

Black & white vintage chic

Number of Guests 160

Estimated cost R300 000

The Wedding Planner

Wedding Concepts,

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running water, the costs to host a wedding here are higher than they would be at a more commercially driven location.)

The invitations

Your invitation should set the tone for your wedding. For this black and white theme, special wallpaper was created to form part of the décor at the wedding and was incorporated into all stationery. Envelopes were handwritten by a calligrapher to continue the vintage theme and add a personal touch.

The décor

Guests like to experience your personal 'fingerprint' on each part of the day. In keeping with



The setting

Waterkloof Wine Estate in Stellenbosch offers an extremely romantic and breathtaking setting for a marquee wedding. The grounds accommodate the largest marquee sizes available and offer a natural flow for chic lounge areas as well as band and dance floor extensions. (As the estate offers no infrastructure other than the lawns and



the theme, über-chic furniture and stylish elements were brought in – even the table linen was carefully selected to match the wallpaper. By combining more traditional elements (such as cut-crystal glassware) with more modern touches (like smoked Perspex containers), you can make a very bold statement. Extend this contrast to the floral arrangements by combining traditional flowers with stark features like king proteas and cacti.

Tables

Opt for longer rectangular tables, which encourages socialising throughout the dinner. A round table seating 10 guests is 1,8m in diameter and almost impossible to converse across; a rectangular table, however, spans 1m and conversation flows well between groups of six to eight people.

The food

Simply styled, delicious canapés are great with predinner drinks. For the main course, it's best to stay with a more traditional approach (your guests may not be as adventurous as you are). Introduce a more light-hearted note to your formal sit-down dinner by offering quirky nibbles to your guests at the end of the evening.

The drinks

Cocktail bars are always a hit. Match your predinner drinks to the canapés and select a range of personalised cocktails that guests will remember. During dinner, it is best to downscale the drinks and to match your wine to your menu. Once the dance floor opens and the party begins, your special cocktail creations can again be brought into play.



ANTICLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT Wraps or pashminas make a uniquely usable take-home gift; bring in lighting that will add to the grandeur; extend the colour scheme to your cake; hanging lamps, appropriately decorated to match the theme, are another lighting option that add to the ambience



The cake

This is another important part of your wedding menu and not only should it be designed as an extension of the overall décor and colour theme but it can also become a focal point if placed in the centre of the dance floor. Serve pieces as a late night snack or offer a slice packed up in a small gift box before guests leave after the party.

The music

Put a good amount of thought into matching the right musicians to the ambience you wish create for the evening. Live music remains the most spectacular option from an entertainment perspective; however, no one can compete with the extensive repertoire of a good DJ. If the budget allows, try to combine the two.

The special touches

• When allocating funds to take-home gifts for your guests, make sure they remain useful after the wedding. When it gets slightly cooler during the later part of the day, hand out pashminas with a

personally designed thank-you note. Not only do they serve a purpose but they can also pick up your colour scheme and assist to create beautiful group photos!

- Design a special feature that you can use as a memento in your home after the wedding! Create your own personal wallpaper that gets printed on canvas and mounted onto panels to give a stylish edge to the chill-out lounge area around the dance floor.

- The use of mirrors gives the illusion of a grander interior. It also enables guests to see the reflection of the marquee and take in the entire beauty of the setting that you have worked so hard to create.
- Lighting is one of the key elements of a successful marquee wedding. Adapt your favourite patterns, textures and colours as part of the lighting medium. Have lampshades designed and cluster them in groups above the dance floor to create that wow factor! Enhance table décor with lamps. They complement the traditional use of candles and are a chic addition to the overall style.

