BIGGEST ISSUE OF THE YEAR!

This is Your Moment!
Lacy, Sheer, Sparkly, Sleek—Find Your Dream Dress Now!

Engaged? 5 Things to Do First

50 Best Venues in America

Managing Your Mother-In-Law

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Money Talk
How to Avoid Hidden Wedding Costs

+ Budget Tips From Real Brides

458 Ways to Wow
Gorgeous Cakes, Flowers, Invites, and More!

Just Married!
Model Svetlana Lazareva on the one thing she’d change if she had a wedding do-over

Display Until February 29, 2016

$5.99 US $6.99 For
THE BEST VENUES IN AMERICA

We asked more than 1,500 brides and grooms from coast to coast to rate their wedding location on everything from the service to the food to the view. And the winners are...

Parrish Art Museum in Water Mill, New York
THE NORTHEAST
TAKE YOUR PICK OF CITY LANDMARKS, COUNTRY GETAWAYS, AND CLASSIC SEASIDE ESCAPES

Boston Harbor Hotel
BOSTON
Wherever you wed—the 80-foot-dome rotunda, the dockside pavilion, the rooftop terrace—guests will be wowed by the awesome harbor views. bpl.org.

Boston Public Library
BOSTON
Get hitched in the columned courtyard, then party in the book-lined main hall. Bonus: You can use the old-school reading tables for your candlelit dinner. bpl.org.

Chatham Bars Inn
CHATHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
At this classic Cape Cod retreat, weddings are all about the sea, whether you make it official on the ocean-view lawn or dance in the beachside boathouse. chathambarsinn.com.

White Elephant
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS
Dress your guys in their preppy best for cocktails, cornhole, and nautical-inspired vows on the hotel’s lawn, followed by fresh oysters on the terrace overlooking the harbor. whiteelephanthotel.com.

LaBelle Winery
AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE
A wine-country wedding in New England? Believe it. Say “I do” among the grapes, then toast your nuptials with bubbly or blueberry wine in the wood-beamed great room. labellerwinerynh.com.

Gurney’s Montauk Resort & Seawater Spa
MONTAUK, NEW YORK
With a private beach and a tented deck overlooking the Atlantic, this newly renovated hot spot at the tip of Long Island wins raves for its on-site planner and pastry chef. gurneysmontauk.com.

Gramercy Park Hotel
NEW YORK
A favorite of the fashion crowd, this hotel draws brides with its chic rooftop garden (complete with a retractable roof), skyline views, and on-point Danny Meyer menu. gramercy parkhotel.com.

Blue Hill at Stone Barns
POCANTICO HILLS, NEW YORK
Set on a working farm just north of New York City, this restaurant is known for its locally sourced cuisine and insane photo ops. Think wild gardens and rolling pastures, plus sheep, cows, and chickens! bluehillfarm.com.

Fairmount Park Horticulture Center
PHILADELPHIA
Want to slash your flower budget? You won’t need much decor for a ceremony in the park’s gardens or in its gorge greenhouse, lush with ferns and palms. starrevents.com.

Providence Public Library
PROVIDENCE
With columns, a wrought-iron balcony, and turn-of-the-last-century gilded details, the Grand Hall reads more “palace” than “library.” Instead of walking the aisle, make your entrance down an elegant marble staircase. mrvls.com.

Mountain Top Inn
CHITTENDEN, VERMONT
Kick off the day with a morning hike, then exchange vows on a hilltop or barn with major Green Mountain views. mountaintopinn.com.

The Ashford Estate
ALLENTOWN, NEW JERSEY
Take over this 30-acre property and you and your squad will have full run of the mansion, 12 guest suites, manicured gardens, and a rustic barn chapel. theashfordestate.com.

—Alonna Travin

—JENNIFER B.
THE SOUTH
DO IT UP IN STYLE AT A GRAND RESORT OR HISTORIC HOME

The Hay-Adams ★
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Choose the Top of the Hay as your reception space and your guests will be Instagramming views of the White House and Washington Monument all night. Back in the bridal suite, you'll bed down on a cool souvenir: pillows monogrammed with your married initials. hayadams.com.

Sunset Key Cottages
KEY WEST, FLORIDA
If there were ever a place to do a sunset wedding, it's this island resort just 500 yards off Key West. Take over all 40 beachy cottages to make it your own private isle for the weekend. sunsetkeycottages.com.

Villa Woodbine
MIAMI
All arches, fountains, and Spanish tile, this private mansion feels way more Mediterranean than Miami. Make it official in an elegant courtyard or under a grand oak tree strung with lights. villa-woodbine.com.

Jekyll Island Club Hotel
JEKYLL ISLAND, GEORGIA
After beachside vows, take your pick of seven reception sites, including the manicured lawn of Crane Cottage or a riverside clearing dripping with moss. jekyllclub.com.

Old Edwards Inn
HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA
Brides love the staff and spa at this charming Relais & Châteaux hotel, home to an haute barn with sweeping views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. oldedwardsinn.com.

PIPPIN HILL FARM & VINEYARDS
“...and I were waited on hand and foot while getting ready in the stunning all-white bridal suite.”
—JESSI G.

Crystal Ballroom at the Rice ★
HOUSTON
Go big or go home at this century-old downtown classic, which features 6,000 square feet of airy, chandelier-lit ballroom space. That's enough room for 450 guests. crystalballhouston.com.

Gage Hotel
MARATHON, TEXAS
Just 45 miles away from Big Bend National Park, the mission-style hotel specializes in boho-chic affairs with a West Texas twist. Throw your party in the succulent-filled gardens or fountain-dotted courtyards. gagehotel.com.

Boca Raton Resort
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
Spa gardens, pools, private beaches, marinas—there are almost too many ceremony spots to count at this sprawling upscale resort. Also winning kudos: the amazing cakes by pastry chef Jordi Pansello. bocaresort.com.

Pippin Hill Farm & Vineyards ★
NORTH GARDEN, VIRGINIA
This boutique winery pours on the charm with its elegant barn, panoramic mountain views, and customizable menu featuring fresh-from-the-barrel wines and southern-inspired fare. pippinhillfarm.com.

Lowndes Grove Plantation
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Built in 1786, this grand Georgian-style plantation home sits on 14 acres in downtown Charleston, a sweet spot for a tented reception by the Ashley River. pphgcharleston.com.

Blackberry Farm
WALLAND, TENNESSEE
The five-star, 9,000-acre retreat, located in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, is a working farm, so expect next-level southern eats from the welcome dinner through the morning-after brunch. blackberryfarm.com.

Blackberry Farm in Walland, Tennessee

The Greenbrier
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, WEST VIRGINIA
When a resort has a new white chapel (in this case, built by the owner for his daughter’s 2015 wedding), you know it’s serious about weddings. Your photographer will swoon over the colorful, lavish Dorothy Draper–designed interiors. greenbrier.com.

—Jeanne Lyons Davis

KEY
★ Best Service ★ Best Food ★ Best View

362 FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016 BRIDES.COM
Adler Planetarium ★  
CHICAGO
This venue lets you marry right on Lake Michigan, so get hitched on the terrace before heading over to the reception space for sights of the Chicago skyline. adlerplanetarium.org.

Symphony Center  
CHICAGO
Even if you’re not into doing an elevated ceremony on Armour Stage, you’ll love the Gruening Ballroom’s embellished ceilings and grand arched windows overlooking Michigan Avenue. cso.org.

Downtown Market Grand Rapids  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN
Set above a farmer’s market, the modern greenhouse and rooftop terrace offer an urban oasis for a ceremony one floor away from the city streets. downtownmarketgr.com.

Grand Hotel ★  
MACKINAC ISLAND, MICHIGAN
This resort is known for its geranium-dotted 660-foot veranda (perfect for ceremonies) and its fantastic planner, who will put out any last-minute fires, like when a groomsmen forgets his pants (true story). grandhotel.com.

Zingerman’s Cornman Farms ★  
DEXTER, MICHIGAN
The farmhouse and restored barn on 42 acres of pastures are the stuff of country wedding fantasies. Bonus: Choose between the famous Zingerman’s Deli or Roadhouse, an upscale barbecue palace, for your catering. zingermanscornmanfarms.com.

A’bulae  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
This loftlike space has a roof for your I do’s, floor-to-ceiling windows in the ballroom, and a luxe dressing room. (You and your “maids will each have your own hair and makeup station. Fancy!) abulaecom.com.

Peabody Opera House  
ST. LOUIS
Exchange vows on the red-curtained stage in the theater, then head back to the marbled lobby, which doubles as the two-story ballroom of your dreams. peabodyoperahouse.com.

The Club at Hillbrook  
CHAGrin FALLS, OHIO
A Tudor mansion in the woods, this venue gives off major fairy-tale vibes. Plus the wedding team goes above and beyond, even finishing that final DIY project for you. clubhillbrook.com.

Cleveland Museum of Art  
CLEVELAND
A three-story glass atrium filled with trees adds a contemporary edge to the museum’s original 1916 architecture, perfect for a traditional-meets-modern affair. clevelandart.org.

Franklin Park Conservatory  
COLUMBUS, OHIO
Want a lush space for your in-town nuptials? This greenhouse is stuffed with palm trees, and its exterior sports a super-cool light installation by artist James Turrell. fpconservatory.org.

Milwaukee Art Museum  
MILWAUKEE
Guests can tour the galleries to see the works of Picasso while you slip outside for photos in front of Quadracci Pavilion, a Calatrava-designed masterpiece meant to look like a ship’s bow. mam.org.  
—Katie Schroeder

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THE WEST
WIDE-OPEN SPACES ARE YOUR BACKDROP AT THESE LUXE RANCHES, WINERIES, AND MOUNTAIN RESORTS

El Chorro
PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA
After a ceremony with epic views of Camelback Mountain, lead your guests to the adobe-style hotel's great room or light-strung lawn for seasonal southwestern cuisine. elchorro.com.

Tanque Verde Ranch
TUCSON, ARIZONA
Saddle up for a pre-wedding horseback ride with your girls, then kick off your boots and celebrate with vows among cacti that are at least twice your height. tanqueverderanch.com.

Four Seasons Resort the Biltmore
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA
This posh Mediterranean-style resort features a gargo gar- den, colorful tiled patios, and an airy ballroom overlooking the sea. fours seasons.com.

THE LITTLE NELL
ASPEN, COLORADO
Our guests were in awe as they stepped off the gondola. You feel like you're literally on top of the world.”
–ERIN Z.

Dunton Hot Springs
DOLORES, COLORADO
Wild West wedding alert! If you'd like, you can have this entire ghost town turned five-star resort for the weekend, including an open-air chapel, 13 log cabins, and a saloon that once served Butch Cassidy. duntonhot springs.com.

Kukahiko Estate
MAUI, HAWAII
This tropical oasis is set on some of the island's most beautiful coastline. Have your ceremony on a lawn overlooking the Pacific, then watch for whales as you dine by the lava-rock beach. kukahikoestate.com.

St. Regis Aspen
ASPEN, COLORADO
The sunken courtyard is the quintessential winter ceremony spot, filled with Aspen trees, fire pits, and sights of the nearby peaks. stregisaspen.com.

Sun Valley Resort
SUN VALLEY, IDAHO
Breathtaking Bald Mountain will play a starring role in your photos all night, whether you're exchanging vows on Trail Creek Cabin's lawn or partying in the window-filled ballroom at River Run Lodge. sunvalley.com.

Mandarin Oriental
LAS VEGAS
Three floors up, the neutral-hued ballroom offers a sleek, chic space for your bash, plus floor-to-ceiling windows that showcase the city's famous Strip. mandarino riental.com.

Maysara Winery
MCMINVILLE, OREGON
After exchanging vows among 250 acres of vines, move to this massive stone-and-wood space in the Willamette Valley for a night of local pinot noir and dancing. maysara.com.

Montage Deer Valley
DEER VALLEY, UTAH
In the hills above Park City, this modern resort woos mountain-loving brides with its in-the-forest ceremony site, artisanal menus, and cozy, elegant great room. montagehotels.com.

Sodo Park
SEATTLE
Just south of downtown, this 100-year-old restored factory features soaring ceilings, exposed beams, and a kick-ass catering team. herbanfeast.com.

Bear Flag Farm
WINTERS, CALIFORNIA
Come for the private estate's sprawling vineyards, fragrant fields of lavender, and on-site event design and coordination; stay for the Ferris wheel photo ops. (Seriously!) bearflagfarm.com.

KEY
* Best Service * Best Food * Best View

FROM TOM KATZ/HOLSTEN PHOTOGRAPHY WHEELER PHOTOGRAPHERS
The Inn at Newport Ranch
FORT BRAGG, CALIFORNIA
If you’re into dramatic cliffs, awe-inspiring redwoods, and farm-to-table cuisine, check out this $2,000-acre cattle ranch on the Mendocino coast. Our favorite ceremony site? Celebration Point, a rock promontory with crashing Pacific waves on two sides. theinnatnewportranch.com.

Millwick
LOS ANGELES
Brides are flocking to this indoor-outdoor space in the downtown Arts District. The draw? A 2 a.m. curfew, the palm-lined garden patio, and 4,500 square feet of loftlike interiors. millwick.com.

The Chicago Athletic Association Hotel
CHICAGO
Built in the 19th century, this former men’s club was closed to the public until last year, when it opened as a meticulously restored hotel. thechicagooly.com.

Granite Ridge Estate & Barn
NORWAY, MAINE
Take over this 128-acre private mountain for the weekend and get married al fresco in the forest or in a wooden barn overlooking the countryside below. graniteridgestate.com.

Il Mercato
NEW ORLEANS
Get hitched next to citrus trees at this food market turned events space, then move the party inside to the mod great room. The library bar is perfect for a wild after-party. ilmercatoevents.com.

26 Bridge
BROOKLYN
Once a steel factory, this colossal space in arty Dumbo plays up its industrial past with steel-vaulted ceilings, original brick walls, and a skylight that runs the length of the room. 26bridge.com.

Parrish Art Museum
WATER MILL, NEW YORK
Long Island’s famous museum opened its Water Mill location in 2012 and is now (finally) booking weddings. Take advantage with vows in a gallery, flanked by Jackson Pollock drawings, or in an open pavilion that seems to go on forever. parrishart.org.

The Cedar Room
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Ideal for a chic vintage-inspired fete, this renovated 1800s cigar factory features an outdoor courtyard, authentic Low Country fare, and views of the Cooper River and Iconic Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge. thecedarroomcigarfactory.com.

Prospect House
DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS
Say your vows in a field of Hill Country wildflowers, then move inside to a sleek 220-foot-long aluminum space that will appeal to your inner minimalist. prospecthousetx.com.

The White Sparrow
QUINLAN, TEXAS
Thanks to its whitewashed interior, high ceiling, and six vintage brass chandeliers, this massive barn 43 miles outside Dallas is more elegant than rustic. FYI, the owner is a wedding photographer, so the place was made for gorgeous wedding photos. thewhitesparrowbarn.com.

By Anna Price Olson