

Real Brides

International

June 2024

The Venue:

Why choosing the right venue matters

Designer
Wedding Dresses

Oakfield Bridal Expo

29 & 30 June

ATTENTION ALL BRIDES-TO-BE



6

Your wedding will be one of the most memorable days of your life.

There is the opportunity to make the occasion even more special by having your wedding featured in the Real Brides magazine.



11

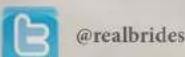
In planning your wedding one of the most important decisions is the choice of your venue.

Your choice of venue will help you determine a multitude of important factors such as a theme, number of guests, decor, food and drink and accommodation requirements. But it may also decide if your wedding is featured in Real Brides.



www.realbrides.co.za
Visit our website!

Find us on:



@realbrides



@realbrides



[Facebook.com/RealBridesMagazine](https://www.facebook.com/RealBridesMagazine)

REAL BRIDES is published independently by Topic Publishing (Pty) Limited.

TOPIC

Stewart on
061 490 4915



NEON
PRODUCTIONS

VENUE LIST

The venues that provide this wonderful opportunity for all their brides are:

Tsekama: Marinda - 082 416 2363
Collisheen: Wayne - 032 815 1107
Oakfield Farm - 084 258 2226
Riverside - 083 458 4449
Silver Sixpence - 082 557 3304
Fairview - 011 478 8000
Tula Baba Game Lodge - 072 653 7244
Memoire - 079 170 9431
Wetlands Game Lodge - 087 809 1635

NOTE: In this issue you will find

- full overview of the above venues
- A link to a virtual tour of the venues

So if you want to add to the memories of your big day by having your wedding featured in Real Brides then look no further than the list of venues above for your big day.

Cover Bride - Rika & Christian
Photo: Heuningsoet
Venue: The Silver Sixpence

CONTENTS

- Page 4 - Rika & Christian
Page 11 - Theresa & Hendrik
Page 20 - Deolize & Drikus
Page 29 - Veruska & Eduard
Page 37 - Leandra & Donovan
Page 44 - Sarah & Vaughan
Page 51 - Gabriella & Denis





Note from the Editor

Dear Bride-to-be

Welcome to the most informative bridal magazine in South Africa. What makes us so unique is that we celebrate Real Weddings with Real Couples. We are proud to showcase the top suppliers in the wedding industry to help you on your wedding planning journey.

**“The Silver Sixpence was everything
we wanted and more.”**
- Rika & Christian Calitz

Make your big day even more special.
Have your wedding featured, send us an email
with your suppliers list and 3 photos of your day.

In the June issue we read about how important it is to choose the right venue for you. And we have a look at designer wedding dresses. The Oakfield Farm Bridal Expo is just around the corner! Be sure not to miss this spectacular event on the 29th & 30th of June 2024.

Planning your future family? Don't forget to book a maternity and newborn Photoshoot with Neon Productions. Details in the magazine (Gauteng Based).

Read through each story from our couples in the June issue to help guide you with ideas and advice.

Your Friend
Morgan

May Issue

In this issue we read
about beach photos.

Download a copy:



Contact me today:
morgan@neonproductions.co.za
082 772 8980

Rika & Christian Calitz



"We are all a little weird and life's a little weird, and when we find someone whose weirdness is compatible with ours, we join up with them and fall in mutual weirdness and call it love."

- Dr. Seuss

Tell us about your love story?

The story begins when Christian joins Trivium Triathlon Club, where Rika was already a member, her twin sister is the head coach and founder. One day he joined the group ride in Pretoria for the first time. Christian was extremely fit and strong on the bike, where Rika only went to ride along for company and seeing friends. Rika always had an eye for beautiful calves and when she met this new man with big calves and long hair, she was determined to stay with him on the bike for the day. It was only possible for her to keep up for the first while, after which she gave up and realized she was going to have to find another way to get his attention. What she didn't realize is that the way she talked to everyone, and her sparkling personality also caught Christian's eye that day.

For months after the first meeting, they often missed each other at training sessions, when one showed up the other one was not there. Yet now and then there is a time when they trained together and just checked each other out a little. Meanwhile, Magda (Rika's twin sister) already knew the two of them were meant for each other and planned that Christian had to pick up shoes from her just to be too conveniently not at home and Rika is.

That day, Christian and Rika just sat down and chatted and got to know each other and it is here - while she is talking very seriously - that Christian looks deeply into her eyes for a moment and realizes that she is very beautiful to him.

At the end of 2020, Rika devises a plan to enter a triathlon team for the Knysna Extreme in November where she and Christian will be in the same team. Both, secretly excited to get to know the other during this Knysna trip. Three weeks before Knysna Extreme, Rika gets her first "call" from Binnelanders, who are recording at the same time as the Extreme, and Rika had to withdraw and give up the opportunity to get to know him better. More months pass, but the two now talk to each other a bit and in March 2021 Trivium has a Mountain Bike weekend - Christian is still fit and Rika is there for the company. They go away with the club for the weekend and 30km into the first ride, Rika hits the wall and can't drive a step further. She calls the "support car" to pick her up. They said they were on their way but busy helping someone who had fallen - and the person who fell was then Christian. For the rest of that day, Rika and Christian sat in the back of the car, sore, tired and without any pretence, but with butterflies in their stomachs. A month later, April 16 2021, Christian asks Rika to be his girlfriend.

During November 2022 - two years after the initially planned Knysna Extreme trip - the two of them go on a Golf Tour in Knysna and it is here that both realized they were ready to pledge their allegiance to each other. On 14 April 2022 on their next golf tour in Dullstroom, Christian asks Rika to marry him.





“The Silver Sixpence is stunning and beautiful.
It almost feels like you are in another world.”

Venue: The Silver Sixpence
Wedding dress – Timeless Bridal Couture
Bridesmaids dressed – Glique Couture
Flowers and décor – Ekstramylvenue
Gifts – Danki Harki
Photographer – Heuningsoet
Her wedding ring - Poggenpoel Diamond Jewellers
His wedding ring - Orbit Rings
DJ – Shockwave music (Hardus Volsoo)
Food – Thistles Catering
Wine – Nederburg Wines

Tell us about your venue?

The venue is stunning and beautiful. When you are there, it almost feels like you are in another world. As you drive into the venue a lane of oak trees welcomes you. The venue has space for 50 guests to sleep and every room is so well laid out. All your close guests can be with you but there is ample of space for everyone to enjoy themselves. The brewery was perfect for a Friday night get together and this venue brew their own beer and it is delicious. The venue makes sure you are comfortable during cold evenings as the big fireplaces in the brewery and hall just gives an atmosphere of warmth and love.

It has a stunning forest for the ceremony (which was my dream to get married in) with doors. It is so special that they went through the trouble to put doors in the forest and you as a bride can still surprise your groom and guest when you enter – every bride wants to make an entrance.

Although I can go on and on about the beautiful wedding venue it is the people from the venue that just makes it the perfect place. They go out of their way to make it the perfect day. Lesley and her staff are a well-oiled machine. They were friendly, helpful, and always there for everything. The food is out of this world and the communication from start to finish just gives you as a bride the peace of mind that everything is taken care of.

Tell us about your photographers?

Heuningsoet Photography. She is a young and lovely person. We had a fun engagement shoot and that just made it so much easier for us to feel at ease on the day with her. She is fun and never wasted time. On a day like your wedding, timing is everything and she made sure we had fun, not waste time, and enjoyed every moment. She has an eye for detail and that is exactly what you want from your photographer. I Believe the more natural the photos the better.

Any tips for brides to be?

Choose the right venue for your needs and you will have a good time. It is important to know that you should enjoy the day as well.

My biggest tip will be, make sure you surround yourself with the people you love the most the morning of your wedding. I had the privilege to know my makeup artists and hairdresser well. If you are comfortable in the morning and you can laugh with your bridesmaids, it is just so much fun. The wedding starts early so make sure you eat while you get ready. Do not try to do too much on the day, just enjoy and be present. Take in every moment and forget about everything that needs to be perfect. The fact that you marry the man of your dreams is already perfect everything else is just add on.



THE SILVER SIXPENCE

TOP WEDDING VENUE



The Silver Sixpence wedding venue offers you the opportunity to be part of an exclusive group who have embraced the magic of "The Silver Sixpence" experience!

Allow yourself to be seduced by the beauty and tranquillity of rolling grasslands, forests, and lakes – providing you with the perfect setting for a romantic weekend wedding experience.

The Silver Sixpence Wedding Venue is tucked away in the hills of the Mpumalanga Highlands, near the popular trout fishing village of Dullstroom – 2,5 hours from Johannesburg.

The stunning Architecturally designed Venue and Lodges, with luxurious en-suite accommodation for 50 guests, a Micro-Brewery for a Friday night get-together, and the option of either a forest or Chapel ceremony ensures a perfect setting for the realisation of all your wishes and dreams!

A weekend wedding at The Silver Sixpence gives you exclusive use of the 300 Hectare Estate – for the weekend - Friday to Sunday - so you enjoy your wedding for 3 days, not 8 hours!

The excitement and exhilaration begins the moment you arrive at The Silver Sixpence – the spectacular natural beauty, along with the peaceful seclusion and tranquillity of the surroundings allows you to immerse yourself in the transformation of the estate into your own personal fairy-tale wedding venue.

Fly-fishing, mountain biking, hiking, bird watching, or relaxing in front of a log fire - your guests will be spoilt for choice!

To fully appreciate this exceptional environment of beautifully maintained landscaped gardens, paddocks with Friesian Horses, trout dams, as well as blue-gum and pine forests, a site-visit is essential!



Website: www.thesilversixpence.co.za
Email: lesley@thesilversixpence.co.za
Call: 082 557 3304

Be The Best You Can Be

Real Brides will bring brides all the latest beauty services and/or products to help them look their best on their big day.

It will also provide you an excellent opportunity to market your services and/or products.

Book your feature today : stewart@topicpublishing.co.za

Real Brides

Feel like a Queen with the NEW essence call me Queen dramatic false lash effect mascara which gives your lashes a dramatic volume and lengthening effect.

The mascara can be easily and precisely applied with its innovative elastomer brush and even reaches the shortest lashes effortlessly. Its formula is easy to build for intensive looks and lashes that amaze with volume and length.

Available for R79.95 at Ackermans Woman, Amazon, Clicks, Dis-Chem, Edgars, Foschini, MediRite, Pharmacies, SkinMiles, Superbalist, Takealot, Woolworths and www.houseofcosmetics.co.za.

Follow [@essence.cosmetics.africa](https://www.instagram.com/essence.cosmetics.africa) on Instagram for the latest, news, trends and competitions.



Click Here to view our products

e
essence
NEW *call me Queen*



Feel like a Queen with the
NEW essence call me Queen
dramatic false lash effect mascara

**Dramatic false lash
effect mascara**

Innovative elastomer brush to
reach even the shortest lashes.
Easy to build formula.

R79,95



vegan



cruelty free

@essence.cosmetics.africa

e
essence

NEW call me Queen

Feel like a Queen with the
NEW essence call me Queen
dramatic false lash effect mascara

**Dramatic false lash
effect mascara**

Innovative elastomer brush to
reach even the shortest lashes.
Easy to build formula.

R79,95



vegan



cruelty free

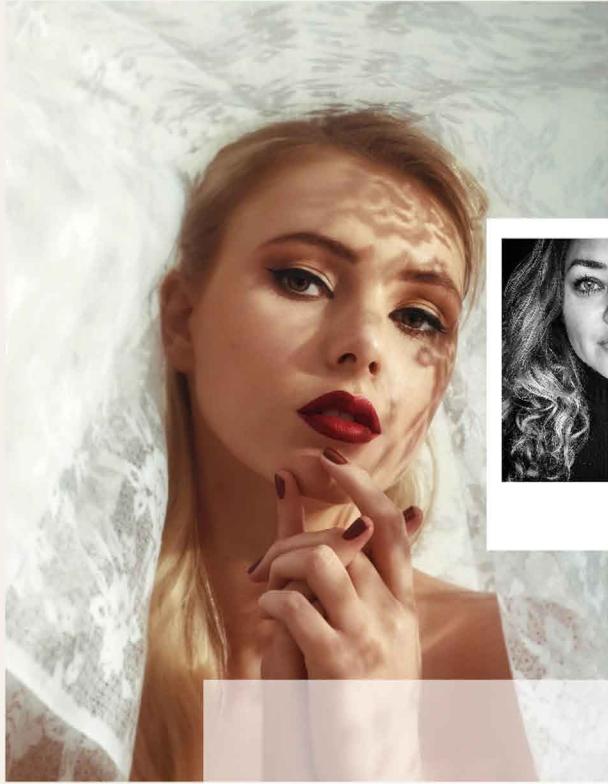


BEFORE

AFTER

Follow @essence.cosmetics.africa for the latest
essence news trends and competitions.

AVAILABLE AT ACKERMANS WOMAN amazon CLICKS Dis-Chem EDGARS FOSCHINI Medirite+
SKINMILES SUPERBALIST.COM takealot WOOLWORTHS www.houseofcosmetics.co.za



NICOLE GRANT HAIR & MAKE - UP

www.nicolegrantmakeup.com

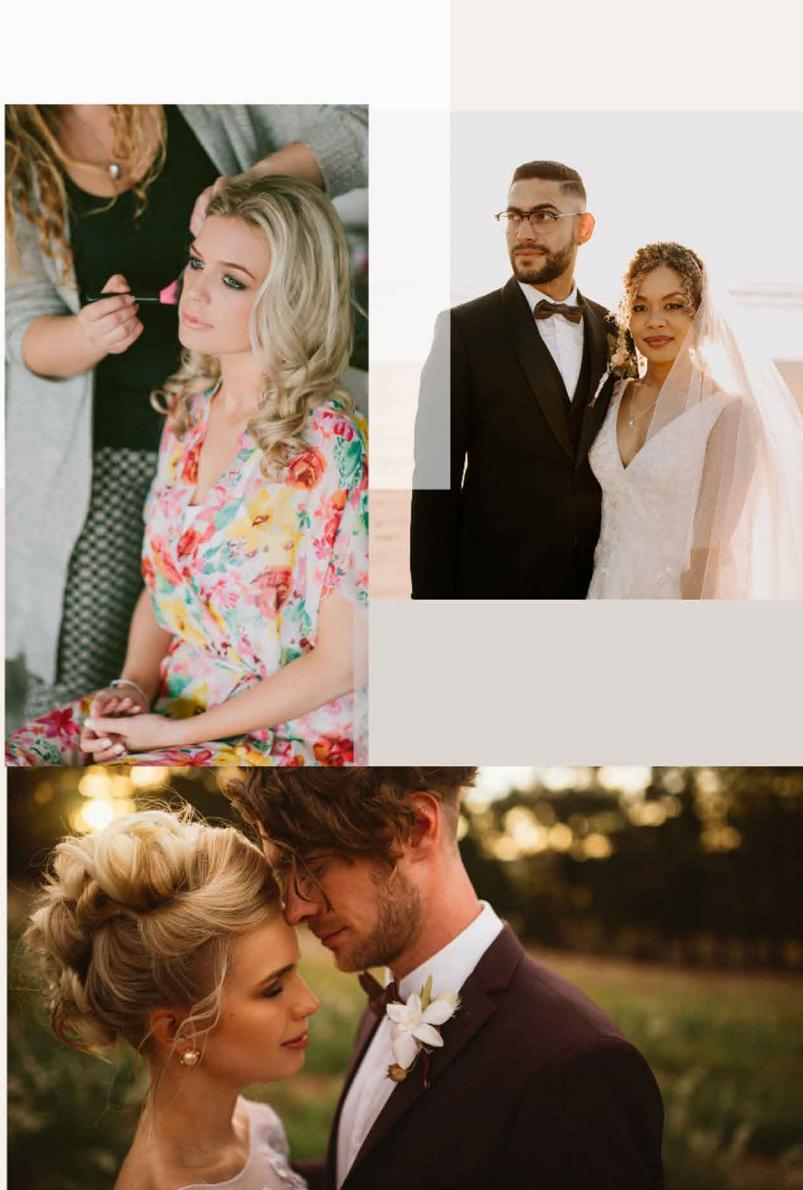
nicolegrant20@gmail.com

066 238 7708

"Nicole Grant is a mobile hair and make-up artist based in Cape Town. She specialises in beauty, fashion and bridal hair and make-up.

She studied at The Make-Up Issue in Kloof Street in 2009 and has been in the industry since then. Working with some of South Africa's top hair and make-up artists has taught her countless tricks of the trade and her style is natural and timeless. Having been in the industry for awhile, she has the experience and has done over 200 brides. Her ability to make sure you photograph beautifully is known in the industry.

Nicole believes that all women are beautiful in their own way and make-up can enhance their best features effortlessly. She is a perfectionist but has a very relaxed personality. Nicole will strive to make her clients not only look great but feel great too. If you want someone who is down to earth but fun to be around and listens to your every need, look no further!"



Theresa & Hendrik Lensley



Accept what is, let go of what was, and have faith in what will be.

How special was your proposal?

Hendrik and I have been part of each other's lives for 4 years and 8 months. On our 3 year and 3-month anniversary in December 2022, Hendrik surprised me with an MSC cruise ship vacation to the Portuguese island. On our 3rd day on the boat Hendrik proposed to me on the back of the boat surrounded by the vast ocean and a starry sky. As we were standing on the deck, taking in the breathtaking views, Hendrik got down on his one knee and popped the question leaving me overjoyed and tearful.



How did you settle on a wedding date?

Dit is eintlik 'n eroniese storie ons het ons harte op die datum 13 September 2024 gehaat. Maar tipiese bridezilla wat ek was, heeltemal in beheer wou wees en nie meer kon wag om te trou nie. Het ons, ons droom troue in 8 maande klaar gereel. Na maande se afwagting na ons spesiale dag besluit ek en Hendrik Desember 2023 om ons troudag vroeer te skuif na die 29 Maart 2024 wat op paasfees gevallen het dit het baie vir ons altwee beteken. Ons het geweet wat vir ons wag as ons die datum wel skuif. Ek het dadelik op myfoon gespring en ons Service providers begin bel om te hoor of daardie datum beskikbaar is en of ek my datum na die 29ste kon skuif als het perfek vir ons twee uitgewerk almal was beskikbaar en nou is ons getroud.

What made you choose your venue?

Green Leaves Country Lodge is 'n pragtige trou- en konferensie-venue in die Magaliesberge, sowat 40-minute vanaf Johannesburg en Pretoria. Hierdie lieflike plek bied onvergetlike troue, gerieflike akkommodasie, en produktiewe konferensies. Die Franse-styl argitektuur van die gebou oop na 'n prentjiemooi tuin, wat deurgaans versorg en netjies gehou word om die perfekte landelike atmosfeer te verseker.

Die Tuscan Banquet Hall is 'n eksklusieve venue met 'n intieme atmosfeer. Dit het 'n pragtige uitsig oor die Magaliesberge vanaf die stoep, wat jou en jou gaste met sy natuurlike skoonheid omhul. Hierdie venue kan tot 120 mense akkommodeer en is ook geskik vir korporatiewe byeenkomste en spesiale geleenthede.

Hier is 'n paar spesifieke inligting oor die venues:

Tuscan Banquet Hall: Afmetings: 16.10 m x 14.57 m (sluit dansvloer in) Intieme atmosfeer met 'n pragtige uitsig Geskik vir korporatiewe byeenkomste en spesiale geleenthede Romantiese Franse landelike atmosfeer Pragtige tuine en uitsig oor die Magaliesberge.

Venue: Green Leaves Country Lodge And Venue

Hair: Esplendor Make up, hair and beauty

Make up: Urban Hair & Makeup Studio

Florist/Decor: Aurora Dawn of Decor

Cake: Miss D's cakes & treats

Photographer: Wanittas

Videographer: Silver Mount Studios

DJ: DJ Shaun

Marriage Officiant: Ferdi Landsberg

Nails: For the love of nails by Mari



“Green Leaves Country Lodge’s authentic feel and intricate design creates a wonderfully intimate experience.”

Tell us about your photographers?

Louisa Wanitta Olivier, our wedding photographer, is an extraordinary artist behind the lens. Her passion for photography is palpable, and she captures moments that resonate with pure emotion. Louisa's unique middle name, Wanitta, sets her apart. She describes herself as "trigger happy," and that's how her photography journey began. With an indescribable passion for freezing moments that last a lifetime, Louisa's heart beats in abundance when her clients are thrilled with their photos. She believes in telling stories through her lens, and her dedication shines through every frame. On our wedding day, Louisa was more than just a photographer. She became our assistant, our friend, and the person you can turn to for any help. Adventure inspired her to deliver the best and most exquisite photos. Louisa's commitment to capturing genuine emotions ensures that your memories are preserved beautifully. Louisa Wanitta Olivier is not just a photographer; she's an artist who weaves magic with her camera.

Tell us about your wedding dress?

Unique in its diversity, this A-Line showcases a fully sequined pattern with V-neckline and button-tied sheer open back. Her sequined pattern finishes off in the skirt on the edges of her long train with an elusive shimmer layer beneath.

Did you go on honeymoon?

Rosemary Hill in Pretoria is 'n betowerende plek vir 'n wittebrood. Ons het die eerste dae van ons huwelik daar deurgebring, omring deur die geur van vars roosmaryn en die rustige atmosfeer van die plaas.

Die Cove-akkommodasie was ons toevlug vir vyf dae. Dit was 'n idilliese plek, weggesteek in die natuurskoon van die omgewing. Die Cove is 'n lieflike selfsorg-eenheid met 'n privaat stoep dek wat uitkyk oor die natuur. Die ons het dikwels saam op die stoep gesit, hande vasgehou, en die sonsondergang oor die water bewonder. Die kamer was smaakvol ingerig, met 'n gemaklike bed en 'n badkamer wat 'n spa-gevoel gehad het. Ons het saans saam voor die vuur gesit, gesels en drome gedeel. Die dae was gevul met ontspanning en avontuur. Ons het die plaas verken, staproetes geloop, Die Rosemary Hill Restaurant was 'n hoogtepunt, waar ons heerlike etes geniet het onder die sterre. Die wittebrood by Rosemary Hill was 'n tyd van liefde, vrede, en nuwe beginne. Ons het die natuur, mekaar, en die eenvoudige vreugdes van die lewe gevier. Dit sal altyd 'n spesiale plek in ons harte hê.





GREEN LEAVES
WEDDINGS AND CONFERENCES



To take a virtual tour of the venue - [Click here](#)

Steeped in history and set amidst spectacular wooded countryside, Green Leaves is a family-owned, 4 star listed manor house nestled in the Magalies Mountains on the banks of the Magalies river.

Combining lovingly restored historic buildings with a purpose-built Events Hall, the current owners have successfully fused old world charm and contemporary design to create a sophisticated wedding venue with timeless appeal.

The Venter family have owned Green Leaves since 1998. Their countryside style architecture opens onto picturesque gardens, landscaped and manicured all year round to ensure the perfect country setting.

Offering a flexible, fully bespoke service and superb cuisine, Green Leaves is passionate about helping you create a truly memorable occasion against a stunning backdrop of breath-taking views and spectacular beauty.

Whether you're planning an intimate wedding or a grand celebration, Green Leaves prides itself on being the most exclusive wedding venue.



info@greenleaves.co.za

012 207 1987

079 872 7054

www.greenleaves.co.za



LIFESTYLE & WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHER

WWW.WANITTASPHOTOGRAPHY.CO.ZA

083 653 8662

Wanitta's
PHOTOGRAPHY



"We take photos as return ticket to a moment otherwise gone"



M

MEMOIRE

Where every moment is a memory



Memoire is renowned for its picturesque surroundings, elegant architecture, and impeccable service. The venue offers a captivating ambiance, customizable spaces, and a dedicated team to ensure your wedding is a truly unforgettable experience.



Memoire offers various packages to suit your specific needs and requirements, giving you as much or as little assistance as you feel necessary to comfortably enjoy your wedding day free from any stress. We have a remarkable team who has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with you.



Where every moment is a memory

Why choosing Memoire Wedding Venue

Here are some reasons why MEMOIRE was awarded as the best elite wedding venue:



Opulence, Style and personalised service

Exquisite Elegance: Experience unparalleled sophistication and charm in every detail of your special day at MEMOIRE.

Captivating Ambiance: From enchanting gardens to grand staircases , our venue provides the perfect backdrop for your dream wedding.

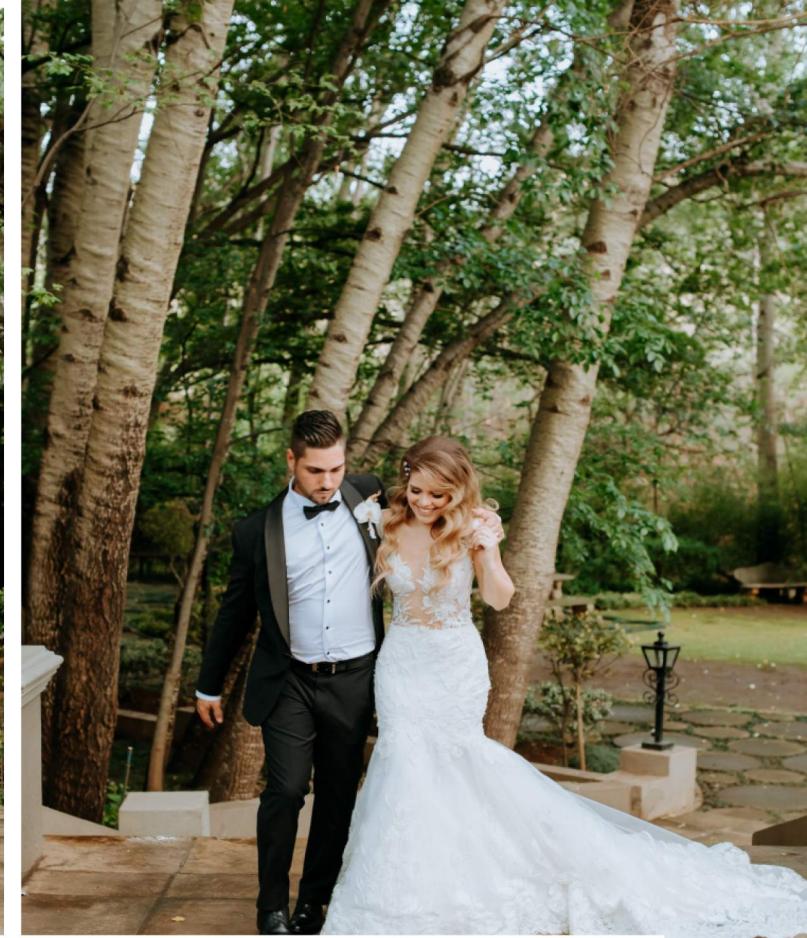
Impeccable Service: Our dedicated team of professionals is committed to exceeding your expectations, ensuring a seamless and stress-free wedding planning experience.

Culinary Excellence: Indulge in culinary delights crafted with precision and passion, tailored to your tastes and preferences.

Unforgettable Memories: Create lasting memories surrounded by loved ones in a setting that epitomizes romance and beauty.

Personalized Touches: From customized decor to bespoke amenities, we go above and beyond to make your wedding day uniquely yours.

Seamless Coordination: Let us handle every detail, allowing you to relax and enjoy every moment of your celebration with confidence and peace of mind.



Memoire Wedding and conference venue

www.memoire.co.za info@memoire.co.za

079 170 9431 / 071 286 7774

Jaco Knight



Deolize & Drikus Maraïs



*"Love starts as a feeling, but to continue is a choice;
and I find myself choosing you more and more
every day" – Justin Wetch*

How special was your proposal?

Our engagement was the most special day of my life. We went to visit friends in Germany, Berlin to be specific in July 2023. We then visited them for a week and then Drikus and I decided to explore a few places on our own. We were then in several other places, but it was a dream of both of us to go and see Switzerland. We then toured Switzerland flat with the Glaxier train, which has windows everywhere, and saw the most beautiful places and things from the train. We took the train to Zermatt. Zermatt is a small town in Switzerland, there are no vehicles on the roads, only horse-drawn carriages that pick you up at the train stop and take you to the various hotels. We explored Zermatt and then stayed in the cutest cozy hotel, we had a nice time there in the evening in the restaurant by the fire and open kitchen where you can literally see how the chef prepares your food, our waiter was also very cute and made us feel very welcome. We went to bed and got up early the next morning to go to the Alps, it was also a dream to see it. We then went to the bike shop to ask how it worked, I then stayed outside the shop and looked after our luggage, we had to check into a new hotel that day, so we walked with our luggage and first stopped at the bike shop. I then sat in the road with wind-blown hair on top of our bags and waited while Drikus went into the bike shop, little did I know that he was actually going to hire a photographer. He arranged the photographer and everything and we then went to the new hotel where we would sleep that night and they gave us time to be on the train. We then found them on the train and bought tickets, the photographer and his girlfriend then found us there, we then got on the train and rode VERY high up into the Alps. I thought we were just going to do a photoshoot in the Alps. We then arrived at the top with the MOST BEAUTIFUL view ever, it's something indescribable. We took a few photos and that's when we were standing by a rock, the Alps behind us and someone was playing the flute then Drikus dropped on one knee and asked me to marry him with the most beautiful ring, it was the easiest yes ever, he put a LOT of effort into the whole day, it was so unique and in my dreams I would never have thought I would be able to get engaged there with the incredible experience, it was the most beautiful, best day.





**“Riverside is one of the most beautiful venues
with the best people.”**

Venue: Riverside Country Estate

Stationary- Pascale Vermaak – Printing press

Cake- Helena

Cake Toppers – Sonette

Suits- Oriental plaza

Dress- Rina

DJ- Uplifting melodies

Live 360 and photobooth – Uplifting melodies

Décor- Riverside

Flowers- Riverside

Photographer and Videographer - Michael Tree

Hair – Michelle Greyling

Make-up – Andrea Axer

Nails- Bianca van Greunen

Bridesmaid dresses – Christa Botha

Pastor – Dominee Ras

MC – Christo Fouché

What made you choose your venue?

Of course Hein is the main reason for us, if you ever get the privilege of meeting Hein you'll know what I'm talking about, wherever he is, that's where I wanted to get married, believe me he KNOWS what he is doing. He is amazing at his job and in my opinion is the best in the industry. He IMMEDIATELY makes you feel welcome no matter who you are and at ease. You know you are in good hands and that your day will be perfect. Of course, then the staff at Riverside are so friendly and the premises is so neat and perfect, it's a very neat place and their Chapel and hall is one of the most beautiful ones we have ever seen. Their gardens are neat and beautiful. For us they were one of the most beautiful venues with the best people, and people are what makes a place so special, everyone you deal with is so good and friendly and of course their food is the best!

Tell us about your photographers?

We have said from the beginning that a photographer is very important to us. Once again, we went looking for one of the best and in my opinion, Michael Tree is the best. We used him and he brought along a photographer of his own and also the videographer. We were SO pleased with him and the videographer, they are the best and I would recommend them to anyone anytime. We got the best videos as well as photos, they captured every moment.

Tell us about your wedding dress?

I probably went to try on dresses at 10 places, at every place I could think of and at everyone where I have ever seen beautiful dresses. We drove around the world to different places to try on different dresses. After the 4th place I decided on a definitive style that I like. I then asked a friend where she had her dress made and she then introduced me to Aunt Rina. After the 10 places there was not once a dress that I felt was THE dress, but I liked different things in different dresses. My mother and I then went to aunt Rina and we showed her all the pictures and she then designed me one dress with everything I like. We drove a lot to Aunt Rina for matches, now she is one of my friends. She is THE best and makes every woman's dream come true when it comes to dresses, she is magic with fabric, she is the best and made me, my dream wedding dress, I felt like a princess, she knows what she is doing and knows exactly what suits your body and makes the most beautiful dress according to your body, she helps so much by telling you what will work and what won't as well as what color white, yes there are different ones I learned that too. With my last fitting at Auntie Rina's, I knew this was my dress.





Riverside Country Estate



To take a virtual tour of the venue - [Click here](#)

The Essence of Riverside

Discover the serene beauty and timeless elegance of Riverside Country Estate, where your dream wedding becomes reality. Nestled in the heart of nature, our venue offers a picturesque setting for your special day, making every moment unforgettable.

Tailored to Perfection

At Riverside, we believe in making your wedding uniquely yours. Our dedicated team works closely with you to tailor every detail, from bespoke decor to personalized menus, ensuring your day is as unique as your love story.

info@riverside4me.co.za
078 434 8457

www.riversidecountryestate.co.za



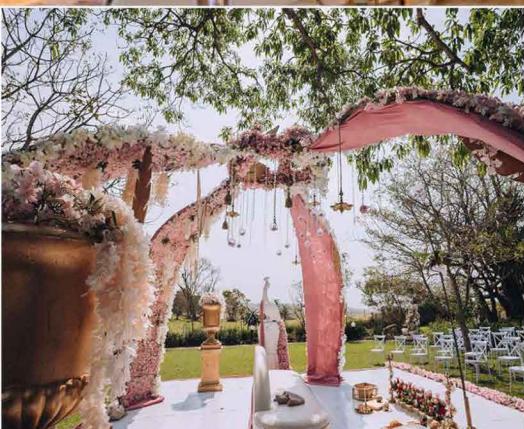
TOP
VENUE



TOP
VENUE

COLLISHEEN

TO TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE VENUE – [CLICK HERE](#)



COLLISHEEN
ESTATE

Just thirty minutes from central Durban and an arm's length from Ballito, Collisheen offers a perfect venue for weddings and functions.

We cater for everything including conferences, banquets, launches, exhibitions, meetings, corporate training and events.

Two venues complete with our private chapels, beautiful gardens, bridal salon and outdoor arena with water feature and landscaped gardens, make this the perfect venue for stylish weddings.

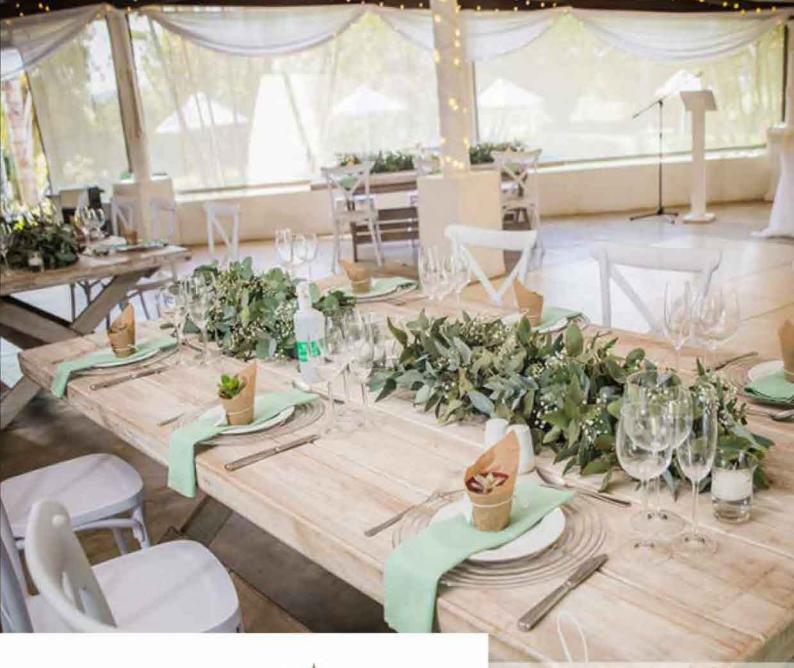
Over the last 20 years, Collisheen Estate has earned through top class service and a high level of professionalism, an outstanding reputation as a weddings and functions venue.

Our functions venue facilities are very flexible so please feel free to ask us should you have any special requests.

Collisheen has a bed & breakfast on the premises, and we are close to an extensive range of accommodation – from luxury country hotels to bed & breakfasts and self-catering facilities, should your guests want to stay over.



Email: info@collisheen.co.za
Call: +27 (0)32-815 1107
Website: www.collisheen.co.za
Address: Compensation Station, X1 Esenembi Road, Umhlali, 4390



PHOTOGRAPHY



Located on a sugar farm and set amongst magnificent old trees, the estate offers private function facilities that are exclusively yours for your special day.

Panoramic views of undulating sugar fields are complemented by the warm “family” hospitality of the staff at the estate – making this a private function facility like no other.

This wedding venue will have your guests in awe at the surrounding beauty and tranquillity and is sure to make your special day one to remember.

Orchid House is a 150 square meter open-sided building which can accommodate up to 140 guests with a dance floor – perfect for a more intimate wedding or function. The Venue overlooks the picturesque garden, which is full of fairy light wonder.

The Boma, our larger venue, is a 400 square metre open sided building which can accommodate up to 400 guests with a dance floor and a stage area, and is set in beautiful gardens which, at night, are transformed into a fairyland with lights in the trees and bridge.

A private chapel, water feature and dark wood poles, with tiled roof structure is surrounded by seemingly endless space

Collisheen Estate has two conference facilities that can accommodate between 20 and 400 delegates, depending on the seating configuration.

Our conference facility comes fully equipped with everything you need to make your conference run smoothly and efficiently. We aim to please in every way, and if our conference facility does not cater for some of your needs, please get in touch and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Collisheen Estate's bed & breakfast has been a welcome addition to the Collisheen family.

We have converted Douglas Liege & Zillah Hulett's original homestead into a three-room bed & breakfast, all en-suite. Loads of space and high ceilings are characteristic of homes built in the early 1900's and Collisheen is no different.



COLLISHEEN
ESTATE

Email: info@collisheen.co.za
Call: +27 (0)32-815 1107
Website: www.collisheen.co.za
Address: Compensation Station, X1
Esenembi Road, Umhlali, 4390





COLLISHEEN
ESTATE





Antenuptial Contracts

*Let us worry about the legalities while you
focus on the formalities*

MOODLEY & ASSOCIATES

082 410 6484

serishka@moodleyandassociates.co.za



Veruska & Eduard Bateman



"You can do, be or have anything you desire"

- Abraham Hicks

Tell us about your love story?

Our story is pretty special, and just proves that soulmates really do exist. Both of us lived in a small town called Potchefstroom and never saw each other once. I then moved to Vietnam to teach English, and my husband went to Vietnam for a holiday. We met through mutual friends that I had made whilst in Vietnam, instantly clicked but didn't pursue anything yet. I then moved back to South Africa, and we met up again and were inseparable from then on. Together for about 3 years, we went hiking on the very challenging Drakensberg pass and the next morning what I thought would be just us taking pictures on the edge like we always do, turned out to be a proposal. It was like a fairy tale and our lives together has just been magical.

What made you choose your venue?

We spent a year planning the wedding, and we had a very specific idea of what our venue should look like, as both of us love nature, we narrowed it down to 2 beautiful and lush venues. We went with Gecko Ridge because the other venue we saw felt a little crammed, very beautiful but not much space.

Tell us about your wedding dress?

My wedding dress was a real nightmare! I, like any bride had a specific idea of what I wanted my dress to look like. I went to see a wedding dress seamstress, had the dress then made, wasn't 100% happy when we had the fittings, but it got altered every time and the final fitting I felt very obligated to like it because I've spent so much money on it already that there really isn't another choice. Fast forward and I showed my bridesmaids the dress and immediately started crying because I didn't feel like this was MY dress! I then started looking on Facebook for other dress options and luckily saw a post that Che couture had made, I immediately messaged her and bought the dress. The dress came and I felt like a princess. It was a completely different dress than what I had initially imagined myself in, but this was MY dress.



“Our story is pretty special, and just proves that soulmates really do exist.”



Venue : Gecko Ridge Wedding Venue

Flowers: Melissa from ”

Photography: Monika Meyer Photography

Hair & Make-up: Salome from Pink Hotness artistry

Dress: Che Couture

Donuts: Krispy Kreme Donuts !

Tell us about your photographers?

Our photographer was amazing. Monika had such a natural way by helping us pose and giving us exactly what we asked for. There wasn't one minute where it felt awkward or like we weren't getting our money's worth. She was very professional and so nice.

What food did you have?

Whilst our photos were being taken, we had a harvest table for the guests, with a scrumptious selection of cheese, bread and spreads. At the reception we had a 3-course buffet style. The venue did such an amazing job with representation, size and taste, it got a lot of compliments from our guests.

Any tips for brides-to-be?

There are a few tips I have for future brides and things I should have done differently. First is to have a longer wedding day or better yet wedding weekend. The day went by unexplainably fast. You do all this planning and spend all that money for the day to fly by. I would make it a whole day event where you spend more time with the people you choose to have there, because essentially, they're all people you love.

I would rather do something unique like a pizza or build your own burger etc. Because the appetizers and a 3-course meal might be a lot of food for some people, and you don't want it to go to waste.

I would make sure to have a list of all the people you want to take photos with separately because believe it or not you do forget to take some with the people you love. I would focus on not having too many people at the wedding because we didn't even get to spend time with everyone separately.

We did the following and I think it's a very special and intimate thing before your day; we went out for dinner before the wedding and read our vows to each other. Making our promises and sharing that deep connection, it's truly magical.

Savour every moment of your wedding day, because it goes fast and it's the most special day of the start of your lives together. Spend time alone at your wedding and feel that connection together. It really is something extraordinary, making a promise to each other in front of everyone you love.





NEON PRODUCTIONS

Photography & Videography

Please contact Morgan Brink:

morgan@neonproductions.co.za 

www.neonproductions.co.za 

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram

@neonphotoproductions 

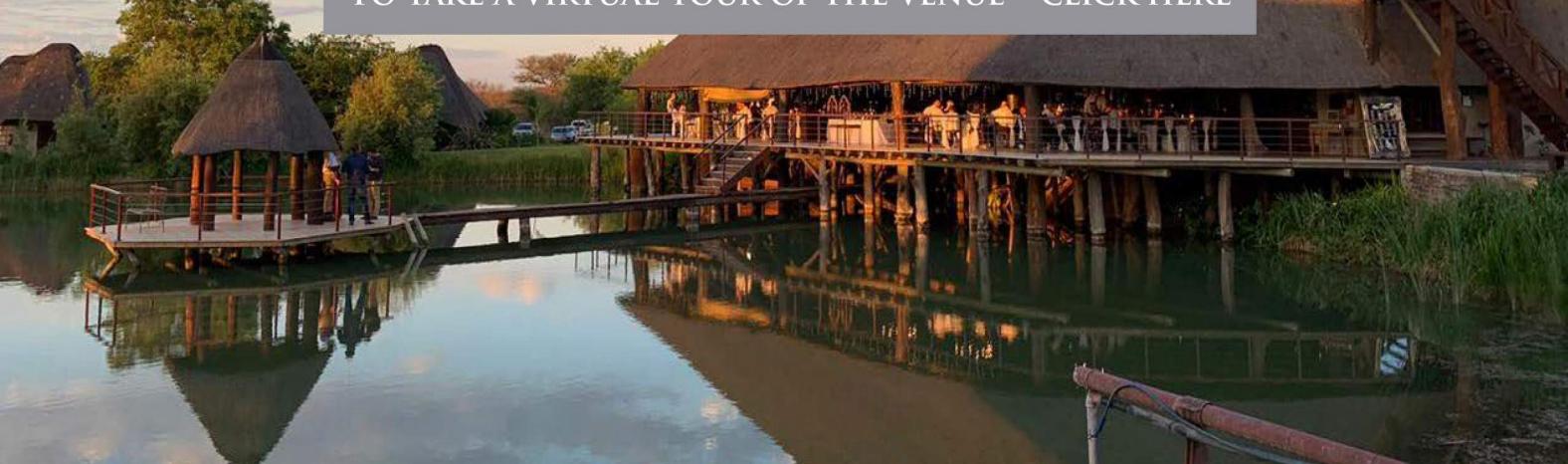
@neonproductionssa 



TSEKAMA



TO TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE VENUE – [CLICK HERE](#)



Tsekama

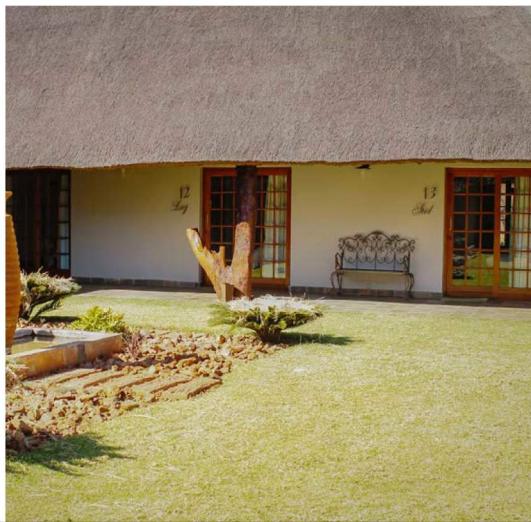
At Tsekama the spacious thatched roof and wooden wedding reception area built partly over the water, and the sprawling gardens and Bushveld scenery will turn every wedding photograph into a masterpiece.

For your big day – we will do the planning and execution so that you may have a relaxed, stress-free wedding ceremony and reception.

We will deliver an elegant, fun-filled wedding celebration to make your dreams come true.



Email: info@tsekama.co.za
Call: +27(0) 82 416 2363 | +27(0) 84 497 8388
Website: www.tsekama.co.za



Tsekama has an 80 guest minimum and a 300 guest maximum.

Our wedding packages are flexible to suit your personal style as well as your budget.

We provide tables, linen, chair covers, crockery, cutlery, and glasses. Flowers and a wide variety of modern equipment are available.

The venue has a fully licensed bar. Clients are welcome to bring their own wine and sparkling wine. A corkage fee will be charged.

The menu is flexible and can be tailor-made according to the couple's preferences for their celebration meal.

Whether it is a champagne breakfast or brunch, a lunch or dinner overlooking the dam or a romantic Boma dinner around the fire, under the stars.

Accommodation is available for 42 people in 18 luxury units.

We offer the complete wedding package, personalized service and attention.

We understand the dreams and wishes of every bride and groom, and we will go the extra mile to make sure that all requirements are met.

Tsekama is the perfect venue for adding a touch of magic and style to your wedding day. Tranquil, serene and picturesque, providing a natural but very romantic atmosphere.



Tsekama



Email: info@tsekama.co.za

Call: +27(0) 82 416 2363 | +27(0) 84 497 8388

Website: www.tsekama.co.za



Tsekama Lodge

Wedding and conference venue

www.tsekama.co.za



Relax while our team take care of every small detail to contribute to the *perfect* day in your life.

We understand the dreams and wishes of every bride and groom, and will go the extra mile to make sure that all requirements are met.

Tsekama is the perfect venue for adding a touch of magic and style to your wedding day.

Tranquil, serene and picturesque, providing a natural but very romantic atmosphere.

The Lodge is a mere 130 km north of Pretoria near the Kranskop Toll plaza and offers the ideal location for a wedding with a difference.

Imagine your ceremony in the natural splendor of the African bush with buffalo, giraffe, zebra and a wide variety of antelope partaking in your wedding celebration.

Please note we have a 80 guest minimum and a 300 guest maximum.

Contact Marinda: 082 416 2363 or Ilze: 084 497 8388
e-mail: info@tsekama.co.za



Leandra & Donovan De Mesquita



Tell us about how you met?

Donovan and I met in 2018, where we studied at NWU University, in Math class to be exact.

I was not a fan and told him that I don't like him, but on the 3rd day of seeing each other in class he told me that one day he will marry me, of which my exact reply was: "You won't even be able to call me your girlfriend one day, let alone get married"

Since then Donovan was my BEST friend and went through some breakups with me along the way until July 2022. Donovan invited me to have drinks with him and some of his other friends, I had to go home early as I did not want my mom to be home alone while my father was working, Donovan walked me to my car where he asked me if I know how much he loves me and that no other person will love me and take care of me the way that he will. My reply to that was that I also love him, but love "as in" love for a brother.

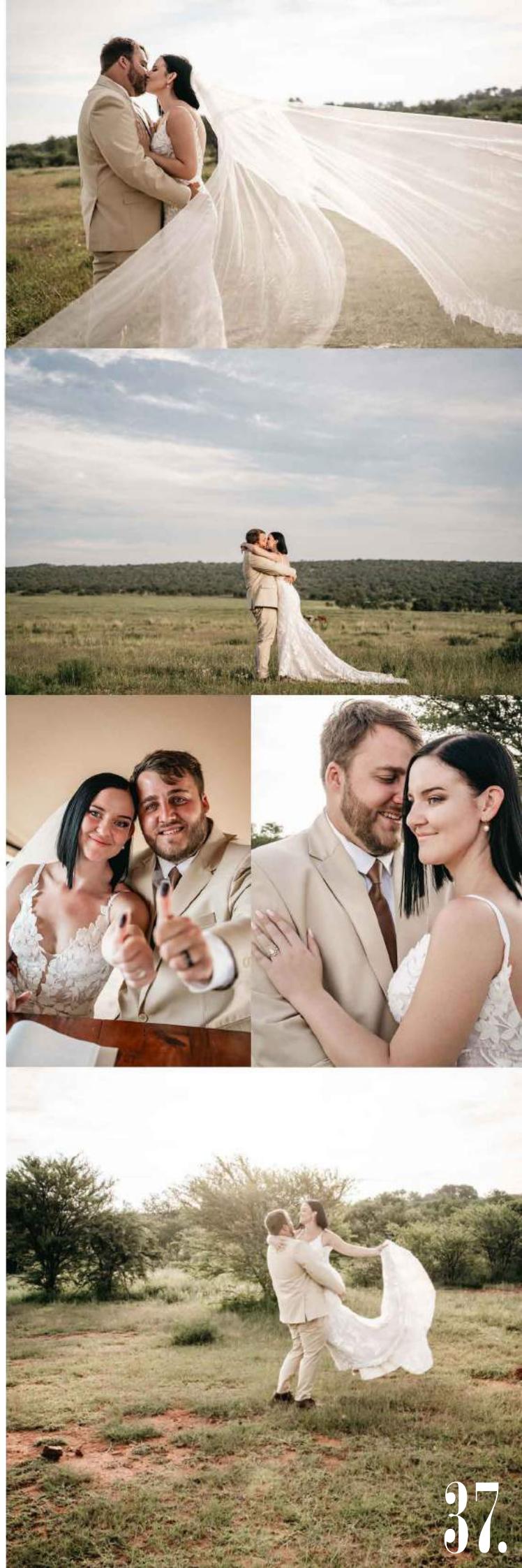
I got in my car and for some reason (he has told me that he loved me over the 5 years of friendship a lot of times) this time it stuck with me, and I was unsure what the feeling was that I had after hearing the same words quite a few times, but this time was different.

I decided to give our relationship from being just friends to more a try and in December 2022 we got engaged. When I said YES, his words were: "Now what now" from my words in 2018 that I would never even be his girlfriend.

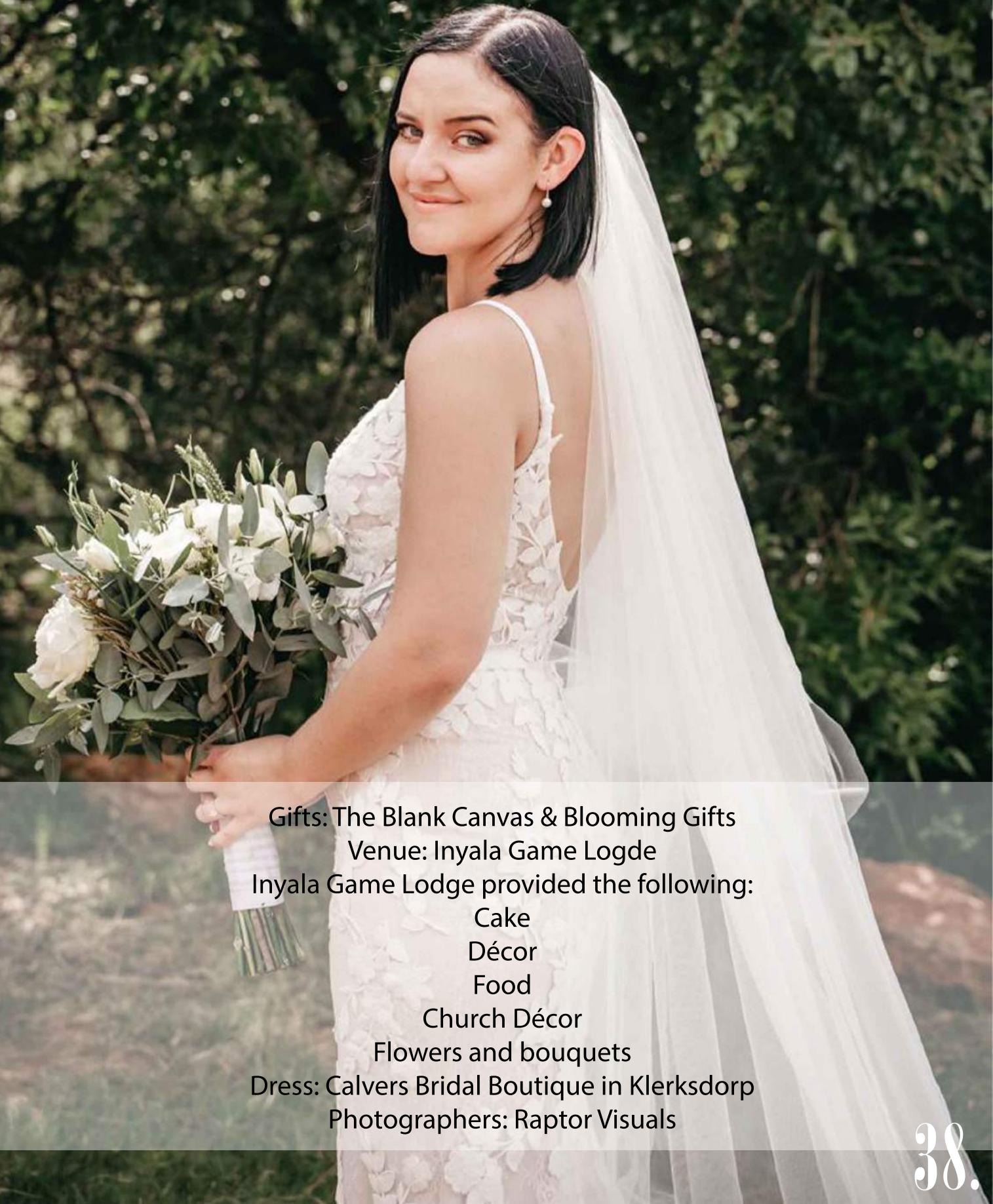
We got married on the 27th of January 2024 and bought our first house. We are planning to start a family. The words you are going to marry your best friend one day are true and I will not exchange it for anything. He is my best friend, my "boopensvark" and so far, my only child.

Who walked you down the aisle?

My dearest father, Andries Smit, walked me down the aisle.



“He is my best friend, my “boopensvark.”



Gifts: The Blank Canvas & Blooming Gifts

Venue: Inyala Game Logde

Inyala Game Lodge provided the following:

Cake

Décor

Food

Church Décor

Flowers and bouquets

Dress: Calvers Bridal Boutique in Klerksdorp

Photographers: Raptor Visuals

Tell us about your venue?

Inyala Game Lodge. What a beaut! We had 3 options of churches, a Chapel, A modern outside chapel and a chapel in the bush. Of which we obviously chose the bush chapel as we love nature.

The Venue was ours for the whole weekend (Friday – Sunday) as most of our guest where also able to sleep over at the venue in style in their beautiful truly South-African vibes Chalets.

How did the planning go?

Stressful.

But with the help from my sister (all the way from Canada) Anneke Du Plessis, my sister-in-law Camryn Smit, my Mother Annetjie Smit and Mother-in-law Elsabe De Mesquita we accomplished to plan my dream wedding. Even though I was never a girl who dreamt of her wedding one day, if I had to, I think it would have been exactly the way my BIG day was.

Did you stick within your budget, what cost more than expected?

We mostly stuck to our budget, but I may have gone a little bit over (don't tell my husband lol).

To be honest, the bridesmaids and groomsmen's gifts were a lot more than expected but it could also just be me that wanted to give them the best seeing as they stuck by me and Donovan way longer before Donovan and I even had met each other.

The rest was what it should be, weddings are expensive but are so worth it.

What should brides not bother with?

My personal advice is to not bother with guest gifts, the day is about YOU and YOUR husband. Guest gifts tend to get very expensive. We did not get gifts for our guests just for the simple fact that the amount we would have spent of gifts were exactly the amount we needed to go for a more expensive buffet menu which at the end is for your guests seeing as you know they won't leave the wedding feeling hungry and let's be honest what is the one thing guests talks about when someone asks how the wedding was? Always the food.

You don't always need to have a fancy and expensive wedding. Focus on what matters to you and not others.



BRIDAL EXPO

HOSTED AT



OAKFIELD
Farm

29 & 30

June 2024

The 2024 Bridal Expo will have 100's of exhibitors all ready to show you how they can help make your wedding day a dream!

Let's not forget the iconic **Fashion Show** that will start everyday at **3pm**, showing off the latest in Bridal fashion.



Tickets via
web tickets

Get ready for the ultimate wedding planning adventure at the Bridal Expo!

Here are the top 7 reasons why you absolutely can't miss out:

1

Speed Dating with Vendors:

Forget endless online searches and follow-up calls. At the Bridal Expo, you'll meet face-to-face with over 100 wedding pros in just one day. It's like speed dating, but with vendors! Make personal connections and find the perfect team to bring your vision to life.

2

One-Stop Shopping Extravaganza:

Say goodbye to driving all over town for meetings and appointments. At the Bridal Expo, you can knock out dozens of meet-and-greets, tastings, and tasks in just a few hours. From the dress to the honeymoon, turn your wedding dreams into reality—all in one place, in one afternoon.

3

Get Inspired by the Latest Trends:

Discover the hottest wedding trends and creative design ideas showcased at the Bridal Expo. From unique food options to interactive photo booths, you'll find inspiration that will make your wedding truly unforgettable.

4

Interactive Experience:

Immerse yourself in a world of wedding wonders where you can see, feel, touch, and taste everything! From fashion shows to DIY projects and signature tastings, the Bridal Expo is full of interactive experiences that will elevate your wedding planning journey.

5

Intimate Fashion Show:

Witness stunning fashion moments as models strut down the runway showcasing the latest bridal trends. Find the perfect wardrobe for you and your bridal party, all in one place.

6

Discounts, Giveaways, and Freebies:

Take advantage of exclusive vendor offers, score amazing freebies, and enter to win incredible prizes around every corner. Plus, walk in the door to receive a bag full of goodies—it's like Christmas for brides!

7

Unforgettable Fun:

Turn wedding planning into a memorable experience with your squad. Collect info from vendors, taste-test delicious treats, and dance your worries away. Whether it's part of your bachelorette trip or a fun day out with your crew, the Bridal Expo is guaranteed to be a blast!

GREAT
PRIZES
EACH DAY!

DAILY
FASHION
SHOW
@3PM

Don't miss out on this stress-free day of wedding planning bliss. Join us at the Bridal Expo and make memories that will last a lifetime!

Come and meet your favourite wedding vendors!

Christo Mulder Attorneys
Vivari Hotel & Spa (PTY) LTD
Marriage Officers @ The Nicolyn
Cream Cheese Premier DJs &
Events
Predest
Midrand Conference Centre
JB Media
TC Productions
Gerhard Louw Photography
Sky Arch Travel
Starry Night DJ's
Trublu Tailors
Lets Escape
GINISTIC DJ'S & A/V
Glamping Adventures
The Northcliff Boutique Hotel
Eversheds Sutherland
Bridals Touch Photography
Sure Etnique Travel
V & E Entertainment - Wedding
DJ
Victor and Partners Inc.
ChilliPix
Engage Group
Red Carnation Hotels
Airvy
Journeys by Emerge
Ulandi Sanders Photography
The Silver Sixpence Wedding
Venue
First Wedding Dance
The Pink Aesthetic
PinkBook
Oakfield Farm
Criore
Patrick Furter The Studio
Unbreakable Man
Dullstroom Country Weddings
Diamonds of South Africa
Perfect Tone
Witz Inc Attorneys
André J Fischer | Jazz & Soul
Singer
Gelique Couture

SmartGuy & SmartBride
Beauty Of The Bride
Prelude Entertainment
Wedding & Function
White Orchid Bridal Boutique
Barnard's Attorneys Inc
GABBIANO
Dream Hotels & Resorts
MAKEUP BY RYNO
Leocé Luxury Couture
Cavalier
Cavaliera Bridal
Cathy Heaton - Make Up
Espavo Hair Design
Me To You Gifts
ITOUCH
Lumenlazer
Herman Verwey Photography
Elie SAAB
Luxury Travel Africa
Elegant Experience
Infinity Times Infinity Produc-
tions
The Big Day Cake Studio
Simi Ramdutt
Cradle Valley Wedding Venue
Café Fleur
FHULUFHELANI CONSULTING
PROJECTS CC
Coco Belle Bridal & Evening-
wear
Kryolan South Africa
Smook Photography
Etienne Bedeker Inc
INIMITABLE Group
Duck Soup Weddings
Lovisa Accessories
B2B Bridal
TC Productions
Kelly Jaynes Cake Boutique
Welgelegen Cherry Estate
JS Collections
Dream Body Aesthetics
Atari's House of Bridals

Olivelli Bridal
Purplebell Events
Wedding Hub
Johan Botha Fashion
Fynbos Wedding Shoppe
10igual Events
KRITEKARA IOI HOLIDAYS
(PTY) LTD
SO! ME!
Duck Point Venue
La-Bita Events
Munaka Botanicals
360 Lifestyle Photobooth
Vintage Vows Wedding Photo-
graphy
Paheli Weddings and Events
PortalGun Studios
Krustallos Photos
Pheasant Hill
Houterasies
Roedolf D Fashion Atelier
La Grange Impression
Forget Me Not Memories
Cake Hier
TPCAM Photobooth
Wedding Books
Robertsons Winery
Ou Skool Creative Creations
MOBA Coffee
Koue Voete Bar
The Old Packhouse Distillery
Proe'tes Coffee
Chip & Dip
Dixi Pixi Waffles
Sausage Saloon
STRIPCHEEZ
Briskets & Biscuits
The Filthy Moustache
Bubble Las Bubble Tea
The Donuttery
The Frozen Foundry
Dos Dias Mexican Drinkery
The Treatery
The Booze Guy

WIN A Wedding

Unlock the door to your fairy tale wedding by booking a viewing at the breathtaking Oakfield Farm Venue for your chance to Win Big! Alternatively, visit our Oakfield Farm Stand at the Bridal Expo and enter for the opportunity to make your *dream wedding* a reality!

Oakfield Farm is offering an incredible R50 000 towards your wedding and Criore is giving away additional discounts, all for your *big day!*

Seize the moment and let us help you create memories that will last a *lifetime!*

To claim your prize, attendance at the Fashion Show draw is mandatory. Should the selected winner fail to attend, a new name will be drawn for the opportunity to win. T's & C's Apply.

Sarah & Vaughan de Jager



The pastor preached about Psalm 27 at our ceremony and so my message or quote is a summary thereof:

"One thing we asked of the LORD, that will we seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of our lives, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple." Above all else, we want our marriage and household to honour God, with Him being at the centre of it all."

Tell us about how you met?

We attended Pretoria Boys High School and Girls High School respectively; were both raised in the suburb of Groenkloof, and even attended the same gym! Yet our paths only crossed after university, around 2015, when two little angels brought us together.

Following a couple of social occasions with family and friends (and a box of Krispy Kremes later), we decided to go for coffee at Aroma in December '20 – our first date.

Feelings truly sparked at Vaughan's birthday at the Social Grill in March '21. Almost a year later, we officially started dating at Sarah's birthday in February '22.

Who walked you down the aisle?

My father. What made this so special is that he passed away unexpectedly 4 months later. So it was such a beautiful moment for our family to be united (everyone is generally scattered across the country or abroad) and for him to give me away and entrust me to my husband, Vaughan.

Tell us about your venue?

Landtscap is an absolutely beautiful venue! We chose it because it is pretty much a blank canvas to work with: you can dress it up or down as you wish! We had an ethereal theme in mind and therefore chose light, natural and minimalist décor. We wanted to focus attention on the vista that is visible from the lawn, deck and through the large glass panes. The real star of the show is the landscape, of course, which overlooks the Stellenbosch winelands. Our ceremony took place outside on the lawn, with a magnificent mountain range as the backdrop. It was a friendly reminder of who the Creator of all good and wonderful things is!



**“It’s that attention to detail and care that I most appreciated.
We’re super chuffed with our wedding pics!”**



Venue: Landtschap

Wedding Coordinator: The Wedding Fairy

Flowers and décor: Flower Heart

Equipment/Hiring: Muse Concepts & Authentic Planning

Photographer: Mighty Fine

Hair & MUA: Mia Liebenberg

Cake: Jeau-Mari Breytenbach

Marriage Officer: Phillip Bishoff

DJ: That DJ Guy

Lawn Games: Lawngames4you

Tell us about your photographers?

I have always followed Mighty Fine and Mighty Fine Weddings due to my own keen interest in photography. I admire the talent of their photographers and know Daniel Coetzee personally (he is such a great and experienced photographer!). I reached out to him and his wife to see if they would be willing to partner with us and capture our special day – which to our delight they agreed to! Rafael is an amazing project manager and saw to all the finer details so we didn't need to stress. Something that stood out to me about the Coetzees is that they were there more than just as photographers, but helped drive the car around and even prayed for me when I got super tough. It's that attention to detail and care that I most appreciated. We're super chuffed with our wedding pics!



Did you stick within your budget, what cost more than expected?

OF COURSE we went a bit over – it's a once in a lifetime event after all. The largest “extra cost” was wanting to continue the party after close (lol), which our guests were happy to contribute towards too. At least we know it was a great party! We enjoyed every minute of our special day.

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

Due to work obligations we decided on a “mini-moon” (i.e. a short-stay honeymoon) at the beautiful Simbavati Cederburg Wilderness Lodge. It was an unforgettable experience and the perfect retreat for someone who enjoys time in nature. We were treated to amazing views of the Cederburg Mountains, excellent service, fun activities and a luxurious spa. It was the ideal place to rest from all the excitement of the wedding, and to spend time together.

Any tips for brides to be?

I would suggest to stay true to yourself, and focus on what brings you joy. People-pleasing is a big no-no. Most importantly, put your love for one another and marriage first. Wedding planning can bring about unforeseen irks and quirks from each other, friends or family. It is so, so, so important to remember what the meaning of marriage is, and prioritise what each of you mean to each other, because it's forever!



[TO TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE VENUE – CLICK HERE](#)



TULA BABA AFRICA
LODGE & VENUE



If you are looking for an exclusive family friendly getaway where you will be welcomed with true African hospitality then look no further than Tula Baba Guest Lodge.

Tula Baba Lodge is a sophisticated Lodge that has lovely entertainment and dining areas that overlook the bushveld and watering hole.

We are only 1 hour 30 minutes from OR Tambo International Airport and 1 hour from Lanseria Airport. We are just over an hour from Sun City and the famous Big Five Pilanesberg Game Reserve.

The Lodge is managed by a family and they are supported by a dedicated team of staff that provides a highly personalized experience. Your comfort is our priority.

For weddings we offer our couples the luxury of choice – whether you are looking for an upmarket or a rustic styled wedding, or anything in between, we have you covered.

Tula Baba caterers for intimate weddings and functions for up to 120 guests.

Our idea is for our guests to come and enjoy a special occasion without a series of rules and hidden costs.





Tula Venue at Tula Baba Game Lodge offers the ultimate wedding destination in South-Africa. Tula Baba Game Lodge is situated on an intimate game farm in the bushveld in the North-West area. It is the ideal wedding location for a unique destination wedding, also perfect for an extended weekend away.

Our couple have various options from a full package done by our vibrant Wedding Planner Andrew, you bring your ideas, and he makes the magic happen. We also offer active packages for fully catered to self-catering weddings. Our Venue is ideal for a small intimate wedding of 10 to 30 guests or a festival celebration of maximum 100 guest. A stylish celebration in the Bushveld, surrounded by the beauty of nature and wildlife as you recite your vows. We offer their bridal couple a wedding of their dreams with a luxurious bridal and groom suite. We work closely with our couples to bring their vision to life, so they can truly enjoy the day with their guests and family.

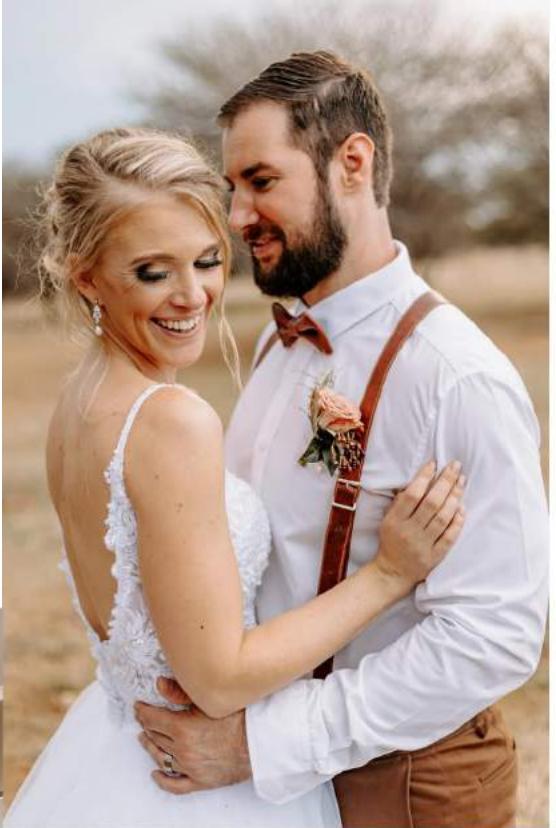
Tula Venue at Tula Baba Game Lodge believes that the focus of any celebration should be the enjoyment you share with your guests.

Tula Venue hosts weddings, corporate events, and milestone celebrations. This venue offers an elegant indoor facility offering a magical atmosphere for a stunning event. The Venue can comfortably accommodate 20 to 100 guests seated. Our Venue has immaculate finishes that gives a touch of elegance. We offer our couples an exclusive experience as we only host one function at a time. Our wedding Ceremonies are held in an open-air chapel under a beautiful Gazebo overlooking the bushveld with wildlife roaming past. Should the weather be a little wet we have a charming Chapel 4km from the Venue that will ensure our couple and their guest stay dry.

The Game Lodge has a Main Lodge that speaks for itself, when you walk into the front door the open plan entertainment area gives the WOW factor. Relaxing on the patios or enjoying a braai next to the pool. The main lodge has six bedrooms can sleep 12 guests and 5 additional cottages can accommodate 12 guests in total. Your wedding guest can stay over and enjoy a scrumptious breakfast the next morning. We have a few lovely accommodation options that provide additional place to stay for wedding parties and families.

Guests are greeted with a professional team. Andrew and his amazing team are available to assist our couple from the minute they arrive. We aim to exceed your expectation.







19

Gabriella & Denis Dartchiev



"Marry your best friend. There is no foundation stronger than true friendship" – Joni Payne

Tell us about how you met?

Denis and I officially met in a queue outside a WINE-NOT event in 2017. We both studied on the same campus and had seen each other in passing but had never formally spoken or engaged before this night. We started talking and both pretended to not really know who the other was (both lying). Shortly after that Denis was told by his friends that he wouldn't stand a chance with me. So, he took that challenge, messaged me two weeks later and not a day has gone by since that we haven't spoken to each other.

Who walked you down the aisle?

I am very fortunate to have a large and beautiful Lebanese family. My parents walked me down the aisle with my dad giving me away at the altar.

Tell us about your venue?

Denis and I were blessed to get married at the breathtaking Inimitable. On a beautiful summer day, we got married in the glass chapel and then made our way up to the main hall for the celebrations thereafter. With the help of my talented mom and our wedding planner Nick Nicolaou, the church and hall were transformed into something out of a fairytale. The team at Inimitable were lovely to work with and made all of the above possible.



“Mighty Fine manage to capture the emotions and essence what was happening in every single photo.”



Wedding Planner: Nick Nicolaou
Photography & Videography: Mighty Fine
Caterer: Andrew Draper
Bride Dress, Shoes & Jewelry: Vonve
Groom Tux: Frank Bespoke
Bridesmaids' Dresses: Kristen Masters - Garnish
Artist: Anri Erasmus
DJ: Joe Ebersey
Alf Layla Drummers: Pano
Cake: The Cake Man - Franco Lamboise
Hair: Boyd
MUA: Janna Stone & Bjorn
Venue: Inimitable

Tell us about your photographers?

I first saw Might Fine's work at my brother's wedding back in 2015 where they played the roll of videographers. I fell in love with their work as their shots are natural and, in the moment, and they manage to capture the emotions and essence what was happening in every single photo. There was not a single photo that I asked for that was missed or not taken and they thought above and beyond of what I could have ever known needed to be captured on the day.

Did you stick within your budget, what cost more than expected?

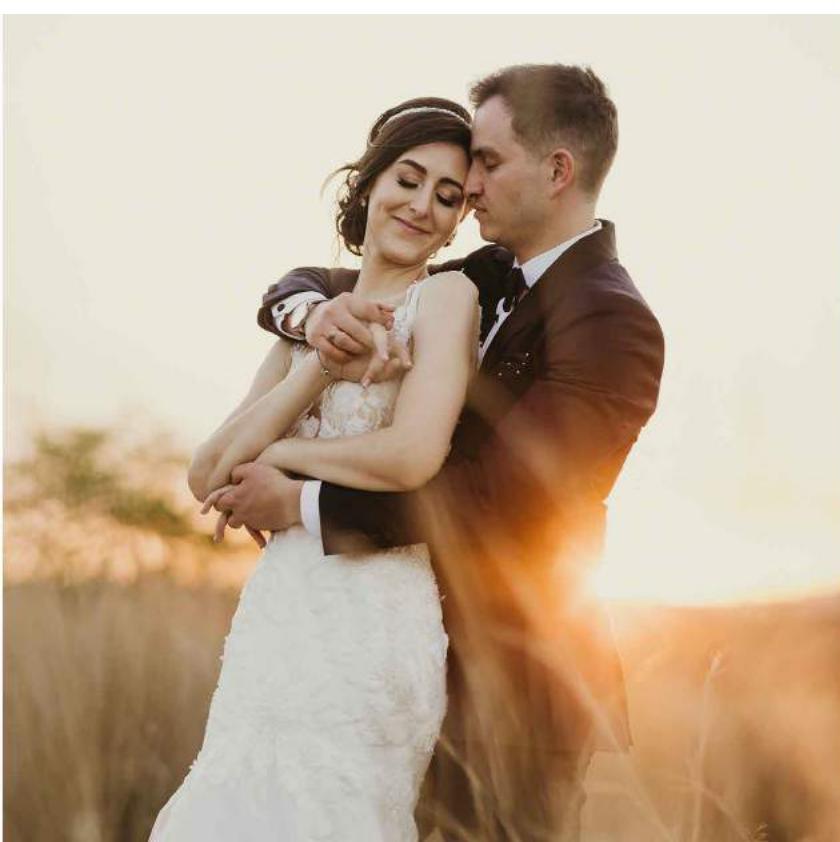
Unfortunately, when it comes to weddings, the price, compared to a normal event, triples! We tried to stick within our budget as much as possible and made compromises on items or things we deemed worth spending on such as food and the comfort of our guests.

Did you go on honeymoon?

We were blessed to go on a honeymoon straight after the wedding. We did a road trip in America through the Florida Keys and ended up in Miami and Mexico. Both husband and I are not "beach bums" so it was the perfect combination of a romantic adventure!

Any tips for brides to be?

Don't sweat the small stuff. Remember why you're getting married in the first place, focus on you and your best friend and don't let anything else be of importance on that day. If something goes wrong, you'll be the only ones to know and the people who love you will rejoice in celebrating you two regardless of what the day holds.





IT'S YOUR SPECIAL DAY, HOORAY!

We believe that your day should be **nothing short of spectacular**.

You should know that **Mighty Fine** is an exceptional team who will be rooting for you all the way! We are **dedicated to providing** you with exceptional service, a stress-free ride, and amazing memories.



At **Mighty Fine Weddings**, we understand that every couple is unique. That's why we pride ourselves on providing personalized wedding planning services that cater to your individual needs and preferences. Whether you're dreaming of a small, intimate gathering or a grand and glamorous affair, we're here to bring your vision to life.

Our passion for weddings sets us apart, and our attention to detail ensures that your wedding day runs smoothly and stress-free.

At Mighty Fine Weddings, **our goal** is to surpass your expectations and create a truly magnificent wedding experience that you and your guests will cherish for a lifetime.

**CONTACT US TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR CONSULTATION
AND LET'S COLLABORATE!**

@mightyfineweddings | info@mightyfine.co.za | www.weddings.mightyfine.co.za





FAIRVIEW HOTEL

TO TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE VENUE – [CLICK HERE](#)



Situated on the outskirts of tropical Tzaneen, Fairview Hotels combines first-class facilities with warm country hospitality.

When you enter the tranquil estate, with 18 holes par-3 golf course surrounded by magical mature gardens, you can exhale and relax.

The Fairview Hotel offers elegant 4* thatched rooms decorated in Afro-Colonial style in a garden setting boasting an incredible variety of indigenous trees and colourful birdlife.

The Village at Fairview is a luxury 5* hideaway with only ten spacious and stylish spa suites looking out over the lush gardens and the scenic golf course.



Email: reservations@fairviewhotel.co.za
Call: +27 015 307 2679 / +27 082 900 5166
Website: fairviewhotel.co.za




FAIRVIEW
Hotels, Spa & Golf Resort



Guests can indulge in the warm luxury of their suite fitted with a Nespresso coffee machine, a private balcony and a beautiful bathroom with a jumbo shower, heated towel rails, underfloor heating and jacuzzi baths to make their stay memorable. Dine in the spacious thatched Le'Thaba Restaurant or at the Fairview Clubhouse Restaurant and Bar, offering outstanding cuisine accompanied by an excellent selection of wines.

Fairview offers the perfect setting for a romantic wedding with its chapel, extensive lawns, and intimate feel.

Guests can arrange private smaller functions for large groups in various venues with distinct atmospheres. Other facilities include pampering treatments at the Fairview Spa & Rasul, golf, fly-fishing, walking trails, or relaxing at the private swimming pool.

Fairview is just 5 minutes from the heart of Tzaneen and an hour from the world-renowned Kruger National Park. The lush and tropical area of Tzaneen serves as a perfect base to explore the Wolkberg Mountains, Magoebaskloof, quaint Haenertsberg, Modjadji Cycad Forest and various other popular tourist attractions.

Swim in waterfalls, sample the freshest avocados, oranges and mangoes at roadside stalls and get your adrenaline pumping on a canopy tour.

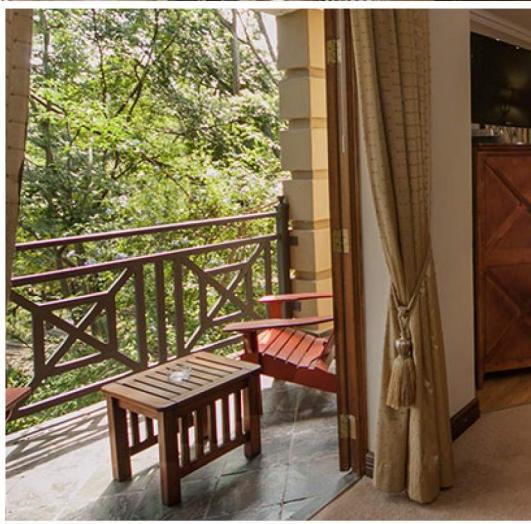
For more information or contact us at

082 900 5166 / reservations@fairviewhotel.co.za or
visit our website at www.fairviewtzaneen.co.za

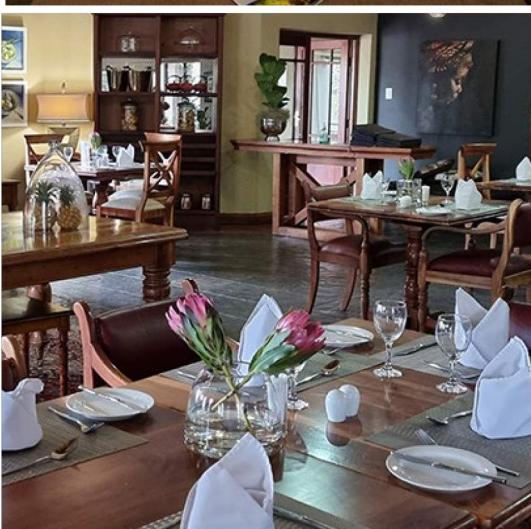


Email: reservations@fairviewhotel.co.za
Call: +27 015 307 2679 / +27 082 900 5166
Website: fairviewhotel.co.za






FAIRVIEW
Hotels, Spa & Golf Resort





**TOP
VENUE**



To take a virtual tour of the venue - [Click here](#)

Your Perfect Venue

Your wedding is a memory that you will cherish forever, make it an unforgettable one at Wetlands Game Lodge. The spectacular view of the Wetlands Mountains sets the scene for the wedding of your dreams. Immerse yourself in a landscape where the natural beauty leaves you truly captivated and transformed.

Wetlands Game Lodge is nestled in the pristine area of the Wetlands Mountains and a mere 6km from Wakkerstroom. The private and stylish decorated accommodation will add to your wedding experience you and your guests will enjoy.



bookings@wetlandsgamelodge.co.za
087 809 1635
www.wetlandsgamelodge.co.za



wETLANDS GAME LODGE





WEDDINGS & CELEBRATIONS

YOUR DREAM VENUE





Our peaceful lodge is nestled between the majestic Versamel Mountains. We are halfway between Gauteng and the Midlands.

A variety of game, bird and plant life with diverse landscapes of grasslands and wetlands can be seen on a game drive, quad bike adventure or just by taking a stroll through the lodge.





Maternity & Newborn Photography



Studio in Randburg Gauteng
Packages from R1500
Dresses for Hire



Contact Morgan
082 772 8980
morgan@neonproductions.co.za
www.neonproductions.co.za



Reach 1000's of Brides-to-be

Real Brides has the Perfect Package for advertisers.



In line with worldwide trends, when the COVID pandemic hit Real Brides was switched from a printed publication to a digital format.

At the same time Real Brides launched their Virtual Wedding Expo.

The Real Brides digital magazine and Virtual Expo is the Perfect Package for advertisers and has taken wedding marketing to another level.

To guarantee your exposure, each monthly edition of Real Brides is available for FREE download off our website.

To view the Real Brides digital magazine and Virtual Expo visit <https://realbrides.co.za/>



TO ADVERTISE IN REAL BRIDES:

Call Stewart: 082 570 2995 or

Email: stewart@topicpublishing.co.za

