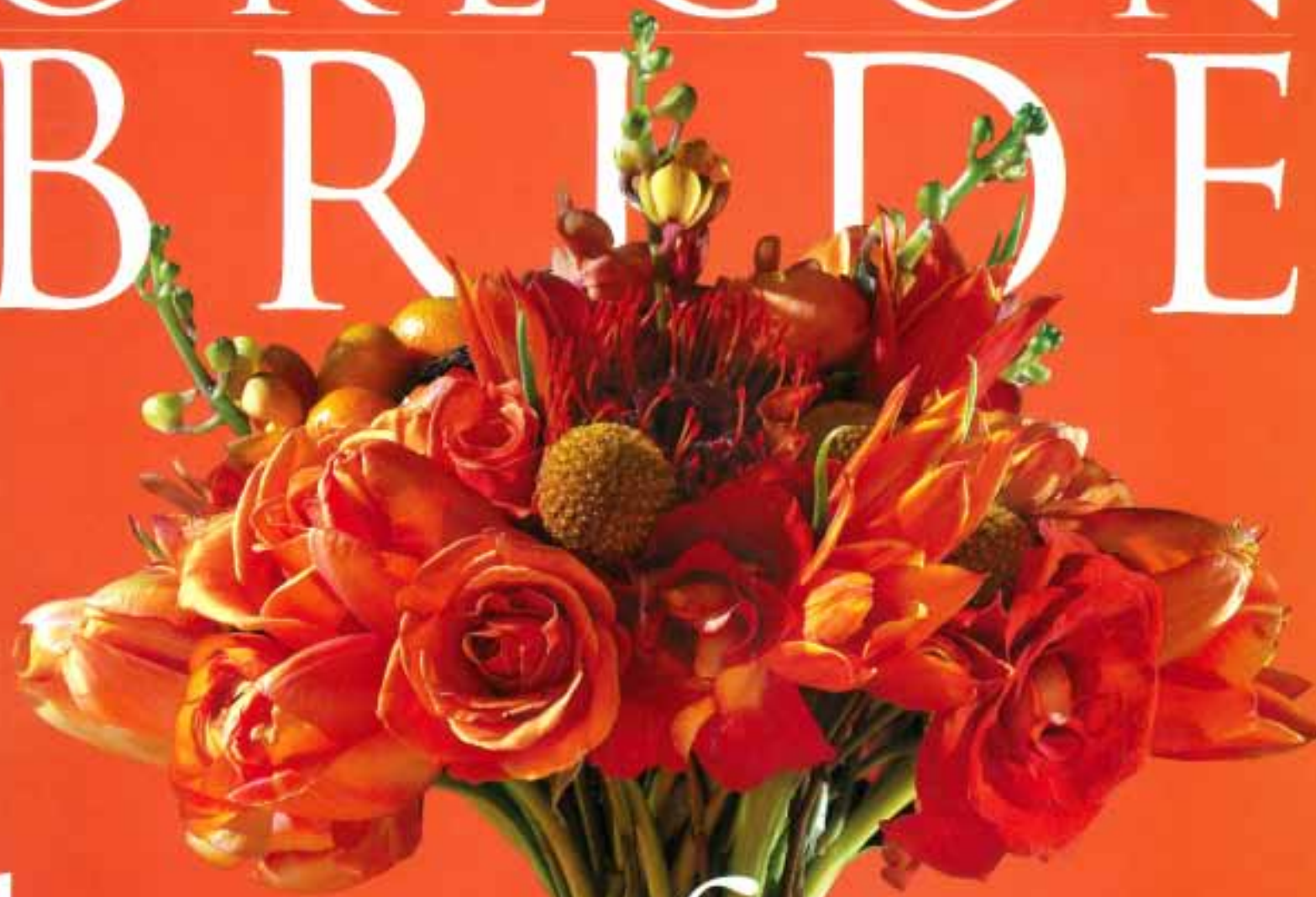


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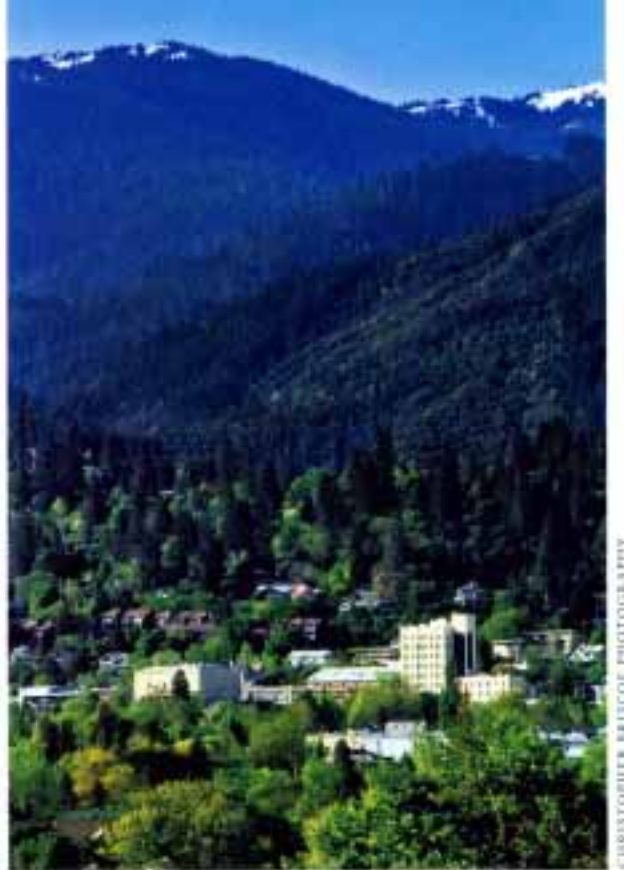
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DISPLAY JULY/AUG



CHRISTOPHER BRITCOE PHOTOGRAPHY

Right to Left: Lindsay and Steve Ryan kiss in the middle of Ashland's Main Street; the spectacular view of Ashland, Jacksonville and the Siskiyou Foothills.

Southern Oregon

GO SOUTHBOUND: A GUIDE TO GETTING MARRIED SOUTH OF EUGENE

THERE ARE A LOT OF QUIRKY THINGS about Southern Oregon. For one, you can watch a ball roll uphill at the Vortex in Gold Hill. You can slurp pungent mineral water out of a fountain in downtown Ashland. And you've got an entire city (Grants Pass) that hails to a caveman.

It's all just part of the charm—and the adventure—of throwing a wedding in Southern Oregon.

This region encompasses a vast area with a plethora of natural and cultural odysseys. It's home to the legendary Wild and Scenic Rogue River where Ginger Rogers and Clark Gable used to fly fish. Boasting an impressive wine country, Southern Oregon produces some of the state's finest vintages and varieties. Near the towns of Ashland, Jacksonville, Grants Pass and Medford are spectacular vineyards, some of which have manicured grounds well equipped for a beautiful wedding. And the land itself is a natural playground: we have the nation's deepest lake, Crater Lake, hiking trails, backcountry and downhill ski areas, and underground caves carved out of marble—so wedding guests can

indulge their inner explorer. And of course, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, which reigns over the city of Ashland for eight months out of the year.

Modern history of this area dates back to the Applegate Trail of 1846. With that trail came opulent, gold-rush-era architecture. As in, historically renovated gorgeous buildings and grounds for trading vows.

And here's a nice bonus: Southern Oregon has a drier and sunnier climate than other parts of the state, which should ease a gal's mind when it comes to roofless venues. So what are you waiting for? Check out our roundup of Southern Oregon venues and vendors to help you pull off your Oregon wedding.

CEREMONY AND RECEPTION SITES

THE GREEN SPRINGS BOX R RANCH

Ashland; 16799 Hwy. 66;
541.482.1873; boxranch.com

Channel your inner cowgirl and get hitched at the new Great Western Hall at the beautiful 1500-acre Box R Ranch. Its barn-wood walls, wood plank floor

and cathedral style ceilings offer casual "Old West" elegance at this working guest ranch. You can get married outside, too, among the tall fir trees, hiking trails and wide-open areas. Box R Ranch offers full catering and can handle groups of up to 250 guests.

JACKSONVILLE INN

Jacksonville; 175 E California St.,
800.321.9344; jacksonvilleinn.com

Listed in the National Historic Register, the 1861 Jacksonville Inn is one of the area's early gold-rush structures. Its dining area and lounge are built of locally quarried sandstone (flecks of gold are still visible in the mortar) and its guest suites exude historic opulence. It's also an epicurean adventure, from its wine list to elaborate menus featuring such decadent dishes as Pastry Wrapped Wild Salmon with Lemon & Dill Beurre Blanc.

UNDER THE GREENWOOD TREE

Medford; 3045 Bellinger Ln.;
541.776.0000; greenwoodtree.com

Big beautiful oak trees, sweeping green

lawns and thousands of garden flowers on ten acres of peaceful grounds make this quaint B&B an ideal wedding locale. Located in Medford, Under the Greenwood Tree can host up to 250 guests. Its staff works to make this a couple's perfect day—they'll even arrange for a horse-drawn carriage if you so desire.

ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL

Ashland; 212 E Main St.; 888.795.4545; ashlandsspringshotel.com

The Historic Ashland Springs Hotel originally opened to much fanfare in 1925 as the Lithia Springs Hotel. Sadly, it fell into disrepair, but was rescued, restored and re-launched in 2000 as Ashland Springs Hotel. The Grand Ballroom, with hand-painted botanicals on the walls and original mica and cast bronze chandeliers, makes for an elegant wedding ceremony and reception site for up to 300 guests. The adjacent English Garden and courtyard, which can seat up to 80 people, is great for warmer weather weddings.

VALLEY VIEW WINERY

Jacksonville; 1000 Upper Applegate Road; 800.781.9463; valleyviewwinery.com

Looking for a vineyard venue? Check out the family owned Valley View Winery in Applegate Valley, just outside Jacksonville. Their Winery Park is adjacent to their beautiful tasting room digs and can hold up to 300 people. The indoor Wine Pavilion can hold up to 75 standing guests, or 48 for a seated affair. The one hitch is that you'll need to purchase cases of Valley View Wine, which actually isn't a hitch at all since it's some of Southern Oregon's finest. Visit their website for a list of their recommended vendors, including caterers.

EDEN VALLEY ORCHARDS / VOORHIES MANSION

Medford; 2310 Voorhies Road; 541.512.2955; edenvalleyorchards.com

Built in 1898 when Eden Valley was one of the area's first pear orchards, the gorgeous Voorhies Mansion (think southern plantation house with huge white pillars) is at the center of the estate. The wedding can happen inside the estate, outside in the formal gardens, in the vineyard or their western-style historic barn. Not that it matters: Each offers amazing views of the rolling hills and distant mountains.

CATERING, CAKES & ARTISAN TREATS

HELENA DARLING CATERING

Ashland; by appt. only; 541.488.1124; helena-darling.com

Helena Darling is the way to go for the gastronomic couple. The company specializes in innovative meals, gorgeous presentation and specially tailored menus. Brides can choose from simple fare to over-the-top, multiple course menus. Their Rogue Valley Supper menu features such dishes as Alder Smoked Salmon Canapes, Rosemary Roast Chicken & Pinot Braised Sirloin Tips. Need we say more?

JACKSONVILLE INN

Jacksonville; 175 E California St.; 800.321.934; jacksonvilleinn.com

The Jacksonville Inn is a beautiful venue if you want the whole package. However, they do offer incredible catering for offsite weddings, too. They have multiple menus, but will work with you to create your ideal meal. How does sautéed prawns in a Chardonnay sauce with plum tomatoes and capers sound?

To top it all off, Jacksonville Inn's onsite pastry chef will work to create your dream wedding cake using the freshest ingredients.

CARLOTTA'S CUSTOM CATERING

Shady Cove; Windmill Square, Hwy. 62; 541.878.7400; carlottascatering.com

This is one-stop-shopping on the food front. Carlotta's Catering specializes in wedding receptions, and its staff will work with you to create your perfect menu and wedding cake. If your guest list is miles long, this is the place to work with. They've coordinated events with as many as 600 people—and they'll travel to venues all over Southern Oregon.

LILLIE BELLE FARMS

Jacksonville; 1345 Daisy Creek Road; 888.899.2022; lilliebellefarms.com

Instead of a traditional cake, why not serve handmade organic truffles? Or decorate your centerpieces with edible chocolate art? Lillie Belle Farms started with chocolate maker Jeff Shepherd making 4 flavors of truffles in his home kitchen and selling them at local farmers markets. Just a few years later, he makes dozens of flavors and styles, and uses his own 2-acre crop of raspberries, strawberries and marionberries in his chocolates.

SWEET CONCLUSIONS WEDDING CAKES

Ashland; by appt. only; 541.846.7430; sweetconclusions.com

Sweet Conclusion's Tana Marie will work with brides to create their perfect personally designed wedding cake. Her beautiful handmade creations are a result of her 18-plus years of interest and experience in European and American cake and pastry baking.

Left to Right: The safari-clinic lobby of the Ashland Springs Hotel; Ashland Spring's garden patio



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PHOTOGRAPHERS

VISUALIZE PHOTO

Medford; 320 E Main St., 541.941.9192;
visualizephoto.com

Photographer JoHanna White makes it a pre-wedding priority to get to know the bride and groom. That way, she can ensure that a couple's album has its own unique and personal style. White says capturing and creating the silly, fun-loving shots, as well as the emotional, romantic ones is what drives her passion for photography. She is based in Medford, but will travel around Oregon (and beyond) to shoot weddings.

CHRISTOPHER BRISCOE PHOTOGRAPHY

Ashland; by appt. only; 541.488.2005;
christopherbriscoe.com

This former third-grade teacher has been in the business since the early eighties. His style is very relaxed, but at the same time, he says that "some photos are best set up." An in-demand guy that travels internationally (shooting celebs like Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones) he only shoots about 20 weddings a year, so call him now.

BEYOND IMAGES PHOTOGRAPHY

Medford; by appt. only; 866.841.0863;
beyondimages.com

Joseph C. Ramos II of Beyond Images Photography says he doesn't think too much about his style. "I'm too busy thinking about fitting in to the taste of my bride and groom," he says. "It's not about me. It's about them." He says he'll travel to backyards, parks - anywhere the bride needs him to go.

The grand exterior of the Ashland Springs Hotel.





Tiffany and Alec Dickinson pose over the stream in Ashland's Lithia Park.

FLOWERS

THE ENCHANTED FLORIST WEDDINGS & EVENTS

Ashland; 157 A St.; 888.623.5201; kirklands.biz
 Leslie and Brandon Kirkland started doing wedding flowers out of their home, and soon after opened their own successful retail flower shop in Ashland. Today, Enchanted Florist specializes in one-of-a-kind floral arrangements that use rare and unique flowers mixed in with non-traditional items including fruit, twigs—even vegetables.

JUDY'S FLOWERS AND GIFTS

*Multiple locations; 800.664.1878;
 judysflowersandgifts.com*

The family owned and operated Judy's Flowers and Gifts specializes in fresh flowers and offers a variety of great wedding package specials, in addition to more customized bouquets, boutonnieres and ceremony flowers. With multiple locations in Southern Oregon, they cover most of the region.

FLOWER TYME

*Ashland; 55 N Main St.; 800.400.1588;
 flowertyme.com*

Owner and manager Lou Ann David has been a floral designer since 1972—and has on-staff designers who keep current when it comes to floral design trends, whether it's using non-traditional items or high-style contemporary designs. ■

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