



WORDS BY HOLLIE BOND.  
ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
GETTY AND JOHN LEWIS WALLPAPER

# FLORAL flourish



## THE BRIEF

**MOOD** An extravaganza of spring flowers.

**PALETTE** Pale vernal pastels mixed with pops of bright colour against a base of grey to balance the feminine florals.

**VENUE** A private estate in Leicestershire, chosen for its abundance of light and neutral cream backdrop, making a great canvas for the full-on flowers.

*Photography* SARAH VIVIENNE  
*Flowers* ONCE UPON A TIME

Every bride has that one aspect of wedding planning they fall in love with more than anything else. For some of us, it's the dress shopping, while others are obsessed with choosing the most incredible food and drink. If your wedmin preoccupation is about flowers, you'll love this dreamy reception shoot, which takes the floral side of the big day and goes all



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## Reception trends



*“We used roses, scented stocks, larkspur, trailing ivy, pink cherry blossom and elegant delphiniums”*



### THE DREAM TEAM

Photography [sarahvivienne.co.uk](http://sarahvivienne.co.uk)  
 Flowers [onceupon-atime.co.uk](http://onceupon-atime.co.uk)  
 Cake [couture-cakes.co.uk](http://couture-cakes.co.uk)  
 Stationery [lucysaysido.com](http://lucysaysido.com)  
 Hair [alisonjennerhair.com](http://alisonjennerhair.com)  
 Make-up [joannetromans.co.uk](http://joannetromans.co.uk)  
 Long-sleeve dress Maggie Sottero from [serendipitybrides.co.uk](http://serendipitybrides.co.uk)  
 Floral dress Wendy Makin from [shadebridal.co.uk](http://shadebridal.co.uk)  
 Groom's accessories [mrsbowtie.com](http://mrsbowtie.com)  
 Food & drink [stonesevents.co.uk](http://stonesevents.co.uk)  
 Tableware [options-hire.co.uk](http://options-hire.co.uk)  
 Flower lollipops [littlollipopshop.co.uk](http://littlollipopshop.co.uk)

out with it. Everything, from the reception stationery to the fashion – and even the food – has been given the flower treatment, and the result is absolutely stunning.

“Florals are a big part of most weddings, but we wanted something that really celebrated flowers,” says photographer Sarah Vivienne. “It’s quite a brave look, layering so many flowers and patterns together, and everything needed to look good as a whole. Much like a garden!”

The team behind the shoot achieved the “loose, free and a little bit wild” look by working with classic English country garden blooms and plenty of foliage to fit in with this year’s greenery trend.

“The aim was to reproduce a typical country garden, so roses were a must,” explains florist Tracey Spokes. “We also used scented stocks, papery-thin larkspur, trailing ivy, pink cherry blossom and elegant delphiniums.”

In such a striking theme, contrasting pared-down details are key to keeping it from being too over the top. “With such a busy palette, it’s important to have a rest,” says Sarah. “It is sometimes the shapes in between, neutral areas, shadows and greys that enhance the focal points.”

