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# HOST YOUR WEDDING AT A SAN ANTONIO ICON: SAY "I DO" TO THE ST. ANTHONY

## Hotel Known for Elegance Adds Style, Grace and Charm to Weddings

**SAN ANTONIO (2016)** – The most breathtaking moment of every wedding is when the bride steps into view and all eyes turn to gaze on the beaming beauty in the perfect dress. The only way to improve that vision is to surround that beauty with the glamour, grace and stunning setting of The St. Anthony, a Luxury Collection Hotel, San Antonio. The hotel has hosted everyone from Hollywood royalty to true royalty, and presidents, governors, newsmakers and celebrities have walked its halls, but its luxury and glamour never seem more fitting than when a bride takes center stage.

The St. Anthony is adding shine to downtown San Antonio once again thanks to a renovation and restoration that peeled back the layers of time to reveal the unparalleled luxury of a bygone era, paired with a modern, timeless design. Featuring the historic feel and flow of a truly elegant property, the hotel is polished like never before, offering a timeless elegance that fits any wedding plan. But the hotel is more than simply a jaw-dropping venue, it's also a resource for brides-to-be, offering an experienced, dedicated team of wedding specialists to help a bride make her big day unforgettable. With unparalleled customer service and a dedication to making every event shine, hosting a wedding at The St. Anthony is truly a dream come true.

### Beyond the Boxy Ballroom

From the moment a bride-to-be steps into the glamour of Peacock Alley, it's hard to imagine holding a wedding anywhere else. The entire hotel exudes elegance and romance, but Peacock Alley, an open space featuring fantastic antique chandeliers and stunning architectural elements, as well as an eclectic mix of modern furniture alongside 200-year-old pieces and priceless artwork, gives everyone pause as they soak in the scene. The space earned its name in the 1930s as it was, and still is, the place for fashionable "peacocks" to see and be seen, making it the perfect place for a bride to be showcased—and a fabulous setting for bridal portraits.

Peacock Alley is also home to the hotel's exquisite Hamburg Steinway concert grand piano. A cherished part of The St. Anthony's history, the piano was fixture in the hotel from the 1930s to 1993. The music stopped when the piano was removed by previous hotel owners and seemingly lost until it was offered for sale by an auction house in 2013. The hotel's current owners gladly purchased it and had Steinway restore it so it could fill Peacock Alley with music once again.

A truly unique hotel, the National Historic Landmark features distinct event spaces that are anything but boxy ballrooms. Each area is designed to stand on its own—the ballrooms are not separated by air walls, making each room its own space, yet due to the hotel's design, everything flows naturally from one area to the next. The design allows the hotel to host an event in stages: a reception in one area that flows into the main event, or a wedding ceremony space that's entirely different than the reception and dinner areas, allowing brides to hold a ceremony in one space, a cocktail reception in another and then the wedding reception in yet another, with guests easily flowing from one part of the celebration to the next.

The Anacacho Room, a ballroom that has hosted everyone from Princess Grace to John Wayne, is a romantic, two-story ballroom with a balcony and built-in stage, as well as chandeliers that make any added décor shine. The Cascade Room, a space naturally suited to host a reception, features a wall of windows that overlook the hotel's infinity pool, allowing events to flow from indoors to out so guests can enjoy the pool deck, six stories above the city. The newly added Library serves as a fantastic cocktail reception space while the Cavalier Room is perfectly suited for smaller weddings or dinners.

For a true view above it all, the hotel's rooftop terrace, the St. A Sky Terrace, features Spanish colonial architecture and Brazilian hardwood decking—and an amazing view of the Alamo City. An open space capable of hosting up to 200 people, the Sky Terrace features Mexican tile, a built-in stage, a bar and the best backdrop ever, San Antonio. An early evening reception can be bathed in the glow of sunset, while at night, couples dance under the stars. The Sky Terrace is also fabulous for post-wedding after parties. And thanks to the hotel's "front yard"—San Antonio's historic Travis Park—The St. Anthony can also create street level outdoor events that flow from the park into the hotel.

Another benefit of the hotel's unique spaces: they make it perfect to host a wedding's full array of events. From a bridesmaids luncheon in the hotel's Loggia, overlooking Travis Park, to a rehearsal dinner in the Peraux Room or a farewell brunch in the Draper Room to say thank you to your guests, there's no end to how brides can use the hotel as the backdrop for all of the special events that comprise a wedding.

While the hotel exudes glamour, luxury and opulence with its French antiques and dazzling chandeliers, hosting a wedding at The St. Anthony is more affordable then people might imagine. Site fees are waived with a food and beverage minimum and all of the event supplies, including tables, chairs and things like the fantastic parquet dance floor in the Anacacho Room—are included.

## Service Sets the Stage

Since opening its doors as San Antonio's first luxury hotel in 1909, The St. Anthony has been known for the personal service it provides to each guest. Never satisfied with status quo, the hotel constantly looking for ways to make their wedding clients' experience the best it can be. The hotel's experienced, dedicated wedding staff works with each bride so they can enjoy their event, leaving the details to The St. Anthony.

In fact, when discussing wedding receptions in particular, it is easier to list what the hotel does not provide—the cake, music and flowers—than fully detail everything it does. The St. Anthony provides complete event coordination, trained servers and bartenders, tables, chairs, white linens, china, silverware,

# **A Family Tradition**

St. Anthony has long been woven into the tapestry of San Antonio's social scene. Parties at The St. Anthony Club, Fiesta celebrations and balls, Sunday brunches, fashion shows, charity galas and weddings—the list of memorable events people have enjoyed at the hotel is long and distinguished. Many people grew up with The St. Anthony, or grew up hearing stories about the hotel, making it part of family memories and traditions.

Those memories bring brides to the hotel as they want to continue the family tradition. The hotel has hosted events where today's bride is the daughter and granddaughter of previous brides, tying three generations of weddings together in an elegant, timeless setting. Other brides and grooms remember dining at the hotel with their parents, seeing pictures of balls and formal events, or attending other family and friends' weddings, and can't imagine another setting for their big day.

elegant mirror and candlelight centerpieces, parquet dance floors, staging, set up and tear down of the event and scheduled set-up times for outside vendors. To help brides in need of assistance with outside resources, the hotel also provides a list of carefully selected, reputable local vendors who can work with brides to help make their dreams come true.

The hotel offers wedding coordination services to help with all of the wedding details and can even create a special hair and make-up space in one of the hotel's event spaces overlooking Travis Park, such as the Starlight Suite. Featuring a bank of windows that provides gorgeous natural light to complement the bride's glow, the suite gives brides a special time and space to be with their friends and loved ones as they get ready for the big day. A groom's den is also available for use.

Perhaps the best perk of holding a wedding at The St. Anthony: the ability for people to simply take the elevator home. The hotel's guest rooms and suites are fantastic, ensuring that any wedding guests staying at the hotel will enjoy not only the event, but their full visit to San Antonio. The hotel's commitment to guest service means that every guest will have the best experience possible. The St. Anthony also provides special rates for wedding guests. The hotel offers a truly local, indigenous experience for wedding guests who may

have traveled to attend the event and can craft local tours and activities to help them enjoy their time around the big celebration.

Another perk: wedding couples can also earn Starwood Preferred Guest reward points on their food and beverage purchases, meaning they can earn free hotel stays at any Starwood property around the world.

## **Flavor with Flair**

While many hotels only offer standard menus for couples to taste and select for their big day, The St. Anthony is anything but standard: its dinner menu alone is 15 pages long, giving brides an array of choices and ranges. But Executive Chef Mike Mata doesn't rest with standard menus. His passion for cooking ignites an endless creativity which is translated into memorable dishes he crafts with love for the guests and the hotel itself. He creates culinary delights that match the historic beauty's luxurious glamour and doesn't rest until he knows that he's found the perfect menu to match a bride and groom's wildest dreams.

"Of course we have great menus for event planners and brides to choose from—but that's not what drives us. We want to create something that tells the story for that event, for that bride and groom, for those guests. We work to personalize every menu and make each event and each meal special. We want everyone to have that memory, and to talk about the food that night as well as well after the event," explains Mata.

Mata meets with each wedding planner or bride and groom personally to hear their stories and create dishes unique to them. He attends each tasting, listening not only to what they say directly to him, but comments in general, picking up on cues and ideas to incorporate into the menu for their wedding.

Mata's commitment to customer service extends to the wedding itself. He personally supervises the plating, checking each plate before it leaves the kitchen, and stays through every event to ensure every detail is perfect. "Every dish we present at a tasting gets photographed so we know exactly how it was presented and can duplicate that for the event. We're meticulous with how we plate things—I want every plate to look as if it belongs in a magazine. To ensure we get the presentation correct, we store all of the photographs and have a monitor in the kitchen so we can create the dishes down to the exact dollop of sauce we used to decorate the plate. We want to take stress off of our event planners and our brides—they never need to worry about the quality of the food or the presentation their guests will enjoy."

Mata also creates special meals for the hotel's brides and grooms, leaving a surprise in their room on their wedding night so they can enjoy a sweet taste at the end of their big day.

With all that The St. Anthony has to offer, there's little doubt as to why it hosts more than 100 weddings a year. Make sure you leave your wedding with sweet dreams and memories of unforgettable food, ambiance and elegance—book your wedding at The St. Anthony today.

### About The St. Anthony, a Luxury Collection Hotel, San Antonio

A Texas jewel reborn, crafted from the dreams of two Texas cattlemen in 1909, The St. Anthony, a Luxury Collection Hotel, was the first luxury hotel in San Antonio and has remained one of the finest expressions of Texas hospitality for more than a century. Featuring 277 guest rooms and suites, as well as more than 31,500 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and event space in the heart of downtown San Antonio, The St. Anthony is an unrivaled classic reborn with contemporary glamour and opulence. The hotel's timeless elegance and tradition, fused with stunning city views and modern design, serve as the epicenter of San Antonio's social scene, including its sixth-floor outdoor pool and tenth-floor rooftop lounge, as well as the storied St. Anthony Club, a cocktail lounge with historic tales to share, Rebelle, San Antonio's newest culinary destination, and Haunt, a bar offering classic cocktails inspired by the haunting legends of The St. Anthony. For reservations or for more information, contact 210-227-4392 or visit www.thestanthonyhotel.com. #TheStAnthony, #TexasJewelReborn

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