



Atlanta Botanical Garden

8 not-so-secret gardens

Escape the city for a flora-filled affair at one of these stunning venues. BY CAROLINE EUBANKS

atlanta botanical garden

1345 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta;
(404) 876-5859; AtlantaBG.org

With its skyline vistas and dozens of lush gardens, there are few places more scenic for an alfresco affair than the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Seal the deal in the Trustees Garden or Fuqua Orchid Center—a picturesque glasshouse that's home to a colorful collection of tropical blooms. Or book the Sourwood Terrace and Canopy Walk for a stunning space that spans over 600 feet. After, celebrate in the sleek Mershon Hall, a room equipped with a modern craftsman interior.

coastal georgia botanical gardens

2 Canebrake Road, Savannah;
(912) 921-5460; CoastalGeorgiaBG.org

What started as a bamboo farm is now a research center for the University of Georgia and an idyllic option for your garden fete. The tranquil Cottage Garden is a no-brainer for warm-weather affairs of up to 100, with its charming gazebo and blooming rose garden. We're partial to the education center's Great Hall, which boasts grand French doors, a covered back terrace, ample natural light and enough room for 200 seated guests.

state botanical garden of georgia

2450 S. Milledge Ave., Athens;
(706) 542-1244; BotGarden.UGA.edu

Located just five miles from downtown Athens, this public garden is a stunning space perfect for to-be-weds who favor a more modern aesthetic. Dazzling doesn't even begin to describe the garden's wow-worthy Great Room, an airy conservatory practically made for formal affairs. Say "I do" in the on-site Day Chapel before making the short walk to the glass-lined space for a night of dancing alongside 200 partygoers. >>

barnsley resort

597 Barnsley Gardens Road, Adairsville;
(770) 773-7480; BarnsleyResort.com

This former Southern estate turned popular resort is a must-see venue for one very good reason—it once belonged to a man who built the property to show his love for his wife. Snap postceremony photos against the building's crumbling brick ruins before making your grand reception entrance in a horse-drawn carriage. And don't forget to enlist the help of the resort's Fairy Godmother, a title unique to one woman: Denise Webb. Her dual concierge and party planner duties include assisting guests with anything they might need, such as setting up elaborate proposals and anniversary dinners.

piedmont garden tent

500 10th St. NE, Atlanta;
(404) 249-0001; PiedmontRoom.com

Fans of the Piedmont Room's classic elegance will obsess over the venue's silk-lined Garden Tent, a 3,200-square-foot reception space that can accommodate up to 400 of your closest family and friends. Tent rental includes exclusive use of a nearby meadow for your "I dos" and access to the Tavern Bar—an intimate, brick-lined room perfect for a cozy after-party.

callaway gardens

17800 US Hwy. 27, Pine Mountain;
(800) 852-3810; CallawayGardens.com

Lush garden vistas with a spectacular mountain backdrop? Talk about an unforgettable sight. Located an hour outside of Atlanta, Callaway Gardens offers eight different venues to choose from, including waterfront spots Robin Lake Beach and Callaway Brothers Azalea Bowl as well as a 17,000-square-foot ballroom. Plus, it even has rental, bar and catering options to fit your every need.



Barnsley
Resort

little gardens

3571 Lawrenceville Hwy., Lawrenceville;
(770) 923-3434; LittleGardens.com

Prepare for love at first sight with a tour of Little Gardens, an enchanted event space situated on three scenic acres. Let the serene garden set the stage for your alfresco ceremony, where you'll exchange vows next to a picturesque fish pond and waterfall. The venue's 2,350-square-foot ballroom is a definite must-see, plus we're obsessed with the upstairs bridal suite—a sanctuary decorated with a fireplace, floor-to-ceiling mirror and comfy sofas.

chattahoochee nature center

9135 Willeo Road, Roswell;
(770) 992-2055; ChattNatureCenter.org

Nestled on the banks of the venue's namesake river, this educational facility and sprawling park spans 127 acres and is home to native fauna and over 50 species of rescued wildlife. Invite guests to witness a serene ceremony at the lakeside pavilion, or say "I do" in the shade of a 100-year-old pine tree in the plaza. Postceremony, up to 200 guests can stroll through the verdant gardens before retreating to the Great Lawn for a celebration under the stars.



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