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Wedding ideas

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276

FABULOUS WAYS TO WOW!

New venues,
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brides to inspire you

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New Wow Venues!

Whatever your wedding style, here's our pick of the hottest new wedding venues for 2016... **Words: Emily Berryman**



1 SEA DREAMS! NO MAN'S FORT, PORTSMOUTH

Why you'll love this place... Because who hasn't dreamed of owning their own private island for the day?

Tell us more! If you want a celebration that will really stand out from the wedding season blur, this unique venue ticks all the boxes! A spectacular private island fort resting just over a mile away from the Isle of Wight and easily accessible from Portsmouth Harbour – a cool multi-million pound renovation has seen the fort get transformed into one of the hottest wedding

locations for 2016. Like Captain Pugwash on a fashionista trip, No Man's Fort has established itself as little island of tranquil luxury, complete with its own exclusive hotel, decadent hot tubs, sun deck and a beautiful lighthouse with astounding sea views. The only problem is – you may never want to leave.

Max capacity: No Man's Fort can host up to 200 guests and sleeps 44 people.

££: A one night minimum stay with exclusive hire of the fort starts at £15,000, with food and drink packages starting at £96 per person.

amazingvenues.co.uk/venue/no-mans-fort

2 BARN BASH! HAYNE BARN, DEVON

Why you'll love this place... If walled gardens and rustic barns get you oohing and aahing like the front row of a 1D concert, this gorgeous venue is a must visit.

Tell us more! You need a flexible venue for a truly bespoke affair, and this newly licensed and beautifully renovated 17th century grade II farmstead is just the ticket. Chocolate box pretty and catering for weddings of anything from 20 to over 200 guests, you can choose to take your vows

indoors in the stunning Threshing Barn or outdoors in the charming walled gardens. It is even possible to hire this desirable venue for just a few hours or several days, depending on your budget. And did we mention that the building is owned by one of the UK's top wedding bands, Saloon Star? They usually perform at modest little events like the Prince of Wales' 60th birthday – so you may be able to cut yourself a great deal!

Max capacity: 230 guests.

££: Hire starts from just £500 depending on numbers and season.

haynedevon.co.uk



3 CAPITAL COOL! THE AMPERSAND HOTEL, LONDON

Why you'll love this place... With its quirky style and fabulous location, this swanky hotel is the perfect backdrop for small but perfectly formed celebrations.

Tell us more! Nestled in the heart of London's super-hip South Kensington, this fabulous hotel is fast becoming a celebrity favourite and joy, oh joy, has recently become a licensed establishment for weddings! For your ceremony, you will be spoilt for location choices – you can take your pick from the fabulous Library, funky Games Room and cosy Wine Room. We love that this trendy hideaway holds a strict 'no package' policy - which means every wedding held here will be as individual as the hotel's eclectic décor.

Max capacity: 80 guests.

££: Prices on request.

ampersandhotel.com



4 MARQUEE MAGIC! CLARE CHARITY CENTRE'S MEADOW, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Why you'll love this place... Whether you are going festival-fabulous or after a sophisticated marquee affair, this newly launched venue lets your imagination run wild!

Tell us more! Tucked away in the Chiltern Hills in Saunderton, this beautiful site is owned by The Clare Foundation, a charity dedicated to helping other charities through mentoring. Having trouble pruning your guest list? Panic not, because, with its superb views of the rolling Buckinghamshire countryside, this pretty meadow has room for a whopping 500 guests (and parking for 220 cars). Hmm, maybe bigger is better, after all...

Max capacity: 500 guests.

££: Site hire starts at £2,190 or if you prefer you can hire the meadow and a fully furnished marquee from £8,275.

clarecharitycentre.org/weddings



5 POETIC ROMANCE! SEAHAM HALL, COUNTY DURHAM

Why you'll love this place... This is where Lord Byron got married back in 1815, and if it's good enough for him...

Tell us more! This historical venue makes a refreshed – and completely magical – setting for any wedding. Perched on the cliff tops of Durham's Heritage Coast, Seaham Hall offers 20 individually designed suites – along with a beautiful ballroom – for stylish nuptials, and the award-winning Serenity Spa for some delicious pre-wedding pampering! Well, a bride needs to put in a little prep work for all that ring-flashing and frizz, doesn't she?

Max capacity: 120 guests.

££: A standard wedding package - including drinks' reception and wedding breakfast - starts at £11,955. Exclusive hire starts at £17,500 for 60 daytime guests.

seaham-hall.co.uk

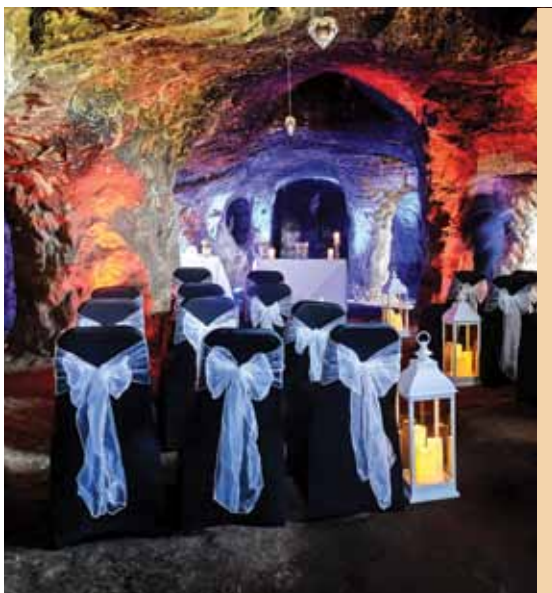


6 SPECTACULAR SCENERY!
VALENTINA'S LOST ORANGERY,
WILTSHIRE

Why you'll love this place... A breathtaking treasure found on the edge of the Cotswolds – this fantastic venue offers unique photo opportunities by the bucket load!
Tell us more! Set to be one of the region's most popular wedding venues for 2016, this newly licensed self-catering manor house is set within 500 acres of spectacular grounds and boasts enchanting woodlands, carefully pruned topiary and fragrant rose gardens aplenty. An ideal location for outdoorsy brides looking to invest in some major wow factor, we recommend plumping for a romantic riverside ceremony in the quaint thatched boat house. Guests will be bowled over by its charm.
Max capacity: 40 inside, 250 in a marquee
££: Venue hire starts at £2,500 for up to 50 guests and £3,000 for up to 100 guests.
weddingsatthelostorangery.uniquehomestays.com

7 MYTHICAL SPLENDOUR!
THE FOLLIES AT HAWKSTONE PARK,
SHROPSHIRE

Why you'll love this place... Providing a spellbinding backdrop to countless films including The Chronicles of Narnia, The Follies is said to be the resting place of King Arthur.
Tell us more! If you are looking for an intimate wedding destination with a difference, what could be more lovely than becoming Mr & Mrs among this ancient and mythical Grade I listed landscape? Showcasing magical woodland, cliffs and sandstone caves, couples can now thrill their guests with a 4x4 drive up to the top of the famous Follies before sipping champagne and taking in the sweeping views on the cliff tops. Next, swing your party to the glittering caves of The Grotto to take your vows. Cave dwellers have never been so glamorous!
Max capacity: 40 guests.
££: Packages start from £85 per person, available from April until October.
hawkstoneparkfollies.co.uk



8 GLAMOUROUS GROUNDS!
EYNSHAM HALL, OXFORDSHIRE

Why you'll love this place... This outstanding boutique hotel has just undergone an impressive £2.5 million refurb.
Tell us more! If high ceilings and sweeping staircases are your thing, this magnificent grade II Jacobean mansion should be topping your venue wish list. Combining old world elegance with modern luxury and comfort, the hotel has been hailed as one of the most romantic venues in the world – and we can see why. You'll get to enjoy the whopping 3,000 acres of manicured gardens and parkland which surround the venue and the accommodation is also top notch. The recent facelift has seen the introduction of amazing country-house lodges and boutique rooms – so snap them up while you can!
Max capacity: 250.
££: Ceremony room hire in The Library, Red Room or Terrace cost £450. Reception packages from £105 per person, which includes wedding breakfast plus toasts and a toastmaster!
eynshamhall.com



9 COUNTRY CHIC!
THE WINSTON ROOM AT WASHINGTONBOROUGH
HALL, LINCOLNSHIRE

Why you'll love this place... Nothing gives a bride that all-important aisle swagger like a country house wedding.
Tell us more! Already a much coveted wedding destination, this fabulous Georgian country manor has added a licensed and super-stylish new orangery for 2016 called the Winston Room. Allowing larger celebrations to be held at this glamorous period house, it has cleverly managed to keep all the sophistication of the original building with must-have mod-cons like a private bar and acoustically lined walls - so you can really party the night away! Overlooking endless perfectly kept lawns and lush blooming flower gardens, we can't think of many better places to become Mr and Mrs.
Max capacity: 110 guests.
££: Exclusive 24-hour hire of Washingtonborough Hall – including 11 bedrooms and suites - starts at £2,000.
washingtonboroughhall.com



10 LITERARY LOVE!
THE LIBRARY AT COMBERMERE
ABBEY, SHROPSHIRE

Why you'll love this place... Visited by royalty and aristocrats throughout the Abbey's rich history, you're sure to feel like a princess for the day.
Tell us more! From January 2016, couples planning a mid-winter ceremony during January or February can now say 'I do' in Combermere Abbey's stunningly ornate Library. A room steeped in over 800 years of history, this magical setting has recently undergone specialist restoration – and the result is some serious old-school grandeur, girls! We're smitten with the idea of lighting a log fire to glimmer through a cosy ceremony before taking your reception to the Abbey's famous Glasshouse. Tucked among the historic building's picturesque walled gardens, your guests will love every minute.
Max capacity: 60 guests.
££: Hire of both The Library and The Glasshouse costs £4,000.
combermereabbey.co.uk

