

MICHELLE & WENTZEL VAN ZYL

*Forget what everybody
else wants or says...
follow your hearts.*



Three years ago a city girl from Johannesburg met a 'boerseun' from Namaqualand and, as the cliché goes, it was literally love at first sight.

How did you meet?

I had moved to Hermanus to start a new job at a wine estate where Wentzel was employed as the farm manger. We were worlds apart but somehow it magically fits together!

Your proposal was well planned?

I arrived home from a late lunch with a friend and he was outside busy grooming our golden retriever, Lady. Once he was done he told me to go into the house and relax; poured me a glass of wine and suggested we play a new board game. I am a board game junkie so was more than happy to try it out. He then surprised me with a treasure hunt. The treasure... our chicken eggs! He had written 30 of our most special memories down and when I got a clue correct I had to collect an egg. When I had collected them all he told me to turn the eggs around. There were letters which spelt out...MVA will you MARRY ME! He went down on one knee, called Lady over and, around her neck, was the engagement ring tied to a garter which Wentzel had caught at a friend's wedding earlier in the year!

How long did you have to plan your wedding?

A few months after the engagement, my brother called from London to say that he might not be able to attend our wedding in April 2014. He just had to be at our wedding so the date changed to August 2013. This meant we had just 2 months to plan!

You chose the beautiful Bona Dea Estate as your venue?

We were swept away by the Bona Dea Estate in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, Hermanus. If you are attracted to the charming idea of a country, fairytale wedding day, then we highly recommend the Bona Dea Estate.

Did the venue meet with all your expectations?

Bona Dea Estate is the perfect wedding venue, an oasis. The owners, wedding co-ordinator and team



A bride is the central figure, wearing a long, white, strapless gown with a sweetheart neckline and a full skirt. Her hair is styled in an updo with a gold headband, and she wears large, sparkling earrings. She is standing in a room with white vertical paneling on the walls and a light-colored wooden floor. Her right hand is on her hip, and her left hand is resting on a white pillar. The lighting is soft and natural, coming from a window in the background.

*Our most unique
wedding gift was
a spotted piglet
called Pixel!*

*Venue: Bona Dea Estate,
Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, Hermanus
Wedding Gown: Eve's Bridal Boutique
Shoes: Anella
Hair: Gordon Byrne Hairstylist
Make-up: De Lau Wellness Centre
Photography: Billy-Jean Photography*