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**WEDDINGS**

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The 2004 Wedding & Event Guide for Rhode Island,  
Southeastern Massachusetts and Connecticut including  
Newport, Cape Cod & Islands



## DESTINATION: CAPE AND ISLANDS

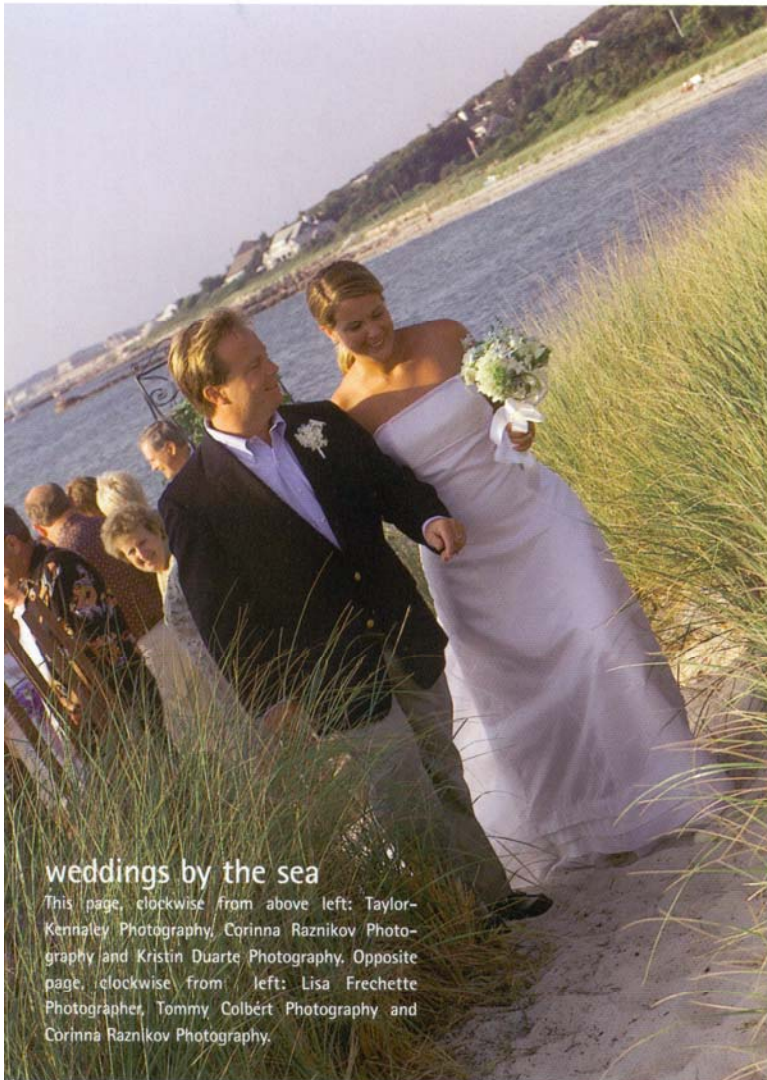
**CAPE COD** New England's Cape Cod is an idyllic setting for any wedding destination. "Couples are drawn to Cape Cod for its timeless, simple oceanfront venues," says Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements. "Historically charming inns, stately captains' mansions and 100-year old oceanfront resorts dominate both coasts of our landscape. The Cape lends itself easily to a casual, intimate weekend wedding. The unique destination has the ability to lure guests for more than a day or two. Couples host several events over the course of the weekend so that guests can plan family vacations around the festivities."

Shaped by the ocean currents, Cape Cod is 60 miles wide with windswept beaches and long stretches of elegant natural beauty. Most everyone is drawn to the seashore, yet the freshwater ponds, marshlands and cranberry bogs that grace the interior are just as spectacular. Whale-watching tours, cycling and walking trails, sailing and fishing excursions, stores and boutiques and seafood cuisine will keep all your guests well entertained. Featuring an abundance of world class amenities and seaside venues, Cape Cod offers a multitude of choices when planning your big day. The nearby islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket are located south of the mainland. Both can be reached by plane from Boston or Hyannis, or by ferry from Woods Hole, Hyannis or Harwich.

Cape Cod hosts several seaside towns that can keep every type of guest busy during the wedding weekend. "The town of Chatham itself is a quaint seaside village on Cape Cod," says Lisa Franz, Director of Sales of the Chatham Wayside Inn. "There are unique shops, galleries, boutiques and restaurants all within walking distance. The Chatham Seaside Links golf course and the Lighthouse Beach are easily accessible and enjoyed by all our guests."

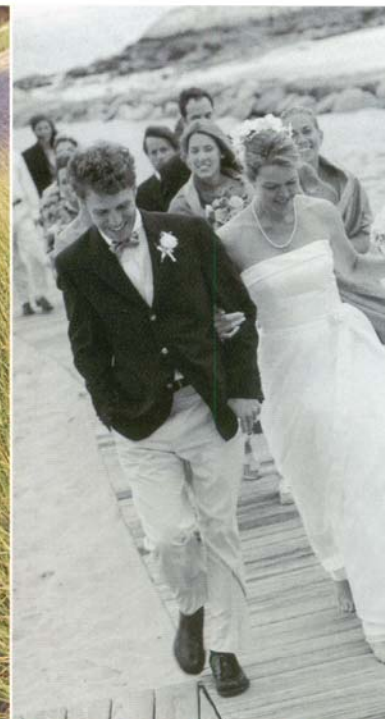
"Couples are drawn to the casual sophistication that Cape Cod and the islands have to offer," says Aimee Guthinger of Alfresco, LLC. "Most couples are interested in creating a weekend getaway to show their guests the time of their lives. The couples that I work with are very confident in their relationship and with the style of event they envision to celebrate the commencement of their lives together. Couples are keeping traditional elements in their wedding and also looking for bold and unique ways to make those elements their own."

Liset also sees brides and grooms personalizing their Cape wedding more than ever. "From printed napkins, welcome baskets and embossed chocolate to the groom who pays tribute to the bride with a song or poem, couples are revealing their true character," says Liset. "It has been a very romantic and sentimental year. 'Cootie catchers' are the latest hit this year. Placed at the bar, the insets feature the bride's and groom's names followed by



### weddings by the sea

This page, clockwise from above left: Taylor-Kennaley Photography, Corinna Raznikov Photography and Kristin Duarte Photography. Opposite page, clockwise from left: Lisa Frechette Photographer, Tommy Colbert Photography and Corinna Raznikov Photography.



actions such as ‘eat some cake’ or ‘kiss the person next to you.’ They were really a treat for all guests and a great way for the couple to show their fun and outgoing personality.”

A traditional clambake is a popular way to kick off the weekend events. “The clambake theme promotes a festive and relaxed atmosphere with lots of wonderful food,” says Amy Christopher of the Wychmere Harbor Club. Liset adds, “These fun informal evenings complete with lobster bibs are great for breaking the ice and blending two families. Also, volleyball games, golf tournaments, beach fireworks, whale watches and canal cruises allow for ample and quality time spent with guests who traveled from afar.”

Along with a clambake, the Cape lends itself to a seaside wedding theme. Many brides choose colors of the season and add nautical elements to their wedding. “Bridesmaids in variations of pale blue gowns, the indigenous blue hydrangea in authentic Nantucket baskets and the seashell chocolates scattered atop the wedding cake are Cape Cod classics that truly will never go out of style,” notes Liset. “We also are seeing a ‘preppy renaissance,’ with many of our upscale clients leaning towards the pinks and greens of our Izod pasts. It is



refreshing to see the hot pink dresses, cosmopolitans and even pink and green plaid table linens!”

The seaside wedding theme also is evidenced in small details at the reception. “Some couples elect to use Cape Cod town names rather than table numbers for their reception tables,” says Christine Antoine of The Ridge Club. Antoine adds, “Typically Cape Cod symbols pop up from time to time, such as small starfish or ocean scenes on the place cards, to wedding cakes decorated in a beach theme.”

Due to the popularity of a Cape wedding, book your reception eight months to a year in advance. “June and September are popular wedding months,” says Franz. Between the summer festivals and tourists that travel on the island, it is best to start your wedding research sooner than later on the Cape. “We also recommend that couples see the beauty of Chatham Wayside Inn in person, rather than rely on websites or brochures for the initial meeting,” continues Franz. “Once couples choose the location, we can coordinate the details of the wedding in person or long distance.”

Whatever your plans entail, we'll be there...



photo by Dave Hansen

Allison Wildes Liset of Elegant Engagements

Wedding & Event Designer on Cape Cod  
508-833-8314 [www.capeweddingplanner.com](http://www.capeweddingplanner.com)