

ON TOP of the World



An Atlanta couple celebrates their big day in high style in the North Carolina mountains.

AFTER meeting at work and quickly falling for each other after hours, Atlanta-based public relations consultant Chris Potter proposed to advertising executive Catelyn Kinsell on a weekend hike in the beautiful North Carolina mountains. "Somehow Chris made it all the way to the end of the hike before popping the question in a beautiful spot by the river," the bride shares. "I said yes before he'd even finished asking the question!"

One year later, the happy couple tied the knot near the same special place where Chris had proposed. Catelyn enlisted Atlanta-based wedding planner Lindsay Pitt of TOAST Events to see to all the details for the chic ceremony at private, gated community Lonesome Valley's Canyon Kitchen in stunning Sapphire, N.C. Hot apple cider and cozy blankets (later donated to an animal shelter) greeted the guests on the chilly fall day. The majestic mountainside setting proved a perfect canvas for elegant enhancements in hues of ivory, gold, caramel and lace. Jackson Durham crafted a magnolia garland wedding arch for the ceremony and chic centerpieces of hydrangeas, magnolias and garden roses for the reception.

Guests warmed up with custom bourbon cocktails crafted in honor of the bride and groom—a Georgia Bellini of bourbon and peach cider and an old-fashioned-based Tennessee Champagne. Thanks to esteemed Blackberry Farm veteran Executive Chef John Fleet, the crowd indulged in Canyon Kitchen's seasonal and regionally inspired menu. "There was something so wonderful about starting our lives together in a place that has strong sentimental ties," explains the bride.

From the flawless florals to the mini Mason jars filled with personalized M&M's, planner Pitt saw that no detail was overlooked and **CONTINUED...**

...CONTINUED ensured all went off without a hitch. "It is worth every penny to have a professional helping you out," admits Catelyn. "No matter how much you think you love little details or think you want to plan it all on your own, there's no price that you can pay for that peace of mind. Especially in the months and weeks leading up to your big day. You should be able to enjoy this time as a couple with as few distractions as possible."

After dancing the night away to high-energy, acoustic band The Whiskey Rebellion, a sparkler send-off lit up the night as the newweds made their escape in an antique fire truck courtesy of the Cashiers Fire Department. For their honeymoon, the couple set off in a convertible for a two-week adventure exploring the coast of California that also included stops in Sonoma and Yosemite. "We thought of doing a more traditional beach vacation, but, honestly, that's just not us," shares the bride. "Our honeymoon was the perfect way to start out our lives as a married couple—the right amount of relaxation, outdoor activities, great food and, of course, fabulous wine!" ■



THE PEAK OF CHIC Clockwise from top left: The bride's bouquet by Jackson Durham of white garden roses; for the ceremony, Jackson Durham designed a wedding arch from a ring of magnolia and floral garland; bridesmaids wore Mack chilton gowns by Jim Hylan from Bella Bride.com, and the groomsmen, Michael Kors tuxedos from Brudis by Lux; a raffish crutch and dark chocolate raspberry cake by The Sugared Bear; the bride's diamond engagement ring by Henri Daxot from Solomon Brothers Fine Jewelry

The List

Venue & catering Canyon Kitchen at Lonesome Valley, Sapphire, N.C., lonesomevalley.com
Planning TOAST Events, toast-events.com
Cake The Sugared Bear, thesugaredbear.com
Rural design, decor & linens Jackson Durham, jacksondurham.com
Invitations Hi Note, yourhinote.com
Music The Whiskey Rebellion,

thewhiskeyrebellion.net
Bride's gown Nicole Miller, nicolemiller.com
Bride's hair & makeup The Moore Agency, themooreagency.net
Bride's shoes BLUE by Betsy Johnson from Nordstrom, shop.nordstrom.com
Tuxedos PROPERSUIT, propersuit.com
Rings Solomon Brothers Fine Jewelry, solomonbrothers.com