



### Weddings

# GOING TO THE CHAPEL



Major Inc Photography

#### Southern Charm

**Montage Palmetto Bluff in Bluffton, SC**  
[MontageHotels.com/PalmettoBluff](http://MontageHotels.com/PalmettoBluff)

Along the May River, this 20,000-acre resort community offers grand, coastally inspired wedding rehearsal and event venues and accommodations ranging from a 150-room inn to 50 cottages and guest rooms. Two on-site chapels are available for ceremonies.

"They were designed to replicate original southern chapels you would see as early as 1800," says Christine Wrobel, public relations and marketing manager for the resort. "Our arched, May River chapel, positioned along the river, seats up to 100. Its large, double-set windows open so the cross breeze comes through."

Reception spaces include the Oak ballroom, with surrounding windows and a veranda, and tented affairs on the Village

Green, which takes advantage of outdoor ambiance.

An on-site catering team meets with couples to understand their tastes. "We learn what emotion they would like to evoke, and incorporate a favorite dish or dessert," says Wrobel.

Most betrothed couples are "seeking a place where they can make a memory and continue to come back to," she says. "The main mode of transport here is bicycle, which changes the dynamic — it brings out the youth in all of us."

**Cost:** Reception prices start at \$3,000 plus a \$15,000 food and beverage minimum. Chapel rental fees are \$3,000 for May River, \$5,000 for Somerset. Bookings recommended 6 to 9 months in advance

By ERIKA PRAFDER

HAVING a dreamy wedding doesn't have to mean forsaking a traditional church ceremony. These resorts and hotels boast chapels right on the property that are fit for even the most discerning of tastes.



#### Rustic Haven

**Foxfire in Monkton, MD** [FoxfireMonkton.com](http://FoxfireMonkton.com)



This 127-acre private estate and historic horse farm is set among American maples, boxwoods, poplars and manicured gardens for an evolving seasonal color palette. "It's magical. The moment you enter the gates you're surrounded by horses in a bucolic setting," says owner Alex Glasscock.

An intimate, charming, on-site chapel set at the woods' edge can hold 70 people and doubles as a guest house. The property's main house and guest house can accommodate just 21 guests, but area hotels are close by for larger parties. **Cost:** Receptions start at \$12,000. Chapel/guest house fees are \$10,000. Bookings recommended 6 to 12 months in advance.

#### Historic Hudson Valley

**The Beekman Arms & Delamater Inn in Rhinebeck, NY** [BeekmanDelamaterInn.com](http://BeekmanDelamaterInn.com)

A traveler's inn in the 1700's, this colonial landmark was once frequented by Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Across the street, the Church of Messiah can accommodate 200 guests and independently books wedding ceremonies, according to Nicole Close, parish administrator.

The Beekman property itself comprises 80 guest rooms, 14 in the main building and 50 at the Delamater Inn. Many are suites with fireplaces. The main house's Wayfarer Room accommodates up to 130 people. "Couples love the unique history here," says event coordinator, Brenda Catalano.

**Cost:** Reception prices start at \$2,500 plus \$75 per person plus tax. Chapel rental fees are \$1,110. Bookings recommended 12 months in advance.



Nicki King

#### Urban Sanctuary

**The High Line Hotel in Manhattan, NY**  
[TheHighLineHotel.com](http://TheHighLineHotel.com)

Built as a seminary in 1895, this red brick hotel in Chelsea offers 60 light-filled rooms with vintage-inspired furnishings and modern amenities. In partnership with the complex's General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, access to its chapel is granted for just 12 weddings yearly, says Jennifer Kelly, director of special events for the hotel.

Situated on the grounds, The Refectory is a one-minute walk away and accommodates 225 guests for receptions. "The ceiling is a domed work of art with stained glass windows throughout," says Kelly.

**Cost:** Reception prices start at \$61,000 plus tax. Chapel rental is available at extra cost. Bookings recommended 6 to 8 months in advance.



Ben Lee Photography