

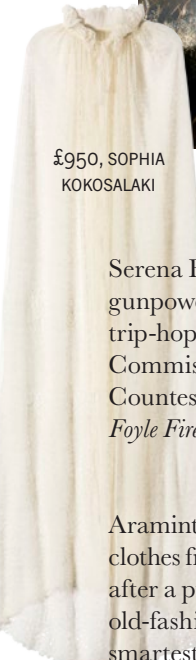


MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN

Where can you get petal confetti? Who will do a champagne-coupe tower? What should the pageboys wear? These and other burning nuptial questions are answered by Violet Hudson

PHOTOGRAPHS: TRUNK ARCHIVE, NICOLE NODLAND/ART + COMMERCE, GRAHAM WALSER/STUDIO 33, NEIL MOCKFORD/FILM MAGIC/GETTY, HOWARD BARLOW, C/O APOLLO EVENTS CONSULTANTS LTD. SEE STOCKISTS FOR DETAILS

£950, SOPHIA KOKOSALAKI



THE ENTERTAINMENT

Serena Foyle sets fireworks to music for an extraordinary gunpowder opera. Take your pick, from Tchaikovsky to trip-hop, and watch a display explode above your head. Commissions include shows for the Earl and Countess of Haddington and at Brocket Hall. *Foyle Fireworks* (www.foylefireworks.com).

THE ATTENDANTS

Araminta Warde-Aldam creates whimsical children's clothes from her home in Northumberland. Named after a pug and a Jack Russell, Tulip & Nettle's old-fashioned aesthetic is just the thing for the smartest bridesmaids and pageboys. The velvet shorts and silk dresses are particularly delectable. *Tulip & Nettle* (www.tulipandnettle.com).

THE ADORNMENTS

For original marquee decorations, look no further than Virginia's Vintage Hire. The Countess of St Germans swears by its rustic trestle-tables for a touch of village-fête charm. The company also has retro scooters that look dreamy in photographs. *Virginia's Vintage Hire* (www.virginiasvintagehire.co.uk). On his riverside farm in Worcestershire, Charles Hudson grows acres of delphiniums to be harvested for confetti. Natural and biodegradable, the petals come in a rainbow of shades. *The Real Flower Confetti Company* (www.confettidirect.co.uk).

THE FOOD

When Princess Tatiana Von Preussen got married last summer at her parents' Suffolk manor house, she chose a local caterer, Lola de Mille of Smoke & Pickle. Her pulled Moroccan spiced lamb shoulder and Spanish pork belly are favourites. *Pickle & Smoke* (www.pickleandsmoke.com).



Above: wedding furniture by Virginia's Vintage Hire. Below: an LPM Bohemia tent



£5,400, LILLY E VIOLETTA



Left: a Foyle Fireworks display. Right: Kate Moss' wedding in the Cotswolds



£4,200, PETER LANGNER



£335, PIERS ATKINSON



COUNTRY WEDDING

The summer weekends Emma Hanbury hosts at her Devon home are famed for style. Borrow a little of her magic with a Wembury Warmer, the hotplates she imports and sells. There's no chicer way to keep a buffet lunch for 300 warm. *Wembury Warmers* (www.hotplates.co.uk).

THE FLOWERS

Tattie Graham's flowers are seasonal and romantic. From decking a hall in boughs of holly to simple bouquets of narcissi, she has decorated the weddings of the West Country's grandest families. *Tattie Rose Flowers* (www.tattieroseflowers.co.uk).

Below: Princess Tatiana Von Preussen's Suffolk wedding



THE SETTING

LPM Bohemia provides tents in a range of styles, from Indian with block-print linings and silk cushions to retro-style big tops. Lady Emma Fellowes and Rebecca Guinness are fans. *LPM Bohemia – the Tent Company* (www.lpmbohemia.com).

£1,310, MARCHESA AT BROWNS





TOWN WEDDING



George Galliers-Pratt and Arabella Musgrave

Bride

£1,095, EDIE PARKER

When Kate Moss decided she wanted a 500-glass champagne tower for her wedding, she knew exactly who to turn to. Cellar Society has catered at parties for Karl Lagerfeld, Tinie Tempah and Mario Testino, so her 360 bottles of Pol Roger were in safe hands. *Cellar Society (www.cellarsociety.com).*

THE FLOWERS

What do Sir Elton John, Pierce Brosnan and Lady Bamford have in common? They all get their flowers from Rob Van Helden. Known for his fragrant, feminine arrangements, Van Helden is Battersea's best-kept secret.

Rob Van Helden Floral Design (www.rvhfloraldesign.com).

Mulberry, Alexander McQueen and Skye Gynge all use JamJar flowers for their parties. The company's wedding floristry is just as lovely – beautifully simple, with white roses in antique vases and wildflower bouquets.

JamJar Flowers (www.jamjarflowers.co.uk).

Nikki Tibbles Wild At Heart works with brides to create intricate wedding moodboards so the flowers fit the theme. Whether it's bunches of lavender or arches, the results are show-stopping. No wonder it was the first choice for Poppy Delevingne and Arabella Musgrave when they got married.

Nikki Tibbles Wild At Heart (www.wildatheart.com).

THE STATIONERY

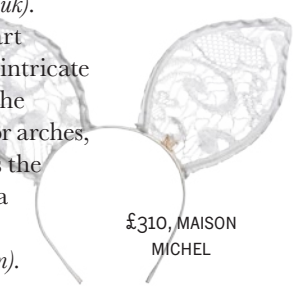
Smythson is famously discreet about its client list, but with three Royal Warrants and Samantha Cameron as brand ambassador, it's bound to be grand. The thick-as-doorstop invitations in tissue-lined envelopes drop through the finest letterboxes in the land. Grace Kelly never wrote on anything else.

Smythson (www.smythson.com).

Left: a wedding marquee by Raj Tent Club. Above: the Duchess of Cambridge

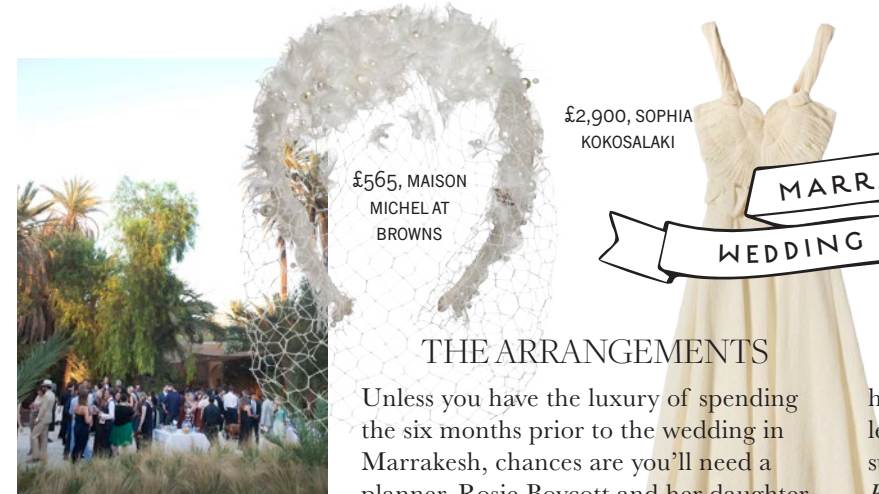


£2,800, ROLAND MOURET



£310, MAISON MICHEL

PHOTOGRAPHS: LOUISE SAMUELSON; GRAHAM WALSER/STUDIO 33; SAMIR HUSSEIN/GETTY IMAGES; MAX MUMBY/INDIGO/GETTY IMAGES; DAVID BURTON/TRUNK ARCHIVE; RANDALL BACHNER. BOUQUET COURTESY OF WILDABOUT. SEE STOCKISTS FOR DETAILS. RAJ TENT CLUB (WWW.RAJTENTCLUB.COM)



£565, MAISON MICHEL AT BROWNS

£2,900, SOPHIA KOKOSALAKI

MARRAKESH WEDDING

THE ARRANGEMENTS

Unless you have the luxury of spending the six months prior to the wedding in Marrakesh, chances are you'll need a planner. Rosie Boycott and her daughter Daisy Leitch called on the services of Stéphanie Benetière at Kech Events when Leitch came to plan her nuptials. Kech organises tailor-made events for anything from intimate elopements to full-blown parties. It will also plan hammam trips to soothe even the most frazzled bride. *Kech Events (www.kechevents.com).* Boutique Souk is a travel-fixing company with impeccable contacts. Its experts will find the perfect riad, kasbah or palace and turn it into an enchanted glade. Its speciality of olive-trees hung with candles is dreamlike and romantic. The DJ Ben Bridgewater is a favourite of the company; he's usually found playing at parties in Kensington Palace, or at 5 Hertford Street. *Boutique Souk (www.boutiquesouk.com).*

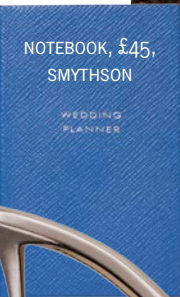
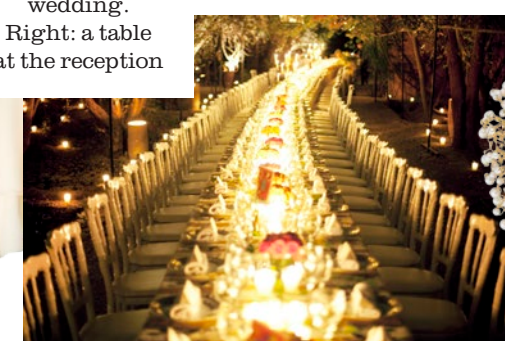
THE ACCOMMODATION

For mega-watt glamour, there's only one real option: La Mamounia. Winston Churchill described the hotel as 'the loveliest place on Earth', and Poppy Delevingne clearly agrees: she hosted her second wedding party here, flying in guests including Sienna Miller, Suki Waterhouse and Mark Ronson. From the welcome snack of almond milk and dates to the black and white tiled pavilion, every detail whispers pure luxury.

La Mamounia (www.mamounia.com).

Deep in the heart of the Medina, Riad Kitula (little sister to the El Fenn hotel) is a traditional Moroccan bolthole with a modern twist. Its owner, the art-world impresario and Renaissance man Danny Moynihan, has kitted it out with

Top: guests at Daisy Leitch's wedding. Right: a table at the reception



NOTEBOOK, £45, SMYTHSON



£390, ROSANTICA



£375, LA PERLA

his collection of modern art. There are deep leather seats, stained-glass windows and a sunken pool in the middle of the cool courtyard. *Riad Kitula (www.el-fenn.com/little-sister).*

If you choose to stay outside central Marrakesh, Kasbah Tamadot offers a tranquil retreat in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains. Set in a lush palm-grove, it is the Moroccan home-from-home for Mick Jagger, Annie Lennox and Sir Richard Branson, the owner. *Kasbah Tamadot (www.kasbah-tamadot.virgin.com).*

THE FOOD

El Fenn is a charming boutique hotel that offers a wedding-planning service, and one of the best things about it is the cocktail-bar-cum-restaurant. Serving delectable fusion food – fig tart with smoked duck breast and poussin tagine – it's an intimate venue for a smaller pre- or post-wedding dinner. Carey Mulligan and Maggie Gyllenhaal love it. *El Fenn (www.el-fenn.com).* □

£3,295, STELLA MCCARTNEY



Left: Kasbah Tamadot. Below: Jnane Tamsna, the venue for Daisy Leitch's wedding



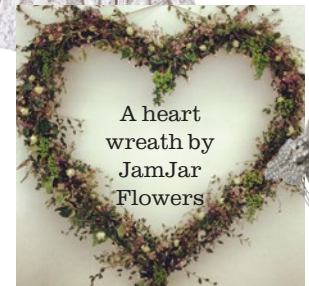
£2,015, DOLCE & GABBANA

THE CLOTHES

As the only fully couture-based British wedding-dress designer, Philippa Lepley's Chelsea atelier is a favourite of well-to-do brides. Alice Naylor-Leyland and Lady Emily Compton both opted for her quintessentially British creations. Intricate needlework, beautiful lace and exquisite fits are Lepley's signature. *Phillipa Lepley (www.phillipalepley.com).*

THE FOOD

Clients from Aquascutum to Zaha Hadid rave about Arnold & Henderson's catering. The head chef Anna Tobias hails from the River Café, and the food is tailored to the season and character of the events. Keira Knightley is such a fan, she flew them out to France for her nuptials. *Arnold & Henderson (www.arnoldandhenderson.com).* Royal Warrant holder the Admirable Crichton is Prince Charles' favourite party firm. Its team can do everything from making room-size fabric elephants to throwing white-tie balls on the shores of Lake Como. But it's the luxurious ingredients and deep flavours of the food that make it stand out. *The Admirable Crichton (www.admirable-crichton.co.uk).*



A heart wreath by JamJar Flowers

ABOUT £745, JENNIFER BEHR