



GRAND HOTEL

STORY BY EMILY BETZ TYRA • PHOTOGRAPHY BY ISLAND PHOTO



Erin Price
& Jason Charnley

GRAND HOTEL,
MACKINAC ISLAND

The excitement built on Erin and Jason's Grand Hotel wedding weekend every time a ferry pulled up to the docks. "We ran down to greet as many of our guests as we could as they came off the boat," says Erin. She fell in love with the romance of this island where horse and buggy is the only mode of transportation when she visited with her husband-to-be after college.

The festivities began with a rehearsal paired with a sunset cruise with hors d'oeuvres for all 250 guests on the Arnold Transit Co.'s *Straits of Mackinac II*.

On the wedding day, a grand line of horse-drawn carriages carried the bride and groom and their attendants to the ceremony at historic Ste. Anne's Catholic Church. The guests filled the church and balcony, waving fans that Erin made with the ladies of her family.

Guests mingled on Grand Hotel's magnificent front porch—said to be the longest in the world—for the cocktail party, sipping bellinis to the lush sounds of a string quartet. Dinner and dancing followed in Grand Hotel's Theatre Room.

On their wedding night, the newlyweds stayed in the Grand's lavishly appointed Lady Bird Johnson suite with a stunning view of the Mackinac Bridge. *W*



Before joining their guests for the cocktail party on Grand Hotel's famous front porch, Jason and Erin took a carriage ride alone through the island's hilly interior. This grand wedding weekend went off without a hitch because of careful coordinating by Carol Erbel of For the Love of Mackinac.



As night fell, Cassens Murphy, a 9-piece band out of Detroit, transformed the Theatre Room into a ballroom. Belle e Dolce's Kim Sperl transports her from-scratch masterpieces with hand-sculpted sugar paste flowers across the lake to island weddings every summer.

The table was set for the wedding feast in the Theatre Room with a gift of Mackinac Island fudge from Joann's Fudge for each guest. The wedding day flowers were created by Grand Hotel's own Margaret's Garden florist. Erin's dress and veil came from Leonardo's Bridal in Cleveland.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JEFFREY DUPRE, ISLAND PHOTO, 888-597-3729, ISLANDPHOTO.INFO
VENUE: GRAND HOTEL, 800-33-GRAND, GRANDHOTEL.COM



Wedding Notebook

GRAND HOTEL



dining

Grand Hotel's exceptional reputation for fine dining extends into both luncheon or dinner wedding receptions, all of which are multiple-course, plated meals. Cocktail receptions, both hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, dinners, desserts and wedding cakes, all prepared by the talented and creative Grand Hotel catering staff, can be provided.



Time and again, Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island has served as the perfect place for a truly unforgettable wedding. Whether your guest list includes just a few names or a few hundred, your Grand Hotel wedding will feature a beautiful locale, exceptional dining, music, and painstaking attention to detail provided for all Grand Hotel events. The more deliberate pace of the charming and world-renowned Mackinac Island will add significantly to the magic of your nuptial.



event facilities



A grand wedding starts with a grand location, and two beautiful Grand Hotel wedding locations are available. The Tea Garden sits below Grand Hotel, amidst the Grand Hotel gardens, and features well-manicured flowers and a charming stone fountain. The second location, the legendary Grand Hotel porch, overlooks the Straits of Mackinac, the Mackinac

Bridge, and the Grand Hotel gardens. Five dining rooms are available for luncheon or dinner receptions, all of which are multiple-course, plated meals. Three dining rooms feature dance floors. In addition, four casual Grand Hotel restaurants—The Gate House, Woods, The Jockey Club at The Grand Stand, and the Fort Mackinac Tea Room—are available for a rehearsal dinner or small reception.



Guest Services



Jewel, Grand Hotel's 18-hole golf course, offers exceptional views of the Mackinac Straits. Other hotel activities include swimming, Fort Mackinac, horseback riding, horsedrawn carriage tours of the island, children's programs, and more.

Grand Hotel guests enjoy a long list of activities at the hotel, and on Mackinac Island. They include the Grand Hotel spa (a full-service Aveda salon), and Margaret's Garden flower shop, all available to enhance your event and the experience of the members of your wedding party. The

Accommodations



At Grand Hotel, no two of the 385 guest rooms are alike. Each has been tastefully decorated by New York designer Carleton Varney with its own special character and style. They include more than three dozen

exceptional named guest rooms, from the Presidential Suite to the six different First Lady suites. Each guest room features numerous amenities including individually controlled air-conditioning, mini-bar, in-room safe, cable TV, iron, and coffee maker.



GRAND HOTEL

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PROPRIETOR
Dan Musser III

EVENTS COORDINATOR
Marty Haines

SPA MANAGER
Suzie Ashley

RECREATION MANAGER
Jason Horricks

REMEMBER THE RINGS. WE'LL DO THE REST.



We'll make sure every detail of your wedding is taken care of. With an array of locales. Exceptional flowers from Margaret's Garden. Complete services from Astor's Salon. Music of any style. And dining options from reception hors d'oeuvres to complete five-course dinners. For more information, call Marty Haines at 517-349-4600 or visit grandhotel.com.