

# the Bridal Guide

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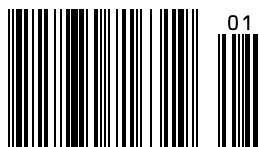
*Natural*  
**BEAUTY**

BEHIND THE SCENES  
WITH ADAMO WINERY  
AND HOCKLEY VALLEY  
RESORT AND SPA

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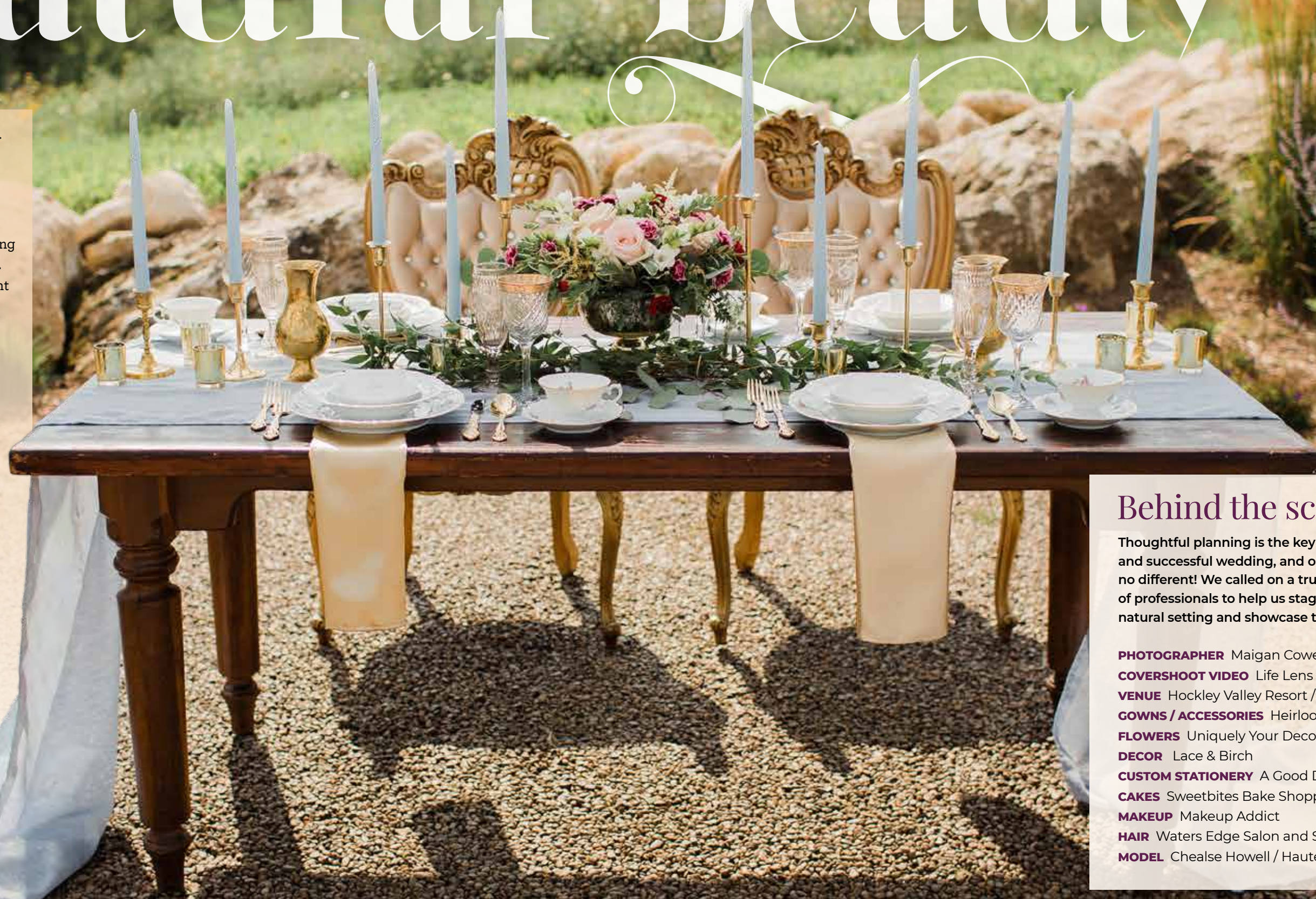
FINDING THE RIGHT  
WEDDING ENTERTAINMENT  
FOR YOUR BIG DAY



# natural beauty

**T**his year's cover shoot was a celebration of natural beauty all around, from our pristine outdoor setting to our blushing bride. We chose to highlight the natural element, because it's a style that celebrates both nature and the individual, and it's majorly on trend for 2019. This year we were lucky enough to work with wedding photographer and professional wanderlust, Maigan Cowen, who not only brought our vision to life, but was a dream to work with.

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## Behind the scenes

Thoughtful planning is the key to a memorable and successful wedding, and our cover shoot is no different! We called on a trusted, reliable list of professionals to help us stage the ultimate natural setting and showcase the hottest trends.

**PHOTOGRAPHER** Maigan Cowen Photography  
**COVERSHOOT VIDEO** Life Lens  
**VENUE** Hockley Valley Resort / Adamo Winery  
**GOWNS / ACCESSORIES** Heirlooms Bridal Shoppe  
**FLOWERS** Uniquely Your Decor  
**DECOR** Lace & Birch  
**CUSTOM STATIONERY** A Good Day Inc.  
**CAKES** Sweetbites Bake Shoppe  
**MAKEUP** Makeup Addict  
**HAIR** Waters Edge Salon and Spa  
**MODEL** Chealse Howell / Haute Agency





"Behind the scenes was an absolute blast," says Cowen.

"The general energy of the day was relaxed and fun – there were so many smiles and laughs as everyone was in their element just doing what they loved."

It's fitting because that's what 2019's natural trend is all about; just being in your element and letting your natural joy shine through. Here's a closer look at how it all went down:

It all starts with an invitation. Ours comes from A Good Day Inc, where owner Jordan Kentris worked with us to find the perfect invite, that truly embraces the simple natural theme we hoped to showcase. Our wedding's accent colour was light blue, and the invitation design was perfectly on point, featuring delicate white and gold flowers on a blue background, along with a simple white parchment response card, with a gold border and blue font. Simple, yet elegant.

Natural outdoor settings seem to be gaining popularity this year, so the Hockley Valley Resort and Spa, along with its sister property, Adamo Estate Winery, were both perfect choices for our cover shoot. With plenty of mature trees and lush gardens, the properties made a striking backdrop for the shoot and showcased just the type of nature-inspired venue that



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"simply beautiful" Selina & Joel Griffin







couples are increasingly booking for their own ceremonies.

Though they might be somewhat weather-dependant, outdoor settings are a great way to let nature work its magic, resulting in breathtaking photos and an unforgettable experience. Aside from that, there are so many outdoor venue styles to choose from, especially here in Canada. You're just as likely to find a sprawling property that can accommodate a large-scale wedding party as you are a quiet nook for a more intimate ceremony.

Jill Routliffe, co-owner with Brian

Ramos, and lead planner of Lace and Birch, was more than up to the challenge of decorating for the shoot, along with Carol Pogson, owner of Uniquely Your Decor, who brought everything to life as the shoot's florist.

After seeing a photo of the gorgeous wedding dresses provided by Irene Stepus and the team at Heirlooms Bridal Shoppe, our decor team immediately began conceptualizing a design for the look and feel of the shoot. This included soft gold accents and hints of pastel blue. "Once a vision comes into my

head, it sort of just flows," says Routliffe.

It was easy to get inspired by our two Heirlooms Bridal Shoppe dresses. Our cover dress is a jaw dropping blush pink gown, that highlights the bride's best features. The second gown has a Grecian feel, with a detailed bodice, lace overlays and a gorgeous flow and movement to it that makes our model look like a goddess.

And inspired they were. Pogson stepped up her game, leaving her touch on everything from the table arrangement

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to floral embellishments for the cakes. Soft green leaves covered every surface available, and the setting burst to life with just the right pairing of peach and pink roses.

Both Pogson and Routliffe worked to turn the natural oasis into a modern and chic wedding venue. Routliffe believes that “rustic and laid back venues” are seeing a rise in popularity, as well as velvet and textured fabrics, and casual food options, like candy tables.

Circling back to the natural theme, our makeup artist, Laura Clerici, went light and airy when putting the finishing touches on model Chealse Howell. “Chealse is fair,” explains Clerici. “So we wanted to stay with pinks and peaches.” She says the palette was also based on the ethereal setting and abundant sunlight on the day of our shoot. But it’s not just

our cover model who’s indulging in a natural, dewy look. Natural makeup is making a big comeback this year, starting with flawless, clean skin and more neutral colours throughout. For 2019, makeup is all about subtly enhancing your natural beauty and letting it shine through the way it was meant to.

Irma Napoleon, a hair stylist at Water’s Edge Salon and Spa, took over when it came to styling the model’s abundant blonde locks. “I always look at someone’s natural beauty and work on enhancing that,” she says about her approach to working with brides on their wedding day. “If someone has beautiful hair, I’m not going to hide it away in a bun.” Echoing our ethereal, nature-inspired theme, Napoleon predicts that 2019 will see a lot of loose braids or bohemian

twists, as well as subtle accessories like beaded wire worked in. As for our cover model? “I wanted to bring out the beauty and innocence in her,” says Napoleon. “I wanted it to be fresh and natural.”

But hold your horses, we can’t forget the cakes! Owner Kathy Tang from Sweetbites Bake Shoppe knocked it out of the park with her gorgeous creations. She created three completely unique cakes that each embody the theme in their own way, all while complementing each other. All three cakes feature sweeping rows of edible flowers and incorporate the peaches, pinks and blues that are used to contrast the natural greens of the surroundings.

Are you getting married in 2019? With the right vendors, friends, family and support, your wedding can be just as breathtaking, with your own unique twist.

