



Daniela remembers

How did your groom propose?

On the Greek island of Mykonos in a lovely boutique hotel called Rocabella Mykonos Art Hotel & Spa. Alex had asked the hotel staff to decorate our balcony for dinner with lots of candles and champagne while we were out having a drink at the bar. We had a lovely view over the sea, nice music, romantic lighting ... He proposed after dinner and I said yes!



Sunshine and happiness

Alex and Daniela Tysl
PHOTOGRAPHS: DNA PHOTOGRAPHERS



Tell us about the theme of your wedding.

Our wedding took place at Café Dijon @ Zorgvliet wine estate in Stellenbosch. Alex's parents were visiting South Africa in January last year and immediately called us via Skype (we're based in Switzerland) to show us the venue, as they thought it would be perfect for us. Fortunately we were able to book flights right away and come to SA ourselves. When we saw the venue we knew it was perfect – calm, vintage style, awesome scenery. Our ceremony and reception were held outside. Wedding Concepts did the decor and describe the look as "fun and fresh". Our stylist says: "The tables under the oak trees were a rainbow of colour with bright vases and a wide assortment of summer florals such as orchids, hydrangeas, lisianthus, carnations, proteas and roses. The colour palette for the later part of the day was very sweet, feminine and romantic with plenty of pink, blush, peach and white elements in the floral decor and the suspended Chinese lanterns."



And the menu?

Sarah du Plessis, the owner of Cafe Dijon, prepared our menu and it was simply great. Starter one was seafood tian with lemon mayonnaise, baby leaf garnish and avocado; while starter two was Springbok carpaccio with rocket, parmesan, balsamic glaze and toasted pine nuts. Main course was a choice of medium roast fillet of Angus beef with roast potatoes and baked vine tomatoes; or baked linefish with herb cheese crust and mint baby potatoes. Dessert was crème brûlée – my favourite.

What was the highlight of the day?

To be honest, the whole sunny day was a highlight! The ceremony was great. And right after the ceremony we had a picnic on the lawn of the vineyard. Afterwards, everyone was able to chill a bit at the pool of De Kraal Country Lodge, the venue we had booked nearby, and enjoy live music from the Dixie Swingers. In the evening we all went back to Café Dijon for dinner and the party, where Alex's father and brother played a few songs for us as well. Everyone was on the dance floor outside! It was perfect!

Any special advice for brides-to-be?

Having a break between the ceremony and picnic, and the dinner and party in the evening, allowed guests time to relax (and recover from the heat). Hats and umbrellas are essential for outdoor summer weddings. Also, Pinterest really helped us to determine the style of our wedding and communicate our likes to Kim Werner, our wedding coordinator. It's particularly useful if you're planning a wedding from abroad.



Little black book

BRIDESMAID'S DRESS (not pictured): Bought overseas

COORDINATOR: Kim Werner from Wedding Concepts 021 426 5783; weddingconcepts.co.za

CUPCAKES: Kanya Hunt of The Hunt House Kitchen 021 553 0440; kanyahunt.co.za

DECOR: Kim Werner from Wedding Concepts 021 426 5783; weddingconcepts.co.za

DRESS: Julia Heinzel (based in Germany); juliaheinzel.de

ENTERTAINMENT: Dixie Swingers 021 696 7425; dixieswingers.co.za

FLOWERS: Fleur le Cordeur 082 621 7455; fleurlecordeur.co.za

FOOD: Sarah du Plessis of Café Dijon 021 418 3910; cafedijon.co.za

GROOM'S OUTFIT: Hugo Boss; hugoboss.com

GROOMSMAN'S OUTFIT (not pictured): Hugo Boss; hugoboss.com

HAIR AND MAKE-UP: Yolande du Toit 082 823 5371; yolande.co.za

PAGEBOY'S OUTFIT: Bought overseas

PHOTOGRAPHER: DNA Photographers 083 377 1826 / 071 495 1103; dnaphotographers.com

VENUE: Café Dijon @ Zorgvliet wine estate 021 885 1399; zorgvlietwines.com

