

WEDDING DIRECTORY 2018

From Stevens Pass to the Lake Chelan, Methow and Okanogan Valleys

Find exclusive offers, unique ideas and a list of local professionals that are ready to help with every detail. From Wedding Coordinators to the Honeymoon!

WEDDINGS

North Central Washington Style

North Central Washington is the perfect destination for that special event.

Three hundred days of sunshine nearly guarantee you will have perfect weather for your event and the natural beauty of the region provides the perfect backdrop.

Hospitality is the byword for the region's tourism industry. It's the reason North Central Washington is a top vacation spot and why so

many of its residents call the area home. The small town atmosphere means all the wedding details – from flowers, cakes and catering to dresses and photography – get that one-of-a-kind, hands-on touch.

The many unique options of the Okanogan Valley, Lake Chelan Valley, Upper Wenatchee Valley, Cashmere and Leavenworth areas, offer something for everyone on the guest list. The unique rural environment sets the area up as a perfect destination, it's a short drive from anywhere in the Pacific Northwest – just a few short hours from Spokane, the Puget Sound and Lower Columbia.

The forests, mountains and lakes provide the perfect setting for an elegant or a simple country ceremony. Both the newlywed couple and their guests will enjoy the surroundings. Award-winning vineyards and orchards set the agricultural backdrop that has been enhanced by a wealth of recreational opportunities.

After the vows, stick around for a honeymoon to remember. Tee off at one of the excellent golf courses, stop by one of the award-winning wineries, tasting rooms or enjoy the clean lakes and rivers nestled among the majestic Cascades.

Perfect Engagement Photos

Congratulations, you're engaged. This is such an exciting time as you and your now fiance join together and make plans to share the rest of your lives together.

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After celebrating with friends and loved ones, one of the first things you will want to do is capture the moment in engagement photos.

You've most likely seen engagement photos before – the good, the bad and the outright cringe-worthy. To avoid the latter, consider the following elements.

Do Your Research

Choosing a local photographer is key. Look through portfolios and other engagement sessions each professional has photographed.

Keep in mind that many photographers include an engagement photo shoot in their wedding photo package, so you will save in the long run if you book the same photographer for your wedding as your engagement session.

Schedule Early

There are many benefits to snapping your engagement photos as early as possible. Not only will you want to capture the moment while your emotions of excitement are at their peak, but if you have them in hand early, you can incorporate them into your save-the-date cards and your wedding website or publish it with an engagement

announcement in the local paper.

Even if you choose to do none of these things, it will be one task complete. This will give you the free time to focus your attention elsewhere later – when you will need to make many decisions very quickly.

Choose a Style

Your engagement photos should reflect who you and

your fiance are as a couple.

You, your fiance and your photographer should discuss overall style and location, as well as any outfit changes you might have planned.

Keep in mind how you plan to use the photos, as well as who will want them. Think of what you wouldn't want hanging on your grandmother's wall.

Plan Your Outfits

Stick with styles that complement one another and stay within the same color pallet. You also want to avoid looking like a "matching set."

Many brides-to-be incorporate white attire into their engagement sessions, which is a classic choice and allows the groom to choose colors he is comfortable in, as everything matches white.



Photo courtesy of Tracy André Photography

Choosing a photographer is key. Look through portfolios and other engagement sessions each professional has photographed.

Choosing Bridesmaids Dresses



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Have Key Info in Hand
You should know your wedding colors and have your venue booked and your own gown ordered. All of these items will impact the style and hue of the gowns you choose.

Will you be choosing the gown or have you decided to allow your maids to choose their own (with your final approval, of course)? Do you want your maids in the same style?

Will they be wearing various colors or hues of the same color? Know the answers to each of these questions before stepping foot inside a bridal salon.

Start with Pictures
Look through many photos before you begin shopping. Also keep in mind, as much as you love them, your friends are not models (unless they are) — so what you see in photos will look different in person and on each individual person.

Consider the Cost
Not everyone is going to have the same budget, and a compassionate bride-to-be will be mindful of this. Unless you are picking up the tab, don't choose a pricey gown. Not everyone views your wedding as the investment you see it as.

Be Flexible
This applies both to your expectations of the dress and your maids. Keep in mind that the color you see in a magazine might be slightly different in person. Be flexible in terms of what



is will look good on different skin tones. Remember, as much as you might love a color, above all, you want everyone to look their best.

Nothing can cause more drama than choosing bridesmaids dresses — especially if you have a large bridal party or opinionated attendants.

The smart bride understands that this aspect of her wedding is less about her and more about her maids.

Order at the Right Time
Many dresses require one to three months to ship, so be sure to allow for this. After the dresses arrive, you also will need time for your maids to pick them up (unless they are being shipped directly)

and for the gowns to be altered. So don't wait too long before checking this item off the bridal to-do list.

All About the Hair



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But don't fret just yet. Follow these tips and tricks, and you are sure to be happy with the results.

Updo — or Down?
Before you choose a hairstyle, you must take into consideration the style of your gown, as well as the overall tone you are hoping to set for your wedding. Your hairstyle should complement these aspects — not compete with them.

Your face shape also will play a role in your overall decision. Just remember, the goal is to look like the

Your hair is a central component of the overall bridal look. What you choose to do with it — and adorn it with — can dramatically change your finished appearance. How you look will be an obvious focus of wedding planning since everyone else's eyes will be on you.

best version of yourself — not someone completely different. So consider styles that don't stray far from your everyday look.

If you regularly wear your naturally wavy hair loose, a simple side-swept bun with a long veil will look more appropriate than tight ringlets and a tiara.

Veils: The Long and Short of It

The veil has become a classic wedding accoutrement and is available in many lengths, styles and fabrics. Consider the style of your dress when choosing a veil; ideally, these items will be purchased at the same time.


Will you want to show off the back of the dress? Stick with a veil of sheer silk netting. Is your dress an ankle-length, vintage chic stunner? A birdcage veil is the likely choice. When choosing a hairstyle, be sure it allows for

the veil of your choice to be easily secured.

Headpieces and Hair Jewelry

Another option is to forgo the veil altogether. Baubles designed specifically with your locks in mind are getting more and more popular.

Think golden floral combs, delicate headbands and whimsical bun wreaths. You can leave behind jewels and metals of all kind, and go floral; a wreath of delicate rosebuds or one elegant magnolia bloom can add a breath-taking touch of romance.



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An Intimate Affair

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Get Married Where You Want

Think of all the gorgeous venues you could either price yourself out of, or not be able to fit into due to the size of your party. Keeping your guest list small gives you more options.

It also opens up venues that don't traditionally host weddings — or charge "wedding prices." Think of places such as an art museum, a zoo or a greenhouse.

Spend More Quality Time With Guests

An intimate wedding typically has less than 75 guests, which means you will have a lot more time to spend with each person.

Walk around to each table and personally thank people for coming. Depending on the size of your party, consider seating everyone at one long table — creating an intimate dinner party atmosphere.

Do More With Your Money

Small weddings can cost less, saving you thousands. Alternatively, you could spend the same amount as you would



have set aside for a larger affair and splurge on the luxurious extras you want most.

A smaller wedding can be a way for you to ensure your guests have a night they will always remember, and that you have the wedding you always dreamed about.

Put Your Money Toward Your Future

Your wedding day is a magical day and will most likely always hold a distinct place in your heart. But remember, it is just one day.

Hosting a smaller wedding

means you are free to put additional money toward future goals, such as putting a down payment on a house or saving to start a family. Remember, your lives together are just beginning.

A small, intimate wedding has loads of romance to it — as well as many other advantages. While the large wedding has become a staple of contemporary American culture, the small wedding is making a comeback, and for good reason. Before you set your final budget and guest list, consider the following motivations for staying small.

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Plan an Elegant Bridal Tea

Spring is the perfect time to host an elegant bridal tea. Whether you are a bridesmaid or the mother of the bride or groom looking to honor the bride-to-be — or are a bride yourself — consider hosting a fancy get-together.



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It is inexpensive, chic and fairly easy to pull off without additional stress.

Save on Rental Fees

You can save a significant amount of money by hosting the tea at someone's home rather than at an event center or restaurant. Sunny spring weather means everyone should be comfortable in a backyard or patio setup.

You will just need to be sure to have enough seating for everyone, which might require renting a few tables and extra chairs.

Capitalize on Spring Flowers

An outdoor affair also

provides plenty of natural decor. Afraid of rain? Flowers such as peonies are bountiful in spring, and their large blooms mean you only need one or two at each table to create a stunning effect.

Roses also are a classic choice, with many varieties blooming in early spring. Any flower you choose, however, will add feminine flare and complement the tea service.

Use Family China

While the betrothed couple might not be registering for china, you can bet that their grandmothers — and the grandmothers of close friends — did so, still have it and hardly ever use it.

Many women will most

likely be happy to contribute to the occasion and let you borrow their settings. Be sure to keep track of which patterns belong to who, and return them promptly and hand washed. (Most china is too delicate for a dishwasher.)

Don't Forget the Tea Alternatives

Not everyone is fond of tea, so be sure to have alternatives to offer to guests.

For hot beverages that also can be sipped out of china, offer coffee or hot chocolate (a delicacy consumed year-round in many other countries), as well as cold beverages such as lemonade, or water garnished with cucumber or mint.

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Marriage in the Movies

We enjoy every crazy bridesmaid, every heartfelt moment between a bride and her mother, and the general fuss that goes into and surrounds the wedding planning process.

The following three movies, released 10 years apart from each other, focus their respective narratives on the wedding planning process. They also demonstrate how much has changed — and hasn't — when it comes to planning the perfect wedding.

Father of the Bride (1991)

Is there any bride-to-be more perfect than Annie Banks McKenzie? Yes, the original 1950 version is a classic, but there is something about the aura that Kimberly Williams brings to the role that has every modern girl wanting to be just like her.

Plus, her storybook house was made for a backyard wedding. This movie oozes wedding inspiration, and borrowing ideas from it is basically required.

The wedding-themed romantic comedy is a beloved genre — and brings with it a range of emotion.

The Wedding Planner (2001)

What's a girl got to do to stay married? Wedding planner Mary nails marital issues to wedding choices. While she plans lavish affairs for her clients, her would-be courthouse wedding and classic boat neck dress have a simple-elegance to them that you can't not appreciate.

Even though this is not the wedding she ultimately follows through on, her style is effortless — and brides-to-be will covet her style along with her love affair with love.

Bridesmaids (2011)

This movie gets real with the drama that comes with the typical wedding. Meet yet another Annie, only this one is a bridesmaid who just happens to be down on her luck.

She is the made of honor in her best friend's wedding,

where she must plan festivities with the other maids, including Helen, who is seemingly perfect in every way.

Brides, take note. Bride Lillie definitely could have been more sensitive to both friends. Also, don't eat questionable fare before a fitting. Lessons abound in this romantic comedy.



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Celebrate this important day with your family and friends on the lovely grounds of the Cashmere Museum's charming Pioneer Village. Whether you are planning a wedding ceremony, or scheduling a photo shoot, this outdoor venue offers the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable experience. Weddings

may be formal or informal, large or small, and equine friends are even welcome! The space includes a park-like setting, certified kitchen, and a covered picnic pavilion. Near a number of popular reception spaces and just off Highway 2, our parking lot can accommodate shuttle buses. Please contact us at 509-782-3230 or info@cashmeremuseum.org for more information.

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Over 30 years ago, I discovered that weddings were my passion. Nothing is more wonderful than working with happy people and even better, helping them take the next step into their future. I started out in the Seattle area, but for the last 11 years have been living and enjoying the Leaven-

worth area. I have performed over 700 wedding ceremonies in that amazingly wonderful time. Although performing ceremonies is my favorite, I am also skilled at coordinating your reception and more than happy to act as your wedding consultant. I offer you a one hour consultation at no cost to determine as to what level I may best assist you. Call Ellie at 866-521-1859.

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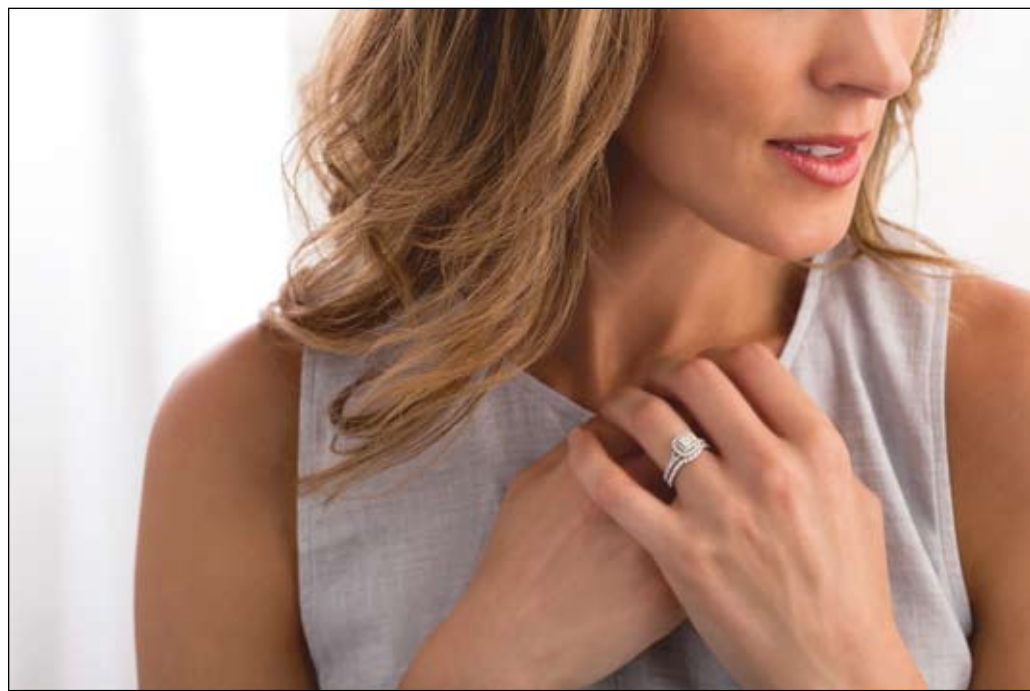
TRACY ANDRÉ PHOTOGRAPHY

My name is Tracy André. I began taking photographs when I first moved to Wenatchee over 30 years ago. It started as a hobby, I would take my camera everywhere I went, whether it was snowboarding, hiking or just to the grocery store. My hobby quickly turned into a passion. A passion for art and beauty. The ability to capture life's beautiful moments and share them with people absolutely amazes me. To think that I can capture these moments and people can cherish them forever gives me a great sense of accomplishment. Please visit my website tracyandre.com or contact me for availability at 509-670-0092 or tracyandre@msn.com.

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Our wedding website is designed to provide brides with everything they will need within a "one stop" website to ensure that they and their guests will remember their wedding day, for a lifetime. In our "View Our Vendors" section, you will find a full directory of local service professionals who are not only experts in their craft but who have extensive knowledge and successful experience with weddings in the Lake Chelan Valley.

How to Pick the Perfect Engagement Ring



(StatePoint) An engagement ring is at once a symbol of love and commitment and also a reflection of a woman's personal style. For the engaged-to-be who hasn't quite determined the perfect sparkler for herself, articulating an engagement ring style can seem challenging.

That's where a trusted jeweler like Jared The Galleria Of Jewelry can help, where sales associates are committed to helping every happily ever after begin with the perfect ring – and that means taking the time to understand every future bride's personal taste. Here are a few tips to help determine what your engagement ring style may be.

Timeless Beauty

For the woman who prefers a more traditional style (think clean designs and sophisticated patterns), a classic engagement ring may be the perfect fit. A great example of this is the solitaire setting, which focuses on highlighting the gorgeous center stone, offering an elegant statement. A modern take on this classic would be the halo setting

where an outline of diamonds encircles and enhances the center stone for a slight twist on tradition.

A Touch of Romance

The woman who thoughtfully selects every accessory to offer the perfect complement to any look knows it's all about the details. An engagement ring with ornate design and intricate craftsmanship offers a distinct, vintage feel inspired by and echoing the most romantic eras of the past. From milgrain finishing to delicate antiquing, these subtle touches offer something extra special – which is fitting for such an important piece of jewelry.

Forever Fashion Forward

The fashionista prides herself on being one-of-a-kind, so her engagement ring obviously has to follow suit. From embracing fancy shape center stones (like pear, emerald, marquise, and oval) to standing out with a gorgeous rose gold or mixed metal setting, there are many options to ensure the engagement ring is as head-

turning as the woman wearing it.

If you are still unsure of the style that's right for you – fear not, retailers like Jared The Galleria Of Jewelry can be a good place to go for inspiration. They have a huge selection of the most popular collections and styles and even offer the option for you to design the perfect engagement ring yourself. Every Jared store offers a Custom Design Studio where customers can bring their jewelry dreams to life. Certified diamondologists and master craftsmen work directly with each customer to create a completely original piece of jewelry. Once aligned on the general design, the customer is able to customize from selecting the type and color of metal to deciding on the shape and cut of the diamond. More information can be found at Jared.com.

For what may be the most important piece of jewelry you will ever wear, take the time to understand your options, and find a piece that suits your style completely.

Thank You Card Etiquette



Receiving wedding gifts is an added joy of getting married. Writing thank-you notes for each of these gifts, however, can be a challenge.

Green Shoot Media

This is especially true if you receive a large number of gifts. Not to worry, with this simple guide, your thank-yous will be thoughtfully written and in the mail in no time.

Who to Thank

Everyone who has given you a gift should receive your thanks. Be sure to add anyone who helped in planning, organizing, and decorating or ran errands on your behalf. Your wedding would not have been what it was without help.

Start by making a list. This will ensure you don't forget anyone and makes it easy to cross off each name as cards are written.

When to Send

For every gift you receive before your big day, you have a couple of weeks to post a thank you note. For every gift received at or after your

wedding, you generally have a few months.

This is not to say you should wait until the end of this etiquette deadline. Try to send your thank-you notes out as quickly as possible – ideally within the first few weeks after you return from your honeymoon.

What to Say

As a culture, we have always struggled with the best way to say, "thank you." The best way to pen a mass quantity of thank-you notes is to stick with a simple formula, with a touch of personalization.

Start with a simple greeting:

Dear _____,

Then express your gratitude: Thank you so much for _____.

Next, mention the gift by name and add a personal detail. This could be how you plan on using or displaying

the gift. If the person has given money, describe how you plan to spend it.

Follow up this sentence by stating when you hope to see the person again, what the person means to you, or just that you're thinking of her.

Finally, end with your regards.

Making it Fun

You can relieve much of your anxiety about the task by making the experience an enjoyable one. Start off by stocking up on some beautiful stationery.

Thank-you cards are items you will need again and again, so you can take advantage of bulk deals without worrying about waste.

Make it an "event." Put on some fun music, pour a glass of wine and pick up your favorite pen. Don't forget to split the task with your beloved.