

De-Inflate Your Wedding

How To Save Money on Your Wedding In An Age of Rapid Inflation

There is no question, everything is going up. We are currently living in an inflationary world where every category has been affected to levels not seen in 40 years.

Weddings are already extremely expensive. In fact, weddings are currently the third largest expense in a couple's life after buying a home and family car.

At Blame Her Ranch, we will be forced to increase our prices this July, but it will only cover some of the vendor cost increases we are already experiencing.

Our ranch, while an expensive venue, helps couples save in other areas given our unique product offering, location and lack of costly requirements.

Here are just some ideas we suggest:

THE BIG ONE

VENUE As we always say, it starts with the venue selection. Even before picking a date! There is no question that having your wedding at your home or parent's home is an enormous cost saving. But, before selecting this, make sure it will accommodate your guests and that there are no regulatory or zoning issues with having your wedding in a residential setting. The next venue idea is to rent a home via Airbnb or other-like services. Again, be careful, as not all Airbnb's allow for large-scale events like weddings. BHR fits into this category nicely, while offering multiple locations and a guests sleeping capacity of 44. But, unlike hotels, BHR and other home rentals don't have the extra costs and requirements you will find at hotels and resorts. First of all, there are no resort fees, gratuity charges and other add-ons that drive up the price. But, BHR also allows you to choose your catering and bar options vs being restricted to only what the hotel offers. Many of these facilities also require you to use a wedding planner, shut down at 10:00pm and don't offer exclusivity or multiple events over a long weekend. This category without question can save you tens of thousands of pounds by utilising a private residence vs a commercial operation.

SECONDARY COST SAVINGS

WEDDING DRESS Your wedding dress must be special. But, it does not have to be owned as you will only (most

likely) wear it once. The rental wedding gown industry is exploding and can save you thousands of dollars and still get you the dress of your dreams.

DIY FLOWERS Flowers or florists are expensive. For my daughter's wedding the first floral estimate was more than the catering bill. So, we strongly recommend at BHR a "Do It Yourself" florist where floral treatments are sent to you and ready to go one day in advance. All you need to do is put them at the desired location(s), tack them down, and fluff them up for any and all of your events.

MAKEUP AND HAIR Some of our brides have chosen to do their own hair and makeup on the wedding morning, assisted by the maid of honor and bridesmaids. Although not for everyone doing so can save you hundreds and you'll still look beautiful on your special day.

FOOD & DRINK The sit-down dinner is no longer mandatory in our new millennial world. Many couples save a great deal of money and still have fun serving from food trucks and other low-cost food providers. There is even the possibility (depending on size) to have a family member prepare the food assuming your venue's kitchen is large enough (like BHR's). Also, by picking the right venue and hiring licensed bartenders, you can purchase your own alcohol— as long as you do not charge for drinks.

CUPCAKES VS CAKE There are so many great ways to offer dessert without having a cake. We have seen it all— from cookies to cupcakes to wedding doughnuts. Each is a little different and will not only save you money but provide a little creativity on your special day.

Don't let inflation over-inflate your wedding budget. These ideas, plus so many more, can ensure you get the wedding of your dreams without breaking the bank. [WH](#)

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