

– DRAFT –

Welcome to Jordan & Kiavash's wedding extravaganza—online.

//THE BASICS

Who: Us.

What: Getting hitched.

Where: Ottawa, Ontario – ceremony at Central Park in the Glebe and reception at the Glebe Community Centre

When: July 26, 2014, 4:30 p.m. 'til late

Why: Lately, we've been busy doing other things. [other: link <http://mongolrally12.theadventurists.com/index.php?mode=teamwebsites&name=five-crow-canoe>] [things: link <http://waysandmeansadventures.wordpress.com/>], but we really love each other and want to put on a big party to share the love with you.

//THE DETAILS

Everything goes down on Saturday July 26, 2014.

The ceremony begins at 4:30 p.m. at Central Park in the Glebe, led by our Member of Parliament Paul Dewar.

A fantastic parade follows the ceremony. This is where all of our guests move as a group from the park to the reception hall, an easy five-minute walk.

The reception begins around 6 p.m., as soon as our parade lands us at the Glebe Community Centre. Ben and Elyse from Ottawa Street Gourmet [link <http://streetottawa.ca/>] will put heaps of fresh, local food on the table for everyone. Yes –there will be tacos! David Moscrop will lead us through a series of hilarious and touching toasts. Local beer, sangria, and a selection of wines will flow all night at the open bar. And there will be lots and lots of dancing.

Dress Code

Most folks will dress semi-formal, but please wear whatever makes you comfortable and happy. We're going for a summer-dressy/garden party vibe.

The ceremony will be outside in the heat of a July afternoon, so wear something cool, and bring sunscreen. We suggest you skip high heels, since they will get stuck in the grass.

The reception hall is air-conditioned, so a wrap or sweater for later isn't a bad idea.

In case of rain

If it's really raining, we'll move the ceremony to the Glebe Community Centre. We'll make a call about the weather in the morning and advise everyone by email, so if the forecast looks wet, keep an eye on your inbox.

Gifts

The best present we can receive is your company and best wishes as we embark on this adventure together. We recognize, especially for those of you coming from far away, simply attending our wedding is a significant expense. Many of you are also contributing time and energy to the event and for the gift of your help we thank you.

Since we've lived together for some time, we have most of the customary household-type items. The coziness of our small apartment also means storage space is limited.

Small handmade gifts, photos, and funny memories would be wonderful. We also are grateful for any contribution towards our next travel adventure... in this case a honeymoon in Turkey.

A donation to a worthwhile cause would also be a great way to acknowledge our day. Here are a few ideas:

- The United Nations High Commission for Refugees Syria Appeal [link: <http://donate.unhcr.org/international/syria>] (choose "give through your national office" to receive a tax receipt)
- The Stephen Lewis Foundation [link: https://secure2.unxvision.com/SLF/eDonation/index.asp?DONATION_FORM_ID=16]
- Cornerstone Housing for Women [link: <http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/cornerstone/Donate.html>]

Kids are welcome

If you're bringing your kids, please let us know on your RSVP so we can adjust seating and find some cool toys for them to enjoy.

Dates are sweet – but...

This is a small event for our respective families and close friends, which means that there's reserved space only for those named on the invitation. We guarantee you'll know someone attending and we'll do our best to make the evening fun and inclusive for everyone.

While you can't bring a date, feel free to leave with one!

Map

<https://mapsengine.google.com/map/edit?mid=zBY-nREeZas0.kmcUBrO25TM0>

Please note: Parking in the Glebe can be tricky. We suggest you use public transit [link to OC Transpo trip planner], a taxi, bike, or walk to the shindig.

//RSVP

(by March 31, please!)

Name(s): (2 spaces, FIRSTNAME LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME LASTNAME)
[dropdown] will totally be there! / sadly can't make it.

Home address: [mandatory if "yes" is selected]

Contact cell #: [mandatory if "yes" is selected]

Dietary restrictions: [not mandatory]

Dance song requests: [not mandatory]

Will you be bringing your kids? [not mandatory]

Anything else we should know? [not mandatory]

//JORDAN + KIAVASH'S GUIDE TO OTTAWA

SEE:

Parliament Hill: No visit to Ottawa is complete without a stop at our workplace.

The National Art Gallery: Don't forget to check out the giant spider.

The Museum of Civilization: Learn about the history of Canada while looking at breathtaking views of the river.

The Canadian Agricultural Museum: Take a picnic to the farm in the heart of Ottawa.

The Museum of Nature: Dinosaurs in a castle. Need we say more?

Hintonburg: Stroll through this up-and-coming neighbourhood and dine along Ottawa's restaurant row.

Byward Market: A popular nightlife and shopping destination. With dozens of bars, restaurants and quaint shops, it's a great place to stroll.

Gatineau Park: Hike and swim in this glorious wilderness park just 30 minutes outside the city.

Le Nordik Spa: Experience alternate hot and cold baths for an extra kick.

Wakefield: Drive 30 minutes north and find yourself in an idyllic village. Be sure to head to the legendary Black Sheep Inn for great local folk music acts.

The Diefenbunker: This cold-war relic is a tribute to the age of trench-coated spies and stolen secrets.

EAT:

Union 613: Southern hospitality with a Canadian twist.

El Camino: Tacos, tequila and raw bar, oh my.

Town: Inventive Italian cuisine with out-of-this-world desserts. Try the meatballs, trust us.

Oz Café: A great bistro on Elgin.

Whalesbone: Delicious sustainable seafood.

Slice & Co.: Gourmet pizza in a variety of styles from Chicago to California.

Hintonburg Public House: Cozy gastropub with cute decor, a great burger and local beer.

Wellington Gastropub: A bistro dressed down. Stay for the steak and scallops and great beer menu.

Murray Street Bistro: Canadian-style gourmet food with a heavy emphasis on local game and charcuterie.

Pressed: This lovely cafe serves homemade paninis and a killer waffle brunch on weekends.

Zen Kitchen: Gourmet vegan food that makes you forget about bacon.

STAY:

We don't have an official wedding hotel. Pick a spot in the neighbourhood that suits you.

Glebe-, where our party is. Lots of beautiful residential homes and quaint shops and cafés.

Ashbury House B&B

Angela's B&B

Centretown. Near the city's main attractions, like Parliament Hill and the Museum of Nature. Easy access to buses and very walkable/bikeable.

Chateau Laurier

Lord Elgin

Best Western Plus Victoria Park Suites

Minto Suite Hotel

Albert at Bay Suite Hotel

The Business Inn

Sandy Hill. Just across Rideau Street on the other side of the canal, Sandy Hill is within walking distance of Byward Market.

Barefoot Hostel

The Swiss Inn

Auberge The King Edward Bed & Breakfast

We also have a few friends who have kindly offered to open their homes to guests for free – please let us know if this option suits you.

//THANKS

There are so many people to thank for their invaluable help getting this shindig off the ground, we could never name all of you, but here are a few:

Our parents, Deborah & Peter and Heidi & Mansour

Tamara Dolan

Mahta Rasouli

Pam Hrick

Paul Dewar

Ben Dickerson [link: <http://benjamindickerson.com/>]

Robin McLaughlin

Nammi Poorooshasb

We'd also like to give our amazing local vendors a shout-out: [link all]

Beyond Events <http://www.beyondevents.ca/>

Byfield-Pitman Photography <http://www.byfieldpitman.com/>

Ottawa Streat Gourmet <http://streatottawa.ca/>

Jackpine <http://jackpine.co/>

Beau's <http://www.beaus.ca/>