

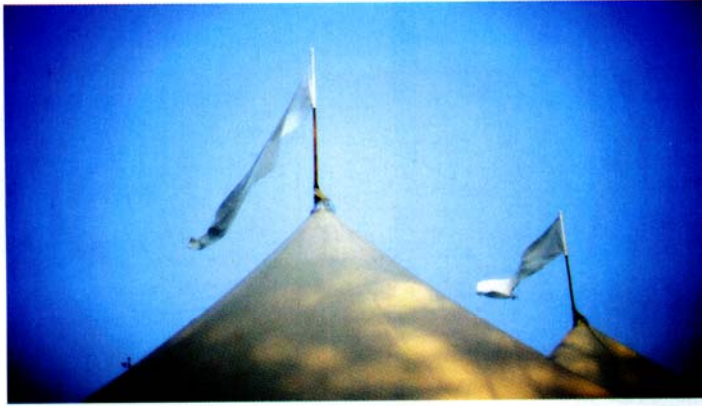


southern new england  
**WEDDINGS**

A SCHRYVER PUBLICATION

The 2008 Wedding & Event Guide  
for Rhode Island, Massachusetts,  
and Connecticut including  
Newport, Boston, Cape Cod  
and The Islands

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## weekend celebration on the cape

With its gorgeous cranberry-infused autumns, the Cape naturally attracted Tom Rinaldi and Natalie Dillon. Married in Osterville last fall after “spending a tremendous amount of time there while we were dating,” the Rinaldis note that, “The Dillons have many wonderful memories from the Cape, and it was special to know we would add even more during our wedding weekend.” And today it’s no secret that the Cape’s fall season rivals its summers, so “It also was very important for us to be married by the ocean out in the open air during the early fall, one of the most beautiful times of the year on the Cape,” says the couple.

Tom and Natalie now recommend a Cape Cod wedding to others for many reasons, including the following:

- The weather: gorgeous blue skies, gentle sea breezes, and brilliant sunshine
- The sparkling water and charming beaches
- An unhurried lifestyle
- The friendliness of the people
- “A world away without the world-away costs,” says Natalie’s dad.

**A WEEKEND AFFAIR** “A quaint town with such rich nautical history,” Osterville gave the couple “a chance to show our friends and family from around the country and overseas why the Cape is a very special and magical place.” The bride and groom captured that magic through a full weekend affair, marked by “shopping along Osterville’s charming Main Street,” a picnic at Dowses Beach, a docent-led tour of the 1800’s Captain Parker House & Boat Shop at the Osterville Historical Museum, and golf and tennis at The Wianno Club.

Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements helped to bring the weekend to life. Appreciating that “the Dillon family unit was so involved with making all of Natalie’s dreams for her wedding day happen,” Liset enjoyed planning events at the chosen sites— The Wianno Club, Wianno Yacht Club (rehearsal dinner), and Nauticus Marina (reception)—“some of the most beautiful locations to have events.” She adds that the chance “to expose guests to all three in one weekend was spectacular.” Guests also were treated to a true Cape wedding at the Dillons’ Osterville home next to Nauticus. Tom elaborates that, “Natalie’s family has spent almost ten summers next door to Nauticus, and it was a unique blessing to be married at their home and then have our guests walk straight over to the reception.” (*See Natalie’s and Tom’s featured wedding on pages 258-259.*)

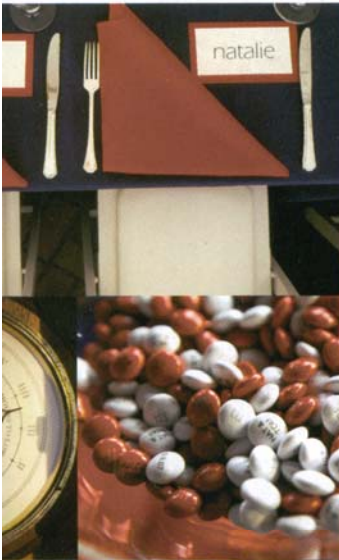


### WEEKEND FUN

Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements notes that, “The weekend of events gave the wedding a particularly warm and intimate feeling even with the large number of guests, because everyone had already spent time with the bride and groom; families had united already.”

*Above and below: Guests enjoyed sailing, tennis, volleyball, and a post-wedding brunch as part of the weekend events.*

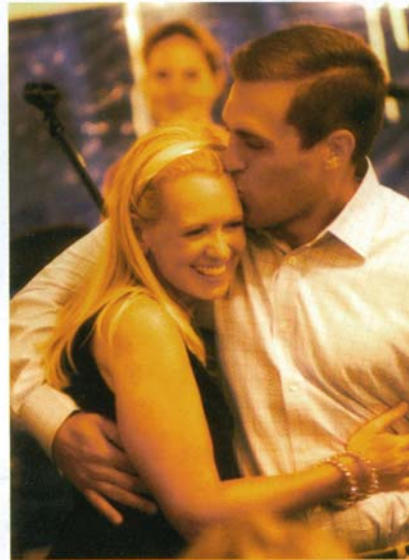




## A CAPE COD PARTY

The couple "welcomed all of our out-of-town guests in a very relaxed and traditional Cape Cod way with a traditional lobster bake, complemented by our fantastic reggae band, Mystic Bowie." The dinner launched "the weekend of celebration," and it included personal touches such as when "Natalie's sister Briney (the maid-of-honor) amazed the crowd by singing original songs on her guitar and dedicating them to us," making "the tent full of tears." Liset adds that, "There was no room for stiff formalities, only a relaxed carefree, comfortable home-style dinner party where in the end, tables were pushed aside to accommodate impromptu dancing!"

*Images by David Murray Weddings.*



NATALIE DILLON  
to  
TOM RINALDI

September 8, 2007



### A NAUTICAL RECEPTION

The Nauticus Marina's "nautical architecture is unbelievably beautiful and provided an amazing backdrop for our outdoor cocktail hour and reception tent," says the couple. Reflecting on their memorable weekend, Natalie and Tom share that, "Guests also commented on our color scheme of white, lime green, and navy and how well it blended in with the water and grass in this beautiful setting"—an opportune venue for "taking pictures against the water and the boats in the marina."



Wedding Planner:  
Allison Wildes Liset of  
Elegant Engagements

Linen Rentals:  
BBJ Linen

Florist:  
Lilacs

Images by David Murray  
Weddings

*See Resources for additional vendors.*



FEATURE WEDDING

259

## wedding planner: a smart decision

In today's busy world, a wedding or event planner is a saving grace. Here are some of the many benefits of hiring a planner:

### CREATING A UNIQUE VISION.

Because "there is so much window of opportunity for planning a wedding," says Tasha Bracken, president and principal design coordinator, SD Events, and president of Boston Wedding Group, "It's hard to manage all of the details without having an idea or the vision."

**PROVIDING EXPERIENCE.** Donna Kim, principal wedding consultant and owner, The Perfect Details, elaborates, "To me, the biggest benefit can be summed up in one word – *experience!*" A consultant knows the ropes in terms of location, pricing, and "what's in vogue for the day."

**SAVING YOU TIME AND HEADACHES.** As Wendy Joblon of Wendy Joblon Events points out, "Weddings have gotten more and more complicated, and all of the logistics are difficult and so time consuming." A planner can help you work through the many, many details.

**FACILITATING VENDOR RELATIONSHIPS.** Aggie Clifford-Carmone, president and creative director, Soirée, observes that, "With the Internet providing a wide variety of resources, you have to provide services that are not available with a click of the mouse." Naomi Raiselle, board member of Boston Wedding Group and owner of Generations Videostories, agrees, pointing out that, "Good wedding consultants have an encyclopedic knowledge of the wedding professionals in that region."

**MAKING THE EVENT FLOW SMOOTHLY.** Alexis Eliopoulos O'Mara, accredited bridal consultant, Unique Weddings by Alexis, comments that, "A planner keeps the day flowing perfectly so friends and family members can enjoy themselves."

**PROVIDING PERSONALIZED ATTENTION.** Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements explains that, "The day-of benefit is that the bride almost becomes the celebrity, and you're her personal assistant."



## PLAN ACCORDINGLY

A basic timeline of some of the major planning decisions you'll be making. Popular wedding venues and professionals book quickly, so don't delay!

### 12-24 months

- Hire wedding planner
- Establish budget
- Reserve ceremony site
- Reserve reception site
- Select photographer
- Select videographer
- Select music vendors
- Select transportation services
- Book accommodations
- Select caterer

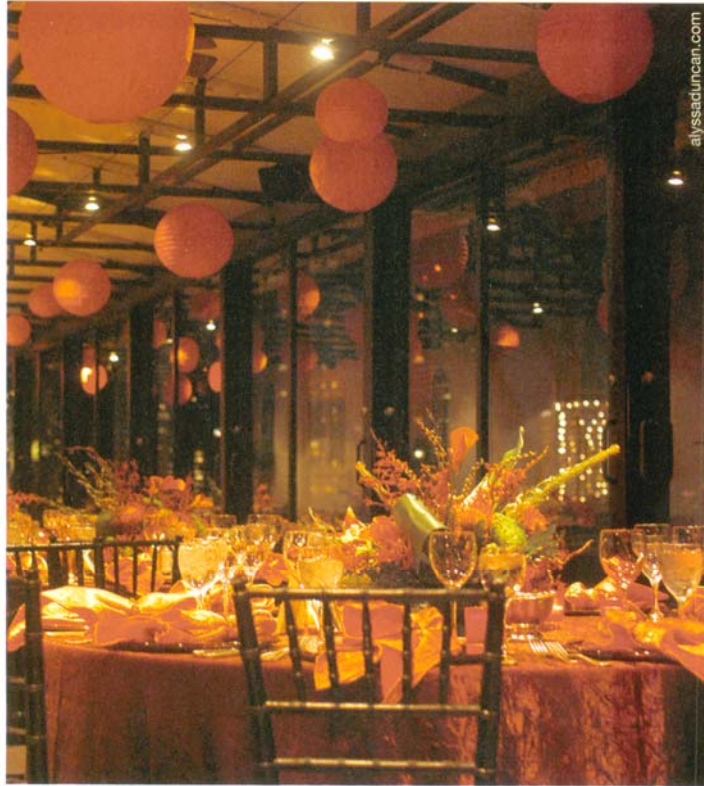
### 6-12 months

- Mail "save-the-dates"
- Select bride, groom, and bridal party attire
- Select florist
- Order wedding cake
- Plan wedding trip
- Order invitations and stationery
- Arrange rehearsal dinner
- Select wedding rings

### 3-6 months

- Select hair/makeup services
- Buy attendant gifts
- Order favors





## *kicking color up a notch*

This year, Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements, has been “pushing brides and grooms not to match” when it comes to colors. She adds that, “Contrasts have been big.” Liset’s planning vision came to fruition beautifully in a wedding that didn’t “stop at one color.” She integrated oranges/rusts with black plates and paper lanterns in reds and oranges hanging at various heights (shown above). Regarding her use of color, Liset explains, “On the Cape, a lot of girls use blues, beiges, and greens to tie to the ocean.” She is “just kicking it up a notch by mixing those colors and even bringing in others such as yellows for the sun.”

## a green or giving wedding

Planners have observed that many couples want socially responsible weddings. Here are few ways couples can be green and/or give back to others:

**GREEN WEDDINGS:** Tasha Bracken, president and principal design coordinator, SD Events, works with couples to use recycled papers, organic food and flowers, natural fabrics, and energy-efficient lighting. She also helps plan events in “an environmentally friendly setting such as Seaport Hotel Boston.” Similarly, Donna Kim, principal wedding consultant and owner, The Perfect Details, has planned weddings at the Epicenter in South Boston—a site that is both a green building and a wonderful “blank canvas” for visionary planners.

**CHARITY DONATIONS:** Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements notes that “people are using donations as favors.” Options include donations to organizations such as Children’s Hospital Boston announced via beautiful scrolls or, as Kim mentions, cookies “with a tag notating a donation to a charity in memory of a dear friend.”

**IN-KIND DONATIONS:** You can donate your gowns to brides and attendants who cannot afford to purchase them at regular cost. One such organization is Brides Against Breast Cancer. Visit their website at [www.makingmemories.org](http://www.makingmemories.org) for more information on gown donations.

Walk away from your wedding with *EVERY* wish fulfilled...

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Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements

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