



Astra

Featured Bride

WHO: *Terri Holland*
married Ryan Boote

WHEN: 14 March 2009

THE PROPOSAL: Ryan planned a surprise weekend away for our 5th anniversary. After leaving Wellington, I realised that the car was packed with snowboarding gear was a giveaway to our destination! We arrived at Ruapehu in the afternoon so decided to head up to the top of the mountain to have a look at the views. We headed down to a spot that looked like it would have a gorgeous view off the cliff and then when I turned around there was Ryan, down on one knee in the snow with a beautiful jewellery box, and even prettier ring inside – Ryan then asked me to marry him! Of course I instantly said yes. It was the most amazing moment in my life, the gorgeous views, in the snow on top of Mt Ruapehu with my soon to be husband! He then spoiled me by staying at the Chateau for the weekend (he had even talked to my boss about getting me the following week off work) so I instantly was on a fantastic long amazing holiday! All totally unexpected!





THE DAY: We wanted an elegant and simple wedding. It was also very important for us to make sure everyone felt really comfortable on the day. Our colours were pink and black and our theme was hearts.

THE CEREMONY: We chose my husband's family home; it was the most perfect, stunning and personal location for us. My mother-in-law Liz had always had gorgeous gardens. I walked along a pink and white rose petal aisle which led to a large heart archway. We had a gazebo on the lawn to provide some shade (and bar) for the mingling after our Ceremony. The garden had a cute wooden gazebo and plenty of garden seats throughout. My mother-in-law put so much time into making their home perfect for our wedding; it brought so much meaning to our wedding day.

THE RECEPTION: We moved to the Te Marua Golf Club for our reception. We used golf carts to get to one of our photo locations and it was so much fun. We got to just let loose and go nuts for a bit. This is one of my most memorable moments as it was so much fun. Belle Vie supplied us with reception table decorations; centre pieces, tea light candles, black table runners, black ribbon for the napkins and chair covers. Not to forget they also found lengths of fairy lights to cover the deck at the Golf Club.

TRANSPORT: We hired the stretched black 300C Chrysler from Executive Limos.

It took me to the ceremony and then transported us to the reception. My husband is right into his cars and he just couldn't fault this one. Our driver Clark was amazing. He had eyes and ears in the back of his head and also went beyond the call of duty making sure the wedding party had plenty of fun while we were getting our photos taken.

THE CELEBRANT: We had the privilege of having Kerry Prendergast, the Wellington Mayor, as our Celebrant. She helped us with our vows and the wording for our Ceremony and put the final touches on our entire day. She gave us plenty of well-appreciated advice!



GOWN: I wore a Maggie Sottero gown the Dallas Marie. I saw my gown in an Australian magazine just after we got engaged and totally fell in love with it. I thought I'd have to go to Australia to try it on, but I decided to try on some gowns in the NZ bridal shops first before going over. I was in Astra Bridal in Wellington and I saw the Maggie Sottero catalogue. Image the joy of realising I could get my gown in NZ, and that they would get a sample from Auckland for me to try on. I love this gown because it is elegant with a hint of princess. It made me feel amazing. I loved the loose pickups at the bottom of the gown. The ruching at the top gave it the simple but elegant look I wanted. I am definitely a "pink" girl (used to have a pink glittery car and everything) and the pink ribbon just polished the dress off perfectly! The dress seemed like it was designed for me! The saying: you will know when you have the right gown as soon as you put it on, is so true!

MY LOOK: I used local services in Upper Hutt for my hair and makeup. Amor Hairdressing were great. They did my bridesmaids and mothers hair. I still have them do my hair now. Charmaine's Hair and Beauty did our makeup, they were great at making it look and feel very natural.

FLOWERS: Black rose florist in Porirua did the most amazing bouquets and a great price. My flowers were pink and cream roses and my bridesmaids had pink roses.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER: We chose Mike and Louise Henry from the Simple Wedding photography company. I honestly couldn't say enough about these guys! They helped make the whole day run smoothly, their jobs didn't just end at being photographers that's for sure! The quality of their work is amazing and they are very efficient with organising our Album which again was of the highest quality. They are a dream to work with, they made the whole day come together so easily and our photos just totally blew us away.

ENTERTAINMENT: Shaun Preston brought his big white grand piano which was placed just off the garden edge and played our ceremony songs beautifully, he has an amazing voice. I wished we didn't have to race off to get photos done so we could also sit back and enjoy what he brought to our wedding. He did an amazing job keeping all our guests entertained, everyone commented on how great he was.





Then That 80's Band kicked off the evening after our first dance with doing what they do best – getting everyone up, dancing and having a fantastic time, the old, the young and the married! They played all the classic 80's hits and they dressed the part as well! They involved us all so much throughout the night (by even encouraging the guests to sing into their mic). They are a very energetic band who obviously love what they do.

CATERING: The nibbles and drinks after the ceremony were provided by Simply Food.

INVITATIONS: Kirsty from Paper Magic did everything from our invites to our seating plan, table numbers and thank you cards. It all fitted with our double theme of black and white and hearts.

RECOMMEND: Going to “wedding school” with Belle Vie, before I started my planning. I came away with a huge folder that ended up going absolutely everywhere with me!



DO OVER: I'd have a wedding planner there on the day. I absolutely loved all the wedding planning, I found it loads of fun and not stressful at all (but I thrive in organising)! However on our wedding day I wished I had someone there that wasn't part of the Wedding to just ensure things happened and on time. Taking care of all the little things that nobody notices except the Bride. My advice to brides is that there is absolutely no point in stressing over anything come the week / day of your wedding. You find you enjoy it so much more if you just sit back and make the most of it. Forget all the little things and just focus on why you are there! In addition, some advice that my sister gave me the night before our wedding was to make sure you take a minute here and there throughout the day to just watch everyone and everything going on around you – take it all in as much as you can. Otherwise the day will go in a blur!

Terri's dream team

Photographer: Simple Wedding Photography Company
www.simpleweddingphotography.com

Brides Dress: Maggie Sottoro www.maggiesottoro.com – from Astra Bridal

Brides Shoes: Benjamin Walk www.benjaminwalk.com – from Astra Bridal

Brides Veil: Dreamtime Designs www.allveils.com – from Astra Bridal

Brides Hair: Amor Hairdressing (04) 5284866

Brides makeup: Charmaine's Hair & Beauty Studio (04) 5284959

Reception: Te Marua Golf Club www.temaruagolfclub.co.nz

Planning: Belle Vie www.bellevie.co.nz

Catering: Simply Food www.simplyfood.co.nz

Flowers: Black rose Florist www.blackroseflorist.co.nz

Stationery: Paper Magic www.papermagic.co.nz

Rings: The Village Goldsmith www.thevillagegoldsmith.co.nz

Music: Shaun Preston www.shaunpreston.com
 That 80's band www.wellingtonbands.co.nz/Thats_80s_Band.html

Grooms suits: Frank Casey www.frankcasey.co.nz

