



WEDDING TRENDS CHEAT SHEET

What's Hot **& WHAT'S NOT**

The freshest ideas in food, flowers and photography, and the trends to gracefully leave behind.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY STONEWALL RESORT



What's Hot AND WHAT'S NOT

Welcome to the Ultimate Wedding Trends Cheat Sheet from the team at Stonewall Resort. We've distilled the freshest ideas in food, flowers and photography to help you navigate a sea of choices, and gently steer you away from a few trends on their way out.

With an eye on sustainability, personalization and the guest experience, use this guide to decide what to embrace and what to gracefully leave behind.

Happy planning!



Circle what you love

Mark the trends that feel like you, and cross out the ones that don't.

Look for "At Stonewall"

These notes show how a trend comes to life at the resort.

Share with your vendors

Bring your picks to your planner, florist, caterer and photographer.

What's Hot EMBRACE

- **Farm-to-table menus.** Locally sourced, seasonal ingredients for a fresher, more sustainable meal.
- **Interactive food stations.** Build-your-own and chef-attended stations get guests up, talking and choosing.
At Stonewall: Chef-attended action and carving stations are part of our catering menus.
- **Grazing tables.** Artful spreads of cheeses, charcuterie, fruit and breads that keep guests mingling.
- **Mini and personal servings.** Bite-sized versions of favorites, or dishes that tell your story as a couple.
- **Global flavors.** Dishes that blend the cuisines of your families or the places you've traveled together.
- **Plant-forward options.** Sophisticated vegan and vegetarian dishes so every guest eats well.
- **Signature cocktails and mocktails.** Drinks named for your story, with zero-proof versions everyone can enjoy.
- **The whole-weekend menu.** A welcome party the night before and a farewell brunch turn one dinner into a getaway.
At Stonewall: We host welcome parties and farewell brunches on property.

What's Not LEAVE BEHIND

- **One-size-fits-all menus.** Guests expect choice, especially with dietary needs in the mix.
- **Overly complicated dishes.** Unusual ingredients and fussy plating that don't land with most guests.
- **Heavy fried food.** It weighs down a night that's built for dancing.
- **The generic three-tier cake.** Dessert bars, pies and s'mores say more about you.
- **Mass-produced favors.** Swap boxed mints for something edible and personal, like local preserves or your favorite coffee blend.

OUR FOOD & DRINK PICKS

What's Hot EMBRACE

- **Local and seasonal blooms.** Fresher flowers, a smaller footprint and décor that matches the time of year.
- **Installations beyond the bouquet.** Floral arches, hanging pieces and greenery runners for a natural, garden look.
At Stonewall: Our arbor and lakeside lawns make a ready-made backdrop.
- **Monochrome palettes.** One color in many shades, from soft pastels to deep jewel tones.
- **Edible flowers.** Pressed into cakes, tossed in salads or garnishing cocktails.
- **Flower bars.** Guests build a crown or a take-home bouquet, a keepsake and an activity in one.
- **Potted and reusable décor.** Centerpieces that go home and get replanted instead of thrown away.

What's Not LEAVE BEHIND

- **Tight, structured bouquets.** Looser, more natural arrangements feel current.
- **Exotic imports.** Locally grown flowers win on freshness and sustainability.
- **Single-use décor.** Couples now ask what happens to every piece after the last dance.
- **Matching everything.** An eclectic mix of textures, herbs and grasses adds character.
- **Oversized centerpieces.** Lower arrangements keep sight lines open and conversation flowing.

OUR FLOWERS & DÉCOR PICKS

What's Hot EMBRACE

- **Candid storytelling.** Real moments over stiff poses, so the photos feel like the day felt.
- **First looks.** A private moment before the ceremony, and some of the most emotional images of the day.
- **Moody, cinematic edits.** Rich color and dramatic light. Golden hour on the lake is made for it.
At Stonewall: Docks, trails and lakeside lawns give you a dozen backdrops in a short walk.
- **Day-after sessions.** A relaxed shoot without the wedding-day clock.
- **Same-day content.** A content creator capturing short clips and sneak peeks you can share that night.
- **360 photo booths.** Interactive, shareable video moments your guests will actually post.
- **Unplugged ceremonies.** Phones away so guests are present and your photographer's view stays clear.

What's Not LEAVE BEHIND

- **Phones blocking the aisle.** An unplugged ceremony solves it.
- **Over-staged poses.** Shot lists full of forced setups crowd out the real moments.
- **Heavy filters.** Edits that date the photos within a few years.

OUR PHOTOGRAPHY PICKS



WHAT'S NEXT

Remember...

This is your day, and it should feel like the two of you. Trends are only the palette. Embrace the ideas that speak to you, add touches that reflect your story, and don't be afraid to step away from the conventional if it makes the day truly yours.

Next step: take the [Wedding Style Quiz](#) to find your style.

We're here IF YOU NEED US

Set amid nearly 2,000 acres of rolling West Virginia mountains, Stonewall Resort's Adirondack-style lakeside lodge hosts indoor and outdoor ceremonies, receptions and dinners with award-winning service, just minutes from the interstate. Recently named The Knot Best of Weddings and Here Comes the Guide's Best Appalachian Mountains Wedding Venue (2024).

[Contact our wedding team ›](#)



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