Maggie Sottero Adeline gown by Rebecca Ingram (from Amy King Bridal and Beauty) was a strapless crepe dress with a beaded bodice, a statement beaded train and a mesh-filled slit. “It was comfortable, unique and had every detail I wanted.” Amy King created a relaxed VIP fitting that Jenna describes as “like being with friends rather than salespeople.”

Her accessories were a meaningful mix. Hairpins from Kate Dillon Designs, pearl pins borrowed from her bridesmaid Elaine and earrings made from gemstones belonging to her gran and mum.

## THE DAY

The night before was calm and cosy, with Jenna and her bridesmaids staying at her parents’ house for wine, gifts and a surprise ‘letters to the bride’ book. She slept well (“the wine helped!”) and woke early.

Hair was by Nicola Lawson and make-up by Natasha Dardas. “Both were so relaxed – it made the whole morning lovely,” Jenna remembers.

She walked down the aisle to the acoustic version of *Stargazing* by Myles Smith and celebrant TJ Thomson created a ceremony guests haven’t stopped talking about. “It was everything we wanted – relaxed, personal, fun. We drank from the quaich, our siblings did a reading they wrote themselves and we laughed with everyone we love.”





After the ceremony, guests enjoyed prosecco, Pimm's and beers cooled in a tattie box of ice, with canapés from Robertson Hospitality and a playlist made from guests' RSVP song choices.

Dinner was a true 'farm to fork' feast – beef from Jenna's parents' farm, potatoes from their own and vegetables from neighbours. Each table had a nominated carver complete with apron for extra fun.

Speeches were full of laughter, especially with the surprise theme tunes Jenna's brother played as each speaker stood up. "It set the tone perfectly."

The evening reception inside the tent was packed from start to finish. Who'stown had the dancefloor full all night, mixing ceilidh sets with party classics. Guests raided a vintage suitcase filled with sunglasses, cowboy hats and props, and after the band finished, karaoke took over until the early hours.

## REFLECTING

"The whole day was just so happy," Jenna smiles. Highlights included a quiet five minutes together during photos and seeing all their loved ones in one place.

Planning had its moments – "guest list stress is real!" – but being at home, surrounded by the people who helped create it, made everything worth it. Her advice? "Do it your way. Ignore expectations. Let people help. And say yes to all the celebrations – you'll never get this time again."







## BEHIND THE DAY

### **BAND**

WHO'S TOWN

### **BOUQUETS**

PETALS FROM PAULA

### **BRIDE'S DRESS**

MAGGIE SOTTERO ADELIN  
GOWN BY REBECCA INGRAM,  
FROM AMY KING BRIDAL AND  
BEAUTY

### **BRIDE'S HAIRPINS**

KATE DILLION DESIGNS

### **CAKE**

A BONNIE WEE CAKE

### **CATERERS**

ROBERTSON HOSPITALITY

### **CELEBRANT**

TJ THOMSON CELEBRANT

### **CONTENT CREATOR**

CAPTURED BY BRUNETTE

### **GLASSWARE**

GREEN COCKATOO EVENTS

### **GROOMSMEN'S JACKETS**

KINGDOM KILTS

### **HAIR**

N LAWSON HAIR STUDIO

### **MAKE-UP**

NATASHA DARDAS: MAKEUP,  
HAIR & BEAUTY

### **MARQUEE**

PRESENT TENTS

### **STATIONERY & SIGNAGE**

JENNA B STATIONERY



### **PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT**

"The whole day had such a fun, laid-back feel, and Jenna did the most incredible job with the décor and stationery. Every detail was beautiful and thoughtful." ■

**EILIDH, EILIDH  
ROBERTSON  
PHOTOGRAPHY**



# Let's stay together

WILLIAM MCGOWAN &  
ALLAN SMITH

BLACK VELVET suits, autumn FLORALS and their dog DAVIE by their side – this city wedding was a masterclass in STYLE and PERSONALITY

William and Allan's paths first crossed in 2013 during what was meant to be a quiet Sunday night out in Glasgow. "We both ended up in the Polo Lounge," says William. "Allan offered to buy me a drink and two weeks later we had our first date."

Fast forward a decade, and the pair decided together that it was time to

make things official. "We'd talked about marriage for years. We had a small pot of savings and decided: let's do it." A few days later, William came home from work, Haribo ring in hand, and proposed. Their 'proper' engagement rings were handcrafted at Chisholm Hunter using platinum and yellow gold, a beautiful reflection of their desire to keep things simple, elegant and meaningful.







SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2025  
VENUE: KIMPTON BLYTHSWOOD SQUARE  
HOTEL & SPA, GLASGOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE GODFREY PHOTO





## THE PLANNING

As seasoned city dwellers, a Glasgow venue made perfect sense for William and Allan. “We wanted somewhere central, stylish and easy for guests,” William explains. “The Blythswood has always been special to us. We’ve had countless date nights and spa days there over the years.”

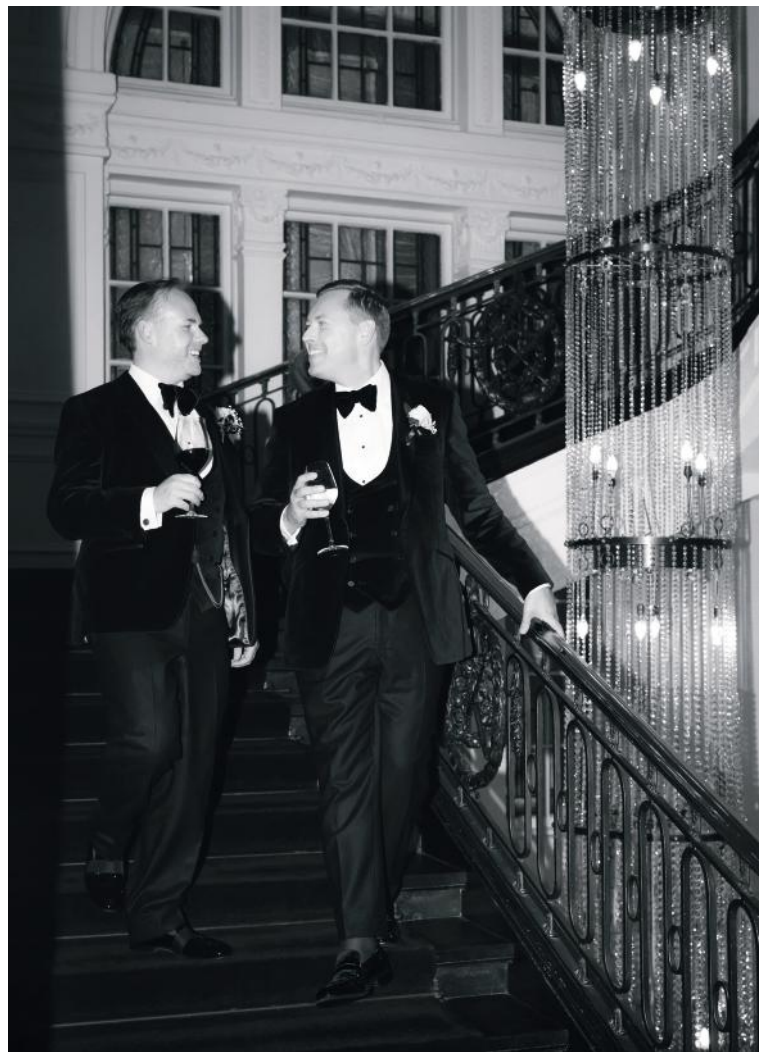
Their autumn wedding drew on natural tones and soft candlelight. To personalise the space, they filled the rooms with Penhaligon’s Anbar Stone candles, creating a signature scent for the day. Styling by Make Believe Events tied the look together with rich, seasonal details that felt luxurious yet understated.

## THE LOOK

Both grooms wanted bespoke suits – something timeless but tailored to them. They discovered Sett Kilts and Tailoring at The Scottish Wedding Show and immediately booked an appointment.

“Allan, his brother Kevin and I went together, and the experience was amazing,” remembers William. “The team are so knowledgeable. We got to choose everything from fabrics and linings to the smallest stitching details.”

The final look was matching black velvet jackets with satin lapels, black wool trousers and Tom Ford bowties. Allan added a green lining, socks and bronze accessories; William chose burgundy. “We had them altered twice. The team at Sett wanted them to be perfect – and they were.”







“We had GLOWSTICKS, DANCING and the best ENERGY. It felt ELECTRIC.”



## THE DAY

The couple stayed at the hotel the night before, joined by close family for dinner and a spa day. “It felt calm, not chaotic.”

In the morning, they were up early for photos before the ceremony to make the most of daylight and spend longer at the drinks reception. “I was nervous,” admits William. “Allan was buzzing.”

Their ceremony was deeply personal with celebrant Rachel weaving their story into the service. “We wanted something relaxed, joyful and true to us. It was all that and more.” Their dog, Davie, even walked them down the aisle to Taylor Swift’s *Lover*, performed live by Nicola Mason, who also sang during the signing and as they left the room.

Guests moved upstairs to the Salon for drinks, canapés and live music before sitting down to a three-course menu featuring ginned salmon, braised beef shortrib and apple tarte tatin – all selected after a tasting with the Blythswood’s chefs.

Four speeches followed – both grooms spoke, joined by Allan’s brother Kevin and William’s sister, Leanne. “Kevin’s poem had everyone howling with laughter,” says William. The evening kicked off with a first



dance to *Let’s Stay Together* by Joesef and after The StereoBeats Band took over, the dance floor never emptied. “We had glowsticks, dancing and the best energy. It felt electric.”

## REFLECTING

“The day felt exactly right. After 12 years together, marriage was just the natural next step – a celebration of who we are,” says William.

Their advice? “Don’t let the small details take over. Trust your suppliers, make time for each other and do what feels true to you.”

# BEHIND THE DAY

### BAND

THE STEREOBEATS BAND

### BRIDESMAIDS’ DRESSES

LADY G

### CAKE

MARIA’S BAKEHOUSE

### CELEBRANT

RACHEL HAYS

### DÉCOR

MAKE BELIEVE EVENTS

### DOG CHAPERONE

HAPPY PAWS & CHASING BAWWS

### FAVOURS

GLASWEGIN, THAT’S SO SKETCH

### FLOWERS

SHOWERS OF FLOWERS

### GROOMS’ OUTFITS

SETT KILTS AND TAILORING

### HAIR

KIRSTIE TREBLE

### MAKE-UP

ALCHEMÉ BEAUTY

### MOTHERS OF THE GROOM

### OUTFITS

CATHERINES OF PARTICK, LADY G

### MUSICIAN

NICOLA MASON VOCALIST

### RINGS

CHISHOLM HUNTER

### STATIONERY

TOASTY TYPE



## PHOTOGRAPHER’S CREDIT

“What I loved about Allan and William’s day was the obvious comfort they felt in each other and in being fully themselves. Everything I captured was real and a reflection of them – there’s not much more I could ask for.” ■

**KATE, KATE GODFREY  
PHOTO**





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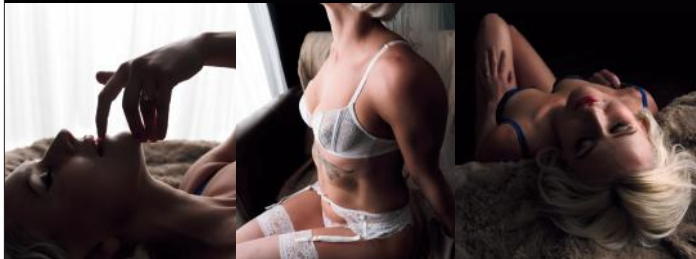
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# THROUGH THEIR EYES

*Three of SCOTLAND'S leading PHOTOGRAPHERS share the one thing they WISH everyone knew before stepping in front of the CAMERA.*

Every photographer sees people differently but one truth runs through it all – the camera loves authenticity. How you feel in front of the lens shapes everything the image becomes. Whether you're stepping into a wedding aisle or a studio, the

magic lies in how present, relaxed and connected you are in the moment. Photography isn't just about taking a picture. The energy you bring shapes the final image far more than you might think.



## **CONFIDENCE ISN'T A PREREQUISITE, IT'S A RESULT – Susan, Bonnie Pictures**

Susan wants couples (and especially women booking boudoir) to know the word 'boudoir' doesn't have to mean lingerie. "Your partner finds you sexy in many forms – a favourite outfit, a dress that feels like you, or something relaxed and simple. What they love most is seeing you confident."

But confidence, she stresses, isn't something you need to turn up with. "Most women arrive a bit nervous. My job is to make you feel welcome, comfortable and completely at ease. Every single person leaves feeling more confident than when they walked in. And that's the real magic of a boudoir experience."

## **DITCH THE TRADITIONS THAT DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU – Hayley, Hayley Fraser Photography**

Hayley believes the strongest wedding photos are the ones rooted in authenticity, not expectation. "We always tell couples to only keep the traditions that matter to them – or

BONNIE PICTURES





HAYLEY FRASER PHOTOGRAPHY

better, make their own. If your day reflects your personality, your images will too.”

She lights up when she talks about Shelley and Jack, a couple who re-wrote the rulebook. “They married legally before the big day and saw each other the morning of the wedding. Shelley wore a stunning grey dress then changed into a jumpsuit for the festival-themed party. It was completely theirs and the images show that joy and freedom.”

Her message? “We love it when couples do things their way and it really makes their images authentic.”

## YOUR PHOTOS MIRROR YOUR MOOD, SO BRING THE ENERGY YOU WANT – Allan, Biggar Picture Photography

For Allan, the biggest secret is simple – the more you relax, the more beautiful and natural your photos will be. “If you want fun, energetic images, bring that energy with you. If you want soft and candid, lean into being yourselves. Don’t listen for shutter clicks. Don’t worry about posing. The best moments happen in the unplanned laughter, the micro-interactions, the way you naturally hold each other.”

He also encourages couples to keep moving – gently. “Sway slightly, play with each other’s hands, breathe, chat about anything – the weird, the wonderful, the entirely unrelated. Movement stops you looking stiff and helps you feel connected.”

And his fail-safe tip when nerves creep in is to have a little kiss. “It never fails to bring out a real smile.”



BIGGAR PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY





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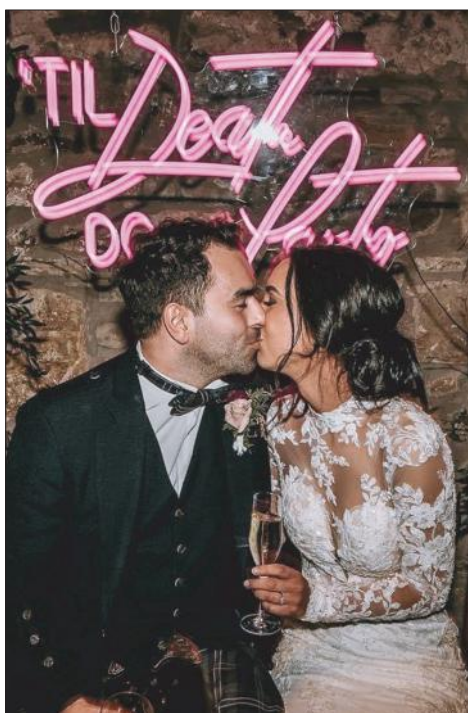
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# Destination Wedding

What to CONSIDER before  
you say "I Do" ABROAD





**T**here's something undeniably romantic about exchanging vows somewhere far from home – whether it's barefoot on a sun-drenched beach, under olive trees in the Italian countryside, or against a dramatic mountain backdrop. Destination weddings offer couples the chance to turn their celebration into an unforgettable shared experience, but they do come with a few extra considerations.

If you're dreaming of a wedding abroad, here's what to think about before you book the flights.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT DESTINATION

The first and most important decision is where. Climate, accessibility and seasonality should all play a part in narrowing down your options. A destination that feels idyllic in photos may be unbearably hot or prone to heavy rain at certain times of year.

Think too about how easy it will be for guests to travel. Direct flights, local transport and accommodation options close to your venue can make a significant difference – especially if you're inviting family members of all ages.

## LEGALITIES VS SYMBOLIC CEREMONIES

Every country has different legal requirements for marriage, from residency rules to translated documents and waiting periods. Many couples opt for a legal ceremony at home, followed by a symbolic celebration abroad – allowing more flexibility and far less paperwork.

If you do plan to marry legally overseas, expert local support is invaluable to ensure everything runs smoothly and meets official requirements.

## GUEST EXPERIENCE MATTERS

One of the joys of a destination wedding is bringing loved ones together for more than just a single day. Consider how your guests will experience the trip – welcome events, group dinners or relaxed excursions can turn your wedding into a true holiday atmosphere.

Clear communication is key. Providing travel guidance, accommodation suggestions and a realistic idea of costs early on helps guests plan – and avoids any surprises.

## BUDGETING BEYOND THE BIG DAY

While destination weddings can seem more cost-effective at first glance, it's important to look beyond the venue price. Travel, accommodation and additional logistics can quickly add up, so building contingency into your budget will give you greater peace of mind.

## LOCAL EXPERTISE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

Working with experienced planners or venues on the ground can transform your planning experience. Local knowledge helps source trusted suppliers, navigate cultural traditions and manage logistics with confidence. Many couples also choose to work with a trusted wedding or honeymoon specialist in Scotland, offering expert guidance, reassurance and a single point of contact throughout the journey – from first ideas to final travel arrangements.

## IS A DESTINATION WEDDING RIGHT FOR YOU?

Destination weddings aren't about doing things the traditional way – they're about creating an experience that reflects you as a couple. If you value intimacy, adventure and shared memories over formality, celebrating abroad could be the perfect fit.

With thoughtful planning and the right support, a destination wedding can be as relaxed as it is breathtaking – and every bit as meaningful as a celebration closer to home.



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# THE FINISHING TOUCH

*Why wedding TRANSPORT still matters – even if you're saying 'I do' and CELEBRATING at the same place.*

When your whole celebration unfolds at a single venue, it's easy to assume transport doesn't matter. But a wedding car still plays a meaningful role in the rhythm and atmosphere of the day – and in the photographs.

A beautiful car creates its own moment – a statement arrival, a quiet pause before everything begins or a short breather afterwards. It can take you to a nearby viewpoint for portraits, give you a private drive as newlyweds before returning to the celebrations and add a layer of elegance to your images even if it never travels far.

Why couples still choose transport, many couples book a car not for distance, but for the experience. Those few minutes

of calm before or after the ceremony often become some of the day's most treasured memories. It's that rare chance to take it all in and just 'be'.

Transport suppliers like Carrs Loch Lomond see this every week. "It's not just about getting from A to B. It's about setting the tone and creating moments you'll remember," they say. Their chauffeurs co-ordinate timings, support the flow of the day and create a smooth, relaxed experience from start to finish.

Whether it's a grand entrance, a quiet loop for photos or a gentle pause as newlyweds, the right car can elevate the day in a way couples don't always expect.





## BOOKING WEDDING TRANSPORT: WHAT TO CONSIDER

Beyond aesthetics, the right car should support the flow of the day and how it feels to move through it, not just how it looks in photographs.

### TIMING, NOT DISTANCE

Even when venues are close together, build in breathing space. A short drive before or after the ceremony can create a calm transition (and a rare private moment) rather than a rush from one part of the day to the next.

## PHOTOGRAPHY POTENTIAL

Arrivals, departures and portrait stops all matter. How does it work with your setting, colour palette and overall style? A beautiful car can quietly elevate images without ever stealing focus.

### COMFORT AND PRACTICALITY

Dress volume, veils and long trains need space. Check door access, seating height and how easy it is to get in and out.



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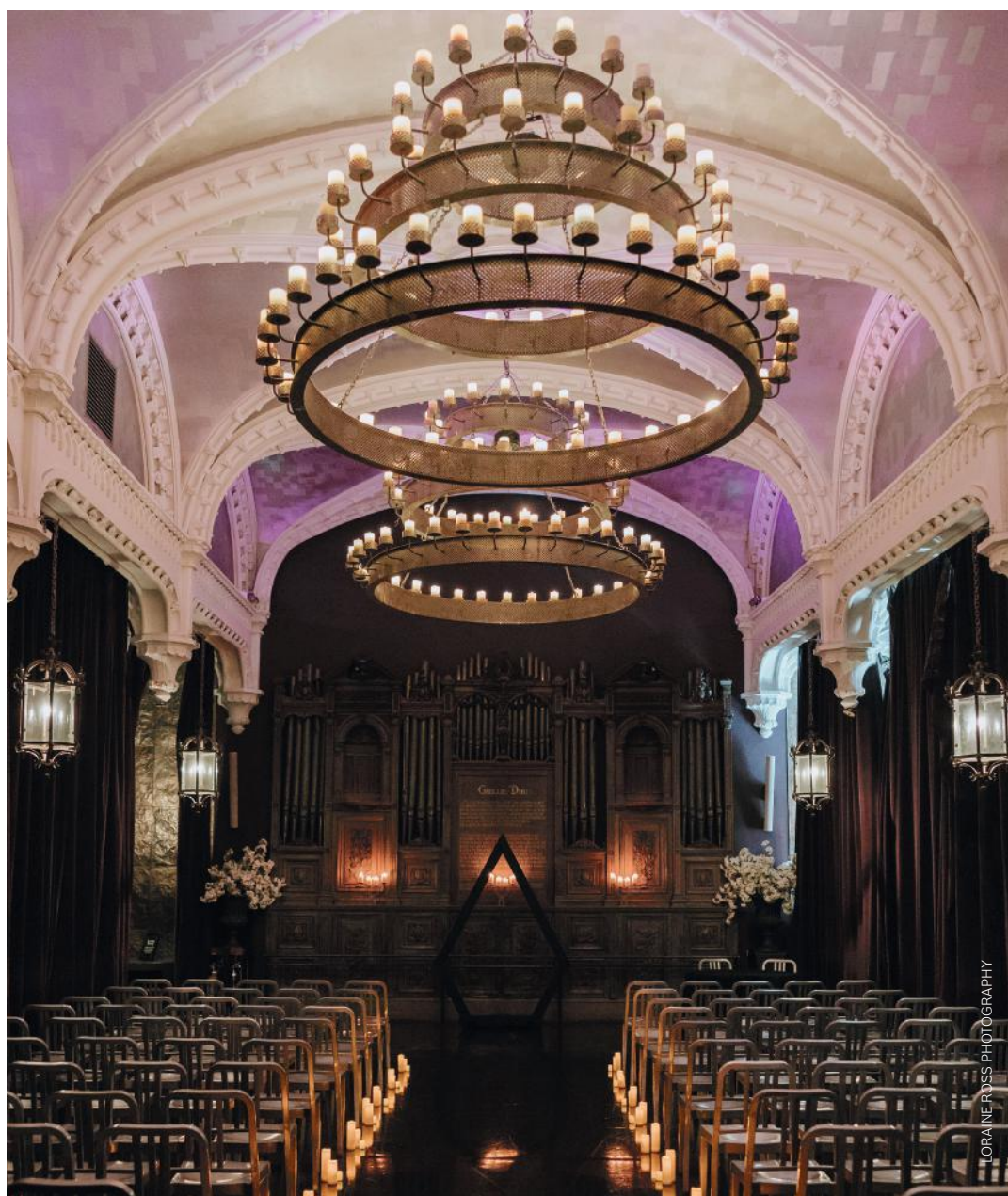


RACHEL & TONIE

## SNOWDROPS & CELEBRATION

Cambo Country House and Estate is marking 20 years of its much-loved Snowdrop Festival, making this the perfect time to explore this characterful Fife venue. From 26 January to 11 March, the estate's National Collection of snowdrops will blanket the woodland in white and Cambo House will open its doors for guided tours.

[camboestate.com](http://camboestate.com)



LORANE ROSS PHOTOGRAPHY

## HALF PRICE SPARKLE

Celebrate in style at Ghillie Dhu in Edinburgh where 2026 weddings come with 50% off room hire and a Champagne upgrade for the top table. All the West End glamour without the heavy price tag. [ghillie-dhu.co.uk](http://ghillie-dhu.co.uk)





## REBORN

A five-month transformation has turned the Kohler Waters Spa at the Old Course Hotel, St Andrews, into Scotland's ultimate contrast-therapy sanctuary. Expect fire and ice in the new snow-and-sauna cabin, plus the UK's first Espuro Foam Experience steam room and an upgraded hydrotherapy suite – all wrapped in soft lighting, natural textures and that signature coorie calm.

[oldcoursehotel.co.uk](http://oldcoursehotel.co.uk)

## WINTER WARMERS

Forgan's is bringing a little sparkle to the cooler months with new winter packages for early and late 2026. Expect fizz and canapés, indulgent dining, an evening buffet and a cocktail or bar reception — all from £6,975 (Broughty Ferry) to £7,450 (St Andrews) for 60 guests. Add extra guests from £110 per person, with discounted stays and floral finishing touches available.

[forrans.co.uk](http://forrans.co.uk)



ELLIOT CAUNCE PHOTOGRAPHY

MARK WILD PHOTOGRAPHY





## MARRY AFTER DARK

New for 2026, Eden Leisure Village introduces magical twilight weddings from 6pm, where ceremonies unfold under soft light in the marquee or woodland clearing before your celebration continues in the barn. The package includes on-site accommodation for up to 25 guests and is available mid-week or weekends from £3,850 between January and March 2026.

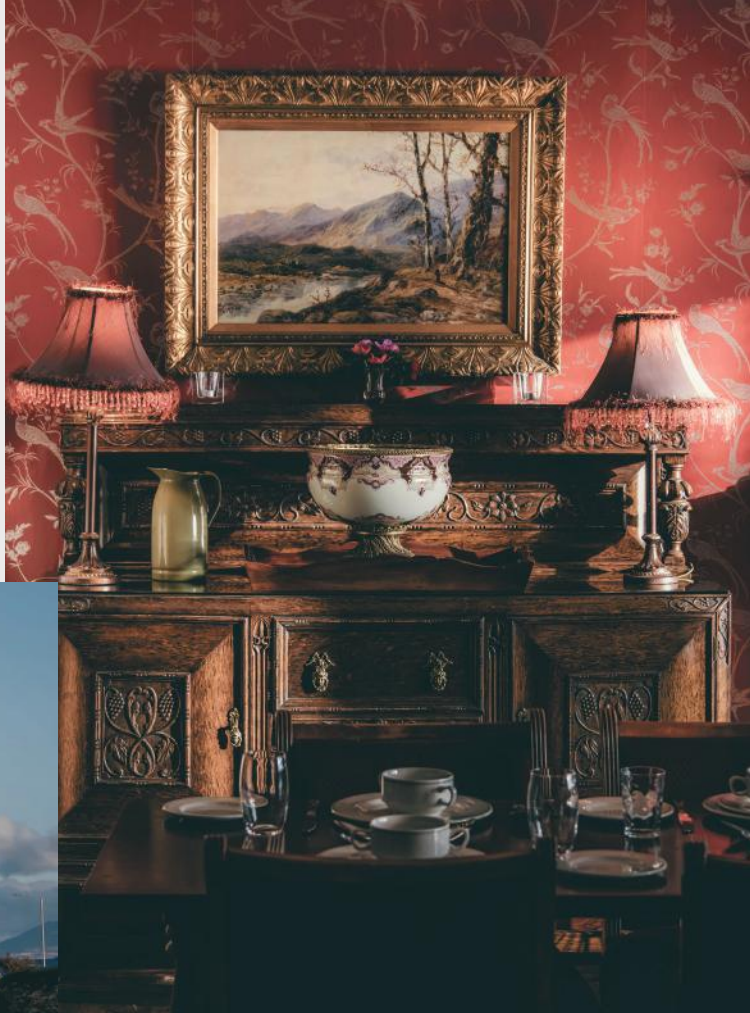
[edenleisurevillage.co.uk](https://edenleisurevillage.co.uk)



## BY THE WATER

New venue Strone House opened its doors in September for an afternoon of wedding inspiration, showing off its beautifully styled house and marquee – and the creative community of local suppliers behind it. Missed the event? Private tours run year-round and you might just find your own moment of magic there.

**[stronehousescotland.co.uk](http://stronehousescotland.co.uk)**



## IN GOOD COMPANY

Less than six months after its £20 million renovation, Mar Hall Golf & Spa Resort has been named one of Condé Nast Traveller's Top 20 Best Resorts in Europe 2025 – a fitting accolade for this newly restored five-star icon of Scottish heritage and luxury.

**[marhall.com](http://marhall.com)**



## WILD WEDDINGS

Add a dose of adventure to your wedding weekend at MacGregors Barn, set amid the Trossachs. There's clay pigeon shooting on the hill, a wood-fired sauna overlooking Loch Ard and bespoke wellness experiences beneath Ben Lomond's sunset. This is where Scotland's wild beauty meets celebration.

**[greattimescotland.com](http://greattimescotland.com)**

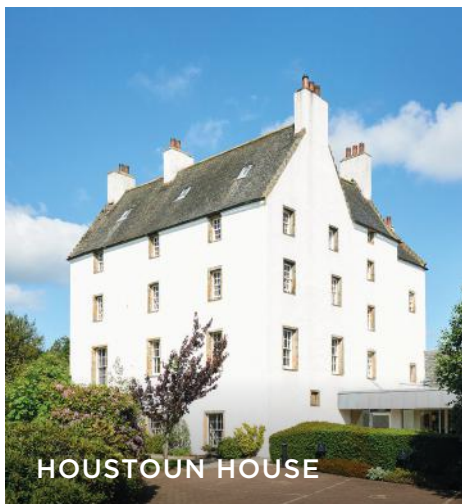


# A day for You Made by Us

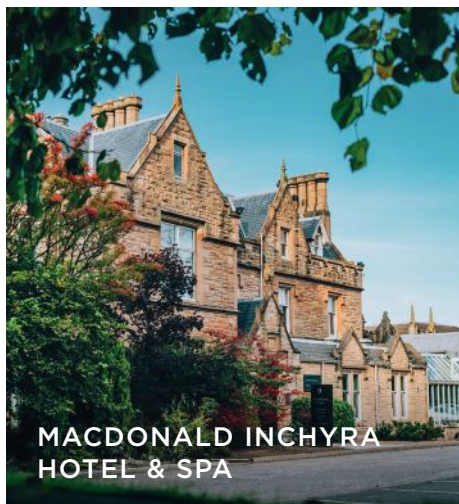
ABERDEEN • ABERDEENSHIRE • GLASGOW SOUTH • INVERNESS •  
AVIEMORE • ABERFOYLE • FALKIRK • WEST LoTHIAN • PEEBLES



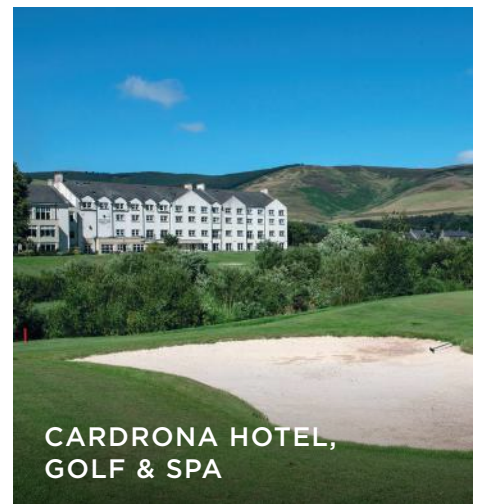
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With 9 stunning locations across Scotland, from the spectacular Highlands down to the glorious Borders, we have the perfect location for your wedding celebration.

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WILLOW & WILDE PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILM

# CASTLES of SCOTLAND

Scotland is home to some truly remarkable wedding venues, where centuries of history sit comfortably alongside contemporary comfort and thoughtful design. From grand country houses to estates shaped by generations of stories, these spaces offer more than just a beautiful backdrop –

they bring character, atmosphere and a sense of occasion that can't be replicated. For couples drawn to places with soul, elegance and enduring appeal, the setting becomes part of the celebration itself. Here are five extraordinary places where heritage meets modern hosting and grandeur never goes out of style.

## CLUNY CASTLE, ABERDEENSHIRE

Surrounded by rolling parkland and centuries of Scottish heritage, Cluny Castle feels like a world of its own. Its private chapel – atmospheric, romantic and steeped in history – is one of the region's most iconic ceremony spaces. The interiors blend grandeur with a warm, lived-in elegance, while outside, the lake, woodland and walled gardens offer endless backdrops. With exclusivity, luxurious accommodation and a team known for impeccable hospitality, Cluny is a true fairytale setting.

**[clunycastle.com](http://clunycastle.com)**

## « CULDEES CASTLE, PERTHSHIRE

For couples who want creativity, character and a venue that feels utterly unique, Culdees Castle is a dream. Set within private parkland and rich with quirky, charming details – a Champagne Turret, Whisky Snug, Powder Room, Dungeon photo booth – it's a space that invites imagination. Ceremonies can unfold in the chapel, woodland, pavilion or gardens, surrounded by fairy lights, ancient trees and the castle's dramatic stone walls. With luxury glamping cabins and an ever-growing restoration project, Culdees feels like a celebration waiting to happen.

**[culdeescastleestate.com](http://culdeescastleestate.com)**



HOLEY





MICHAEL CARVER PHOTOGRAPHY

BERNADETA KUPIEC PHOTOGRAPHY



## « » ACHNAGAIRN CASTLE, HIGHLANDS

Grand yet intimate, dramatic yet deeply welcoming – Achnagairn Castle is a place where celebration and escapism meet. The vaulted ballroom, built for a lavish birthday in 1921, is nothing short of spectacular, with soaring arches, glittering chandeliers and warm wooden tones. The estate's Mini Manors and castle bedrooms house over 130 guests, creating a full-weekend retreat surrounded by lawns, woodlands and Highland tranquillity. It's exclusive use, endlessly elegant and effortlessly atmospheric.

**[achnagairncastle.com](http://achnagairncastle.com)**

## » FASQUE CASTLE, ABERDEENSHIRE

Set within 400 acres of private estate, Fasque Castle is the definition of timeless Scottish grandeur. Think sweeping driveway, majestic turrets and interiors filled with light, history and understated luxury. Once home to the Gladstone family, the castle now blends aristocratic heritage with warm, modern hospitality. From the grand staircase to the drawing rooms, every space feels elegant yet inviting, making it ideal for both intimate weddings and opulent celebrations.

**[fasquecastle.com](http://fasquecastle.com)**



SOPHIE ALEXANDRIA PHOTOGRAPHY





## »» CULZEAN CASTLE, SOUTH AYSRSHIRE

A clifftop masterpiece overlooking the Isle of Arran, Culzean Castle is one of Scotland's most breathtaking coastal venues. Dramatic stonework, spiral staircases, elegant rooms and surrounding parkland create a wedding setting rich with romance and history. Ceremonies can take place in the Round Drawing Room, Oval Staircase or outdoors beside the Camellia House, Orangery or Viewing Platform. With beaches, gardens, follies and eight estate cottages, it's a place where every turn feels cinematic.

**[nts.org.uk](https://nts.org.uk)**



## « CARLOWRIE CASTLE EDINBURGH

A rare blend of contemporary style and historic Scottish charm, Carlowrie brings luxury and warmth together in a way few venues can. Minutes from Edinburgh yet wrapped in beautiful private grounds, it balances the magic of a heritage estate with the personality of a family-owned venue. Think immaculate interiors, statement architecture and a backdrop that looks extraordinary in every season. If you want a castle that feels stylish, modern and exclusively yours, this is the one.

**[carlowriecastle.co.uk](https://carlowriecastle.co.uk)**





Brodie Castle



Mar Lodge

© Pocket Square Photography



Mar Lodge

© Scott Arlow Photography



Culzean Castle



Fyvie Castle

© Sophie Alexandria

# Share *your love* with us,

and we will share your love with Scotland.

Whether your dream special day is a hillside elopement in the wild Scottish landscape, a micro wedding in a beautiful heritage garden, or a grand celebration at a castle, by choosing our venues you're also supporting our vital conservation work across the country.

Make your wedding a truly unique experience, and help our charity to protect these treasured places for generations to come.

[nts.org.uk/weddings](https://nts.org.uk/weddings)











SOPHIE ALEXANDRIA PHOTOGRAPHY

# *Aberdeen, Grampian, Highlands & Islands*



# Bluebird to ballroom

GEORGIE-LACEY  
SOLYMAR &  
MATT WITHERS



GEORGIE and MATT'S  
Scottish castle celebration was  
personal from start to finish.

SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2024  
VENUE: ACHNAGAIRN CASTLE  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
HAYLEY FRASER PHOTOGRAPHY

**G**eorgie and Matt's story began high in the French Alps on their university ski trip in Tignes – fittingly, the same way Georgie's parents met 40 years earlier. “A mutual friend introduced us. We clicked straight away and spent the next few days trying to out-ski each other,” says Georgie.

Six years later, Matt brought things full circle. On a bluebird day (clear skies, perfect snow) he stopped on the piste, just 100 metres from the bar where they'd first met. “He dropped to one knee on the side of the slope and proposed,” Georgie smiles.

## THE PLANNING

The venue was the first decision – and the easiest. “Achnagairn is pure perfection. We couldn't imagine getting married anywhere else. Having all 130 guests stay on-site for the whole weekend was a dream.”

Their vision was a relaxed three-day celebration – an informal barbecue on the Friday, the full wedding day on Saturday and a ‘recovery brunch’ on Sunday. The ballroom became the heart of it all. “It's the jewel in Achnagairn's crown. We used it for the ceremony, wedding breakfast, dancing and brunch – it transformed beautifully across the day.”





There was no strict colour scheme but touches of olive green, soft pink and red roses tied everything together. Female 'bridesmates' wore olive dresses and carried red rose bouquets to echo Georgie's bright red LK Bennett shoes; the male bridesmates and ushers in grey waistcoats and pink ties.

Matt's mum added some heartfelt DIY – tiny bells personalised for each guest to ring as the newlyweds entered the ballroom, and a three-tier cake with lemon drizzle, chocolate and red velvet layers she lovingly baked herself.

## THE LOOK

Georgie knew she wanted an off-the-shoulder A-line dress with a good train – and found the perfect Savannah Miller gown. She made it her own by adding a corset, slit, removable cuffs for the ceremony, buttons all down the back and a matching necktie for the evening. "Once the cuffs came off and the necktie went on, it felt like a second dress," explains Georgie. She finished the look with drop pearl earrings borrowed from her aunt, plus a ring from each grandmother. "It felt like both of them were with me."

Matt chose a traditional black morning suit with pinstripe trousers and personalised his look with a tie clip and cufflinks engraved with his new initials, MJSW (after the couple combined their surnames to become Solymar-Withers).





## THE DAY

By Friday afternoon, the castle was buzzing. Drinks in the sunshine flowed into a relaxed barbecue, setting the tone for the weekend.

The wedding morning was spent separately: Georgie and her bridesmaids tucked away in the family kitchen for breakfast before heading to the bridal suite while Matt and his groom's party ironed shirts, perfected Windsor knots and toasted with champagne.

The ceremony took place in the romantic, candlelit ballroom and was officiated by Matt's uncle, Graham, a vicar. "We spent a weekend with him and his wife beforehand so he could really get to know us."

Georgie's sister Tanya read a poem that had been used at both their parents' and her own wedding, Matt's dad read from the Bible and Georgie's mum closed with a poem she'd written for the couple. "It was so personal – exactly what we hoped for," Georgie says.

Dinner followed but speeches were cleverly woven through the day. Georgie's dad and best man Jeremy spoke first in the garden maze while the bride and groom spoke in the ballroom between courses. Dessert was served as a selection of minis to encourage mingling.



For the evening, Georgie switched her dress into its second look and they cut the cake before their first dance to Noah Kahan. City Limits kept the ballroom packed all night. "The atmosphere was electric," says Georgie. "We danced until our feet hurt."

## REFLECTING

"The whole weekend felt like coming home," says Georgie. "We've been together almost nine years and it still feels as exciting as those first weeks."

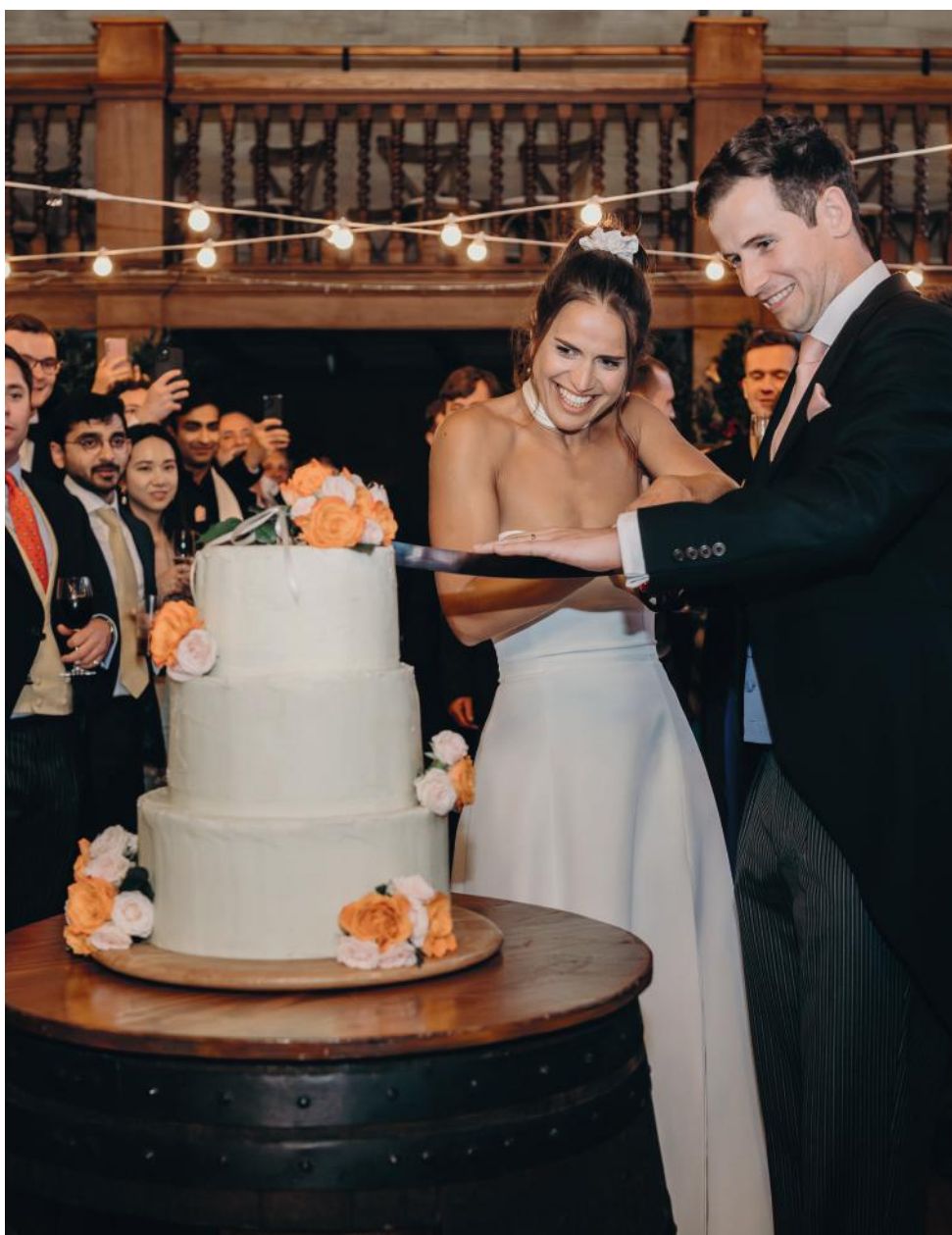
Planning was smooth thanks to the Achnagairn team. "They were always one step ahead, with options, timings and ideas ready. It never felt overwhelming." Her highlight was Matt's

*"Choose the  
right PEOPLE  
around you."*

speech – "funny, thoughtful and so full of love." His? "Seeing Georgie walk down the aisle."

Their advice to other couples is to "choose the right people around you – your venue team, caterers, photographers and friends. And once the day arrives, let go of the small stuff. You won't notice it, you'll be too busy having the best time."





## BEHIND THE DAY

### **BAND**

CITY LIMITS

### **BRIDE'S DRESS**

CATERINA BY SAVANNAH  
MILLER AT THE WHITE ROOM

### **CATERERS**

DM EVENT CATERING

### **CELEBRANT**

GRAHAM DUNCAN

### **FLOWERS**

EWA GLABIK AT ACHNAGAIRN  
CASTLE

### **GROOM'S OUTFIT**

OLIVER BROWN, LONDON

### **HAIR**

JENNA COOKE HAIR

### **MAKE-UP**

ATHENA ANDREAS  
MAKEUP AND BEAUTY STUDIO

### **VIDEOGRAPHER**

GRAND GESTURE WEDDING  
FILMS



### **PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT**

"It was stunningly elegant and stylish yet what really stood out was the warmth from the couple, their families and friends. There was sentiment tied to their venue and there's so much joy, love and personality that shine through in the photographs. That's exactly what we as photographers always strive to convey." ■

**HAYLEY, Hayley Fraser  
Photography**





# ACHNAGAIRN CASTLE

A five-star exclusive use Highland venue, bursting with romance and character.  
Perfect for multi-day celebrations, with rooms for 130 guests and a glorious vaulted ballroom.

Achnagairn Castle & Estate | [perfect-manors.com](http://perfect-manors.com) | [yourwedding@perfect-manors.com](mailto:yourwedding@perfect-manors.com)

Main photo by Michael Carver  
Left: Euan Robertson  
Middle: Bernadeta Kupiec





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# Dornoch Station

The largest wedding venue north of Inverness, **Claire Muir** fell for Dornoch Station's character, coastal views and quiet sense of luxury



SIMON HIRD PHOTOGRAPHY

Arriving at Dornoch Station hotel came with an instant sense of calm. The 2023 renovation has transformed the building from top to bottom – without losing an ounce of character. Timber panelling, soft tartans and statement beams bring warmth and history, while a crisp modern finish adds quiet elegance.

Set just minutes from Dornoch Beach, the hotel offers a perfect backdrop for photos or a quick breather before dinner. Couples can marry indoors or out with a pathway for confetti throws and sweeping lawns for group shots. Inside, the ballroom is a versatile, light-filled space that flows naturally into the lobby and bar for evening celebrations, accommodating everything from intimate elopements to 200-guest receptions.

Every detail has been carefully considered. The snooker hall (complete with tartan walls and a traditional bar) is a guest favourite, often where the men slip away for a dram while others relax on the sofas. The ballroom can be dressed for your ceremony then reimaged for dinner within minutes because the in-house team manage every transition seamlessly.

Wedding packages are straightforward and generous. The classic and deluxe options include everything from a master of ceremonies and local piper to flexible menus, evening buffets and accommodation for the couple. The experienced team handles every detail with the calm precision that makes planning feel easy.

Dornoch Station hotel is all about balance. History and modern comfort, grandeur and ease. Whether you're dreaming of a coastal elopement or a full-house Highland celebration, expect understated luxury and a day that feels effortlessly personal.

## ESSENTIAL NUMBERS

**Ceremony ... 120 | Dinner ... 140 | Evening ... 200**

**Accommodation ... 89 bedrooms** (180–200 guests for exclusive use)

**Price ...** Packages from £130–£160 per adult | Children £25

## THE PRACTICALITIES

**Nearest city ...** Inverness (one hour)

**Accessibility ...** Fully accessible with lift and ground-floor ballroom

**Restrictions ...** Music until midnight | No fireworks

**Ceremony ...** Indoor or outdoor | Wet-weather backup in ballroom

**Parking ...** 50 spaces and four EV chargers

## QUICK-FIRES

**Best month to marry here ...** September

**Most-photographed spot ...** The grand staircase, snooker room and Dornoch Beach



Did you know? The hotel is pet-friendly, so dogs are welcome at your wedding, too!

To find out more about weddings at Dornoch contact them directly:

Website: [www.marineandlawn.com/dornochstation/](http://www.marineandlawn.com/dornochstation/)

Telephone: 01862 730333 ■





# DORNOCH

## STATION

EST. 1904



Where  
*Unforgettable*  
Is Made

[marineandlawn.com](http://marineandlawn.com)







# FASQUE CASTLE

EST 1809



Sophie Alexander Photography

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# Pollo House

## A Timeless Highland Wedding Venue

Where Highland beauty meets timeless romance, set on the shores of the Cromarty Firth, Pollo House is an exclusive-use Highland estate just outside Tain on the NC500, offering privacy, flexibility and a truly bespoke setting for weddings and weekend celebrations.

Set within 16 acres of mature grounds and gardens, the estate is home to majestic peacocks and peahens and offers access to a private beach when the tide is out, with stunning views of the firth that make for a memorable and magical backdrop for your day.





The house includes nine bedrooms and nine bathrooms (seven en-suite), with relaxed, sociable spaces and standout extras including table tennis, pool table, golf cage, lake with paddle boats, zip wire, full-size goals, treehouse and swings.

With no corkage fees or supplier restrictions, couples are given the rare opportunity to design a celebration that is wholly their own—deeply personal, effortlessly elegant and defined by thoughtful, unforgettable moments.

# Discover your Highland romance at Pollo House

**Pollo House, Invergordon,  
Ross-shire, IV18 0LZ, Scotland**

**[www.pollohouse.co.uk](http://www.pollohouse.co.uk)  
[info@pollohouse.co.uk](mailto:info@pollohouse.co.uk)**











# *Edinburgh, Lothians & The Borders*



# A weekend at Newhall

DANNI PEARSON &  
SANDY VRACAR

A SPRING wedding filled with personal LETTERS, global TRADITIONS and the JOY of finally bringing EVERYONE together.

**D**anni and Sandy first matched on Tinder while living in London. “We both had such full-on careers, dating apps felt like the only way to meet someone,” says Danni. They bonded instantly over dogs and poetry. And their first date was Halloween at the London Dungeons, followed by dinner and hours of talking.

Five years later, during a cosy staycation in Cambridge, Danni hid

a ring under their hotel duvet. “I was about to propose then Sandy pulled out a ring of her own!” Dual proposals – perfectly them.

Their rings were chosen with intention – both went for platinum, brilliant-cut diamonds with elegant simplicity that suited Sandy’s clinical work and Danni’s rock climbing. “We wanted pieces that were timeless, practical and still beautiful.”



SATURDAY 29TH MARCH 2025  
VENUE: NEWHALL ESTATE, CARLOPS  
PHOTOGRAPHY: KAROL MAKULA  
PHOTOGRAPHY





“Having THREE days  
TOGETHER was priceless.”

### THE PLANNING

Newhall Estate was love at first sight – twice. “We viewed it pre-pandemic and adored it but the timing wasn’t right. When we returned in 2022, we knew instantly,” says Sandy. They loved the stately-home feel, the endless grounds and the ability to host family all weekend. “Everyone lives so far apart. Having three days together was priceless.”

A palette of sage green and blush pink brought early-spring softness, with a mix of fresh and dried florals. Their décor was deeply personal – table names featuring places they’d travelled, photos of memories at each destination, and (the highlight) handwritten letters to every guest. “Eleven years together means we know our people inside out. Seeing everyone cry and laugh reading their letters was incredible.”

Their two-year-old daughter, Ada, was the flower girl and their dog Olive appeared as a figurine on the cake. Scottish and Serbian heritages blended beautifully with tablet, Serbian sweets and a shot of whisky or rakija at every place setting.

Platter & Pop handled the catering, décor, florals and favours. “They nailed the brief. Our guests still talk about the food.”

### THE LOOK

Danni surprised herself during dress shopping. “I thought I wanted completely minimal but it turns out glamour suited me more!” Her Maggie Sottero gown, which featured delicate pearls, floral detail and a buttoned back, was the first dress that made her feel amazing postpartum. Minimalist jewellery kept the look soft and refined.

Sandy chose a long-sleeved Rosa Clará gown from Kudos Bridal. “I wanted something elegant, comfortable and a little sensual – with sleeves for the Scottish chill.” Flats from Etsy meant she could dance all night.

They altered their dresses together so they mirrored each other, which was a personal touch they both loved.

### THE DAY

With around 30 friends and family staying, the morning was relaxed and communal with pastries, coffee and chatter. Hair and make-up began early while Ada happily distracted everyone from nerves. “We got ready together in the bridal suite. It was calm and cosy; exactly how we wanted to start the day.”

They walked down the aisle to *Love You for a Long Time* by Maggie Rogers and exited to *There She Goes* – millennial perfection. Their close friend Tim officiated the ceremony. “We’d married legally beforehand but Tim knows us inside out. We trusted him completely.” They wrote personal vows reflecting their long journey and the family they’d already grown. “People said it was one of the most personal ceremonies they’d ever seen.”





Danni remembers the atmosphere in Newhall's glass room feeling "intimate, emotional and a little terrifying – but in the best way!"

Drinks reception canapés and cocktails led into a show-stopping dinner by Platter & Pop – pâté, beetroot carpaccio, venison and veg pithiviers, crumble and chocolate mousse. "The chef even came out to congratulate us," says Sandy. "It was unforgettable."

Speeches were spaced throughout the meal – two before starters, two before dessert – keeping the evening flowing. Sandy's parents gave emotional speeches in English (not their first language), Danni's dad and sisters had everyone laughing, and the best men kept things "just about PG."

Everyone moved from The Coach House to The Granary, where the cake was cut, the first dance took place and the floor opened to a ceilidh. "It was the perfect icebreaker for our English guests!" They ended the night with being thrown into the air to the sounds of *Loch Lomond*. "Pure joy," they say.





## BEHIND THE DAY

### **BAND**

THE SOUL ESTABLISHMENT

### **BRIDES' ACCESSORIES**

ETSY, LACE & FAVOUR

### **BRIDES' DRESSES**

ROSA CLARÁ AT KUDOS

BRIDAL, MAGGIE SOTTERO AT

ANNAROSE BRIDAL

### **BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES:**

AZAZIE

### **CAKE**

KAYLEIGH'S CRUMBS

### **CATERING**

PLATTER & POP

### **DÉCOR**

PLATTER & POP

### **DOG CHAPERONE**

WOOFY WEDDINGS

### **FLOWERS**

PLATTER & POP

### **HAIR**

PAMPER & POLISH

### **KILTS**

8 YARDS

### **MAKE-UP**

PAMPER & POLISH

### **TRANSPORT**

LOTHIAN MOTORCOACHES

### **RINGS**

STEVEN STONE JEWELLERS



### REFLECTING

Getting ready with Ada stands out as one of the day's most tender moments. "Back when we first got engaged, we never imagined we'd have our daughter there. It made everything richer." Another unforgettable moment was watching guests read their handwritten letters. "Seeing 100 people silently reading then crying and laughing made the hours of writing worth it."

Their advice is to start early and spread the planning. "Book your venue, photographer, caterer and band first – the rest follows. And remember, people remember how they felt, the food and whether they danced."

A final tip for parents and pet lovers: "Hire sitters. You get to enjoy the day without stress – and still include your little ones."

"People  
REMEMBER how  
they FELT, the  
FOOD and whether  
they DANCED."



### PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Newhall Estate has such a special atmosphere. Couples often stay for a couple of days so everyone can settle in, relax and spend real time together. What I loved most about this wedding was seeing the brides absolutely glowing all day." ■

**KAROL, Karol Makula**  
Photography





# DUNGLASS

"IT IS THE MOST ROMANTIC SWEET PLACE I EVER SAW"  
Robert Burns







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# Dunglass Estate

**Ashleigh Dougall** discovers historic beauty and coastal calm at an estate designed for unforgettable wedding weekends.

**B**efore you even reach Dunglass Estate, the drive through East Lothian sets the mood. Wide beaches, glittering water and open fields unfold beside you – and by the time you turn onto the long, tree-lined driveway, it feels like entering a hidden world. Pheasants dart across the road, the light softens and calm settles in.

At the top of the drive, Dunglass Church comes into view and it's easy to see why so many couples choose it. Built in the 1400s, the semi-ruined structure is breathtaking. Light pours through open archways, the stonework has a romantic weathered beauty – and with the roof still intact, it's usable all year round. Photographers adore it, especially the

sweeping coastal backdrops and confetti doorway moments.

One of the best things about Dunglass is how many little pockets of space there are. It doesn't feel like a single venue. It feels like an estate you can shape to suit your weekend.

From March to September, a stretch tent sits over the BBQ area, making it ideal for a relaxed welcome night. It's easy to picture food, drinks, music drifting in the background and guests mingling as the sun goes down.

The Stable Yard is brilliant for drinks' receptions, offering indoor comfort with the option to spill into the courtyard. Once an old tractor shed, it can also host intimate ceremonies or bonus entertainment. Think photo booth corners, mini games or a whisky bar.

Your wedding breakfast and evening celebration take place in The Pavilion, a warm, inviting space fully equipped with wooden tables, chairs, lighting, an integrated sound system. The tables are beautiful enough not to need linen and the layout flexibility is excellent – long tables, U-shapes or something more creative. It seats up to 150 guests for dinner and 200 for the evening.

Dunglass partners with four trusted caterers who know the venue inside out, offering everything from elegant dining to relaxed feasts. Extras like wood-fired pizza vans, ice cream carts or margarita bars fit perfectly with the laid-back-luxury feel. In the evening, guests tend to gather



“Marie and her team are WARM, organised and wholeheartedly invested in every couple”

around the fire pit wrapped in blankets, toasting marshmallows and settling into that cosy, unhurried rhythm the estate is known for.

Accommodation is one of Dunglass's biggest strengths. Up to 28 guests can stay on-site, creating a true wedding-weekend atmosphere. Seaview House is a favourite with bridal parties thanks to its dedicated make-up studio and private garden hot tub. The Courtyard Cottages (once 18th-century stables) are now warm, comfortable bases for groomsman or close family.

But the Treehouse is something else entirely. Walking in feels like stepping into a storybook hideaway – there's a roundhouse layout, a freestanding bath, a private hot tub and a garden visited by friendly alpacas Holly, Ivy and Allan. It's romantic, peaceful and utterly memorable.



SARA JANE FERGUSON PHOTOGRAPHY





CANVAS AND PEACH PHOTOGRAPHY



SARA JANE FERGUSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Dunglass is also dog-friendly, which means your four-legged best friend can join the celebrations.

What truly elevates this estate, though, is the team. Marie and her staff are warm, organised and wholeheartedly invested in every couple. From the moment you arrive, you feel looked after – and that care is woven into the entire experience.

## ESSENTIAL NUMBERS

**Capacity** ... 150 for ceremony and dinner  
| 200 in the evening

**Accommodation** ... Sleeps 28

**Price** ... £8,000–£17,000

**Minimums** ... £5,000 venue spend on selected offers

**Exclusive use** ... Yes

**Corkage** ... Beer, prosecco and wine until 7.30pm (no spirits). After this, alcohol is served by your caterer.

## THE PRACTICALITIES

**Location** ... Cockburnspath, Scottish Borders

**Accessibility** ... Venue accessible, church on a small hill, accommodation not accessible

**Restrictions** ... No open flames or drilling in the Church; no shots at the bar; no alcoholic favours

**Parking** ... On-site



ASHLEIGH DOUGALL

## THE QUICK-FIRES

**Best month to marry here** ... May

**Most-photographed spots** ... The church and the coastline views

**One thing to know** ... Use dried flower petals only (the estate is home to livestock)

**Did you know?** Stays are available via Crabtree & Crabtree, Airbnb and Booking.com

To find out more about weddings at Dunglass Estate contact them directly:

Website: [www.dunglassestate.com/k](http://www.dunglassestate.com/k)  
Telephone: 01368 830868  
Email: [info@dunglassestate.com](mailto:info@dunglassestate.com)





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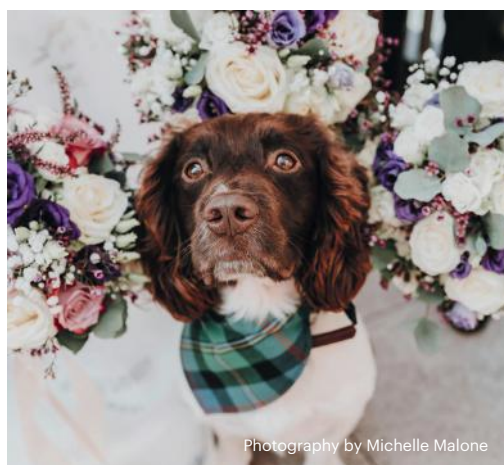
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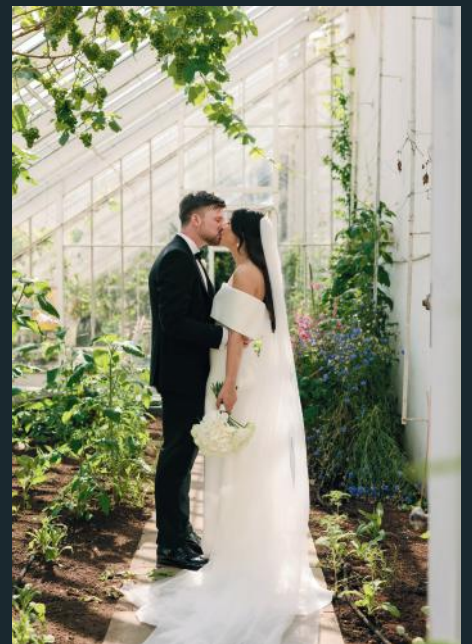
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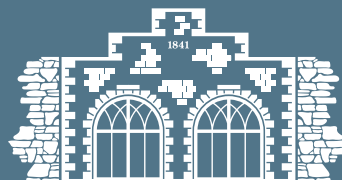
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PHOTOS BY ZOE

# *Fife & Tayside*







# Wildflowers & EILIDH DICKSON & SANDY BENDALL VOWS

A WARM countryside CELEBRATION filled with WILDFLOWERS, hand-crafted DETAILS and the PEOPLE who mean the MOST.

**E**ilidh and Sandy met as students at the University of St Andrews – fitting, then, that this historic town would later become the backdrop to their wedding day. “It felt meaningful to return to where it all began,” says Eilidh.

Years later, once they knew the timing was right, they chose Eilidh’s engagement ring together – Fairtrade gold with an ethically sourced blue diamond from Blair and Sheridan. (Their wedding bands were also Fairtrade). “We wanted our rings to reflect our values – beautiful, meaningful and responsibly made.”

## THE PLANNING

Marrying in St Andrews was non-negotiable but the reception venue took more thought. When they first visited Falside Mill, it was still being transformed. But even in its early stages, the views and atmosphere won them over. “We wanted a blank canvas, something full of natural light and countryside character,” says Eilidh. “We could instantly picture our day there.”

Their theme was inspired by place – wildflowers, bees, seaside colours, and gentle blues and yellows to echo the landscape they love. Together with family, they gathered jars, dried petals, decorated log displays, prepared



SATURDAY 17TH JULY 2021  
CEREMONY: ST SALVATOR'S CHAPEL,  
ST ANDREWS  
RECEPTION: FALSIDE MILL  
PHOTOGRAPHER: PHOTOS BY ZOE





“I wanted the FLOWERS to tie everything together – DAINTY, NATURAL and TRUE to the theme.”

## THE DAY

The night before was a flurry of happy chaos with family helping set up the venue until late. “We had so many tiny details, it took hours. But seeing it all the next morning was worth every minute.”

On the morning of the wedding, Eilidh and her bridal party (her sister and nieces) got ready at Morton of Pitmilley. With sunshine pouring in and hair and make-up underway, the atmosphere felt calm and joyful. “It was lovely. Relaxed, slow and full of excitement.”

Walking into St Salvator’s Chapel was unforgettable. “Seeing all those happy faces after so much anticipation... It suddenly felt real.” She walked down the aisle to Richard Wagner’s Bridal Chorus, played on the chapel organ.

Their ceremony, led by Revd Dr Donald MacEwan, felt deeply connected to the place where they met. They chose traditional vows “for their significance and timeless meaning.”

## THE RECEPTION

Back at Falside Mill, guests were greeted with a prosecco van, complete with custom garnishes, local craft beers, soft drinks and an ice-cream trike with fresh strawberries. Vegetarian canapés were served as guests explored the venue.

“Dinner was a relaxed sharing-style vegetarian menu so everyone could try a bit of everything,” says Eilidh. It reflected their values and love for creating a warm, inclusive atmosphere.



bunting and crafted dozens of small touches. “It became a full family project,” Eilidh laughs.

Her dad hand-painted the table names and signage while her sister designed the stationery and Sandy’s sister baked the wedding cake, decorating it with flowers Eilidh had dried herself.

## THE LOOK

Eilidh knew she wanted lace – delicate, detailed and romantic. The dress journey took time with many boutiques visited, until her sister found ‘the one’ online. It was stocked locally, and everything

fell into place. The gown, style 66068 by Lillian West, featured Venice lace, floral motifs, a round neckline and layers of soft tulle. Additional lace appliques were added to customise the skirt.

She completed her look with a cathedral-length veil edged in floral lace, pearl earrings and a fresh floral crown made by their florist. “I wanted the flowers to tie everything together – dainty, natural and true to the theme.”

Sandy wore a traditional Hunting MacGregor kilt – the same one he wore to graduate from St Andrews, bringing their story full circle. His wedding party included close childhood friends.



The speeches were full of heart. Eilidh's dad prepared a slideshow of photos set to *Wildflowers* by Tom Petty and the couple toasted using a quaich passed down from Eilidh's grandparents. Eilidh and her sister both gave speeches, as did the groom and best man. "It felt intimate, joyful and very us."

The evening unfolded with a ceilidh followed by a DJ, with guests spilling outdoors to enjoy the incredible sunset. Later, a wood-fired pizza van arrived, offering made-to-order slices as the dancing continued.

## REFLECTING

"The whole day was incredible. It's impossible to pick a single highlight," says Eilidh. "Seeing everyone relaxed, laughing and celebrating together meant everything."

Although planning involved countless creative details, the joy was in watching it all come to life. "We feel an even deeper sense of unity and companionship now," she adds. "It still feels special."

Their advice to couples? "Trust your instincts and plan a day that reflects you. The small details really do make a difference and seeing them all come together is magic."

## BEHIND THE DAY

### BRIDE'S DRESS

LILLIAN WEST BY JUSTIN ALEXANDER, STYLE 66068  
FROM WEDDING WISE

### BRIDESMAID'S DRESS

NEEDLE & THREAD

### CATERING

REGIS BANQUETING, THE WILDFIRE PIZZA COMPANY

### CELEBRANT

REVD DR DONALD MACEWAN

### FLOWER GIRLS' DRESSES

MONSOON

### FLORIST

BLUE POPPY FLORIST

### GROOM'S OUTFIT

MCKENZIE MENSWEAR

### HAIR

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EMMA MOTION MAKEUP

### PROSECCO VAN

POCO PROSECCO

### RINGS

BLAIR AND SHERIDAN

### TRANSPORT

VIEW FROM THE SLOW LANE



### PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Falside has so much to give as a venue, and it was the perfect setting for Eilidh and Sandy. We were spoiled with soft golden light rolling across the fields and their evening portrait walk brought it all together. The colours, the atmosphere, everything was so beautiful." ■

**ZOE, Photos By Zoe**





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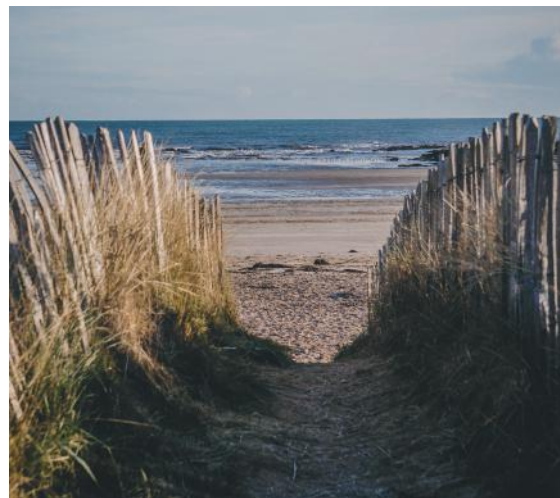
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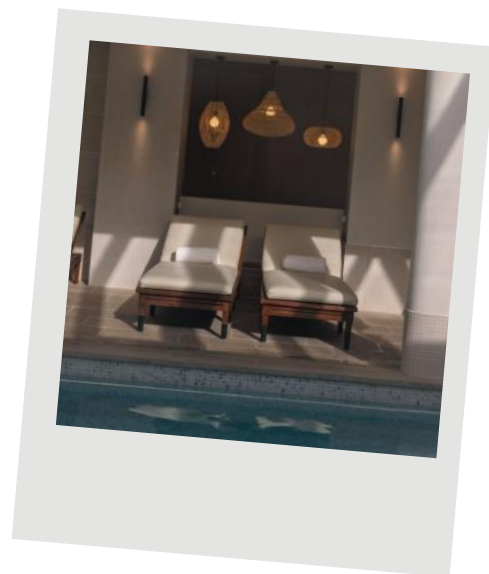


OLD COURSE HOTEL  
ST ANDREWS



# Old Course Hotel

**CHARLENE ESPIE** VISITS A  
ST ANDREWS ICON THAT BALANCES  
SCALE, SERVICE AND A QUIETLY  
CONFIDENT SENSE OF PLACE.



**S**ome venues work hard to impress. Others don't need to. And the Old Course Hotel falls firmly into the latter category.

Perched above the Old Course with the North Sea stretching out beyond it, the setting is instantly recognisable but it's the atmosphere that lingers. From the moment you

arrive, there's a reassuring sense of calm. Everything feels considered, unforced and quietly under control.

Inside, heritage details are softened by modern finishes and generous natural light. The spaces feel confident rather than showy; elegant without tipping into formality. It's a balance that's surprisingly hard to strike and one the hotel manages with ease.

## THE SPACES

Weddings here feel thoughtfully shaped rather than over-produced. The Ballroom offers scale without stiffness, making it ideal for larger celebrations that still want warmth and flow. It's social, lively and adaptable; designed for connection.

Smaller spaces work just as well for more intimate gatherings where layout and atmosphere matter as much as guest numbers. Whether it's a pared-back ceremony or a layered, full-weekend celebration, the hotel feels flexible rather than formulaic.

## A SENSE OF PLACE

The views are a constant presence; quietly grounding, never competing for attention. The Old Course and West Sands shift with the light and weather, giving portraits a natural, unstyled feel. This is a location that does the work for you, adding depth and character without needing direction.

Just along from the hotel sits The Jigger Inn, the 19th hole and a true part of St Andrews life. During a wedding weekend, it becomes an organic gathering point – relaxed, familiar and refreshingly unscripted. Guests drift in and out, conversations linger and the schedule loosens in the best possible way.



SUSIE LOWE STUDIO





## THE PEOPLE

The service deserves its own mention. Warm, intuitive and quietly attentive, the team strike that rare balance between professionalism and genuine ease. Faces are remembered. Needs are anticipated. There's an instinctive understanding of when to step in and when to give space.

It's the kind of service that smooths the entire experience, making everything feel lighter than it should. Add excellent food, seamless transitions and a clear sense of experience behind every decision, and it's obvious this is a venue that knows weddings. And knows how to do them very well.

## THE VERDICT

The Old Course Hotel suits couples looking for something established but not stiff. Iconic, yes, but grounded, welcoming and full of quiet character. A venue with confidence, depth and a strong sense of place.

## ESSENTIAL NUMBERS

**Capacity** ... Intimate elopements for two up to 450 guests

**Accommodation** ... 175 bedrooms

**Price** ... Bespoke wedding packages



## THE PRACTICALITIES

**Location** ... St Andrews, Fife

**Accessibility** ... Fully accessible public areas

**Restrictions** ... No naked flames

**Ceremony** ... Indoor and outdoor

**Parking** ... On-site

## THE QUICK-FIRES

**Most photographed** ... Views across the Old Course and West Sands

**Good to know** ... Kohler Waters Spa is on-site

**Did you know?** The hotel overlooks the famous 17th Road Hole.

To find out more about weddings at The Old Course Hotel contact them directly:

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KATE GODFREY PHOTO

*Glasgow, Trossachs & the South West*



# Golden season

LYNN CONNELLY &  
GARY MCGEE

**L**ynn and Gary's love story began in their teenage years, hanging out at a local spot in their hometown. "It took us a while to get here," Lynn laughs, "but it was so special to have our kids with us when we finally said 'I do.'"

After almost 30 years together, the proposal came with a sweet surprise. "Gary popped the question on St Andrews beach with a Haribo ring," says Lynn. "He told me we'd go shopping for the real one the following week." She had no idea it was coming but her maid of honour, Lesley, was in on the plan all along.

Their engagement ring came from Chisholm Hunter – a platinum oval diamond solitaire with hidden detailing in yellow gold. Their wedding bands from Timothy J Sharp were crafted to match Gary's in brushed platinum with tramlines and Lynn's diamond-set to echo her engagement ring..

## THE PLANNING

The venue was their top priority. "We visited a few places but as soon as we saw Boclair House, we knew it was the one. It's local for most of our guests, with great transport links – and it's just beautiful."

For their October wedding, Lynn originally pictured burnt orange tones but her bridesmaids convinced her to try sage green instead. "I'm so glad they did – it worked perfectly with the autumn light," she remembers. Flowers by family friend Ann brought the natural, seasonal feel to life. "They were just what we'd envisioned."

## THE LOOK

Lynn's wedding dress was a romantic off-the-shoulder gown from wed2b – fitted through the bodice, full-skirted and subtly sparkling. Instead of a veil, she chose a cape that draped beautifully over her shoulders. "It was completely different to what I thought I'd go for, but I knew it was the one the second I tried it on."

Jules Alterations made sure the dress fitted perfectly and Lynn's accessories were from wed2b. "My necklace was my something borrowed and I had two pairs of shoes – heels from Shein for the aisle and comfy Carvela wedding trainers for the rest of the day."

Gary wore a traditional kilt in the Black Thistle tartan from Kilts 4 U. "Lynn knew what she wanted!" he laughs. His groomsmen followed suit, while Lynn's bridesmaids wore sage-green gowns from Angelique Lamont – the same colour, different styles.

## THE DAY

The celebrations began the day before: nails, fizz and a relaxed evening with Lynn's mum and bridesmaids. "It was lovely just to slow down together."



WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2025  
VENUE: BOCLAIR HOUSE HOTEL,  
BEARSDEN  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
LAURA A. TILIMAN PHOTOGRAPHY









“The  
ATMOSPHERE was  
INCREDIBLE.”

On the wedding morning, hair and make-up were handled by Maureen from The Bride to be... and Makeup by Leigh Blaney – a duo Lynn says made the morning fly by. “Maureen had us in stitches. Leigh had the brushes literally going to the beat of the music!”

Capella String Quartet played *Pachelbel's Canon in D* as Lynn walked down the aisle. “I was nervous. It's not often you have every eye on you but once I reached Gary, I relaxed.” Their celebrant, Oskar Gilchrist-Grodnicki, led a heartfelt ceremony that included a ring warming and handfasting ritual. “It was relaxed and personal with a bit of humour – exactly what we wanted.”

Afterwards, guests enjoyed canapés while Capella played and magician Lorenzo amazed guests. Dinner was a

three-course feast served by Bocclair's in-house team, with special attention paid to Gary's coeliac needs.

The evening reception featured the venue's resident DJ, Konrad on the sax and more of Lorenzo's magic. “Everyone was up dancing. The atmosphere was incredible. It was so nice to have all our family and friends together, laughing and celebrating.”

## REFLECTING

“It still feels strange to say we're married. I don't think it's really sunk in yet!” Lynn laughs.

Her advice for other couples is to “have the wedding you want and don't worry too much about everyone else. People will have a great time no matter what – it's your day.”





“The BRUSHES were literally going to the BEAT of the MUSIC!”



## BEHIND THE DAY

### ALTERATIONS

JULES ALTERATIONS

### BRIDE'S DRESS

WED2B

### BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES

ANGELIQUE LAMONT

### CAKE

SPECIAL DAYS CAKES

### CELEBRANT

OSKAR GILCHRIST-GRODNICKI

### DÉCOR

SARAH MAE FLOWERS

### GROOM'S OUTFIT

KILTS 4 U

### HAIR

THE BRIDE TO BE...

### MAGICIAN

LORENZO

### MAKE-UP

MAKEUP BY LEIGH BLANEY

### MUSICIANS

CAPELLA STRING QUARTET

### SAXOPHONIST

KONRAD WISZNIEWSKI VIA

HIREABAND

### RINGS

TIMOTHY J SHARP



### PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

“Lynn and Gary’s wedding was full of fun, from getting ready until the glowsticks came out and the rave tracks kicked in. I loved every minute of it!” ■

**LAURA, Laura A Tiliman Photography**





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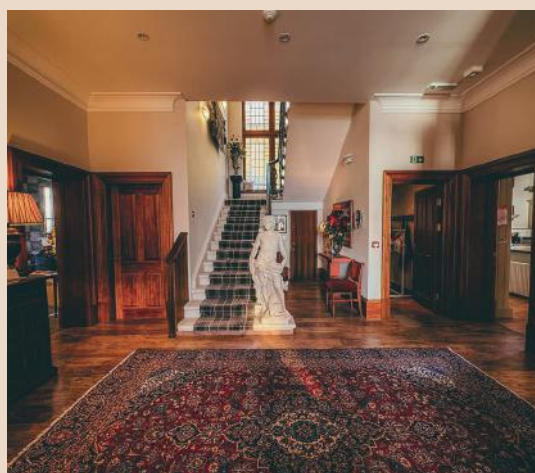
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landscaped gardens.*

📍 Bearsden, near Glasgow

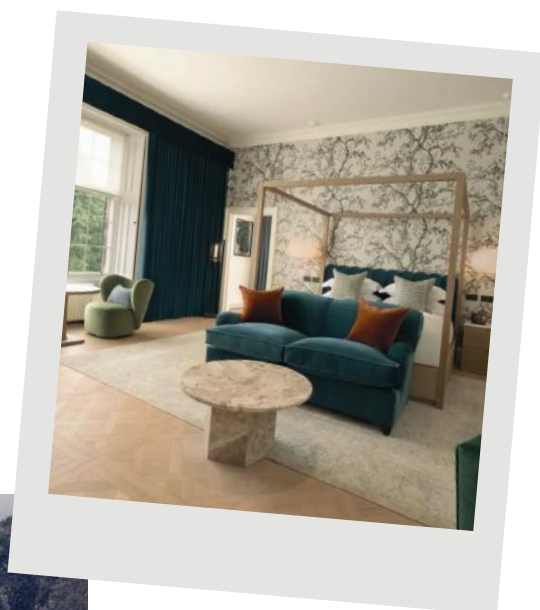
*Love at first sight?  
Scan to find out!*





# Mar Hall

CHARLENE ESPIE HAS FOUND HER NEW FAVOURITE PLACE – A SCOTTISH ESTATE WHERE HERITAGE MEETS MODERN ROMANCE.



## ESSENTIAL NUMBERS

**Capacity** ... Up to 300 depending on space

**Accommodation** ... 74 bedrooms

**Price** ... Bespoke packages

## THE PRACTICALITIES

**Location** ... Bishopton, near Glasgow

**Accessibility** ... Fully accessible public spaces; flat outdoor routes

**Restrictions** ... Fireworks and décor restrictions apply

**Ceremony** ... Indoor or outdoor

**Parking** ... On-site

## QUICK-FIRES

**Best month to marry here** ... September (for golden-hour river views)

**Most photographed** ... The Garden Pavilion and the riverside lawns

**Good to know** ... On-site spa makes pre-wedding prep effortless

When a venue feels cinematic from the moment you arrive, you know you're somewhere special. Through tree-lined grounds overlooking the River Clyde, Mar Hall rises – a 19th-century Gothic mansion that somehow feels both imposing and deeply welcoming.

I stepped inside and everything softened. Fireplaces glow, light pools through tall windows and elegant interiors unfold from room to room. There's a calm confidence to the place; the sense of a venue that knows exactly how to host a wedding with impact, without ever pulling focus from the couple.

Mar Hall offers a duo of beautifully distinct settings. Morton House blends historic charm with modern amenities, accommodating up to 170 guests, while The Garden Pavilion is light-

filled, versatile and endlessly styleable – whether you're thinking minimalist elegance or full floral installation. Packages are always tailored, from bespoke menus to curated experiences – rest assured no two weddings are ever the same here.

And outdoors? The grounds offer beautiful sweeping lawns, quirky woodland pockets and glorious golden-hour river views that wedding photographers just love.

But what stood out most was the service – warm, intuitive and quietly exceptional. The team listens first, plans with care and builds the day around the couple rather than a template. Guests are looked after beautifully, the food is standout and the atmosphere strikes that perfect balance. Mar Hall is luxurious but never formal; elegant but never intimidating. It's the kind of place where a weekend wedding feels effortless, immersive and unmistakably special.

Did you know? The mansion was designed by Sir Robert Smirke, the architect behind the British Museum

For more information on booking your wedding at Mar Hall JA Resort & Hotels contact them directly:

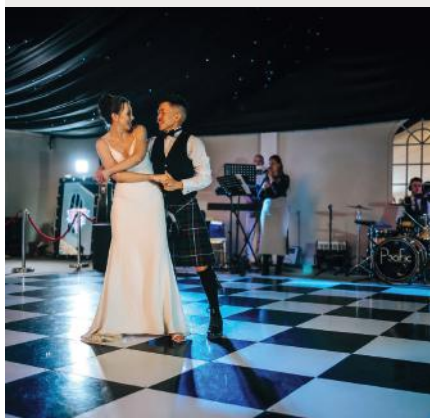
[marhall.com/celebrations/weddings](http://marhall.com/celebrations/weddings)





## Your Dream Wedding Awaits at Mar Hall

Step into a world where love is celebrated amidst the enchanting beauty of Scotland. Mar Hall offers a seamless blend of breathtaking landscapes and unmatched elegance, perfect for crafting the wedding of your dreams. Every detail is meticulously woven together, ensuring your special day is filled with cherished moments that will last a lifetime.



[marhall.com](http://marhall.com)

Email [weddings@marhall.com](mailto:weddings@marhall.com), telephone 0141 812 9999  
Earl of Mar Estate, Mar Hall Avenue, Bishopton

Photo credit, header image Julie Lamont Photography, and photographer Dougi McMillan





# LADYBURN

*The Garden Pavilion*



Ladyburn House... Exclusively yours





## *Where luxury meets soul in the heart of Ayrshire*

Tucked away in the rolling hills of South Ayrshire, Ladyburn House is a luxury exclusive-use wedding and celebration venue — where weekend gatherings feel as meaningful as they are beautiful. Set amidst landscaped gardens, ancient trees, and the gentle flow of the Lady Burn, the estate invites couples to slow down, connect deeply, and celebrate their love with intention.

At the heart of Ladyburn is the Garden Pavilion — a light-filled sailcloth marquee made for unforgettable ceremonies, celebratory feasting, and dancing under the stars. The house accommodates 18 guests in 9 all-ensuite bedrooms, elegant lounges, a private spa, yoga studio, and botanical interiors, offering a true home-from-home for you and your favourite people for a wedding weekend to remember.

Owners Nenah and James recently married at Ladyburn, bringing their own love story to life beneath the majestic oak tree and filling the space with joy, flowers, and music. Now, they welcome other couples to do the same — to make the place their own, if only for a weekend.

Wedding Dates Now Open for 2026 – Book a Private Tour



Book a private tour...  
[INFO@LADYBURNHOUSE.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@LADYBURNHOUSE.CO.UK)

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# Ladyburn House

ASHLEIGH DOUGALL FINDS  
HISTORY, HEART AND A WHOLE  
LOT OF CALM IN THE AYRSHIRE  
COUNTRYSIDE

**H**aving visited Ladyburn House before, I already knew it was beautiful – but staying overnight revealed a whole new side to this extraordinary place.

We began with a wander through the gardens, following the peaceful stream that gives the house its name. Beneath the magnificent oak tree, there's a wooden swing that's become a favourite spot for wedding photos. It's the kind of place where you feel miles away from everyday life – exactly what you want before a wedding weekend.

Ladyburn House dates back to the 1600s and was once owned by Robert the Bruce. In April 2024, it found new custodians in Nenah and James Favelle (its fourth owners) who have lovingly restored it from the ground up. Their goal was never to create a 'traditional'

wedding venue, but a place of connection and wellbeing. "We're in the business of love," Nenah told me – and honestly, you can feel that everywhere you go.

Today, Ladyburn hosts wedding weekends, elopements, hen parties and wellness retreats, all with the same relaxed, personal touch. When couples book, the entire property becomes theirs – nine ensuite bedrooms, two elegant living rooms, a dining room for intimate breakfasts or dinners, and gardens that seem to stretch endlessly. Weddings here are never rushed. Guests are encouraged to slow down, eat well and be fully present with the people they love.

Nenah and James themselves married under that same oak tree, surrounded by their closest friends. It's now one of several ceremony spots, alongside the sailcloth marquee and the main house – each offering its own distinct feel. Inside, the house is warm, calm and beautifully styled. Nothing feels staged or formal. It's refined yet relaxed, full of thoughtful detail.

I stayed in Room 8 – bright, cosy and full of charm, it set the tone for the entire house. Waking up to birdsong and a gentle breeze was the perfect way to start the day. Ladyburn sleeps up to 18 guests, and each bedroom has its own personality – unique but cohesive, with luxurious bedding and beautiful bathroom products.



For larger celebrations, the sailcloth marquee (originally installed for Nenah and James's own wedding in 2025) has become a permanent feature. It blends seamlessly with the garden and can host up to 70 guests for dinner and dancing. When it's not being used for weddings, it transforms into a serene space for yoga or retreats – a clever, creative use of the grounds.

At the back of the house, a spa area brings another layer of calm. There's a hot tub, sauna, ice bath and yoga studio, plus a treatment room for massages and facials. I was lucky enough to experience a massage during my stay and it's easy to see why this has become a favourite pre-wedding spot.

Food is another highlight. The in-house Michelin-starred and award-winning chefs create seasonal menus using local ingredients, often from Ladyburn's garden. Whether couples opt for a formal wedding breakfast or a relaxed BBQ, every dish is tailored to their taste. During our stay, we enjoyed dinner prepared by the chef and it was exceptional – fresh, flavourful and beautifully presented. One dessert, disguised as a plant pot with a flower, was entirely edible and utterly delightful – fun, creative and so Ladyburn.

It's easy to understand why couples fall in love with this place. Ladyburn House isn't just about one big day. It's







an experience, a retreat, a chance to just be together. A space that invites you to connect and celebrate in your own way. If you're dreaming of a wedding that feels relaxed, personal and deeply memorable, Ladyburn delivers it in every sense.

## ESSENTIAL NUMBERS

**Capacity** ... Up to 70 in the Garden Pavilion

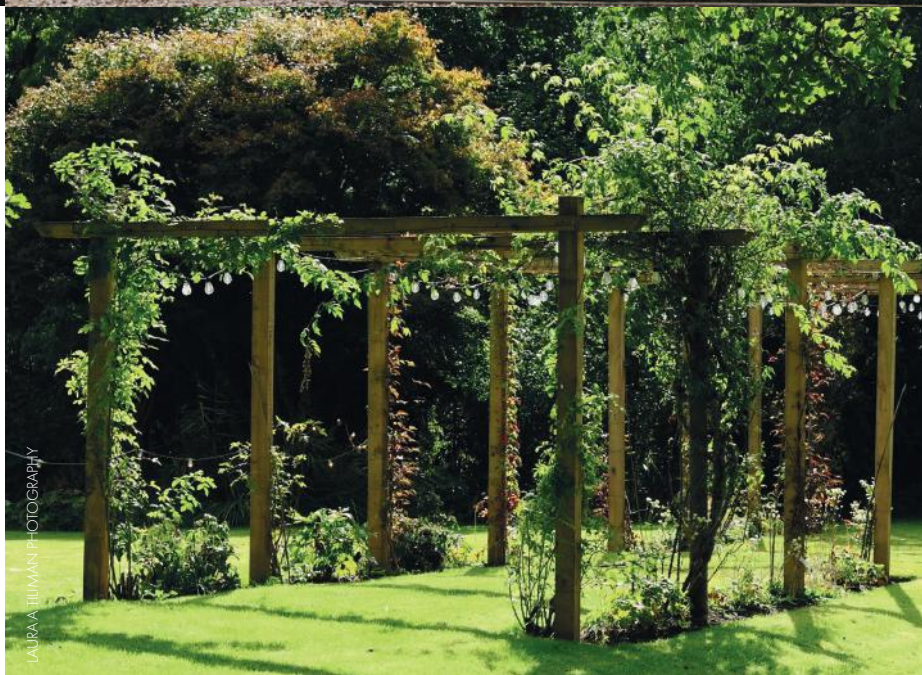
**Accommodation** ... Nine en-suite bedrooms for 18–20 guests

**Price** ... £7,500 to £8,750; catering from £55pp

**Minimums** ... No minimum numbers

**Exclusive use** ... Yes – house, gardens, spa and Pavilion

**Corkage** ... BYO permitted



## THE PRACTICALITIES

**Location** ... Kilkerran, South Ayrshire

**Accessibility** ... Ground-floor bedroom, accessible doorways and step-free routes

**Restrictions** ... No fireworks, lanterns or naked flames; live music until 11pm

**Ceremony** ... Legal or symbolic ceremonies indoors, outdoors or in the Pavilion

**Wet-weather plan** ... Pavilion can host both ceremony and dining

**Parking** ... Onsite for residents plus overflow

## THE QUICK-FIRES

**Best month** ... May to September, when the gardens are at their best

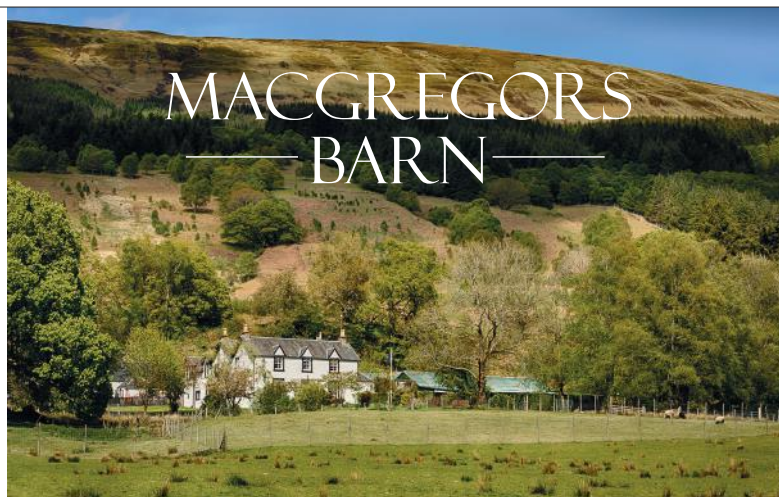
**Most-photographed** ... Oak swing, meadow paths, Pavilion at sunset

**Good to know** ... Designed for intimate, connection-focused weekends, not big parties

Did you know? ... Ladyburn also hosts wellbeing retreats centred on rest and connection

To find out more about weddings at Ladyburn House contact them directly:  
[info@ladyburnhouse.co.uk](mailto:info@ladyburnhouse.co.uk)  
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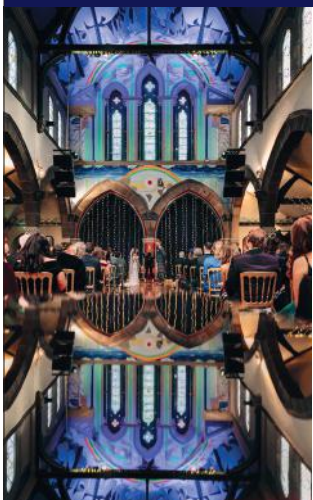
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We recognise that each wedding is unique with different requirements and therefore, we offer complete flexibility including bespoke menus and an accommodating approach to any request.

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### Loch Lomond

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There is an on-site wedding suite available for use throughout the day and your wedding night. Also included with the venue is a dedicated wedding planner who will advise and assist in the build up to your wedding and oversee the smooth running on the day, allowing you to relax and enjoy the most special of days.

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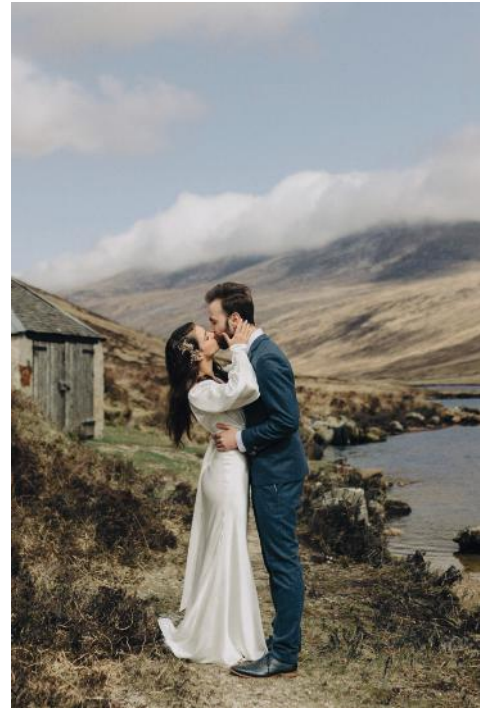
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