



WEDDING

Collection

ISSUE 30

Gowns & Grooms

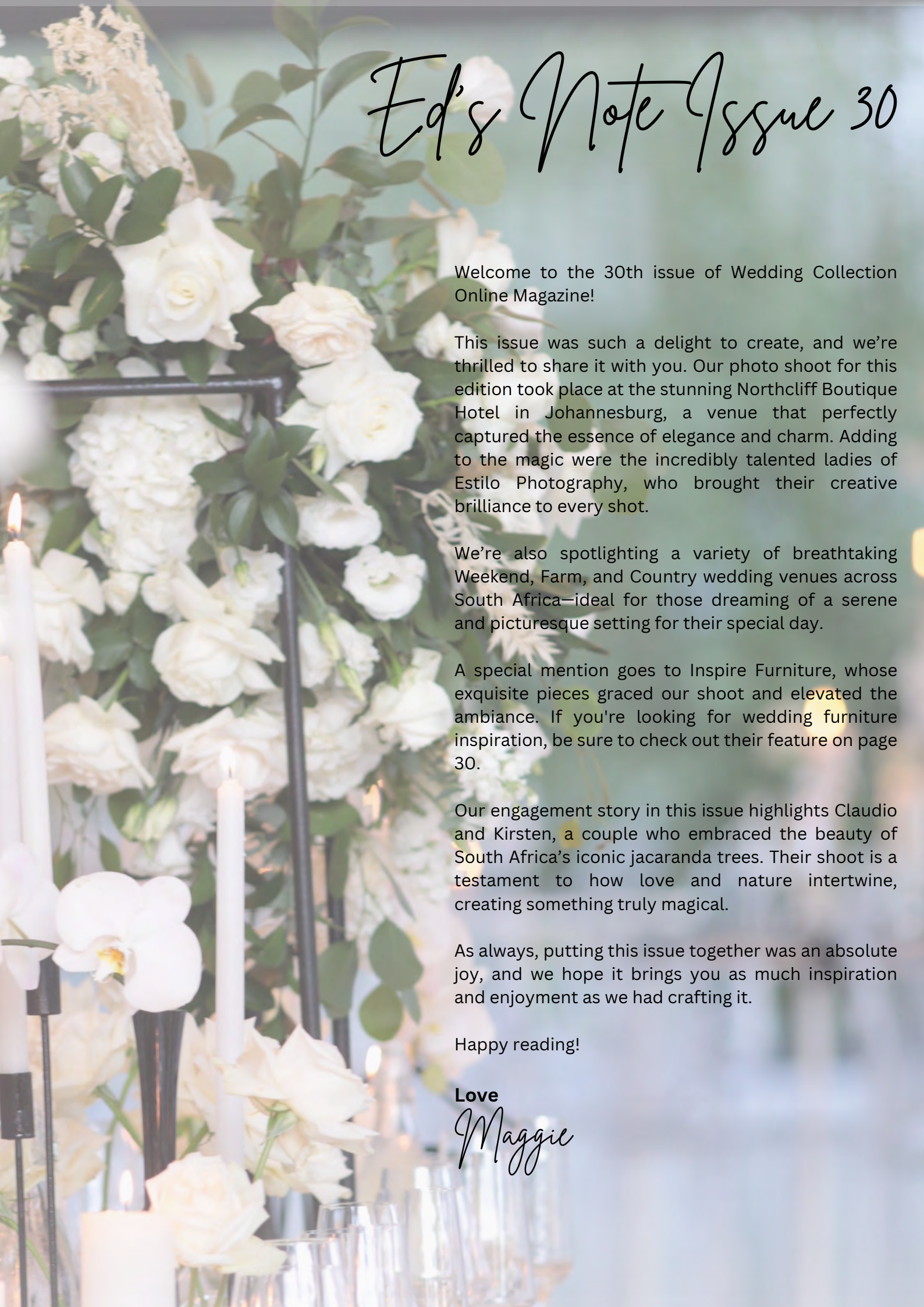
Weekend/Country/Farm
Venues

Beauty is an Attitude

**NAMIBIAN
ROMANCE**

Photography Pro's

FABULOUS FURNITURE HIRE



Ed's Note Issue 30

Welcome to the 30th issue of Wedding Collection Online Magazine!

This issue was such a delight to create, and we're thrilled to share it with you. Our photo shoot for this edition took place at the stunning Northcliff Boutique Hotel in Johannesburg, a venue that perfectly captured the essence of elegance and charm. Adding to the magic were the incredibly talented ladies of Estilo Photography, who brought their creative brilliance to every shot.

We're also spotlighting a variety of breathtaking Weekend, Farm, and Country wedding venues across South Africa—ideal for those dreaming of a serene and picturesque setting for their special day.

A special mention goes to Inspire Furniture, whose exquisite pieces graced our shoot and elevated the ambiance. If you're looking for wedding furniture inspiration, be sure to check out their feature on page 30.

Our engagement story in this issue highlights Claudio and Kirsten, a couple who embraced the beauty of South Africa's iconic jacaranda trees. Their shoot is a testament to how love and nature intertwine, creating something truly magical.

As always, putting this issue together was an absolute joy, and we hope it brings you as much inspiration and enjoyment as we had crafting it.

Happy reading!

Love

Maggie





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ON THE COVER



**Brandon & Jasmine
Photography: Estilo**



G O W N S



Atari's House of Bridals is a
Modern yet Warm and Inviting
Bridal Boutique for the lovely,
unique and savvy bride

xoxo



Atari's
— HOUSE OF —
BRIDALS













G R O O M S



Countdown Guide for the Groom

12 Months Before:

- **Engagement Celebration:** Celebrate your engagement with family and friends.
- **Set a Budget:** Discuss financial plans with your partner and families.
- **Select Venue:** Visit potential venues and confirm availability.
- **Choose Attire Theme:** Decide on the style and colors for your wedding party.

9-12 Months Before:

- **Draft Guest List:** Collaborate with your partner to create the guest list.
- **Book Vendors:** Secure key vendors, including photographers, caterers, and entertainment.
- **Plan Honeymoon:** Research and book your honeymoon destination.

6-9 Months Before:

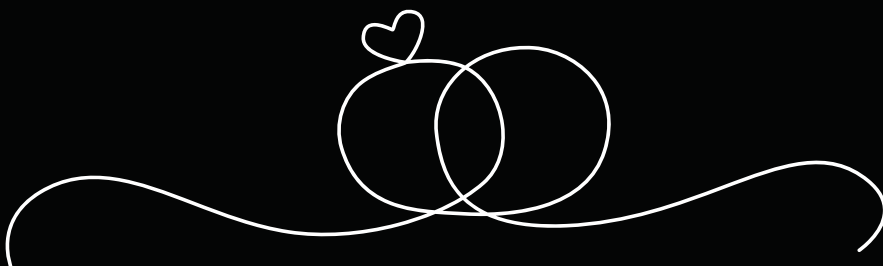
- **Coordinate Groomsmen:** Choose outfits for your groomsmen and arrange gifts for them.
- **Confirm Accommodation:** Reserve hotel rooms for out-of-town guests.
- **Health & Fitness:** Begin a fitness or self-care regimen if desired.

3-6 Months Before:

- **Get the Suit:** Order or rent your wedding suit; schedule fittings.
- **Plan Bachelor Party:** Work with your best man to organize a fun celebration.
- **Finalize Details:** Confirm the menu, timeline, and guest seating arrangements.

1-3 Months Before:

- **Marriage License:** Apply for your marriage license and complete any necessary paperwork.
- **Rehearsal Plans:** Coordinate the rehearsal schedule with your officiant and wedding party.
- **Break in Shoes:** Wear your wedding shoes to ensure they're comfortable.



1 Month Before:

Haircut: Get a fresh haircut, and schedule a touch-up closer to the wedding day.

Confirm Vendors: Reconfirm schedules, contracts, and payments with vendors.

Prepare Vows: Write your vows and practice delivering them.

1 Week Before:

Pack Essentials: Prepare a bag with your suit, shoes, tie, cufflinks, and toiletries.

Delegate Duties: Assign last-minute tasks to groomsmen or family members.

Pamper Yourself: Schedule a grooming session or spa treatment to relax.

Wedding Day:

Relax: Eat a hearty breakfast and stay hydrated.

Stay On Time: Stick to the timeline and allow plenty of time to get ready.

Cherish the Moments: Take in every moment of your special day

— it's finally here!



For a groom, understanding his role and responsibilities can make the wedding process smoother and more enjoyable. Here's a guide to help the groom stay on top of things:

Pre-Wedding Preparations:

Involvement in Planning:

- Participate in major decisions like venue selection, theme, and guest list.
- Offer opinions on details like catering, music, and decorations—your input matters too.

Outfit Selection:

- Choose an outfit that aligns with the wedding theme and complements the bride's attire.
- Ensure it's tailored and comfortable, especially for a "Winterland" theme in South Africa, where layering and warm tones might be key.

Communication:

- Maintain open communication with your fiancée about expectations and preferences.
- Coordinate with vendors, if assigned, to ease her load.

Groomsmen Duties:

- Select reliable groomsmen and delegate roles (e.g., best man for speech and ring duties).
- Organize fittings and communicate timelines to your party.

Self-Care:

- Schedule grooming appointments like haircuts, shaves, or spa treatments a week before the wedding.

The Wedding Day

Time Management:

- Be ready on time and ensure the groomsmen are, too.
- Have a checklist for essentials like vows, rings, and your speech.

Emotional Readiness:

- Stay calm, and don't hesitate to lean on friends or family for support.
- Remember to enjoy the moment and take it all in.

Photos:

- Be prepared for formal and candid shots. Smile and relax—it will show in the pictures.

Marriage Preparation

- **Legalities:**
 - Ensure any required documentation for the marriage license is complete.
- **Relationship Strengthening:**
 - Focus on connecting with your fiancée during the stressful planning phase. Regular date nights or casual downtime can help.
- **Honeymoon Planning:**
 - Share responsibilities for planning the honeymoon, especially if it involves logistics like travel bookings or itineraries.

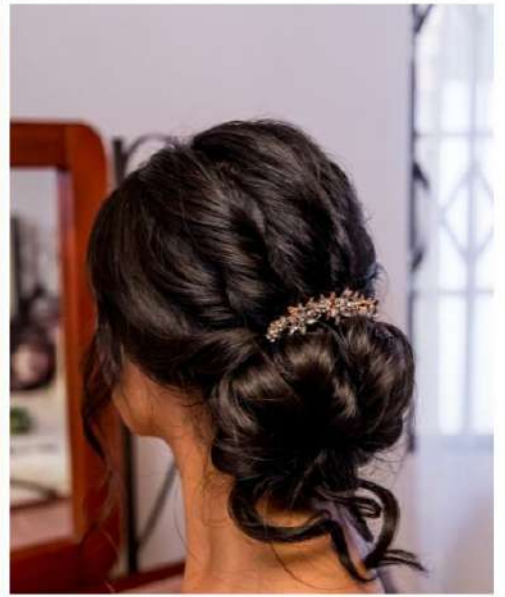
A groom who is organized, thoughtful, and proactive can significantly contribute to a memorable wedding experience for both partners.



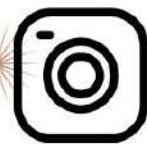


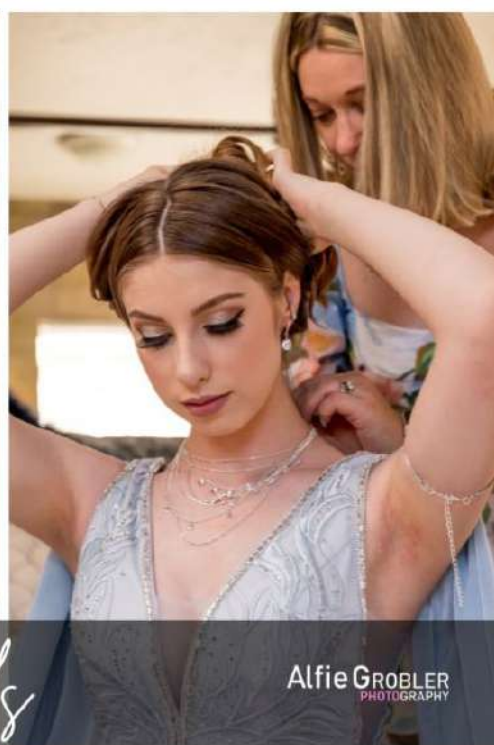
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Beauty On Wheels
ARTISTRY





Beauty On Wheels

Alfie GROBLER
PHOTOGRAPHY

Professional Wedding, Special event & Matric Farewell Makeup, Hair Styling & Photography

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LIANKE MAKEUP HAIR & LASHES







BEAUTY IS AN *attitude*

In this image driven world many women strive towards having the perfect body, perfect hair, perfect everything!

However, if we take an honest look at the women we admire, we will often find that what we love most about them is qualities that time can't change. Grace Kelly had a certain poise and inner stillness that shone far brighter than her status or beauty. "She seemed to have been born with serenity the rest of us didn't have," said her sister Lizanne.

I think that as woman of the 21st century we should stop proclaiming that beauty is not about looking like a model and actually start believing ourselves- truly living it! In Genesis 1:31(amplified bible) God says: "And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good (suitable, pleasant) and He approved it completely".

Who are we then to try and put ourselves down?

I am a firm believer that beauty is an attitude. If you ask a guy what the most attractive thing about a woman is, then 90% of

them will answer: "definitely confidence". Therefore, women should replace words like skinny, tall and popular with words like integrity, grace and self-worth. If you don't believe that you are beautiful, how do you expect your fiancé to convince you that you are the most stunning being he has ever laid eyes on?! Give the poor guy a break!

No, I am not denying that looks play a role in the dating game. However, I will guarantee you that your looks might get his attention, but who you are on the inside will captivate him until death parts you.

Being beautiful is about accentuating your best features, portraying confidence in whom you are and what you stand for, as well as simply just enjoying yourself and having a positive outlook on life. Let's turn those frowns into smiles and cry only when we are laughing from the bottom of our hearts.

Start by embracing your morning bed-hair look! Walk over to the mirror, take a good look at your sleepy eyes and messed-up hair; slightly turn sideways and give yourself a wink saying: "I look goooooood today!"

FURNITURE





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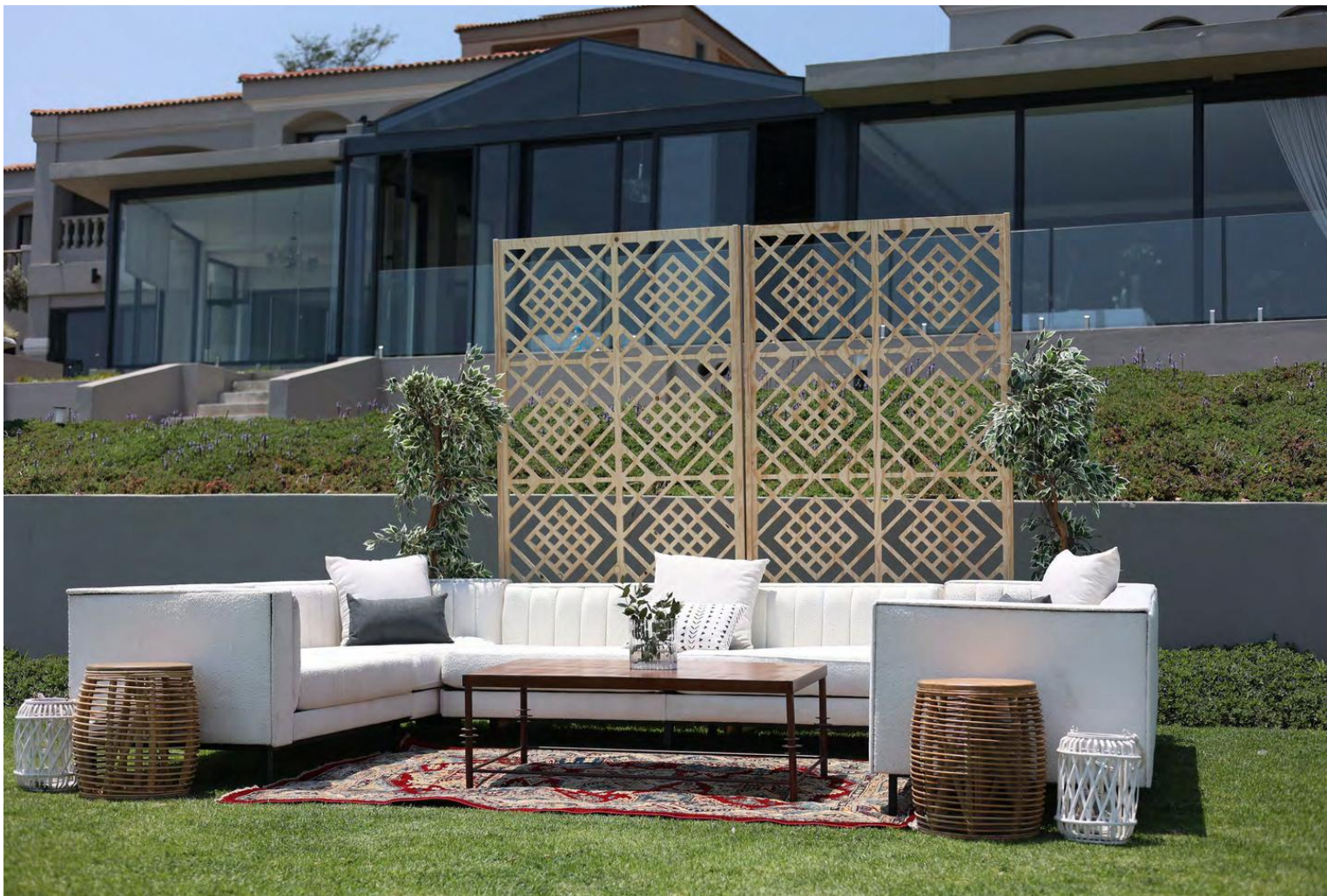
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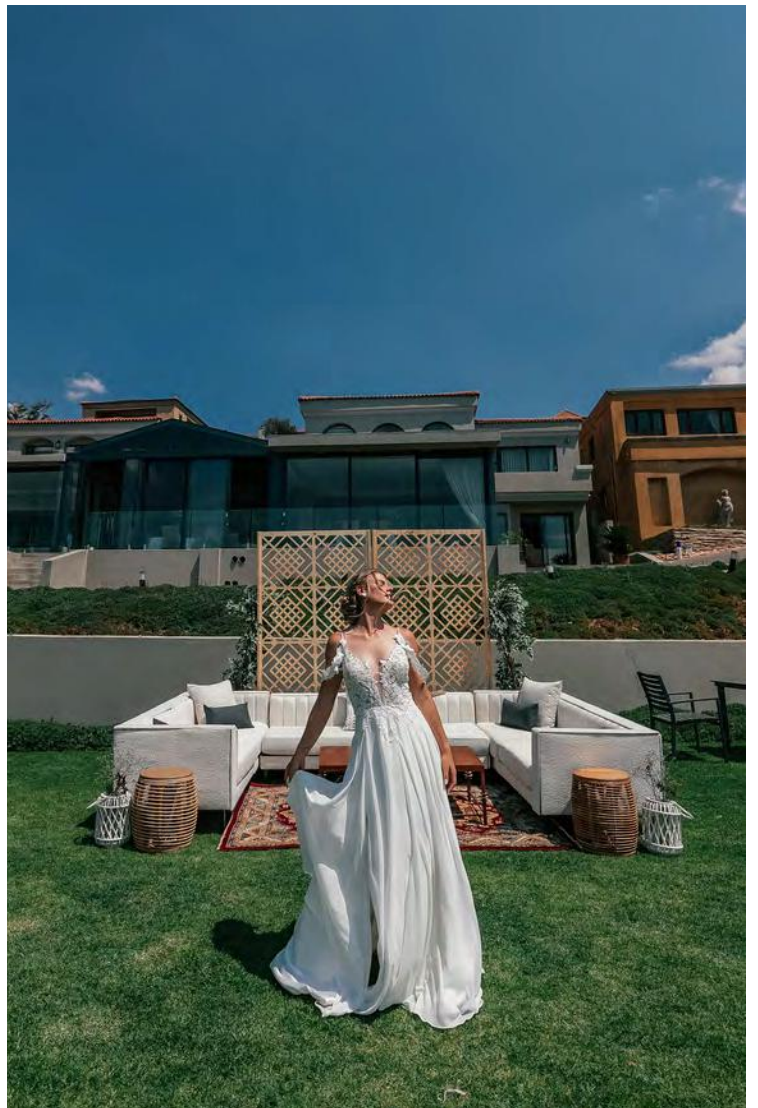


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V E N U E S



WATERBERG LUXURY

Create Memories for years to come
UNIQUE TAILORED WEDDING AT THE PERFECT PRICE

The beautiful landscape at Waterberg Water and Predator Park in Limpopo showcases the peace and majesty of the African wilderness. Its vast areas are filled with native plants and wildlife, offering a harmonious mix of natural beauty and calm. Visitors can explore the area's rich surroundings while enjoying the lodge's luxurious amenities, ensuring a unique and refined experience in nature.



CONTACT US



076 091 4434



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Activities

Game Drives
Quad Bike Rides
Boot Camp Obstacle Course
Young Adult Games Room
Archery and Target Shooting
Golf Driving Range
Fishing
Pool & Snooker Table
Table Tennis & Darts
Board Games
Volleyball, Cricket & Baseball

WATER PARK COMPLETION LATE 2025

Venue hire
R35 000 per weekend
Friday till Sunday exclusive use of entire
Lodge and Facilities
Banquet Starting From R345.00 pp

Package 1

- Minimum 80 guests
- 10% Rebate on Guests Accommodation
- Exclusive use of Lodge
- Guided tours of Predator Park
- Full use of Decor shop for unique Table Settings and Centerpieces
- All activities included (excluding motorised sports)

Package 2

- Minimum 200 guests
example: 67 people staying 3 nights or 100 people staying 2 nights
- In-house photographer included
- In-house videographer included
- 10% Rebate on Guests Accommodation
- Exclusive use of Lodge
- Guided tours of Predator Park
- Full use of Decor shop for unique Table Settings and Centerpieces
- All activities included (excluding motorised sports)



WATERBERG
Water and
Predator Park



PORTION 2, NOUPOORT, VAALWATER



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LANZERAC

1692



For the most romantic and memorable wedding!

Lanzerac is steeped in history dating back to 1692. Nestled in the foothills of the idyllic Jonkershoek Valley of Stellenbosch. Synonymous with old-world charm and rich Cape Heritage, it offers the finest hospitality the Cape Winelands has to offer, indulging guests with warm and passionate service, exquisite wine and cuisine, and elegantly styled rooms.

The fifty-four en suite bedrooms at Lanzerac invite complete relaxation amid welcoming interiors, which blend both period grandeur and contemporary style. Each room is individually decorated with elegant finishes and a unique selection of timeless pieces, offering revered guests spacious interiors that honour their desire for privacy.



Set on a working wine farm, Lanzerac provides easy access to the cellar and the Tasting Room & Deli, where guests can enjoy innovative wine and chocolate pairings. Additional amenities include indoor and outdoor swimming pools, various dining options such as a Whiskey Bar/Lounge, and the Lanzerac Spa, a sought-after wellness retreat.

Lanzerac stands apart with its majestic Oak-lined driveway and over 300 years of history. This Stellenbosch landmark exudes old-world charm, an unrivaled attraction for wedding couples. Ceremonies and outdoor receptions are set against the scenic Cape Dutch Manor House or in the indoor Cellar Hall venue, which accommodates up to 150 guests, while the spacious lawns can host up to 250 guests. The Cellar Hall is a fully air-conditioned indoor venue with high-end facilities and upmarket amenities. Lanzerac guarantees an unforgettable celebration defined by world-class hospitality and exclusive personalized service included in all packages.



A weekend or country wedding at Lanzerac offers a chance to slow down and savor each moment. The expansive spaces and abundant experiences provide opportunities for pre-wedding gatherings while maintaining the element of surprise for the ceremony and reception. Lanzerac's serene vineyard vistas and the magnificent Jonkershoek mountains create a picturesque backdrop, ideal for stunning photography and everlasting memories.

Brides-to-be can benefit from the following tips for hosting a successful weekend wedding at Lanzerac:

- Set aside time for planning with Lanzerac's Meetings and Events team.
- Consider weather conditions and the season when choosing locations and flowers.
- Most importantly, enjoy the time with family and friends, leaving the details to Lanzerac's expert team.



Lanzerac offers three exclusive wedding packages ideal for larger groups, but the Meetings and Events team can assist with tailor-made options for intimate occasions. Guests can enjoy luxurious accommodations, exquisite dining experiences, wine tastings, and the award-winning Spa. The Craven Lounge serves as the perfect location for the groom and groomsmen to enjoy refreshments before the wedding celebration.

For more information on Lanzerac's wedding packages, visit: <https://lanzerac.co.za/weddings/>

Weekend/Farm/Country Wedding Venue



AFRICAN HILLS
SAFARI LODGE & SPA

A Unique Wedding Destination

Nestled at the foot of the Magaliesberg Mountains, the 4-star African Hills Safari Lodge & Spa is just an hour's drive from both Johannesburg and Pretoria. This premier venue is situated on the expansive 6800-hectare Plumari Private Reserve, offering couples and their guests an unforgettable wildlife experience surrounded by the beauty of South Africa's natural landscape.



One of the key highlights of African Hills Safari Lodge & Spa is its convenient location near Johannesburg and Pretoria, making it easily accessible while still providing a true bush experience. Couples looking for unique wedding photographs will be thrilled by the opportunity to capture moments with the lodge's two resident elephants, Nzewe and Damara.

The venue offers both a Bush Chapel and a Vintage Chapel, allowing couples to select the perfect setting that resonates with their wedding vision. The Azima Restaurant, which seats 100 to 120 guests and features an outdoor deck, offers breathtaking views of the reserve and the Magaliesberg Mountains. This, combined with a variety of delicious menu options, ensures a personalized, unique, and memorable celebration. Tailor-made wedding packages are available to cater to each couple's specific desires.

Bridal couples will benefit from the expertise of Brenda, the lodge's dedicated Wedding Coordinator, who ensures that every detail of the wedding day runs smoothly. African Hills Safari Lodge & Spa is not just a venue but a place where lifelong memories are created.

Accommodation is available for guests at the lodge itself, as well as at the nearby Warthogs Bush Lodge, allowing for a full weekend of festivities. The picturesque sunsets and panoramic views of the reserve, often with wildlife or the majestic Magaliesberg Mountains as a backdrop, provide stunning photo opportunities. Couples can rest assured that their wedding experience will be stress-free, with a full range of activities available for guests, including game drives to keep them entertained while the couple takes photos. A bush braai on the Friday night is an exciting start to a wedding weekend, making the experience even more special.

Tips for Brides-to-Be Hosting a Weekend/Country/Farm Wedding

- Prepare for the Outdoors: Keep in mind that getting married in a bush setting means your dress may get a little dirty, so choose accordingly.
- Stay Calm: It's natural for things to go off-plan. Trust the on-site team—they are experienced and will handle any unexpected issues.
- Hydration is Key: Especially important in the summer months, staying hydrated helps you enjoy every moment of your special day.

African Hills Safari Lodge & Spa features 48 air-conditioned rooms designed with comfort and relaxation in mind. The lodge also offers a bush braai site for groups (minimum 9 guests), a spa for pre- or post-wedding relaxation, game drives, and unique elephant experiences and walks. This combination of exceptional service, breathtaking scenery, and comprehensive facilities makes African Hills Safari Lodge & Spa the ideal choice for an unforgettable wedding experience.



Weekend/Farm/Country Wedding Venue



SWEETFONTTEIN

BRITSTOWN • SOUTH AFRICA



A little bit of history

On a porch where the curves of rocks and mountains write ancient history, there you can be, there you can come, be quiet and at that still point, there the dance will be, there you can embrace the rhythm of the Sweetfontein Boutique Farm Lodge.

Sweetfontein Boutique Farm Lodge is located in the upper Karoo region along the N10, 20km from Britstown and 35km from De Aar.

This serenely situated farm lodge is a timeless beauty that is touched with a gracious and mystical charm, a spirit calling hearts to dream. Each room and living space speak of the finest interior art and decorum and promises to be nothing short of the spacious simplicity to be found only in true elegance.

The sweet and invigorating experiences that await, speak to the heart of every naturalist, connoisseur, traveller, holidaymaker and wildlife enthusiast.

A Karoo experience synonymous with blissful and transforming tranquillity. For the thrill and adventure seeking individuals there are a range of hiking and bike trails, an endless road where there is nowhere to go but everywhere.

The sights include the weathered and tempered Karoo landscape, sketched with the greens and browns only to be found on the Sweetfontein canvas. A wide range of wild animals are roaming the typical Karoo veld; observe and enjoy the swirl of dust around the pounding hooves of sheep.



WHAT SETS YOUR VENUE APART FROM THE REST?

Sweetfontein combines its natural environment and elements with modern décor elements to ensure an authentic Karoo wedding. We also provide our bridal couples with one stop services which you would normally require from multiple vendors.

WHY SHOULD A BRIDAL COUPLE CONSIDER A WEEKEND WEDDING AT YOUR VENUE?

As mentioned, Sweetfontein offers all services from one vendor and can guarantee you an authentic, hearty, family feast which has become very popular after Covid.

WHAT TIPS DO YOU HAVE TO OUR BRIDES-TO-BE FOR HOSTING A SUCCESSFUL WEEKEND WEDDING?

Planning forms an important part of the wedding, there are a few things brides should not be afraid spending on a little more, like decor and photographers as these are almost all you'll have to remember your special day. Go through all the arrangement for that day at least 3 weeks in advance.

Try to leave all the nitty gritty arrangements to the wedding co-ordinator and venue personnel. Also remember that you two are the most important people on that day!

PLEASE INCLUDE ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION OUR READERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR VENUE.

Sweetfontein can cater to all your needs and you do not require additional vendors for your special day. A though we are not situated near any major cities, the guests that do decide to attend your wedding and travel the distance truly want to attend and be a part of your special day.

The Karoo is a magical place and couples that do decide to use our venue will be treated as friends and you will get to experience hospitality in the true Karoo way.



Elegant Wedding Venue



THE
NORTHCLIFF

BOUTIQUE HOTEL



A Premier Destination for Your Dream
Wedding!

A History and Location Steeped in Tranquility

Nestled atop the picturesque Northcliff Hill in Johannesburg's Northern suburbs, The Northcliff Boutique Hotel offers an unparalleled setting for any event. Surrounded by a tranquil eco-park, the venue provides exceptional views stretching toward the Magaliesberg. This prime location is easily accessible from the N1 highway and is set within a safe, fully secured area, making it a convenient yet secluded escape. First opened in March 2019, The Northcliff has quickly become a sought-after destination for those seeking elegance and exclusivity.



The Northcliff Boutique Hotel boasts unmatched panoramic views, overlooking Johannesburg's iconic man-made forest and extending toward the Magaliesberg. By day, the venue offers a serene, breathtaking vantage point, while at night, it transforms into a dazzling sea of lights. The glass roof of the venue not only showcases the surrounding beauty but also reflects the images of guests and lighting, creating a magical ambiance. This intimate, exclusive setting within an eco-park ensures an atmosphere of privacy and sophistication.

Couples seeking a unique and unforgettable wedding experience will find everything they desire at The Northcliff Boutique Hotel. Booking your special day here ensures total exclusivity of the entire hotel, offering privacy and intimacy for your celebration. Our experienced sales team works closely with each couple to design and execute a bespoke wedding, ensuring every detail is flawless.

The Northcliff also offers:

- Gourmet Dining: Our top-rated chefs create mouthwatering dishes tailored to your preferences.
- Exceptional Service: Silver service-trained waitstaff guarantee a seamless dining experience.
- Luxurious Accommodations: The hotel's elegant rooms feature King-size extra-length beds for ultimate comfort. Our Villa provides additional convenience for family members or bridal parties, with a private pool and lounge area.

·Relaxation and Wellness: The Mist Spa offers professional treatments, allowing couples and guests to unwind and rejuvenate before or after the big day.

Tips for a Successful Wedding

1. Start Early: Begin your planning process well in advance to ensure everything runs smoothly.
2. Leverage expertise: Utilize our experienced team for guidance, trusted suppliers, and unique ideas that bring your vision to life.

More Than Just a Wedding Venue The Northcliff Boutique Hotel is a versatile destination that goes beyond weddings. Our fully operational restaurant serves an exquisite à la carte menu from Monday to Saturday, complemented by a date night special or a Sunday lunch featuring live music. High teas, intimate functions, and our luxurious accommodation options make The Northcliff a favourite for any occasion.

For an extraordinary experience that combines elegance, exclusivity, and breathtaking surroundings, The Northcliff Boutique Hotel is the ultimate choice for your wedding or special event.



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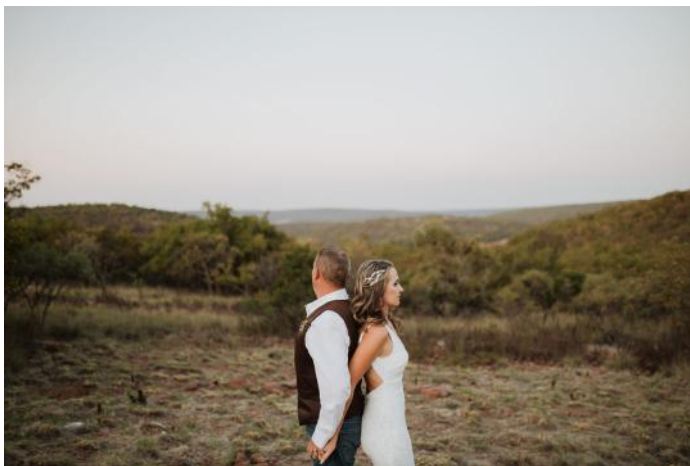


Picture us

PHOTO + FILM



Timeless, vibrant & emotive storytelling



If you fall in love with life you can understand the true meaning of it. We are made to love, like unconditionally love & capturing true and raw emotion is our passion. If you want someone who can capture your best day in an authentic way, we are your photographers. We promise you we will capture all the best moments, even the time you ugly cry. These moments make for the most beautiful love stories and we capture it all, from start to finish. We handle each image as we would, our own, because we know the most cherished moments are the most delicate at heart.

We are a husband & wife team who just loves capturing beautiful love stories. We love meeting new people, seeing wonderful new places and we are always up for a fun time.



Wynand is our film maker, drone operator, main video editor and second shooter.

Marli is our main photographer, photo editor, second film maker & worlds best wifey.

We are outdoorsey, road tripping, dog lovers. We love laughing and making people laugh. We get heavy fomo doing things apart and would rather drink a steaming hot cup of coffee in front of a fire than boogie all night in a club.

We believe that we have a God given talent and we strive to serve him through serving you on your most important day, ever.

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Infinite Revere

Creating infinite admiration
through photo and video.

At Infinite Revere, we are more than just a team behind the lens; we're a husband-and-wife duo committed to capturing the most precious moments of your special day. With a style that can be best described as elegance and grace, our goal is to create timeless memories that you will cherish for a lifetime. We believe in going the extra mile for our clients, whether it's ensuring that your shoes are pristine or mending a dress with a needle and thread, so you can fully enjoy your wedding day.

Soft Cinematic moments the make your story unique

We deeply understand the significance of your wedding day and recognize that our work is the only lasting memory you'll have to cherish after the celebrations are over. With our artistic and heartfelt approach to photography and videography, we are dedicated to preserving every beautiful detail and emotion, ensuring that your wedding day lives on forever through our lens.



hello@inf-revere.co.za



[infinite.revere](https://www.instagram.com/infinite.revere)



www.inf-revere.com





H O N E Y M O O N



Honeymooning in Namibia: A Love Affair with Nature

Namibia, with its striking landscapes, abundant wildlife, and tranquil atmosphere, is a dream destination for newlyweds seeking a unique and romantic escape. Nestled in southern Africa, this captivating country offers a tapestry of experiences, from golden deserts to rugged coastlines, ensuring an unforgettable honeymoon adventure.

The Allure of Namibia

Namibia's charm lies in its breathtaking diversity. For couples, the sheer beauty and serenity of its landscapes provide a perfect backdrop for romance. Whether you dream of gazing at star-studded skies, sharing a champagne toast atop a sand dune, or exploring wildlife together, Namibia promises to make your honeymoon extraordinary.

Where to Go and What to Do

1. Sossusvlei and the Namib Desert

One of Namibia's most iconic destinations, Sossusvlei, is a haven for couples who crave solitude and awe-inspiring scenery. The towering red dunes, particularly Dune 45 and Big Daddy, are perfect for sunrise hikes. End your day with a romantic dinner under the expansive desert sky.

2. Skeleton Coast

For adventurous couples, the haunting beauty of the Skeleton Coast is unparalleled. Explore shipwrecks, seal colonies, and stark, misty landscapes that evoke an otherworldly romance.

3. Etosha National Park

Embark on a safari adventure in Etosha, where you can marvel at Africa's "Big Five" and witness wildlife congregating around waterholes. Many lodges offer private accommodations, ensuring intimacy while surrounded by nature.

4. Swakopmund

This charming coastal town is perfect for couples who enjoy a mix of relaxation and adventure. Dune boarding, scenic flights, and strolls along the beach await. Swakopmund also boasts excellent restaurants to enjoy romantic dinners with fresh seafood.

5. Damaraland

For a more secluded experience, head to Damaraland. Here, you can discover ancient rock engravings, meet desert-adapted elephants, and stay in luxurious lodges offering panoramic views of the wilderness.





Luxurious Stays for Couples

Namibia excels in unique accommodations that cater to honeymooners:

- **Wolwedans Dunes Lodge:** Situated in the NamibRand Nature Reserve, this lodge combines luxury with sustainability. Private chalets offer uninterrupted views of the desert.
- **Onguma The Fort:** Located on the outskirts of Etosha, this lodge provides opulent suites with romantic outdoor showers and sunset views.
- **Shipwreck Lodge:** Nestled on the Skeleton Coast, this quirky yet luxurious lodge offers an unforgettable stay amid the dramatic coastline.

Romantic Experiences

- **Hot Air Balloon Ride:** Float over the Namib Desert at sunrise and toast to your love with champagne upon landing.
- **Star Gazing:** Namibia's dark skies make it one of the best destinations for stargazing. Share an intimate moment under the Milky Way.
- **Private Dinners:** Many lodges arrange candlelit dinners in remote, scenic locations for an added touch of romance.

Best Time to Visit

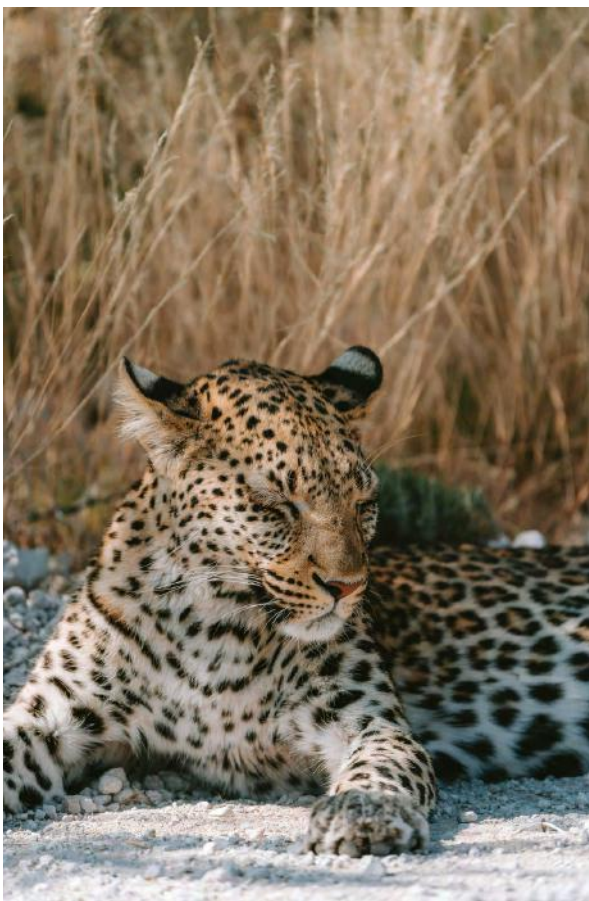
The dry season, from May to October, is ideal for a honeymoon in Namibia. The weather is pleasant, wildlife is easier to spot, and the skies are clear for stargazing. However, for a quieter and greener landscape, the rainy season (November to April) also has its charms.

Practical Tips

- **Travel Logistics:** Windhoek, the capital, serves as the main gateway. Renting a 4x4 vehicle is recommended for exploring the country at your own pace.
- **Packing Essentials:** Pack lightweight, breathable clothing for the day, warm layers for cool evenings, and good hiking shoes.
- **Health and Safety:** Namibia is a safe country for travelers, but ensure you're up to date on vaccinations and carry mosquito repellent.

Conclusion

Honeymooning in Namibia is an experience that blends adventure, luxury, and intimacy. It's a land where nature's grandeur serves as a backdrop to your love story, creating memories that last a lifetime. Whether you're drawn to its deserts, coasts, or wildlife, Namibia offers a honeymoon as unique as your bond.





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ENGAGEMENT



Claudio & Kirsten

Photography: Picture Us



1. How did you meet, and how did your fiancé propose?

We met at a pop-up bar called “Wine Not”. Claudio was showing off his moves with the Samsara on the dance floor—something I had never seen before. Naturally, I gave him a puzzled look, which he noticed. Without missing a beat, he came over and asked if he could buy me a drink. My response was a flat, “No!” but my cousin quickly jumped in with a very enthusiastic “Yes!” And so, we ended up sharing drinks, found a spot on the rooftop to chat, and before we knew it, four hours had flown by. The rest, as they say, is history.

Claudio proposed in the Drakensberg mountains in the most romantic way imaginable. We took a helicopter ride to a secluded mountaintop, where we enjoyed a picnic surrounded by breathtaking views. As we soaked in the moment, he got down on one knee and popped the question. Of course, I said, “Yes!”

2. What date have you chosen for your wedding day, and why?

We’ve chosen September 17, 2025. That date holds special meaning for us—it was the day we first said, “I love you.”





3. Have you booked a venue yet, and if so, which one have you chosen and why?

Yes, we've chosen Bell & Blossom in Pretoria. It's such a stunning venue! We fell in love with its lush gardens and the grand reception hall, which has a ceiling full of magical fairy lights. It felt like the perfect backdrop for our special day.

4. Are you going to make use of a wedding planner?

The venue offers a dedicated wedding planner, and we've also hired a décor specialist, The Love Knot. We think their combined expertise will bring everything together beautifully.

5. Why did you choose the photographer that you did?

We've chosen Picture Us—Marli & Wynand are fantastic! We had a video chat with them before finalizing the booking, and it just felt right. Their friendly personalities and creative energy put us at ease immediately. Our engagement photos turned out better than we ever could have imagined, so we're beyond excited to see how they capture our wedding day!





6. What is your vision for your wedding day?

Our vision is to celebrate love and togetherness in the best way possible. It's probably the only day in our lives when all our family and friends will be gathered in one place, and we want to cherish every moment. More than anything, we want the day to be full of fun, laughter, and unforgettable memories.

7. Do you have any idea where you will be spending your honeymoon?

Right now, we're prioritizing spending time with Claudio's family, who will be traveling from overseas for the wedding. We're thinking of saving our honeymoon for our first anniversary—it'll give us something special to look forward to. We haven't decided on a destination yet, but we're open to ideas!

8. What are your aspirations for your marriage?

We aspire to build a life filled with love, laughter, and adventure. Our hope is to grow together, support each other through everything, and create a lifetime of happy memories!



Brandon &
Jasmine

Photography: Estilo



1. How did you and your hubby meet and how did he propose?

A British city boy and a small town Portuguese girl proved opposites attract. Our worlds collided serendipitously, and we soon found out that we counterbalanced in all the right ways.

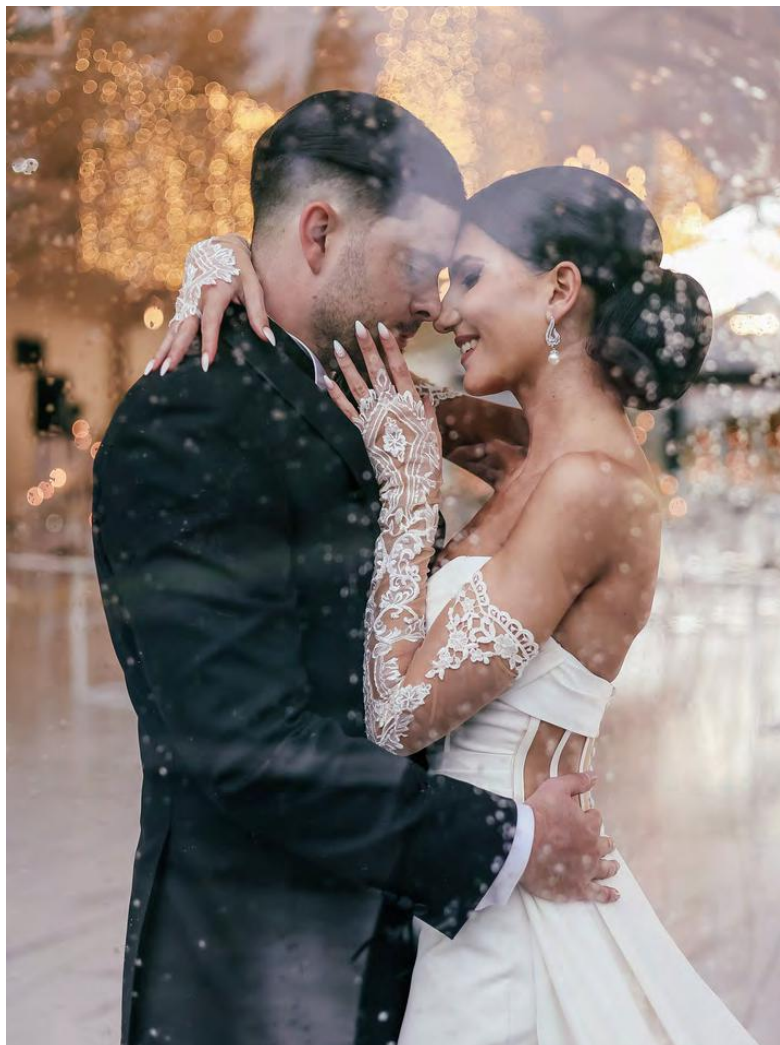
Whether it was Brandon's determined quest to make me his girlfriend or the copious number of chillies that I put on my Andiccio's pizza on a casual "first date" that sealed the deal for him. Fast forward eight years, and nothing makes us prouder of the milestones that we have accomplished together, the home that we have made, the careers that we have built, and our precious little fur baby, Nala.

Onto the big moment in magical Fira in Santorini, Greece, where Brandon perfectly timed popping the big question with the most picturesque sunset backdrop on a private balcony, with a professional photographer hiding at the scenes. Extra brownie points for hiring a photographer. As he gently took my hand and I gazed into his beautiful blue eyes, I felt like I was floating on cloud 9, and there is just no better feeling!

2. What made you fall in love with your wedding venue?

Inimitable offers an exceptional experience with outstanding service and efficiency. The dedicated team ensured every detail was perfect, making our choice of this world-class venue something we're proud of. The stunning Zwartkop Mountains captivated us, creating a beautiful backdrop. Inimitable combines luxury and charm, from the serene bridal and groom's suites to the elegant honeymoon villa. We loved the river-view canapés area and the majestic reception hall, which is sure to impress with its modern features and design elements. Every detail reflected excellence, from the perfectly manicured gardens to the exceptional glass chapel that nestles into the forest alongside the river. Truly, Inimitable in every way.





3. *What word(s) would you use to describe your wedding?*

Magical, captivating, memorable, fun, blissful, stylish, classy/chic, dreamy, modern, elegant, and timeless.

4. *Briefly describe your relationship and/or differences or similarities with your now husband.*

United by a shared passion for travel and food, our hearts crave new experiences. Guided by faith, learnings gained from our travels, and the warm embrace of cherished friends and family, we have grown into who we are today. Brandon and I are both driven, loving, and ambitious—often the life of the party! We value each other's strong morals, supporting growth in all aspects.

5. *How did you set the tone for your wedding? I.e. stationery and/or any different wedding announcement ideas?*

We aimed for a monochromatic, minimalist, and modern look for our wedding. Our stationery supplier, Nova Bespoke, along with our events company, ZKEC, encapsulated this perfectly with their luxurious, timeless décor and stationery. From our bridal party reveal and digital save-the-date invitations to our signage, chic monogram, menus, and beautifully designed wedding website featuring our Greece engagement photos, everything was flawless. We were blown away with the images from our stunning pre-wedding photoshoot by Estilo Photography, which offered a perfect preview of what was to come.

6. *Did you have a theme or vision/style for your wedding day? (and how did you make this a reality)?*

We wanted a timeless and elegant look with a modern, luxurious flair, and thanks to our suppliers, we achieved it.

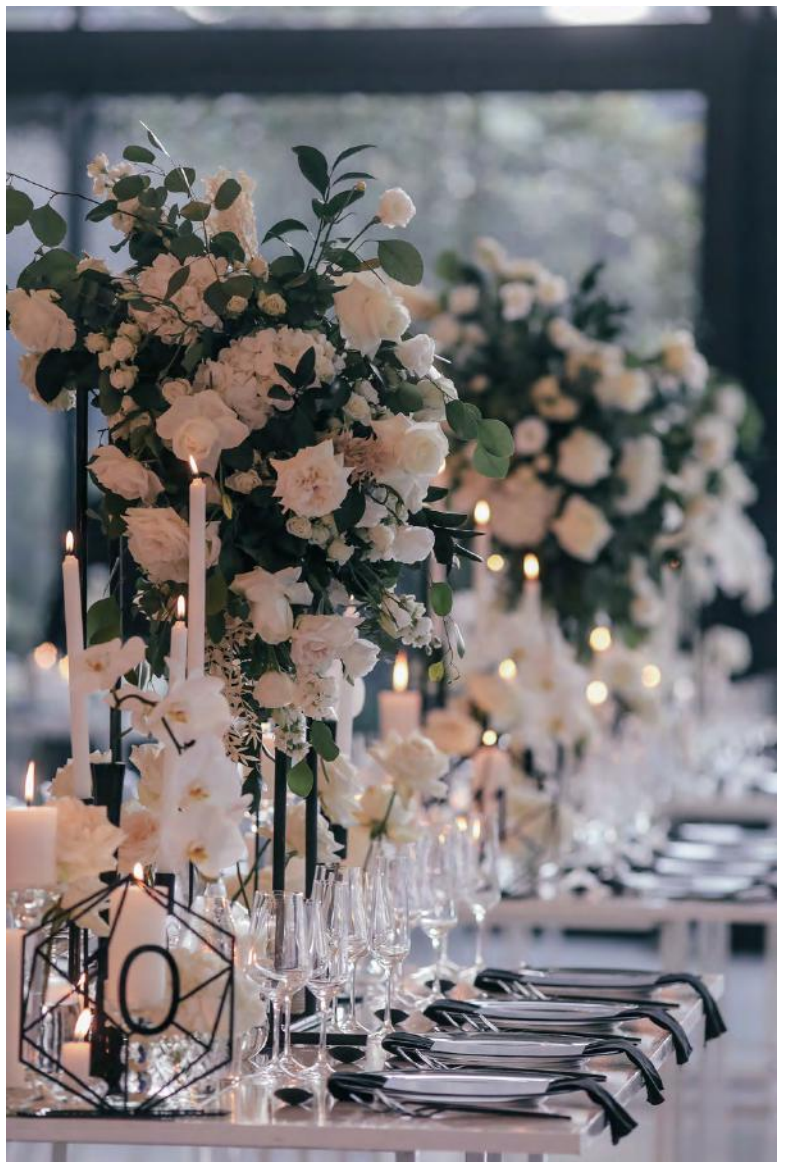
7. Please discuss your choice of flowers and décor, etc.

We were amazed by the stunning décor, flowers, and lighting by ZKEC, capturing our vision perfectly. We loved the draped fairy lights and naked light bulbs over the dance floor and tables, magically bringing the reception hall to life. Our white and black colour palette featured 80% floral including white o'hara roses, hydrangeas, peonies and lisianthus, leaving a magnificent aroma in the hall. We had fresh green and bleached/preserved Italian Ruskus leaves – a lovely ode to our honeymoon and complementing our engagement aesthetic.

The bridal bouquet was a cascading white orchid arrangement, and the bridesmaids carried white roses, complementing their gun-metal dresses. Black cutlery, black tiffany chairs for the ceremony, ghost chairs for the reception, mirrored runners, and the black ABS dance floor with our monogram completed the look.

8. Tell us how you achieved your wedding look? I.e. wedding gown, shoes, jewellery, accessories, hair and makeup etc?

I wanted a timeless, vogue, and elegant look, which came together beautifully with my imported custom Alyssa Couture wedding dress from Veil Bridal Couture. Barring my draped pearl earrings, I kept jewellery minimal, accentuating my wedding ring.





9. *If there was anything different/fun/special about your wedding cake, music/entertainment, flower girls, and groom and groomsmen, please detail it here:*

Our bespoke wedding cake from Kelly Jayne's Cake Boutique consisted of a delectable 4-tier hexagon geometric shape to complement our venue, which was classic and elegant on every level (excuse the pun!). A cascading white orchid with marble and gold glitter trimmings rounded it off beautifully. The vanilla Crème Brûlée flavour was a hit!

As music lovers, we knew we needed the best DJ, and Alexi delivered. Brandon and I never left the dance floor! His talent and personality are unmatched and largely contributed to it being such a fun, joyous, and memorable wedding—in other words, a proper jol! Alexi captured some awesome footage throughout the day and specially made a fun-to-watch vlog—an impressive touch!

The 360-Spin Video Booth (SelfieBox) was a great icebreaker and way of joining in on the fun, and the talented saxophonist, Rike, beautifully topped off the entertainment, adding jazzy vibes during canapés. Our flower girls loved their puzzle reveal with our photo on it.

10. *Were there any surprises and/or anything that went terribly wrong or perfectly right on your wedding day?*

Luckily, we did not have any real train smashes on the day. Honestly, the day exceeded our expectations, and we were humbly overjoyed with emotions and grateful for all the love that we received from family and friends, which made it perfect in our eyes.

11. Briefly list or describe your wedding highlights.

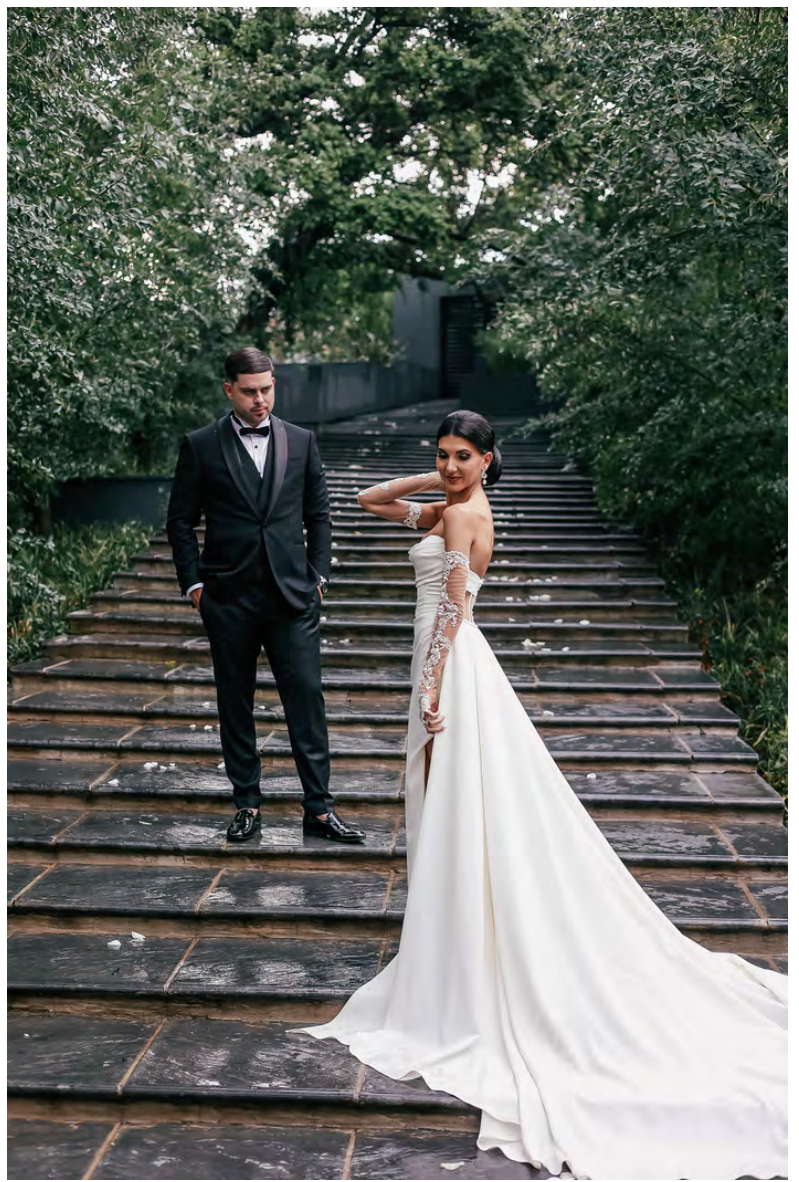
The highlights were endless! Getting glammed up by the dream team, walking down Inimitable's grand staircase with my beloved father and locking eyes with my soon-to-be husband, seeing the smiles and raw emotion from our close friends and family, the exquisite fine dining experience that was theatrical, delectable, and innovative by celebrity chef Andrew Draper, our upbeat entrance, heartfelt speeches, our first dance—beautifully choreographed by ReeMicks Dance Studio (Wesley Grainger), the father-daughter dance—an incredibly touching and special moment with my pops, who has the softest heart (bring out the tissues!), and having the biggest party dancing all night with loved ones.

12. Please describe what was special and/or unique about your wedding.

We included interactive elements like a selfie mirror and a 360-spin video booth. The moment we said our “I do’s,” on a sunny day, the sudden thunder with the heavens opening gave everyone goosebumps of this special blessing. The raindrops, post the brief downpour, created a dramatic and stunning effect in our photos, which the photographers absolutely adored, and we would not change it for the world!

Steering away from just swaying on the spot, our choreographed first dance set an enchanting atmosphere, and we kept the party lively with complimentary shots on the dance floor with a custom playlist—no cliché wedding songs—and added some club throwbacks that sparked nostalgic memories.

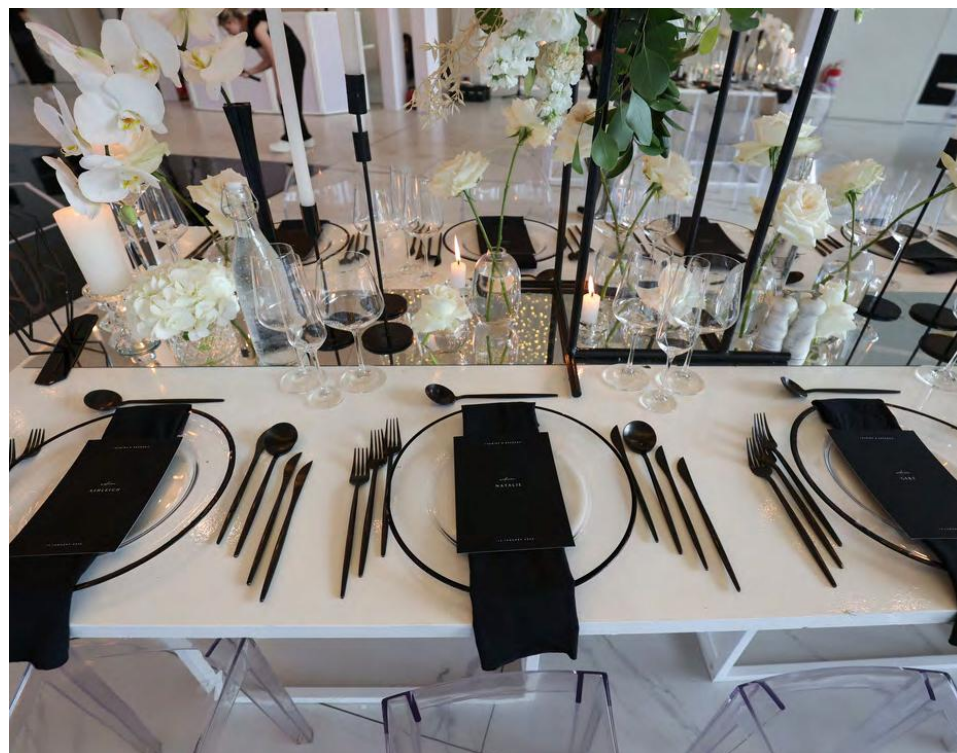
The teppanyaki, Asian, and sushi stations with floating canapés were perfect for our guests. Meticulous planning ensured everything ran smoothly, making it unforgettable.



13. Please share any of your most unique wedding ideas and advice with our readers.

Start by considering what represents you as a couple to inspire your wedding theme. Choosing the venue sets the aesthetic tone and filters into your colour palette, style of dress, etc. Prioritise exceptional food and music, which make the day memorable.

The chef's international-inspired dishes from our travels created a food journey, which we thought was a spectacular idea. A midnight snack of peri-peri prego sliders and 3 cheese & tomato French bread toasties delighted everyone. Most importantly, relax, enjoy, and savour every moment with your partner; it's your special day after all!







Woodboard Issue 31

A Contemporary Affair



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