

# MODERN LUXURY BRIDES

SOUTH FLORIDA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN

45

WOW-WORTHY  
REAL WEDDINGS

*So in  
LOVE*

PIECE OF CAKE: TEXTURE IS IN!  
FRESH LOOKS IN BRIDAL BEAUTY  
THE NEW ROMANTICS: GARDEN-INSPIRED FLORAL DECOR  
DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY! DESIGNER DRESSES  
KEEP YOU IN PERFECT STEP

*PLUS*  
Great Escapes: Dreamy Destination  
Wedding and Honeymoon Spots

THE ESSENTIAL RESOURCE FOR STYLISH COUPLES

# SOMETHING OLD

Creating something new in a place steeped in the past may be the ultimate big-day statement. Here are three venues where you can make your own history. *By Megan Padilla*

## Montpelier Plantation

Nevis, West Indies

This tiny island was the sugarcane capital of the 18th century, a legacy captured beautifully at Montpelier Plantation. This 60-acre tropical estate is perched 750 feet above sea level, with amazing views. Say your vows on the stately cobblestone patio by an ancient ficus tree. For your reception, Mill Privée is a 300-year-old stone sugar mill ruin that holds up to 22 guests for a seated reception. Or do a sunset reception on the Courtyard Terrace overlooking the sea, where up to 50 guests can dine at two long communal tables. The 19-room, family-owned resort is a member of acclaimed Relais & Châteaux. [montpeliernevis.com](http://montpeliernevis.com)



**ELEGANT AMBIENCE**  
A 300-year-old stone sugar mill, Mill Privée features the perfect historic atmosphere.

**RETRO RAIL**  
Whitehall's Flagler Kenan Pavilion is the exact replica of a 19th century train station.



## Flagler Museum

Palm Beach, Fla.

Celebrate in Gilded Age opulence at Henry Flagler's 1902 estate, Whitehall. Originally built as a wedding gift for his bride, today the National Historic Landmark is home to the Flagler Museum and available after hours for events. Enjoy cocktail hour in the original beaux arts-style Grand Hall, bedecked in gold leaf and marble. The evening builds to a dramatic climax as the party moves to the striking West Room, with its tiled floor, arched walls and 27-foot ceilings. Or celebrate "something new" in the beaux arts-style Flagler Kenan Pavilion; this detailed replica of a turn-of-the-century train station was built in 2005, but you'd never know by looking at it. [flaglermuseum.us](http://flaglermuseum.us)

## Hotel El Convento

Old San Juan, Puerto Rico

Originally a 360-year-old Carmelite convent, the respectfully renovated and elegant 61-room Hotel El Convento sits in the heart of Old San Juan. The Spanish Colonial interior is marked by graceful arches, soaring ceilings and wrought-iron chandeliers. The preferred ceremony spot is the grand atrium, which opens to the sky and is ideal for ceremonies with up to 80 guests. Hold a spectacular reception in Salon Campeche; the convent's original chapel is now a grand ballroom with a marble checkerboard floor. Add in the second-level mezzanine and you can host up to 210 guests. El Convento is directly across the street from the circa-1540 Cathedral of San Juan Bautista, which is available for Catholic ceremonies. [elconvento.com](http://elconvento.com)



**CHECKMATE**  
The elegant Salon Campeche is the preferred reception venue at Hotel El Convento.