

edible Weddings

Celebrating
dream vendors
in the Reno-Tahoe area

Special Advertising Feature
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Love is in the Air

Celebrate your wedding day with an emphasis on individual styles and intimate settings.

WRITTEN BY ALI DICKSON



Cover: Kristi Simmons and Kaylan Worley enjoy a quiet moment after exchanging vows. Dress by Fabulous Frocks. Hair and makeup by RAH Hair Studio. Florals by Etsy. **This page:** Patrick Mullane and Jen O'Neil take a spin on the Tahoe Bleu Wave boat. Dress by Jenny Yoo. Suit by Bonobos. Hair and makeup by Status Salon. Florals by Twine Floral Co. Photos by Courtney Aaron

Celebrating love is always in vogue, but have you wondered how to make your Big Day a piece of cake? Emphasizing taste over tradition and making a case for intimate weddings are just the beginning when it comes to tips and tricks shared by local vendors that will make your special day unforgettable.

Planning Makes Perfect

When it comes to planning a wedding, the best move couples can make is to secure the expertise of a seasoned wedding planner. Dominic Martin, co-owner of Martin Gunderson Events, believes that a skilled wedding planner can transform a couple's vision into a day that feels both intimate and personalized at every turn.

"From the very beginning, we work closely with the couple to understand their priorities, vision, and desired ambience," Martin says. "This allows us to curate an experience that authentically reflects their unique love story and personal style."

Edible Weddings is a special advertising feature published twice a year, in January/February and July/August. We hand-select each wedding professional for this guide and validate that they are some of the best our region has to offer. For additional details on these advertisers, visit Ediblerenotahoe.com/weddings.

To be considered for inclusion in our next edition, call Jaci Goodman at 775-848-9123 or email Jaci@ediblerenotahoe.com.



Vows with a Valley View



VisitCarsonValley.org



In Carson Valley, where crisp air, towering mountains, and endless blue skies create a stunning backdrop, love finds its perfect setting. Amidst the breathtaking beauty of the Sierra Nevada, your dream wedding becomes a reality with an array of venues from which to choose. Whether it's a rustic barn on a ranch, a historic building, or a charming church, the options are as diverse as your love story.

Exchange vows at a picturesque golf resort surrounded by lush greenery and majestic peaks, or choose a refurbished hotel exuding timeless elegance. Local caterers, true culinary artists, will tantalize your taste buds with dishes infused with distinctive flair, creating a menu that delights. Boutique floral design studios will bring your vision to life with whimsical bouquets and elegant centerpieces.

In Carson Valley, every detail is meticulously curated to make your wedding day special. Say "yes" to love and let us provide the perfect backdrop for your happily ever after.

Scan the QR code to learn more!



The wedding reception for Nina Wingert and Jordan Prenshaw at Dancing Pines. Planning by Revel & Rye Event Co. Catering by Blend Catering. Florals by Devonwoods. Photo by Courtney Aaron

Rather than simply coordinating vendors, wedding planners' true value lies in their ability to orchestrate a seamless and meaningful celebration.

"Weddings have strict timelines to adhere to, but with proper planning and execution, the couple can truly stay present and immerse themselves in the moment," Martin explains.

He fondly recalls, "I've had the privilege of planning many intimate weddings, and those are often the most magical. With a thoughtful guest list and carefully curated details, couples can savor every moment with their loved ones, creating cherished memories that will last a lifetime."

Iris Stille, business manager of Reno's River School Farm, emphasizes the importance of having a dedicated individual in charge on your Big Day. You have more important duties on your wedding day than focusing on flower arrivals and cocktail hour deadlines! A wedding planner or personal planner ensures that brides and grooms can fully experience the celebration without fretting over details.



Boutique Weddings with Italian Flair

Located inside an early 1900s red brick house, Calafuria is a romantic venue for intimate weddings with Italian flair in the heart of Midtown Reno. It features a secret garden, a newly renovated bridal lounge, an on-site professional kitchen, and a talented chef who worked in Italy for more than 15 years. If you're curious, taste the cuisine! Open to the public for dinners Thurs. – Sat.



Calafuria
725 S. Center St., Reno
775-360-5175
Calafuriareno.com



"Hiring a wedding planner means you can breathe easy," Stille notes. "Having someone manage the schedule for the day and guide guests through activities means you can focus on your loved ones."

Additionally, a wedding planner can help keep your wedding within your budget. His or her experience with local vendors and accommodations can make your money go even further.

Variety of Venues

Debating between an intimate natural venue and the close accommodations of the city? Consider a family-owned restaurant or venue such as Calafuria, which offers a charming setting that exudes romance and elegance. The picturesque house and grounds are nestled in Midtown Reno, meaning your wedding party can relax among green grass and lush trees close to hotels and the airport. Italian-style Calafuria also offers an indoor-outdoor stereo system and lighting.

"We specialize in boutique weddings for up to 45 people," says chef/owner Tim Magee. "Calafuria is a unique little jewel in Midtown surrounded by patios, grass, and gardens. There is also a beautiful cottage in the backyard that has been converted into a cocktail lounge on the ground floor and a bridal suite upstairs. All of this gives the bride and groom individual private space before and after the ceremony."



We Offer a Sweet Spot for All Your Sweet Moments

Your day. Your cake. At Nothing Bundt Cakes, we believe in celebrating the special moments in life, including the biggest one of all — your wedding. From engagement parties and bridal showers to your actual wedding day, we have a cake for every occasion.



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Newlyweds Jordan Prenshaw and Nina Wingert celebrate their nuptials at Dancing Pines. Planning by Revel & Rye Event Co. Florals by Devonwoods. Dress by Kinsley James Bridal. Photo by Courtney Aaron



Newlyweds Kaylan Worley and Kristi Simmons.
 Dress by Fabulous Frocks. Hair and makeup by
 RAH Hair Studio. Florals by Etsy.
 Photo by Courtney Aaron

Carson Valley is a blissful union of Mother Nature and human nature — a setting where the scenery is rivaled only by the generosity and warmth of the people as excited about your wedding as you are.

“There’s something majestic about Carson Valley wedding venues, from rustic barns on beautiful ranch grounds to historic buildings that lend an air of romance, timelessness, and mystery — not to mention upscale locations such as golf resorts, richly preserved churches, and landmark buildings,” says Keith Lewis, executive director of Carson Valley Visitors Authority. “There are also more contemporary hotels and intimate inns. And without having to go far for an incredible backdrop of the Sierra Nevada, wherever you choose to say your vows will leave you breathless.”

The existing partnership between all the local vendors in the area ensures that everyone shares the same vision with their offerings at each beautiful location.

The Corner Barn in Graeagle, Calif., offers a picturesque backdrop for couples seeking a wedding celebration as extraordinary as their love story. Antoinette Quesenberry, venue and event coordinator for The Corner Barn, has seen conventional wedding norms fall by the wayside, with couples looking to infuse their special day with creativity and personal flair.



Your Vision, Our Passion

Since 1960, Sparks Florist has been setting the standard for exceptional wedding florals. Our seasoned design team excels in translating your distinct vision into reality. With our vast design space, farm-fresh flowers, and unbeatable customer service, we’ll make your cozy gathering or large celebration unforgettable — all backed by our 100% guarantee.



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Photos by Lauren Van Dangenberg
 with Ocean + Rock



View our Wedding Gallery



Photo courtesy of The Corner Barn in Graeagle

"I love it when the wedding atmosphere shows off the couple's personalities, interests, and hobbies," Quesenberry says. "It gives a real sense of who they are, both individually and together. It's totally fine to skip the wedding traditions that just don't suit you. You don't have to have a garter or toss a bouquet. Pick and choose what you like and throw the rest out. Come up with new traditions that are memorable and fun."

Couples are encouraged to think outside the box and introduce elements that speak to their exceptional journey together. One unforgettable example from a past wedding season involved a couple who brought their VW collection to the venue, accompanied by several of their guests.

"It was a real showstopper," Quesenberry remembers.

Quesenberry also suggests, "When creating your wedding day timeline, start with what time you'd like to serve dinner and work backward. This will give you a better sense of when your ceremony should start. Also, more than 45 minutes for a cocktail/appetizer time is a mistake — guests get a bit antsy, and the bubbly can start to take effect."

With a little planning and imagination, you can create a wedding that perfectly encapsulates your life and love in the Reno-Tahoe area.

Dolce Caffè offers custom cakes, cookies, tarts, and everything in between for all of your wedding needs. We add a pinch of sweetness and sophistication with traditional Sicilian baked goods, adding the perfect touch to your celebration.



Creating Unforgettably Sweet Wedding Memories



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Breathtaking Bouquets

With their intricate knowledge of botanical trends and artistry in design, florists can create unforgettable statements that elevate any celebration.

Andy Fiannaca, owner of Sparks Florist and Reno Wholesale Flowers, has noticed a growing interest in sustainable and local options incorporated into familiar floral favorites.

"This year, we've seen a strong preference for poppies, peonies, cosmos, butterfly ranunculuses, dahlias, and anemones among our wedding clients," Fiannaca says. "We also are noticing the sustainable incorporation of dried flowers and grasses into wedding arrangements. Additionally, we're seeing a new trend where customers are more interested in sourcing locally grown flowers and unique seasonal blooms to create a personalized wedding experience."

The right floral statements can create an unforgettable atmosphere, and Sparks Florist offers everything from bouquets and boutonnieres to centerpieces and even arch pieces. For a full-service wedding, reaching out to a florist at least three months in advance is suggested; however, a few days' notice should be sufficient for smaller ceremony pieces such as bouquets and boutonnieres.

"We offer comprehensive wedding services beyond just floral arrangements," Fiannaca says. "These include day-of setup to ensure everything is perfectly placed, detailed consultations to tailor designs to your vision, and rental options for vases and other decorative elements. Additionally, we provide DIY classes and workshops for those who want to add a personal touch to their wedding décor."



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Bride Katelyn Madar prepares for her wedding at Valhalla Tahoe. Planning by Whimsy Events. Dress by Alyssa Kristen. Florals by Awesome Blossom. Hair and makeup by Lisa Pietrzak. Photo by Courtney Aaron

Tablescape at the wedding of Nina Wingert and Jordan Prenshaw at Dancing Pines. Planning by Revel & Rye Event Co. Catering by Blend Catering. Flowers by Devonwoods. Photo by Courtney Aaron



Lovely River Views, Charming Gardens

Tucked away along the banks of the Truckee River, you will find Reno's biggest little secret — River School Farm. The wedding venue revolves around a spacious amphitheater, unique stage, river view terrace with river access, and intimate fire pit areas.



River School Farm
7777 White Fir St., Reno
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Riverschoolfarm.org



Beyond the blooms themselves, the professional florists at Reno Wholesale Flowers provide a personalized experience for clients — especially those who want to purchase specialty flowers in bulk, which should be ordered at least three weeks in advance to ensure availability of stock.

“Besides supplying high-quality flowers at Reno Wholesale Flowers, we offer a range of additional services,” Fiannaca says. “This includes floral-design consultations to help plan arrangements, bulk-ordering options for larger events, and expert advice on flower care and handling. You can also rent our design space and cooler storage free of charge. If you need assistance, you can request delivery or hire one of our expert wedding designers to help assemble your floral arrangements. Our goal is to provide a seamless experience from selection to setup for our wedding clients.”

Seal It with Sweets

As summer approaches, Batch Cupcakery in Reno is buzzing with the most popular trends of the season, which include minimalistic and eco-friendly options.

Owner Anne Archer notes, “Simplicity enhances beauty. Less is more this season with vibrant hues of nature gaining in popularity. We can create cupcakes inspired by vibrant wildflowers like purple lupines or fiery Indian paintbrushes, or we can imitate cool earth tones of green desert sage and blue Tahoe waters.”

Cake for Taylor and Andrea Buckley prepared by Cake You Happy at Chalet View Lodge. Florals by Magnolia Mums. Photo by Courtney Aaron





Simplicity also includes skipping preservatives and opting for more wholesome options. Natural desserts from Batch Cupcakery can tickle your taste buds with natural ingredients infused with organic oils.

“Batch bakes organically and with natural, organic flavors, oils, and ingredients,” Archer says.

In addition to choosing natural desserts, consider complementing your sustainable foods with other natural materials. From biodegradable confetti to compostable tableware, there are ways to prioritize eco-conscious choices that reduce your environmental footprint.

Who says wedding cakes have to be traditional? With delectable bundt cakes, weddings can become a celebration of individuality and joy. Shele Silveira, owner of Nothing Bundt Cakes in Reno, says couples should choose cakes that make them happy instead of what tradition suggests.

“It’s special when people choose to have a cake they love, even though it might be completely nontraditional. Everyone should make their wedding day their own. It’s fun when people use bundtins — one of our teeny bundt cakes, like a cupcake,” Silveira says. “It’s very easy to eat, and you don’t need to have a fork and a plate, which is convenient. You can also put bundt cakes as centerpieces for tables and dress them up with succulents and flowers.”



Intimate, Boutique Weddings & Events

From breathless proposal to epic celebration, we'll masterfully choreograph your once-in-a-lifetime special day. With an eye for style and flair for logistics, our team designs distinct affairs that capture your love story.

Allow us to set the stage for this momentous beginning.



Martin Gunderson Events

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Photo Credit: Kari Henrichsen/Kelsey Jonvea

In the end, a wedding cake that makes the couple happy is more special than a standard wedding cake any day.

Silveira emphasizes that, at the end of the day, "Just do what you want and what you love."

In fact, many couples are ditching traditional weekend weddings and instead opting for off-peak days and seasons to tie the knot. Kris Daters, owner of Mix Bakeshop in Reno, points out that not only does a nontraditional wedding date allow for greater flexibility in day-of offerings, but it also provides a break in pricing across the board. Venues, deejays, photographers, florists, and bakers often have more affordable and/or available packages during weekdays or shoulder seasons.

"I met with somebody just last week, and they're not only doing an off-day but off-season to get a price break," Daters says. "I still think people are looking for the biggest value for their money in selecting non-peak days."

Once you do secure a date for your wedding, Daters suggests working with a bakery that offers affordable options delivered right to your venue.



Nike DeMartini and Katelyn Madar exchange vows at Valhalla Tahoe. Planning by Whimsy Events. Dress by Alyssa Kristen. Florals by Awesome Blossom. Photo by Courtney Aaron

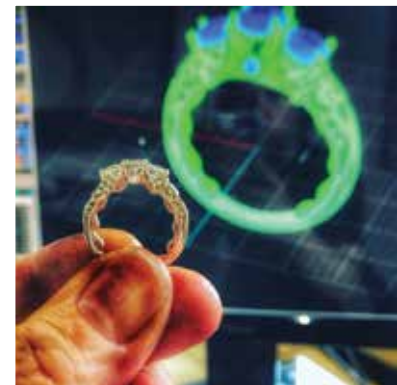


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Meet Britten Wolf: Crafting Unique Stories at BVW Jewelers

BVW Jewelers, founded in Reno by Britten Wolf, specializes in custom and handcrafted jewelry. With more than 35 years of experience, he's dedicated his career to creating unique pieces that celebrate individual stories and craftsmanship, establishing BVW as a leader in Northern Nevada's jewelry scene.



"I would focus on finding someone who can do delivery for you or even set up for you," Daters suggests. "Couples should find a bakery that can take on some of the responsibilities so the wedding couple can enjoy their day and not get caught up in all the day-of details. We offer delivery and setup depending on the venue and product, especially throughout the summer. We can also help you figure out what to provide; for example, if you have an outdoor wedding in August, cupcakes don't do well in 100-degree temperatures in the elements."

For an alternative that suits everyone's sweet tooth, Daters says, "We are still seeing that people like dessert bars in place of traditional wedding cakes, and Mix offers a variety of products. With our team being able to provide cupcakes, pies, and cookies, it gives flexibility in what we can offer."

With a mission to create unique experiences packed with an authentic wow factor, Melissa Iturriaga, chef/co-owner of Dolce Caffé in Reno says, "For dessert tables, we offer a variety of Italian desserts like cannoli, mini tarts, small tarts, cookies, slices of cake, panna cotta, and mascarpone tarts."

When it comes to customizing flavors, Melissa says, "We would love to meet in person and talk details because that's the most important part of what we offer. We want to connect with the couple and see what exactly they're looking for."



Sweet treats prepared by Dolce Caffé in Reno



Photo by
Lauren Van Dangenberg
with Ocean + Rock

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Reno Wholesale Flowers provides premium bulk flowers at affordable prices. With a vast selection to choose from, free design space, and cooler storage, we make DIY effortless. Our team of professional designers are available to assist you in creating stunning arrangements for weddings and special events. Plus, we offer convenient delivery to Reno, Tahoe, and surrounding areas. Let us ignite your creativity and make your floral vision a reality, just a click away.



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Newly married couple Taylor and Andrea Buckley hold hands after their wedding at Chalet View Lodge. Photo by Courtney Aaron

Dolce Caffé invites couples to explore their culinary desires and create dessert tables that reflect their love story in every mouthwatering detail. Melissa, along with co-owners (and parents) Claudio and Giuseppa, ensures that every bite is a tribute to love, family, and tradition.

Create Sparkling Memories

A wedding ring is a symbol of lifelong commitment, and it is important to make sure it's handled with care.

"I try to remind clients that they have a wedding party working for them — the couple should only show up, get married, drink, and go to bed," says Britten Wolf, owner of BVW Jewelers in Reno. "Make sure you designate minions to come by and grab your rings, which we polish and then wrap up."

BVW offers an outstanding service through which wedding rings are polished, cleaned, and even rhodium-plated, improving both the ring's luster and strength, free of charge. This ensures each ring sparkles with brilliance when captured in photographs. To make sure the luster lasts, though, Wolf says to consider not using lotions once your ring is on your finger.

"When hands are in lotions and moisturizers, it does cloud up the stone," Wolf warns, "so when the time comes to take photographs, the stones look dull and don't pop."



Graeagle Corner Barn

GraeagleBarn.com

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Your Mountain Wedding Destination

Nestled among tall pines with stunning mountain views, The Corner Barn in Graeagle is the perfect place to create lasting memories.

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Sweet Memories for Your Special Day

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When it comes to outdoor weddings, comfort is key, and Quick Space ensures that every guest feels pampered with its executive restrooms. Complete with climate control, flushable toilets, and customizable music, these luxurious amenities redefine the outdoor wedding experience and create a welcoming environment.

Especially if you have attendees of an older age, keeping them cool and comfortable ensures that your guests can easily enjoy the whole day.

Andrew Ardans, communication and engagement specialist at Quick Space, says, "On hot days, the last thing you want is for your guests to be uncomfortable. Our executive restrooms are a key element to a wedding. It's especially comforting for your guests. When they're outdoors and go into the exec restrooms, it's a game changer. It's a kind of comfort that you'd find in an indoor building."

If your wedding falls in a cooler season, Quick Space offers deluxe bathrooms that, on top of warm running water, include fireplaces below the sinks, with customizable colors.



*Something Borrowed,
 Something Blue...*

Sometimes the smallest detail is the most important. Quick Space offers wedding guests unparalleled luxury when it comes to an often-overlooked element of your special day.

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The Unsung Heroes of Transportation

Whether it's transportation to a stunning venue, coordination of a wedding party from one location to another, or picture-perfect farewells as a couple drives away at the end of the night, securing the right transportation services in advance will fuel a party's success.

"Call a minimum of six months in advance to ensure your type of vehicle is available," says Danell Wilson-Perlman, owner of Reno Tahoe Transportation. "However, we can still pull clients out of last-minute emergencies if another vendor cancels their service or the wedding couple overlooks transportation. We make magic happen during those times; we never want anyone to be stranded on the biggest day of their lives."

Mini-buses are a great option for shuttling an entire wedding party with ease. Buses can transport up to 36 passengers between lodging, venues, and photography locations, and each bus is stocked with complimentary water bottles and Champagne for the bride and groom. Bonus: Mini-buses also are a great option for bachelor and bachelorette parties!

When it comes to navigating venues on the big day with ease, Wilson-Perlman says, "Our area is filled with off-the-beaten-path stunning wedding locations. Our chauffeurs are experienced in transporting clients to and from these locations, which are tricky to navigate. Cell service can be an issue in these areas; therefore, we send our chauffeurs with two-way radios to these locations to ensure communication is evident during these important moves."

No matter where and how you choose to celebrate love at your wedding, know that you can find a little extra TLC from experienced and eager local business owners and vendors. ❖



Newlyweds Jen O'Neil and Patrick Mullane steal a kiss onboard the Tahoe Bleu Wave. Dress by Jenny Yoo. Suit by Bonobos. Photo by Courtney Aaron



Jordan Prenshaw twirls his bride, Nina Wingert, on the dance floor at Dancing Pines. Planning by Revel & Rye Event Co. Dress by Kinsley James Bridal. Florals by Devonwoods. Photo by Courtney Aaron

RESOURCES

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Batchcupcakery.com

BVW Jewelers
Bvwjewelers.com

Calafuria Reno
Calafuriareno.com

**Carson Valley
Visitors Authority**
Visitcarsonvalley.org

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River School Farm
Riverschoolfarm.org

Sparks Florist
Sparksfloristweddings.com

The bridal party in the wedding of Hadley McClure and Danielle Butler at Sunnyside at Lake Tahoe. Planning by Revel & Rye Event Co. Wedding dress by Anthropologie. Florals by Devonwoods. Photo by Courtney Aaron

Organic, Vegan, Gluten-Free, Paleo Cakes for Wedding Bliss!

Batch's skilled bakers cater to any food allergy or preference (including gluten-free, vegan, and paleo creations).

Simplicity enhances beauty. Less is more this season, with vibrant hues of nature gaining in popularity. Batch can create cakes and cupcakes inspired by our surrounding natural beauty, from vibrant wildflowers to cool earth tones and blue Tahoe waters.

Call soon – 2024 is booking up quickly!



Batch Cupcakery

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