



# Beauty at the Beach

Rosie and Paul enjoyed a heavenly wedding day with friends and family at Salduna beach club. A simply unforgettable day at the beach!

### Love at first sight

Paul was studying engineering at HMS SULTAN, Gosport and I was studying Media Studies at Portsmouth University. I handed my dissertation in on 22nd April 2009 and went out into Portsmouth in the evening with friends to celebrate. Paul was out with his work colleagues after watching a Liverpool VS Arsenal game.

My student friends and I went to the student bar, Walkabout, and after one too many drinks I was entered into a wet T-shirt competition with one of my best friends Diane. Unbeknown to me Paul was on the dance floor watching the wet T-shirt competition, (cringe!) and after I jumped off the stage our eyes met.... The rest is history!

### Spanish dream

Paul & I have holidayed here a lot during the 6 years we have been together, so we know the

area well and Paul also has family living in the area of Spain that we got married. We love the laid back culture in Spain and also the welcoming attitude towards children, (we have two!). We are not a traditional couple so a church wasn't for us. We had always discussed getting married on the beach in the sun and so after falling in love with this location, Spain seemed the perfect choice for us.

### Heavenly location

We spoke with a friend of ours who recommended our venue (Salduna Beach) as an option for her wedding. We went to take a look at Salduna and fell in love with it immediately. The modern design with a natural and cool feel to it was perfect. The surrounding beach and scenery is beautiful and the atmosphere is mellow and calm; exactly how we wanted our wedding to be! After eating and drinking at the venue we just had to book it, the food, drink and service was 5\*.

### Floaty beachwear

My wedding dress was ivory colour and I kept it very simple. It was floaty and light, which I wanted for on the beach. I was in barefoot for the day and wore a diamond and beaded headpiece, my look was described as "a Greek goddess" by our guests! The bridesmaids were in a combination of coral and light beige dresses, the dresses were silk and all different lengths. Again they were floaty and looked beautiful when caught by the wind on the beach. The groomsmen all wore matching light stone shorts and coral shirts.

### Sand ceremony

We decided on a sand ceremony where myself, Paul and our two children, Stanley and Edith, poured sand from four different vases into a glass frame. The frame had a photo of Paul and I in it and the sand from the four vases represented being united as one as the sand was poured and

mixed into the frame. Choosing this type of ceremony meant that we could involve our children, who are three years and six months old and are a big factor in us wanting to get married in order to unite our family.

### A veritable feast

We provided canapés after the ceremony and then a three-course meal. The meal consisted of: Tomato, mozzarella, avocado & pesto towers, chicken quesadillas, Carpaccio, duck confit with a sweet potato jus and green beans and chocolate brownie & ice cream.

We also provided a vodka & lime sorbet as a pallet cleanser - and a bottle of tequila per table as a livener before the band started.

The cake was left to Paul's mum who organised a chocolate sponge with chocolate filling. It had a sand texture and look on each tier, with shells and pebble

decoration. The top tier had deck chairs with a Mr and Mrs Starfish that wore a veil and top hat! It was something different that took on the theme and colours of the day.

The band was fantastic and played for nearly 3 hours. They played a mixture of current hits and 70s disco hits - all with a slight funk twist. They had a great soul feel and had all of our guests up and dancing from the minute they came on.

### Relax and smile

We chose Tony Wilkinson Photography to take our photographs and Tony was brilliant! He met up with us before the event, which helped to ease the feeling of being awkward turtles in front of the camera on the big day. Tony allowed us to choose when we wanted photos taken and gave us the freedom of

our own ideas or certain people we wanted to incorporate into our pictures. He was very relaxed and fitted in well with our day.

### A family affair

We will both remember the ceremony forever! It was very personal to us, with personal written vows and involving our children meant the world to us. Many of our guests commented on how lovely and intimate our ceremony was after it took place. Dancing to the band is also a highlight. Both Paul and I love live music and the band played songs that we both love. We got to end our big day by completely letting go on the dance floor with all our wonderful friends and family.

### If I had to do it again, I would change...

NOTHING! But I would love to do it again just to experience it all again!



## Address Book

Photographer: Tony Wilkinson

Music: Seeking Soul Band, lead singer and lady in charge Vicky Madera

Cake: Little Lola's Cupcakes

Venue: Salduna Beach

Minister: Liz Wilkinson

Dress: Farnham Boutique, (UK)

### My advice to brides-to-be

Make sure you do what YOU want. Family and friends have lots of ideas and advice on what you should do but ultimately the day is about the two of you and having the day you choose. Paul and I planned our wedding together and everything about it was about us and what we enjoy doing.

