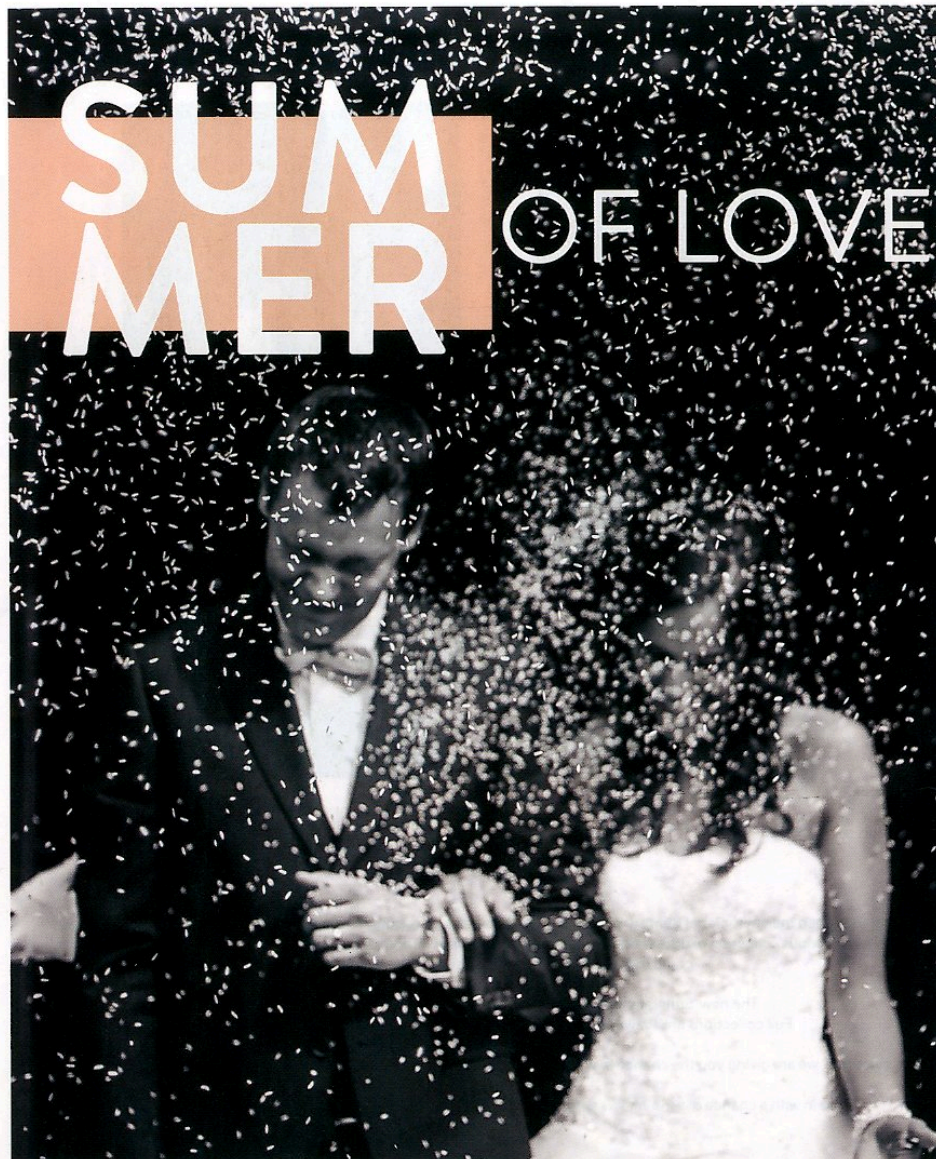


WEDDINGS



When the sun shines (and even when it doesn't) Ireland is one of the most beautiful places in which to say your wedding vows. With no shortage of spectacular venues – from historic castles to chic, city locations – on offer we've rounded up some of the coolest spots for your 'I do' moment.

irishtatler.com

WEDDINGS



The Romantic Wedding:

Castle Leslie

One of the finest country estates in Ireland, Co

Monaghan's Castle Leslie has been in the hands of the Leslie family since the 1600s. It's been hailed as Europe's most romantic hotel and, with 1,000 acres of countryside, including ancient woodland and lakes, it's undoubtedly a scenic setting for the big day. While weddings and ceremonies of all sizes are accommodated, the hotel has over 100 bedrooms, across the castle itself, the Lodge, the Old Stable Mews and village cottages. The castle can hold midweek weddings of up to 70 guests, while The Pavilion, which overlooks Glaslough Lake, can accommodate up to 260. If an outdoor wedding is on your wish list, there are spots in woodland, by the lakes or in the gardens, in which to make your vows.

One more thing:

If you're planning to have a religious ceremony, there is the picturesque St Salvator's Church on the estate.

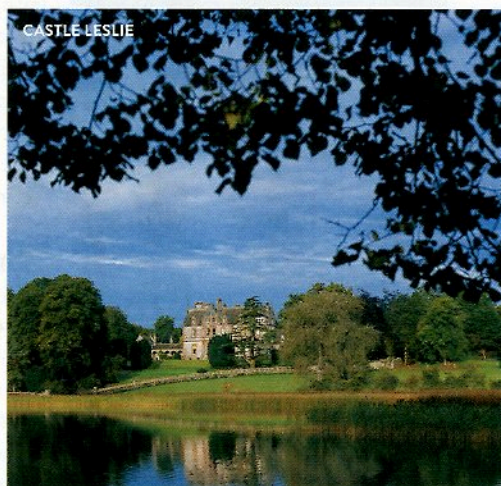
Glaslough, Co Monaghan; tel: 0353 47 88100; castleleslie.com

The FairyTale

I Do:

Kilronan Castle Estate & Spa

Co Roscommon's Kilronan Castle Estate & Spa has at its heart a castle that dates from the 18th century. Medieval gates greet guests at the top of a driveway that winds through an ancient forest — wedding day fairytales come



“The happy couple can stay at the
Hideaway Cottage on the edge
of the lake”



to life. The lake terrace overlooks Lough Meelagh and makes for a dramatic outdoor

setting for summer wedding vows. The castle's ballroom can hold up to 350 guests but an array of set ups and layouts work to also make the space inviting for smaller gatherings.

One more thing: The lake terrace offers a dramatic venue for pre-reception drinks. *Ballyfarnon, Boyle, Co Roscommon; tel: 071 961 8000; kilronancastle.ie*



The Castle Wedding:

Ashford Castle

The renowned Ashford Castle in Cong, Co Mayo is steeped in history. Once home to the Guinness family, the 800 year old castle sits on 350 acres of immaculate grounds and the whole estate is available to hire for a private wedding if desired. Smaller gatherings are well catered for too, with elegant rooms such as the Connaught and the Inglenook making ideal spaces for up to 40 guests. Ceremonies can be carried out in any number of local churches, in the hotel's Drawing Room or — the summer wedding dream — in the castle gardens with the

castle and the lake as a spectacular backdrop. The happy couple can stay at the Hideaway Cottage (formerly a boat house), on the edge of the lake.

One more thing: Ashford Castle offers a host of activities, from golf to falconry, and also boasts an award-winning spa. *Cong, Co Mayo; tel: 094 954 6003; ashfordcastle.com*

ASHFORD CASTLE

