

destination weddings

THE TRAVEL MAGAZINE
FOR BRIDES AND GROOMS

& honeymoons

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FROM LOW-KEY
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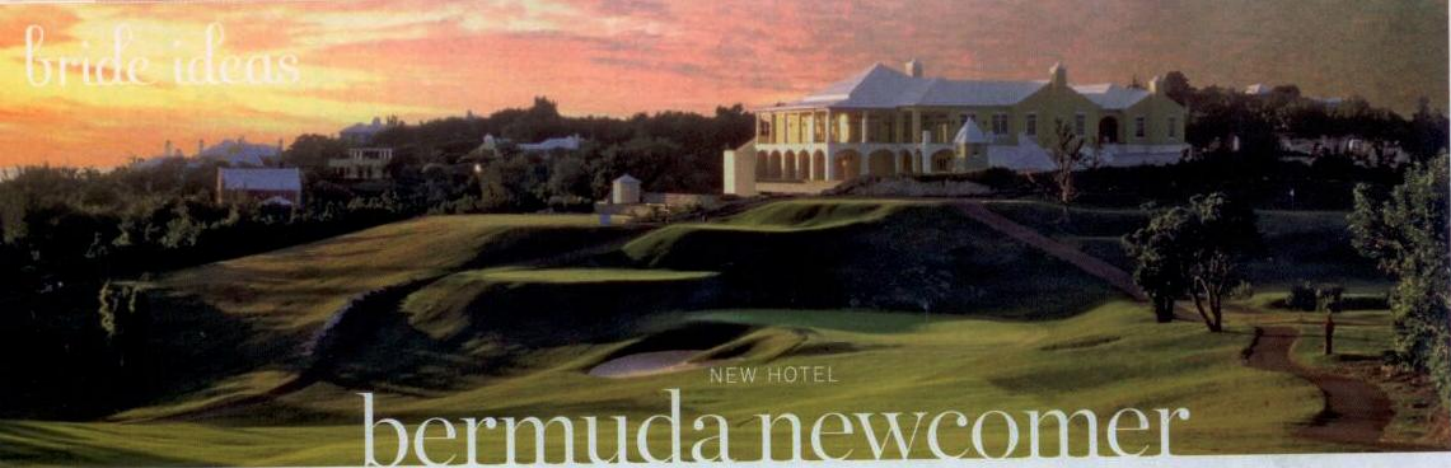
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WORK

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NEW HOTEL
bermuda newcomer

In a locale that embodies history and tradition, the April 2009 opening of **TUCKER'S POINT HOTEL & SPA** is a very big deal. And happily, the 88-room property is welcoming weddings with open arms. Marry on the croquet lawn (seats 175), then enjoy cocktails on the Pergola Terrace overlooking Harrington Sound. For the reception, keep it intimate in the wine room or go big with a Beach Club bash. There's no lack of activities either, from sunset cruises on the property's 35-foot catamaran to s'mores parties on the beach. And, of course, guests will appreciate Bermuda's classic draws — pink-sand beaches, a temperate climate and proximity to the eastern United States — just as much as its posh new addition. *Rooms from \$460. — Blake Miller*

EUROPEAN VENUES

CONTINENTAL APPEAL

Dreaming of an Old World do? Whether you've a taste for hip or historic, here are three romantic spots to consider.



Lausanne

A fairy-tale landscape of castles, lakes and mountains comes together in this French-accented alpine spot.



Galway/Mayo

Ireland's western region and artistic heart offer legendary warmth and gorgeous untamed scenery.



Tuscany

Heady cedar-scented breezes, vineyard-covered hills and cozy trattorias inspire passion.

VIBE

OLD-WORLD CHARM

MODERN COOL

Ballrooms with wedding-cake moldings, elaborate chandeliers and stunning views of Lake Geneva and the Alps grace the grand **Beau-Rivage Palace** hotel. *Rooms from \$434.*

Weddings are held throughout **Ashford Castle's** 300-acre estate, including on the river bluff or great lawn with the circa-1228 castle-turned-hotel as your backdrop. *Rooms from \$315.*

Say your vows within the 11-acre walled park at **Four Seasons Hotel Firenze**. Frescoed ceilings and a private chapel hint at its past life as a papal residence. *Rooms from \$430.*

At contemporary **Mövenpick Hotel Lausanne**, enjoy cocktails in the Lavaux vineyards, then celebrate with up to 320 in the ballroom. *Rooms from \$219.*

Hold your bespoke reception at the whimsically chic **g hotel**, owned by wow milliner Philip Treacy, and your room is complimentary. *Rooms from \$220.*

B4 Firenze Granducato, once a 16th-century private villa, is now a mod hotel. Marry in a lush garden and toast your union with local wines. *Rooms from \$175.*
— Katie McElveen

COOL VENUE

love train

The **ST. KITTS SUGAR TRAIN** rides along round-the-island tracks originally laid in 1912 to haul sugar cane. Today the double-decker coaches (bottom level air-conditioned, top open-air) can be rented for one-of-a-kind, narrow-gauge nuptials. You and your guests board the train and are transported to the location of your choice, where you'll exchange vows. Everyone then re-boards for a roving, rum-punch-powered reception as the train chugs past rainforest, sugar estates and the Caribbean coast. When the festivities end, the conductor unhitches the specially decorated "bedroom car," leaving you and your hubby to cozy up in a locomotive love nest for the night while your guests party their way back to the boarding point. *From \$2,500. — Sarah Greaves-Gabbidon*

