

Boston

THE NEW ENGLAND BRIDE'S ULTIMATE GUIDE

# weddings

## GORGEOUS GOWNS

STUNNING LOOKS FOR  
EVERY TYPE OF VENUE

## BRIGHT IDEAS

FLOWERS AND  
CAKES IN COLOR  
PALETTES  
YOU'LL LOVE

## PICTURE PERFECT

THE CITY'S BEST  
SPOTS FOR PHOTOS

## REAL NEW ENGLAND WEDDINGS

LOCAL BRIDES  
WHO DID IT RIGHT

# 500+

OF THE REGION'S  
TOP PLANNERS,  
BANDS, RECEPTION  
SITES, AND MORE

SPRING/SUMMER 2011 (Display until 6.27.11)



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TIPS FROM THE PROS | ON FINDING YOUR STYLE, STAYING ON BUDGET,  
AND THROWING THE PARTY OF A LIFETIME



FROM THE EDITORS

## INFORMATION OVERLOAD?



**IN THIS AGE OF WEDDING-THEMED BLOGS**, reality TV shows, and social media, soon-to-be brides have more info and inspiration than ever. But paired with our strained budgets and frantic schedules, it's easy for that bounty of resources to become overwhelming. Who has time to sift through it all?

Fortunately, our local wedding industry is responding to the new landscape by teaming up in creative ways, all geared toward delivering personalized service and curated advice. The gigantic, booth-filled bridal expo is getting replaced by smaller showcases and cocktail parties. And while the hectic Running of the Brides event is still going strong, we're seeing an uptick in members-only events, such as the recent designer-gown sales on Boston-based website Rue La La, as well as sample sales you can only find out about via e-mail and Facebook.

Upping the ante even further is the Boston Bridal Lounge on Newbury Street. Set to open in January, it's a "research library"—an extensive referral service featuring vendors who have been vetted by BBL owners Kerri Esposito-Bruneau and Eleni Granas—where couples can review and meet seasoned photographers, florists, caterers, and more in the comfort of one posh boutique.

Likewise, at *Boston Weddings* we've made it our mission to save you time and, we hope, help preserve your sanity. In this issue we've highlighted some of our favorite venues around the region ["DIVINE DESTINATIONS," PAGE 68], sparing you from endless site visits. You'll also find foolproof advice on where to pose for portraits ["THE CITY'S BEST BACKDROPS," PAGE 58], so you can zip right through the big-day photo session. And in our newly redesigned Goods section, you'll get our picks for the cutest shoes ["FEET FIRST," PAGE 19] and New England-made gifts for your guests ["LOCAL FAVORS," PAGE 22].

See? The hard part's done. Now relax, enjoy your wedding, and e-mail us the pics!

Donna Garlough and Anne Vickman

weddings@bostonmagazine.com

# GOODS

FASHION AND STYLE FOR THE BRIDE

## FEET FIRST

Kick up your heels in classic shoes with a little something extra—a jewel here and a bow there make for divine details.

STYLING BY CALLISTA WILSON

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC KULIN



Badgley Mischka "Xolani" satin pump with tulle bow and silver heel, \$215, Bloomingdale's.

FOR RETAIL LOCATIONS, SEE THE REGISTRY, PAGE 123.

SPRING|SUMMER 2011 BOSTONMAGAZINE.COM 19





OPPOSITE, FROM  
TOP "Love Me Knot"  
satin platform san-  
dals, \$285, J.Crew;  
Jimmy Choo "Logan"  
d'Orsay heels, \$495,  
Bloomingdale's;  
Manolo Blahnik  
"Caldero" satin  
kitten heels, \$945,  
Neiman Marcus.

THIS PAGE, FROM  
TOP "Miss Dior"  
peep-toe pumps,  
\$590, Dior; Oscar de  
la Renta silk-satin  
d'Orsay pumps  
with brooch, \$650,  
L'élite Bridal Bou-  
tique; René Caovilla  
jeweled T-strap  
sandals, \$1,295,  
Neiman Marcus.





### SMART COOKIES

Your Beantown pride is just the icing on top. These made-from-scratch confections by Vermont-based A Dozen Eggs Bake Shoppe are decorated to look like Red Sox jerseys, the Citgo sign, and Swan Boats.

\$60 FOR 24 COOKIES, 802-259-9109, ADOZENEGGS.COM.

## LOCAL FAVORS

Show guests your appreciation with New England-made gifts and goodies. BY JAMIE COELHO



### LUXE LEAVES

Make a nod to Bostonians' tea-throwing past. Concord-based Tea Forté sells exquisite blends like ginger-lemongrass and orchid-vanilla in silken pyramid infusers. \$12 FOR SIX, OLIVIA BROWNING, 20 CITY SQ., CHARLESTOWN, 617-242-2299, OLIVIA BROWNING.COM.

### BUZZ-WORTHY

From guest-list woes to seating-chart chaos, weddings bring on some sticky situations. Smooth things over with jars of locally produced honey from Boston Honey Company. \$7-\$18, CARDULLO'S GOURMET SHOPPE, 6 BRATTLE ST., CAMBRIDGE, 617-491-8888, CARDULLOS.COM.

### SLICK WICKS

Pick a scent that sets the scene for your nuptials. At South End shop Aunt Sadie's, you can choose from hand-poured candles that are reminiscent of ocean breezes, lemonade, and pine trees. \$16 EACH, 18 UNION PARK ST., BOSTON, 617-357-7117, AUNTSADIESINC.COM.

### LOVEBIRDS

Throwing a black-tie affair? L. A. Burdick's hand-made chocolate penguins come dressed for the occasion, and can be personalized with a beribboned wrapper. \$3.25-\$3.75 EACH, 52D BRATTLE ST., CAMBRIDGE, 617-491-4340, BURDICK CHOCOLATE.COM.

### JAM SESSION

Spread the joy with Stonewall Kitchen's Maine-made jams and jellies in flavors like wild blueberry or roasted garlic-onion (for after the first kiss, of course). \$3.50 (3.75 OZ.), \$7.75 (12-13 OZ.); STONEWALL KITCHEN, YORK, ME, 207-351-2712, STONEWALL KITCHEN.COM.



# VENUES

TOP SPOTS FOR PARTIES AND PICTURES



Newlyweds go for a dip  
in the Public Garden.



# THE CITY'S BEST BACKDROPS

LOCAL SHUTTERBUGS SHARE THEIR  
FAVORITE DOWNTOWN SPOTS TO  
SNAP WEDDING PORTRAITS. BY DONNA GARLOUGH

## BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

"The library is a gem, as much for its history and location as for its stunning architecture. On the front steps, there are giant wrought-iron gates and hanging lanterns; inside, you'll find a marble staircase, a gorgeous courtyard with fountains, and picturesque reading rooms." >>

CHRISTINE FERULLO AND ANDY BEET, 508-539-1039, BELLOPHOTO.COM.









## PUBLIC GARDEN

"The Public Garden is so quintessentially Bostonian—it has history, color, and classic beauty, and can really be the third 'subject' in the wedding photographs. It also offers plentiful shade on harshly lit sunny days. No couple wants to be squinting in their pictures!"

ERIC BARRY, 617-733-7444, [ERICBARRYPHOTOGRAPHY.COM](http://ERICBARRYPHOTOGRAPHY.COM).



## CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD

"From Old Ironsides to the wooden piers, the Navy Yard is full of elegant nautical imagery that provides a photo opportunity around every corner.

It captures the iconic history of the city and offers expansive skyline and harbor views."

KATE FEMINO, 857-231-2453, KPHOTOGRAPHIE.COM.







## POST OFFICE SQUARE

"This is like a little green oasis in the middle of the Financial District. It gets busy on Saturdays but is incredibly convenient for weddings at the Harvard Club and State Room, not to mention the downtown hotels like the Langham and InterContinental."

GLEN COOPER, 617-869-5000, DMPJ.COM.



# BOSTON HARBORWALK

"I love photographing couples along the Harborwalk because there are so many design elements to choose from.

The water, the architecture, the cobblestone paths, and the views of downtown give a photographer endless compositional opportunities."

JOYELLE WEST, 781-771-3804, JWESTWEDDING.COM.





# DIVINE DESTINATIONS

Want to get hitched outside the city? Check out our picks for great venues all around New England. BY JULIE SURATT

## GALLEY BEACH RESTAURANT

No matter how boisterous a wedding gets at Nantucket's Galley Beach, there's always that moment when all eyes take in the dazzling sunset over the bay. "The choreography of the evening revolves around the sun," event planner Maureen Sullivan says of the nuptials that take place at this elegant restaurant (a former lunch shack now frequented by the likes of Robert De Niro and Catherine Zeta-Jones), which is literally a stone's throw from the ocean's edge. But the pièce de résistance comes at the end of the night for many couples: Barefoot, with his pants rolled up, a groom scoops up his bride and carries her, shoes dangling from her hand, through the surf to an awaiting Hinckley picnic boat while fireworks light up the sky behind them. "It gives me chills every time," Sullivan says. 54 JEFFERSON AVE., NANTUCKET, 508-228-9641, GALLEYBEACH.NET.





### CHATHAM BARS INN

Chatham Bars Inn, how do we love thee? Let us count the ways. One: We love the tranquility of a walk along Shore Road at dawn. Two: We love how your ocean breezes bring the smell of sea roses. Three: We love sharing gin and tonics on your covered veranda at sunset. Four: We love how we feel like a part of early-20th-century history when we walk through your lobby. Five: We love the couples' massage at your luxurious new spa. We're ready to commit to you on the beach, on your South Lawn croquet green, inside the Beach House Grill, or by the Boat House. Just say yes.

297 SHORE RD., CHATHAM, 508-945-0096, [CHATHAMBARSINN.COM](http://CHATHAMBARSINN.COM).



### WOODSTOCK INN AND RESORT

Cute New England towns aren't hard to come by, but the most Currier and Ives of the bunch has got to be Woodstock, Vermont, with its covered bridge, steeped church, and town green. That's the backdrop for a wedding at the Woodstock Inn—although your guests may never set foot outside now that the new \$10 million spa has opened. Bridal parties can take over the Woodstock Suite, with its four massage tables, Japanese soaking tub, and Swedish shower, to prep for the evening's festivities. Hold your reception either inside the historic inn or out back under a tent; a carriage ride through town with your groom before the party will complete the picture-perfect weekend.

14 THE GREEN, WOODSTOCK, VT, 800-448-7900, [WOODSTOCKINN.COM](http://WOODSTOCKINN.COM).



### DR. DANIEL FISHER HOUSE

Weddings at the Dr. Daniel Fisher House on Martha's Vineyard tend to be more formal than the typical island affair (read: ditch the flip-flops), what with the crystal chandeliers, silk drapery, Steinway grand piano, and marble fireplaces. But that doesn't mean they're any less festive. Located on a four-acre parcel of land that boasts gorgeous gardens, an orchard, and a pond, the 1840s Federal-style mansion in the middle of Edgartown is where longtime summer residents tie the knot (if not at their own seaside estates, that is). Celebrate under a tent off the bluestone patio, and when the property's 9 o'clock curfew comes around, lead your guests down a candlelit path to Main Street to keep the party going. 99 MAIN ST., EDGARTOWN,

508-627-4440, [MVPRESERVATION.ORG/FISHER.HTML](http://MVPRESERVATION.ORG/FISHER.HTML).



### CASTLE HILL INN AND RESORT

Thinking Newport? Situated on a secluded 40-acre peninsula at the west end of Ocean Drive, Castle Hill Inn may not be the first place that comes to mind, but let it be the last: This Relais & Châteaux resort offers one of the most breathtaking views of Narragansett Bay, far from the hubbub of downtown. The inn's gracious staff works overtime to make guests feel welcome, and the food, catered in-house by executive chef Jonathan Cambra, is (to put it mildly) out of this world. Receptions take place under a semi-permanent tent on the lawn, which leads to a steep cliff overlooking the water. Add a setting sun, and you've got perfection. 590 OCEAN DR., NEWPORT, RI, 888-466-1355, [CASTLEHILLINN.COM](http://CASTLEHILLINN.COM).





### BLANTYRE

We won't discourage you from having a spring or summer wedding at Blantyre, but we *will* tell you that a few feet of snow makes this turn-of-the-century Relais & Châteaux country-house hotel in Lenox almost unbearably beautiful. "It's a winter wonderland," says owner Ann Fitzpatrick Brown. Host a "snow barbecue" rehearsal dinner at the ice rink—complete with a choice of eight different types of hot chocolate to take the chill off—and send guests to the spa the next day (by snowshoe, of course), where they can relax in the hot tub and watch the snow fall. Hold your ceremony beside a roaring fire in the main hall, and follow it up with a simply spectacular meal for up to 120 friends. Trust us: You won't miss the summer sun. 16 BLANTYRE RD., LENOX, 413-637-3556, [BLANTYRE.COM](http://BLANTYRE.COM).



### WILLOWDALE ESTATE

A princess has yet to arrive at Willowdale in a pumpkin turned carriage, or flee at midnight and leave a glass slipper behind. But given the fairy-tale setting—a 1901 fieldstone mansion in the midst of a 700-acre park—it's probably only a matter of time. The place isn't all frou-frou and dreams-do-come-true, though, which is why it also appeals to knights in shining armor: The dark wood paneling, stained-glass windows, exposed beams, and mantels depicting battle scenes lend a decidedly clubby vibe to this Arts and Crafts manor 30 minutes north of Boston. Out back, wildflowers and butterflies thrive in the courtyard, where ceremonies and receptions can be held for up to 240. It really is happily ever after. 24 ASBURY ST., TOPSFIELD, 978-887-8211, [WILLOWDALEESTATE.COM](http://WILLOWDALEESTATE.COM).



## OMNI MOUNT WASHINGTON RESORT

Standing at the altar on the new green roof of the Omni Mount Washington Resort is like being cradled “in the palm of a higher being,” says Craig Clemmer, the hotel’s director of sales and marketing. Amen to that. Offering 360-degree views of the Presidential Range, Crawford Notch, and Waumbek and Rosebrook mountains, the rooftop features an abundance of indigenous plant life, including Labrador tea, moss campion, and the endangered three-toothed cinquefoil. All of this lends the adjacent Jewell Terrace, which can host up to 400 guests, a distinctively alpine feel. Fortunately, you won’t need hiking boots to get there. ROUTE 302, BRETTON

WOODS, NH, 603-278-1000, [BRETTONWOODS.COM](http://BRETTONWOODS.COM).



## INN BY THE SEA

Why did we put the Inn by the Sea on our list? Because the sweeping views of the Atlantic are utterly romantic, and the inn itself—which recently underwent a multimillion-dollar renovation—is environmentally friendly, from its LEED-certified spa to its farm-to-table dining and indigenous gardens. But the thing that captivated us most? The butterflies. Every year, monarchs come to feed on the milkweed that grows in abundance on the property, recently designated as a certified monarch way station because it sustains the insects’ migration and reproduction. Brides-to-be are even given a list of ways to make their celebration eco-friendly, like giving packets of milkweed seeds as favors. 40 BOWERY BEACH RD., CAPE ELIZABETH, ME, 207-799-3134, [INNBYTHESEA.COM](http://INNBYTHESEA.COM).

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF MOUNT WASHINGTON RESORT AND INN BY THE SEA



**Boston**

# weddings

(SPRING/SUMMER 2011)

## LOVE IS IN THE AIR

You've found the gown, stunning flowers, a mouthwatering cake, *and* your one and only. But it's not over yet—the best is yet to come.

Embroidered tulle ruffle-hem gown, \$2,500, and ribbon sash, \$110, both Vera Wang; Lori London feather hairpin, \$195, Priscilla of Boston.



## GARDEN PARTY

Marchesa silk-tulle dress with flower detail, \$5,500, L'élite Bridal Boutique; Maria Elena ribbon, Swarovski crystal, and mother-of-pearl headband, \$885, and Haute Bride cushion-cut post earrings, \$96, both Priscilla of Boston.

## GORGEOUS GARDENS

♦♦ The Bradley Estate, Canton ♦♦ Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Wellesley ♦♦ Blithewold Mansion, Bristol, Rhode Island ♦♦ Glen Magna Farms, Danvers ♦♦ Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary, Belmont



## PERFECTLY PLACED

FOR EVERY WEDDING SPOT,  
THERE'S A GORGEOUS GOWN TO MATCH.  
WE'VE FOUND THE SEASON'S MOST SUBLIME STYLES  
FOR SIX QUINTESSENTIAL NEW ENGLAND VENUES.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NATALIA BORECKA  
STYLING BY MARCI DUARTE/TEAM  
PRODUCED BY ANNE VICKMAN





## A NIGHT AT THE BALL

"Eva" organza, tulle, and Alençon-lace A-line gown with tucked skirt and asymmetrical tulle feather embroidery, \$9,500, and grosgrain sash, \$110, both Vera Wang; Haute Bride petite cushion-cut rhinestone drop earrings, \$120, Priscilla of Boston; feather headband, \$49, Club Monaco.

### POSH BALLROOMS

↔ The Boston Park Plaza Hotel ↔ The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel ↔ Taj Boston Hotel ↔ Tupper Manor, Beverly ↔ Cranwell Resort, Lenox







## COASTAL CHARM

"Aveline" washed-crêpe gown, \$750, J.Crew; necklaces with pearls and fringe, \$69 each, Club Monaco; vintage earrings, stylist's own.

## BLISSFUL BEACH VENUES

↔ Ocean Edge Resort, Brewster ↔ Wychmere, Harwich Port ↔ Wequassett Resort, Chatham ↔ The White Elephant Hotel, Nantucket ↔ Crane Estate, Ipswich





## TRADITION CALLS

Vineyard Collection "Lindsey" silk-taffeta dress with ruched bodice and side-seam pockets, \$2,675, Priscilla of Boston; birdcage veil, \$300, L'élite; small crystal cluster earrings, \$45, J.Crew.

### CLASSIC CATHEDRALS

↔ Arlington Street Church ↔ Trinity Church ↔ Cathedral of the Holy Cross ↔ Old South Church ↔ Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption, Fall River







## MODERN TAKES

Vineyard Collection "Hunter" strapless satin dress, \$2,075, Mark Brower for Vineyard Collection puffed bolero jacket, \$675, and Haute Bride cushion-cut post earrings, \$96, all Priscilla of Boston; Malis-Henderson hairpin, \$195, L'élite.

## LOFTY LOCATIONS

↔ Peabody Essex Museum, Salem ↔ Institute of Contemporary Art ↔ Artists for Humanity EpiCenter ↔ State Room ↔ Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation, Waltham



## RUSTIC ROMANCE

"Dierdre" tissue-organza A-line gown, \$6,800, Vera Wang; Rosanne Pugliese smoky quartz and 18-karat-gold earrings, \$985, Matsy; gold bubble ring, \$59, Club Monaco; bouquet, Winston Flowers.

### BEAUTIFUL BARNs

↔ The Barn at Gibbet Hill, Groton ↔ Zukas Hilltop Barn, Spencer ↔ The Red Barn at Outlook Farm, South Berwick, Maine ↔ Gedney Farm and Mepal Manor and Spa, New Marlborough ↔ Inn at the Round Barn Farm, Waitsfield, Vermont

HAIR, MICHAEL ALBOR AND DONNA HAMILTON, THE LOFT/ENNIS; MAKEUP, KATHLEEN SCHIFFMAN/TEAM; MODEL, ABBA BINNS/MAGGIE INC.



# TRENDSPOTTING

FRESH FROM THE RUNWAY, NEW TAKES ON SIX CLASSIC SILHOUETTES.

Structured ruffles  
lend a modern  
twist to this Vera  
Wang gown.



## A-LINE

FROM LEFT Amy Kuschel, Bella Sera Bridal; Carolina Herrera, L'élite Bridal Boutique; Jewel, Priscilla of Boston; Priscilla of Boston; Liancarlo, L'élite.



## SHEATH

FROM LEFT Amy Kuschel, Bella Sera; Reem Acra and Monique Lhuillier, both L'élite; Reverie and Vineyard, both Priscilla of Boston.





## BALL GOWN

FROM LEFT Monique Lhuillier, Ines di Santo, and Carolina Herrera, all L'élite; Platinum, Priscilla of Boston; Vera Wang.



## SHORT

FROM LEFT Ines di Santo, L'élite; Priscilla of Boston; Jewel and Melissa Sweet, both Priscilla of Boston; Amy Kuschel, Bella Sera.



## ASYMMETRICAL

FROM LEFT Carolina Herrera and Ines di Santo, both L'élite; Melissa Sweet, Priscilla of Boston; Carolina Herrera, L'élite; Reverie, Priscilla of Boston.



## MERMAID

FROM LEFT Amy Kuschel, Bella Sera; Liancarlo, L'élite; Vineyard, Priscilla of Boston; Monique Lhuillier and Ines di Santo, both L'élite.





INTRICATE WHITE CAKES ARE THE PERFECT COMPLEMENT  
TO A BRIGHT PALETTE OF BLOOMS. WHATEVER HUES  
YOU CHOOSE, HERE'S HOW TO MAKE THEM POP.

# COLOR STORY

PHOTOGRAPHS BY HORNICK/RIVLIN  
STYLING BY CAROLINE WOODWARD/ENNIS  
PRODUCED BY DONNA GARLOUGH



## FIRST BLUSH

Two-part centerpiece featuring hydrangeas, dahlias, calla lilies, cymbidium orchids, hanging amaranthus, and grasses, about \$210, Tangerine Creations.

Three-tier round cake covered in rolled fondant icing with embossed fondant appliques, piped scroll design, and edible pearl accents and borders, about \$8.50 per slice, Cakes for Occasions.

OPPOSITE Bridal bouquet of calla lilies, cymbidium orchids, dahlias, and grasses, about \$200; bridesmaid bouquet of cymbidium orchids and calla lilies, about \$125; both Tangerine Creations.







## FEELING BLUE

Centerpiece featuring antique hydrangeas, anemones, roses, lisianthus, eryngium, allium, smokebush, seeded eucalyptus, and delphiniums, about \$200, the Tangled Web.

OPPOSITE Bridesmaid bouquet of antique hydrangeas, anemones, lisianthus, eryngium, and allium, about \$95, the Tangled Web.

Three-tier round cake covered in vanilla-meringue buttercream frosting and rolled white chocolate with "painted" butterfly appliques and scrolling lace design, about \$7 per slice, Dessertworks.



## GREEN DAY

OPPOSITE Bridal bouquet of cattleya orchids, lady's slipper orchids, garden roses, mini hydrangeas, scented geranium leaves, and snow-berries, about \$310, Jessica's Country Flowers.

Three-tier round cake with individual gum-paste ruffles on white fondant, starts at \$10.50 per slice, Jenny's Wedding Cakes.





## SCARLET FEVER

Centerpiece featuring dahlias, smokebush, sarracenia, and fiddleheads in a vintage urn, about \$160, Mimosa Fresh Floral Design.

OPPOSITE Bridesmaid bouquet of cymbidium orchids with sarracenia and leucadendron, wrapped in silk dupioni, about \$100, Mimosa Fresh Floral Design.

Four-tier square cake covered with fondant and stenciled with royal-icing paisley design, starts at \$9 per slice, Jenny's Wedding Cakes.







## SUNNY OUTLOOK

Chrysanthemum-covered centerpiece featuring Toulouse-Lautrec garden roses and craspedia, about \$350, Spruce Floral.

OPPOSITE Bridesmaid bouquet of Toulouse-Lautrec garden roses, irises, double tulips, and craspedia, bound with silk jacquard and cotton ribbons, about \$75, Spruce Floral.

Three-tier round cake covered in rolled fondant and fondant mosaic "tiles" brushed with a pearlescent finish, about \$10 per slice, Cakes for Occasions.







## FOOTLOOSE

**DJ MICHAEL EDWARDS** of AllStar Entertainment, who played at Cynthia Lucas and Michael Stevens's Tewksbury Country Club reception, knows how to get people moving: Offer a cash prize. At this particular shindig, attendees chipped in nearly \$200, and the bride and groom chose four couples for the impromptu dance-off. Bridesmaid Julianne Strauss and her boyfriend, Sean Cusick, busted out the Worm and some backflips—but ultimately lost the winnings to a pregnant guest and her husband. "Who says no to a pregnant woman?" jokes the bride. "But they should have been honorary winners." ANNE VICKMAN