

Destination Atlanta

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By Harmony Walton

Atlanta

Atlanta blends a booming metropolitan city with sprawling surrounding suburbs, modern-chic parties, and traditional southern weddings. With this mix of city meets the Old South, weddings are anything but behind the times. From sophisticated event spaces to big names in bridal, Atlanta serves up a lot more than wedding cake and southern fried foods.

WHERE TO REHEARSE…at SOUTH CITY KITCHEN, located in Midtown and serving up sophisticated and contemporary Southern cuisine. The restaurant’s second floor can be home to a home-like rehearsal dinner while the exhibition kitchen serves you and your family old southern favorites and local specialties like shrimp grits and fried green tomatoes.

WHERE TO WED…at THE VIEW AT KING PLOW ARTS CENTER. This historic building was once home to a manufacturing plant and today boasts a spot on the National Register of Historic Places. The vast architectural marvel that stands today consists of three levels of loft-like space with views across downtown Atlanta for a one-of-a-kind wedding setting.

WHAT TO WEAR…ANNE BARGE of course! Born and bred Atlanta-native began her first couture bridal shop back in 1981 in the posh area of Buckhead. Through many re-inventions which have taken her all over the world with her work in bridal, she’s back to outfitting southern belles with the elegance and royal detailing befitting of a fabulous black-tie affair.

WHERE TO FIND COUTURE OF A DIFFERENT KIND…CUPCAKES! THE LITTLE CAKE BAKERY serves up old-fashioned sweet goodness wrapped in paper. With flavors like pineapple upside-down and Coca-Cola, your dessert buffet might just be the belle of this Atlanta ball.

WHERE TO SHOWER…at CHOCOLATE PINK, the sweet brainchild of Executive Pastry Chef Christian Balbierer. The event room is home to smallish celebrations of celebrity, bridal, and birthday. Dine on indulgent cheesecakes, tarts, cookies, pastries, or their namesake dessert, The Chocolate Pink Tart and you may want to rethink that itchy bitsy honeymoon bikini.

COMPLETE YOUR LOOK WITH SOMETHING BLUE: To complete the beauty of a Southern Belle bride, don’t forget your SOMETHING BLUE GARTER. Customized for your sorority, wedding colors, or even with his birthstones; these handmade, double faced silk satin ribbon garters are custom made to fit your leg and your taste. Now all you need is something new, borrowed, old and a sixpence in your shoe!

WHERE TO PARTY…THE NEW W HOTEL in Buckhead, open just a few short months ago (so new renderings are the way to go) - this is the hottest hotspot east of the Mississippi. The ultra-modern, swanky city spot is tucked outside of town in sprawling Buckhead where you will find the best of both worlds – sophistication and celebration. But before you say “I Do,” be sure to be camera ready with a trip to the spa and some much needed wedded bliss.

WHAT TO TOAST WITH…OLD-FASHION COKE BOTTLES? Mix up your champagne toast and put a good old-fashioned Atlanta spin on it by toasting to your lifelong happiness with tray passed Coca-Cola bottles and straws. After all, Atlanta is home this American staple. Not quite Coke enough? Give your maids recycled Coca-Cola bottle jewelry by Amanda Jaron Jewelry – a dainty ring or bold cuff makes festive statement

WONDERFUL ENVIRONMENTS are found at TWELVE, a Midtown shop where owner John McDonald has a knack for dressing your home and your event. Looking for a lovely stationary set for your bridesmaids? Check. Outfitting your new

nest with a work of art? Check. Ordering up some spectacular florals for your big day? Check. Twelve has got you covered from all angles.