

# WEDDING Your expert guide to bridal blooms

# flowers

JUNE/JULY 2010 £4.90

## 294

### BIG DAY IDEAS

Chic bouquets, colour themes, & the prettiest tablecentres

### SIMPLE DIY

Make your own arrangements in three easy steps

HOW TO...  
Give your venue the WOW factor

FREE!  
READER  
EVENT  
IN ASSOCIATION  
WITH NEW COVENT  
GARDEN MARKET



*The new*  
**vintage**

Choose delicate blooms for a romantic wedding







# African elegance

Nicole & Darren's intimate wedding at Clouds Estate in Stellenbosch, South Africa

**The inspiration...** We're both South African and couldn't imagine anywhere more beautiful to hold our wedding. We wanted it to be an elegant, spiritual and intimate affair with only close friends and family present. Clouds Estate combined the beauty of the surrounding scenery with the efficiency you'd expect from a top venue, and the grounds were perfect for our open-air ceremony.

**The look...** I've always thought there is something so fresh about a pink and green colour scheme. My bridesmaids wore pretty dresses to match this palette, and I chose a short veil and a simple fitted gown with delicate embroidery and a fishtail train. It was the very first dress I tried on and I loved it immediately.

The flowers my bridesmaids and I carried and those used to decorate the venue were a gorgeous combination of tulips, pink 'Aqua' roses, lisianthus and bright green molucella. The three long reception tables were sheltered under a canopy and decorated with different-sized floral displays placed in a combination of glass vases and china pots. Darren and I had seats set up for us at each table and we moved from one place setting to the next with each course to ensure we spent time with everyone during the meal.

**The finishing touches...** The ceremony area looked stunning. Our wedding planner Aleit had the wonderful idea of suspending pink tulips in mini globe vases from the canopy under which we






“We served our chocolate ganache cake for dessert and it was as much of a pleasure to eat as it was to look at”



said our vows. Each vase was secured with invisible wire and threaded with sparkling crystals that caught the light. Our floral table stationery was designed to complement the green and pink floral tablecentres. Each guest was given their own menu secured with pink ribbon and finished with a floret from a succulent plant. For a unique take on traditional placecards, we suspended little name tags from each guest's wine glass with ribbon threaded with small crystal beads.

**My favourite moment...** Our first dance was definitely the most memorable part of the evening for me. We'd rehearsed it religiously for a month before the wedding and, even though we forgot some of the steps, I felt like we were Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. We tore up the dance floor in our own special way! 



## Nicole's address book

**Wedding planner:** The Aleit Group ([www.aleit.co.za](http://www.aleit.co.za))

**Photographer:** Jean-Pierre Uys ([www.jeanpierrephotoblog.com](http://www.jeanpierrephotoblog.com))

**Venue:** Clouds Estate ([www.cloudsestate.co.za](http://www.cloudsestate.co.za))

**Florist:** Flower Floral Design ([www.flowerfloraldesign.co.za](http://www.flowerfloraldesign.co.za))

**Dress:** Lady Marmalaide ([www.ladymarmalaide.com](http://www.ladymarmalaide.com))

**Cake:** Kanya Hunt (00 27 82 375 5200)

## Get the look...

**Wedding cake:** For a cake with intricate chocolate decoration, try Patisserie Valerie (020 7245 6161, [www.patisserie-valerie.co.uk](http://www.patisserie-valerie.co.uk)).

**Bridesmaid dresses:** Alfred Angelo (01908 262626, [www.alfredangelo.com](http://www.alfredangelo.com)) has bridesmaid dresses in every colour imaginable, many of which feature contrasting waist sashes.

**Stationery:** If, like Nicole, you want co-ordinating table stationery mounted onto pretty paper, visit Borrowed Blue Press (01227 455500, [www.borrowedbluepress.co.uk](http://www.borrowedbluepress.co.uk)).