

# Stylishly Serene

Sabrina and Nick chose an exquisite backdrop to create their perfect wedding memories

## LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Nick and I met whilst we were both working as lawyers at the Old Bailey in London. There was an instant attraction from the day we met, although we both played it pretty cool until the office Christmas party when we finally got together. Although we come from different backgrounds, I'm a London girl and he is a Devon boy, we knew that we shared the same values, dreams and ambitions. Nick proposed in July 2010, at my birthday party at the Marriot Hotel, County Hall, London. He got down on one knee, in front of all our friends and family, catching me totally off guard. Lucky for him I said yes, as he always mentions it would have been very embarrassing had I said no!

Since the day we got engaged and began discussing venues, we both agreed that we wanted to get married in Spain. My family have a home there so for me it was the natural choice and Nick agreed. One Saturday night we went to Hotel Sol Andalusi for a meal and noticed that they were preparing for a wedding on the terrace. Everything looked so beautiful; the tables, the fountain and the lights. We knew instantly this was where we wanted our wedding.

## SIMPLY ELEGANT

Nick and I wanted our wedding to be stylish and elegant with a "bit of bling". From the design of our bespoke invitations to the table settings, we planned every detail from start to finish. We wanted to make sure that our Spanish speaking friends did not miss out so we had everything from the invitations, order of service and menus translated into Spanish. The only colours I was consis-

tent with were white and silver. I accented with splashes of colour through the bows on the chairs and the bridesmaids dress.

I first saw the Pronovias Bridal store in Malaga; I knew immediately that I would find my perfect dress there. The dress I chose was actually the last one I tried on and it fit like a glove. It was simple and elegant with no fuss, it was me.

Nick and his six groomsmen all wore fabulous midnight navy be-



spoke suits from Moss Bespoke. It was a battle to get seven men to agree on style, fit and cut but we did eventually manage it. Nick wore an Armani waistcoat and a Dunhill tie, whilst the others wore matching navy waistcoats and Dolce and Gabbana ties in the same light blue colour.

The flowers in my bouquet were cream roses and orchids and the

boys had orchid button holes. I chose them for their understated elegance. For the tables, I added splashes of fuchsia roses and green foliage to the centre pieces.

## FINISHING TOUCHES

My mum made our wedding cake, during the week before the wedding. She worked tirelessly night and day creating the most beautiful three tier wedding cake you could imagine. She made hundreds of individual white sugar flowers to decorate it with, despite



the hot weather, it came out perfectly unlike the helium balloons which didn't fare at all well in the heat!!

We knew that having a wedding in Spain in September would be hot and as we were having our ceremony on the terrace, we decided to order lots of colourful fans to hand to each of our female guests as they were being seated, I know

that they really appreciated the fact that we thought of their comfort on our special day. They also looked fabulous in the photos!

## I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER...

Our ceremony was beyond my expectations. We chose the Arras coin ceremony as a nod to my South American roots. Natasha, our minister was fantastic; she made us and our guests' feel at ease and made them feel part of the proceedings. Our personal vows also ensured that there wasn't a dry eye in the house. We enjoyed drinks and canapes on the terrace and had sourced a traditional Spanish Cortador who kept everyone supplied with Serrano ham and Manchego cheese.

Our meal was amazing. We started with seared tuna with a citrus marmalade, then Confit of duck with dauphinoise potatoes and dessert was two chocolate parfait with bitter oranges and a shot of Pedro Ximenez. We made sure that we didn't forget the children. We bought them piñatas filled with sweets. And the hotel staff kept them busy whilst the parents were enjoying their meal.

The fireworks that my family and Nick surprised me with after the meal blew me away. I had no idea what they were planning and I just remember how beautiful they were against the clear night sky and the DJ playing Katy Perry's' song "Firework" in the background, is something I will remember for the rest of my life.

Our first dance was to Taylor Swifts' "Today was Fairy Tale," it was the perfect description of



our day. After that the real party started with all our friends and family letting their hair down. They enjoyed a midnight buffet which kept them fuelled until 5 am the next morning.

### TREASURED MEMORIES

Getting ready at my parents' home a short drive from the hotel was just as I had imagined. All my girlfriends came over to the house for a glass of bubbly and I was treated to a massage to relax me,



which helped a lot as the flowers were late and they delivered the button holes to our house instead of the hotel! Seeing my dad's face when I walked out in my dress is something I will keep with me always and when he walked me down the aisle, we both struggled to keep our emotions in check. It was the happiest moment of my life.

When I saw Nick waiting for me at the altar, everything fell into place, he smiled, then leaned in and whispered in my ear "I love you, you look amazing". It was one of those intimate moments that I will never forget.



## Sabrina's Address Book

*Dress-* Pronovias, Bond Street, London [pronovias.co.uk](http://pronovias.co.uk)

*Jewellery-* Tiffany [tiffany.co.uk](http://tiffany.co.uk)

*Brides Shoes* – Jimmy Choo, Bond Street, London [jimmychoo.com](http://jimmychoo.com)

*Groom/groomsmen suits* – Moss Bespoke, Liverpool Street London [mossbespoke.com](http://mossbespoke.com)

*Bridesmaid/Flower girl Dresses,* Coast and Marks and Spencer [Coast-stores.com](http://Coast-stores.com), [marksandspencer.com](http://marksandspencer.com)

*DJ-* Rob DJ [robrocksthehouse.com](http://robrocksthehouse.com)

*Venue-* Hotel Sol Andalusi [solandalusi.com](http://solandalusi.com)

*Photographer-* Jeremy Standley [jeremystandley.com](http://jeremystandley.com)

*Videographer* – Bodakids [bodakids.es](http://bodakids.es)

*Flowers-* Se Flor

*Hair and make-up-* Maria Jose

*Minister* – Natasha Johnson [malagaminister.com](http://malagaminister.com)