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723 WAYS TO WOW YOUR GUESTS

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from the publisher of *Vogue & Glamour*



THE GUEST LIST
260 INVITED,
200 ATTENDED

WHY NAPA?

"It's close to home but still feels like an escape. This ranch outside St. Helena felt rustic and remote—and very northern California," says Margaret.

THE CEREMONY "Flowers were hugely important to me. We set up a massive altar made of hundreds of dendrobium orchids. I had my bouquet wrapped in my grandmother's handkerchiefs and pinned with another grandmother's brooch."

THE RECEPTION "The party was in a modern barn, dressed up with three chandeliers. Paula LeDuc Catering created a farm-to-table menu with dishes like sweet-corn risotto and double-cut lamb chops, paired with local wines. Our guests couldn't get enough of our Motown band—when Patrick jumped in to sing 'Honky Tonk Woman' with them, it was sooo horrible, but what a memory!"

"THE BAND PLAYED BEHIND THE BARN SO WE COULD DANCE UNDER THE STARS."

BUDGET—OVER OR UNDER? "Over by 10 percent. We ended up needing extra days for setup. Also, I went flower crazy."

TAKEAWAY TIP "If you can afford it, get a planner. It makes the process much smoother. And you'll spend a ton of time together, so make sure you like and trust the person."

Planning: Kristin Newman and Reagan Barnes; kristinnewmandesigns.com.

Flowers: Gathering Floral + Event Design; gatheringevents.com.

Photography: Kate Webber; katewebber.com.

Clockwise from top left: "My Vera Wang dress felt romantic and modern," says Margaret. Instead of cake, servers passed desserts like pink-peppercorn shortbread. Table numbers and escort cards were displayed in rope-knot holders. "The barn just glowed at sunset," says the bride. Clusters of white blooms framed the ceremony space.

