



*With this Ring*

BRIDAL 2026

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RICK TERRY JEWELRY DESIGNS

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# Simple touches that add an elegant feel to a wedding

The term “the perfect wedding” can be somewhat misleading. Couples have their own ideas regarding the perfect wedding, and no single vision is more worthy of that characterization than another.

Tradition plays a big role at many weddings, as couples have long embraced customs like the first dance, cutting the cake together and even tossing the bridal bouquet at the reception. Traditional weddings often are associated with elegance, and there are many ways to create an elegant aesthetic at a wedding.

- *Consider candlelight.* Candlelight can make any space feel cozy and warm. Lit candles also create a calming and elegant vibe at a wedding. A handful of thoughtfully placed candles around a ceremony space can add a sense of elegance to a wedding. That vibe can be maintained into the reception when candles are placed on dining tables.

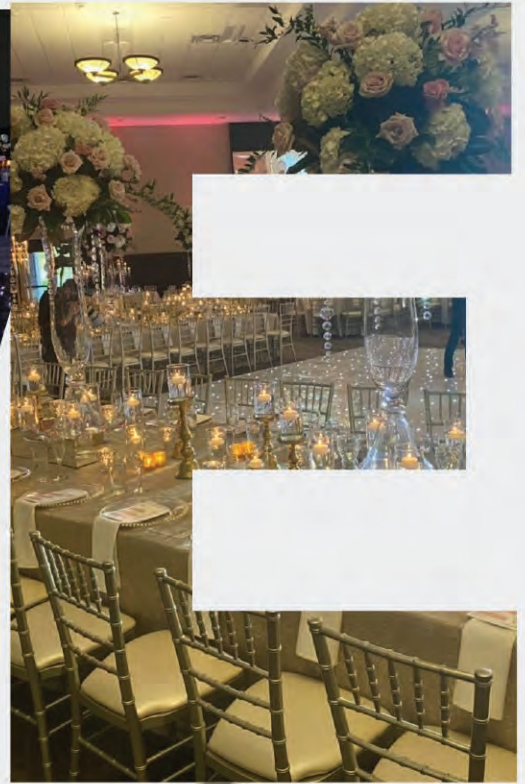
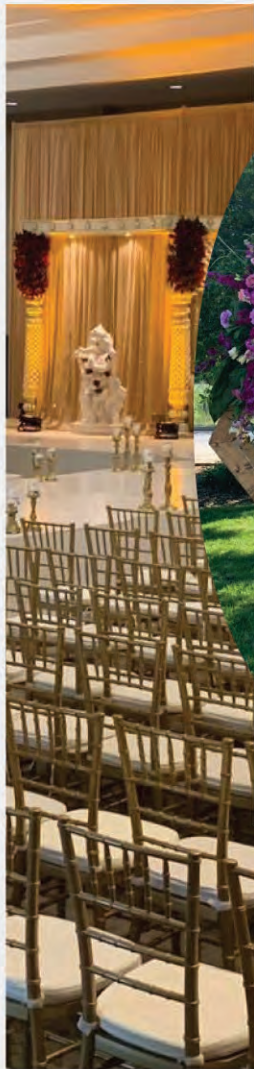
- *Include some vintage items.* Vintage items can add elegance because they call to mind traditional weddings of past eras. Unique vintage vases on seating tables or even as reception table centerpieces are simple to arrange and effective at adding an elegant touch.

- *Choose a signature cocktail.* The drinks guests enjoy at the reception also can add some elegance to the festivities. Ask the reception hall bartender to collaborate on a classic cocktail, ideally one that might have been popular years ago or even a modernized version of a drink that calls to mind ceremonies of yesteryear.

- *Go traditional with wedding attire.* More and more brides are choosing wedding gowns that go beyond the classic white dress. But brides who want something elegant may want to stick to traditional attire. The same goes for grooms, who can choose a traditional black tuxedo to add some simple elegance to the big day.

- *Set your sights on seating.* There’s no area of a wedding that can’t be augmented with a little elegance, and that even goes for seating. Chair sashes complement an elegant theme, and such simple decor is easy to pull off. It also provides instant appeal and a touch of class as guests enter the venue and take a seat.

An elegant wedding aesthetic makes for great photographs and adds a memorable vibe to a ceremony and reception.



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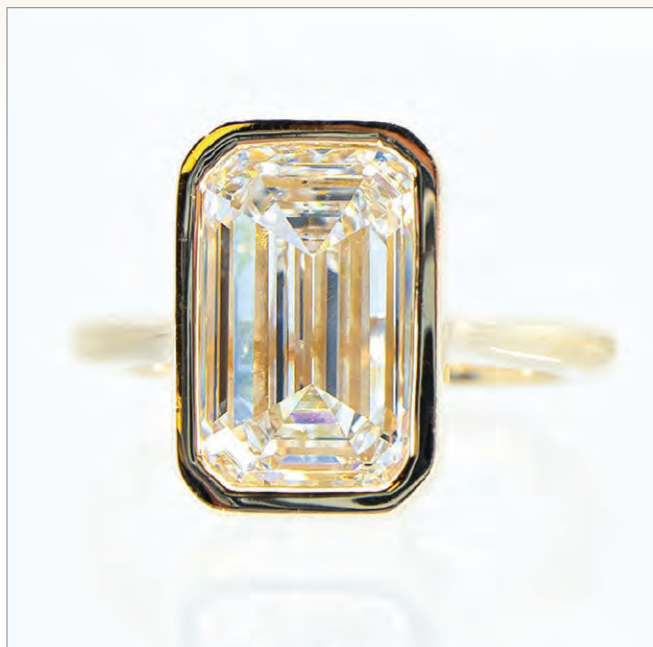
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Photos courtesy of  
The Reserve at Bluebird Hill  
and Temple Photography

# The Reserve at Bluebird Hill

*A venue tailored to individual needs*

Located on 75 scenic acres in picturesque Lenoir City, The Reserve at Bluebird Hill provides everything needed for the wedding of your dreams. The family-owned and operated event venue, which first opened in 2010, offers three different ceremony sites, a 5,500-square-foot event venue and fully customizable bridal options.

“Our venue is tailored to each individual,” said owner Haley Hall. “We love to work with each client to make their dreams come to life.”

Hall said that the three ceremony sites: a courtyard, lower garden and meadow, all of which offer mesmerizing views of the Smoky Mountains. Indoor and outdoor fireplaces, a 50-inch flat screen TV, several gardens, kitchen and free parking for over 300 people.

“We have gorgeous mountain views with plenty of outdoor space to roam while also being able to relax inside in the comfort of heat and air,” Hall said.

**See BLUEBIRD HILL on Page 7**

# Make wedding favors fun and festive

Wedding favors are commonplace at modern weddings. Although guests plan to offer gifts to the happy couple to get them started on their life together, the newly betrothed also can say thank you to all in attendance with small tokens of appreciation.

Typically, wedding favors are not very expensive and lean toward trinkets that guests can keep as mementos. The Knot says couples spend between \$2 and \$5 per favor. That may require budgeting around \$500 to \$700 for wedding favors. It is recommended to order one favor per guest or one per couple if larger items are chosen.

There is no limit to the creativity that can go into choosing wedding favors. Couples who have good senses of humor may want to bestow fun favors on their guests. Here are several fun wedding favor ideas that merit consideration.

- **Edible favors:** Guests may appreciate edible favors because they will not add to any clutter in a guest's home after the wedding. Favors can be local treats from a particular region (think saltwater taffy if the couple is from a coastal town) or custom-made cocoa or tea kits. Edible favors also may be sugar cookies iced with custom messages, like "We're sweet on you."

- **Custom cards:** Custom playing cards with the wedding date or image



of the couple printed on them can be a fun and classic favor. Guests can pull them out for their game night rotation.

- **Caricatures:** There is a growing trend toward incorporating art into wedding receptions, with some couples hiring an artist to paint portraits during the festivities. It's possible to turn the tables on guests and make them the spotlight. A caricature artist can sketch clever pictures of guests, who can take the depictions home as favors.

- **Shot glasses:** Shot glasses are small vessels designed to hold or measure liquor. They hold between one to two ounces. Couples who want to show their playful sides can opt to gift guests who are 21 and over with custom shot glasses they can feature at their bars back home.

- **Favor bar:** Rather than choose the favor for the guest, couples may want to let wedding attendees choose something from a selection of options. By creating a favor bar, guests can build their own favors from the items provided, which can include food or candy, beads and jewelry elements, or some home decor options.

Wedding favors are a nice touch to offer guests. While not very expensive, they are meaningful and can be fun at the same time.

## Bluebird Hill

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"There are so many beautiful gardens and horses surrounding to make the most magical space for couples and guests alike."

The sunrises and sunsets are also spectacular, especially during the golden hour. Because of its immense beauty, Hall said brides interested in The Reserve at Bluebird Hill should strive to book the venue in as far advance as possible.

"I highly recommend booking about one to two years in advance to get the date of their choice," she said. "One of the biggest mistakes I see is couples choosing dates before the venue. While I understand there are circumstances this is necessary. I highly suggest touring venues to find what fits your needs before choosing your date if possible."

While fall is her personal favorite time of the year at The Reserve, Hall added that every season brings its own unique beauty to the property.

"We love being a part of all the celebrations," she said, noting that the best part is hearing praise from the clients. "It makes me proud to hear how much they truly appreciate our hard work and efforts. My husband Scott and I love working together and going above and beyond to make the day and event special."

For more information about  
The Reserve at Bluebird Hill,  
visit [reserveatbluebirdhill.com](http://reserveatbluebirdhill.com).

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