

realweddings

vancouver

a celebration of life

OUR
10TH
YEAR!

*our
celebration
issue*

**BEAUTIFUL
REAL WEDDINGS**

**LOCAL VENUES
GOWNS &
VENDORS**

TAG READER EDITION

VOL. 10, ISSUE 2, NO. 20 DISPLAY UNTIL SEPT 11
www.realweddings.ca CAN \$4.50



ROMANTIC DESTINATIONS & HONEYMOONS • SAYULITA, MEXICO

BEAUTY • STYLE • FASHION *& more!*



Stanley Park Pavilion Celebrates 100 Years

This year marks the **Stanley Park Pavilion's** 100th anniversary, continuing a tradition of hosting elegant weddings and special events for both local and international guests. From its beginnings as a concession stand, to the "place to see and be scene" in the 1930s, the Pavilion has become a charming banquet facility that boasts visits from Queen Elizabeth II in 1959 to Arnold Schwarzenegger in present day.

An old-world ambiance permeates the historical building; the Lord Stanley Ballroom features original wood detailing, stone fireplaces and glistening chandeliers. The gardens surrounding the Pavilion provide a lush backdrop for an outdoor wedding ceremony, making it a popular wedding destination.

In February, the Pavilion added another special event to its history—The Wedding Lunch. Presented by Chair Decor, this wedding show was a unique luncheon-style event held on Sunday, February 27th, 2011. Brides and their guests experienced the historic charm of the Pavilion while enjoying canapes, champagne and a sit-down catered lunch at fully decorated tables. While dining, they were treated to presentations from local wedding industry professionals Debut Event Design, Chair Decor and Flowerz on topics of linen, lighting, and florals. Next year's Wedding Lunch is slated to take place once again at the Pavilion on Sunday, February 26, 2012.

Magnolia Hotel & Spa

Stylish and sophisticated, the **Magnolia Hotel & Spa** in Victoria is an ideal locale for a girls' getaway or for a brief respite from the frenzy of wedding planning. This award-winning hotel has been voted one of the top hotels in Canada by *Condé Nast Traveler* readers and is recognized as one of the Top 10 Luxury Hotels in Canada by TripAdvisor's 2011 Travelers' Choice awards. Best of all, the hotel is one block from the harbour and the city's best restaurants, shops and entertainment.

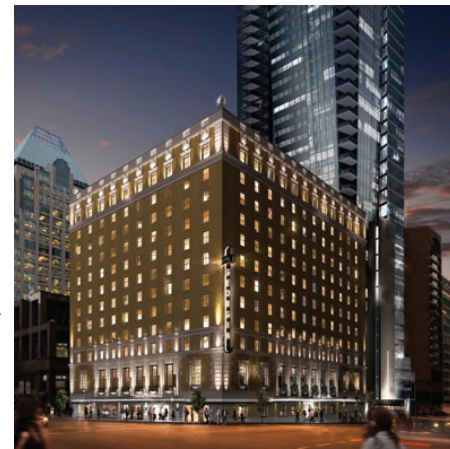


PHOTO COURTESY THE MAGNOLIA HOTEL & SPA

The hotel's European-inspired accommodations feature classic crown mouldings, lofty ceilings, and two-poster beds dressed in deluxe duvets and feather pillows. Opulent bathrooms feature marble floors, glass walk-in showers and delightfully deep soaker tubs. For eats, the hotel is home to Prime Steakhouse & Lounge, recently named one of Canada's Best New Restaurants. Pampering treatments are offered at the Spa Magnolia—its seven treatment rooms and spacious lounge promise an indulgent and relaxing experience. For more information on The Magnolia's Girls' Getaway and other packages, visit www.magnoliahotel.com. Check them out on Facebook: [magnoliahotelvictoria](https://www.facebook.com/magnoliahotelvictoria) and Twitter: [@magnoliabl](https://twitter.com/magnoliabl)

Bling Wedding Show at Rosewood Hotel Georgia

The 2nd Annual **Bling Wedding Show** will take place at Vancouver's historic and newly reopened Rosewood Hotel Georgia on Sunday, October 2, 2011. Presented by Harumi Signature Weddings & Events, "Infinity 2011" promises to feature chic table settings, spectacular decor and delicious culinary delights. Guests can consult with some of Metro Vancouver's top wedding industry professionals—from florists to photographers, stationery designers to beauty experts and everything in between. www.blingweddingshow.ca



A Wedding At Sea

Permanently docked at North Vancouver's Mosquito Creek Marina floats **Celebration on Water**, a new wedding ceremony and reception venue that originated as a 1960s era British Columbia ferry. Open in May 2011, the completely refurbished and converted ship offers the relaxed ambiance of a wedding-at-sea with 360-degree views of Vancouver and the North Shore Mountains. In its heyday, "The Queen of The Islands" traversed the waters of the Southern Gulf Islands, then took a turn as a touring fishing lodge for outdoor enthusiasts.

The ferry's three decks and main cabin accommodate a variety of wedding set-ups, from small gatherings to large soirees—hold a ceremony on the ship's expansive west-facing second level bow, then usher guests into the passenger seating-cum-dining area for a buffet dinner prepared fresh on board. Venue rental rates are flexible, depending on food and beverage costs. For wedding parties that want an extended experience, four staff cabins and the control room have been converted into three overnight guest rooms and a bridal suite, and a party lounge respectively.

Guests travel two minutes between ship and shore on luxurious pontoon boats from either the Marina's entrance or the public dock at Lonsdale Quay. Celebration on Water is currently accepting bookings for the rest of 2011 as well as 2012.

www.celebrationonwater.com



Ethical and Elegant Wedding Dishes from Diva at the Met



Eating locally and seasonally is fast becoming an expected standard in the culinary world. For couples planning the perfect wedding day, serving generic banquet food to their guests may not be up to par.

Enter the Metropolitan Hotel Vancouver's catering team and their regional, ethically-sourced menus. Led by the hotel's award-winning Executive Chef, Quang Dang, the team creates custom wedding menus worthy of a place in the property's acclaimed restaurant, Diva at the Met. Whether the reception is being held in one of the hotel's elegantly-appointed event spaces, in the restaurant itself, or at an off-site venue, Chef Dang's culinary creations speak to couples looking to include a refined, ethical elegance into their day. Not only do the menus meet the standards of the Ocean Wise program, Chef Dang works hard to develop close relationships with local farmers, fishermen and artisans to ensure the highest quality ingredients for his contemporary, Cascadian cuisine.

"When you're celebrating one of the most important occasions in your life, you shouldn't have to relax your standards around what you are serving your guests," says Dang. "In fact, it should be even more important!"

Most catering menu choices also appear on Diva's restaurant menu. To ensure that all plates dazzle guests, the Metropolitan team cooks the meals "a la minute," even when the event is offsite. www.metropolitan.com



Nadia Albano Style Inc. Now Open

Nadia Albano Style Inc. is a one-stop, full service beauty boutique offering makeup, hair, personal shopping and education, both for bridal and everyday. Owner Nadia Albano brings 15 years in the beauty industry as a professional makeup artist, hairstylist and fashion expert to this new venture. "My mission is to educate, inspire and beautify the women and men of Vancouver with the intention of building confidence and helping people realize their potential, all while providing exceptional service in a beautiful, fun and welcoming environment," she explains. Contact Albano at 778 322-3016 or nadia@nadiaalbano.com.

Accessorize with Caroline Calvert

This past March, local designer Caroline Calvert closed up her Kitsilano boutique after five years of designing couture wedding gowns and ten years as a fashion designer. Her new venture is a return to one of her first fashion loves—accessories. Calvert now creates both ready-to-wear and custom bridal veils, hair pins, and jewellery using such materials as Swarovski crystals, pearls, silk, netting and tulle. Find her pieces at Shop Cocoon (3345 Cambie Street, Vancouver) or at the studio of Vancouver gown designer Kathryn Bass. An online store is set to launch in May 2011 at www.carolinecalvert.com.