

T&C WEDDINGS



Love Wins

It may be a long time before we return to 200-person ballroom celebrations, but here's the silver lining: A small backyard wedding is more personal and intimate, and all about the things that actually matter. We'll handle the rest of the details.

No Back Yard? No Problem.

Take your pick of grand estates—with fabulous landscaping—to create your backyard wedding scene.



Su Casa, the oceanfront mansion at the Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, in Puerto Rico.

ven a microwedding at home can be quite an undertaking (see below). Here are just a few magnificent houses, most with historical clout, to rent out for a wedding. Plus, their grounds are already so spectacular, minimal decoration is required.

SU CASA, PUERTO RICO

The crown jewel of the Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, near San Juan is this five-bedroom 1920s Spanish Hacienda–style villa, formerly the home of aviator Clara Livingston. The house, which sleeps 12, has an expansive oceanfront lawn—an ideal spot for the ceremony—and two swimming pools for post-nuptial revelry.

AMANGANI, WYOMING

Perched on a hill, this luxury Jackson Hole resort occupies one of the best pieces of real estate in town. Along with the all-suite main hotel, the Amangani has standalone four- to six-bedroom residences, each with panoramic views of the Grand Tetons. Is there a more auspicious way to ensure a successful union than exchanging vows on a wide terrace, with only your closest family and friends present, just as the sun begins to set over the mountains?

BILTMORE, NORTH CAROLINA

The descendants of George Washington Vanderbilt III, who built the Asheville estate as his primary residence in the late 19th century, still own Biltmore, the largest private home in the USA. The immense property has many superb locations for an alfresco ceremony, including the grand mansion's front lawn, a walled garden, and the Knoll at the Inn on Biltmore Estate, which has views of the Blue Ridge Mountains and has become quite a popular elopement spot this year.

THE FLEMING VILLA, JAMAICA

GoldenEye, the Jamaica hotel that used to be the hideaway of James Bond creator Ian Fleming, is already like a home away from home. You enter through locked gates; there is no sign visible from the road. The five-bedroom Fleming Villa, where its namesake wrote all the 007 novels, has been preserved the way he left it. With a private beach, garden, and lawn, it's perfect for a stealth celebration. *L.K.*