

WEDDINGS

2022
SUMMER/FALL

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LIFESTYLES

*The Cake!
The Invite!
The Gown!*
Local resources
for your big day

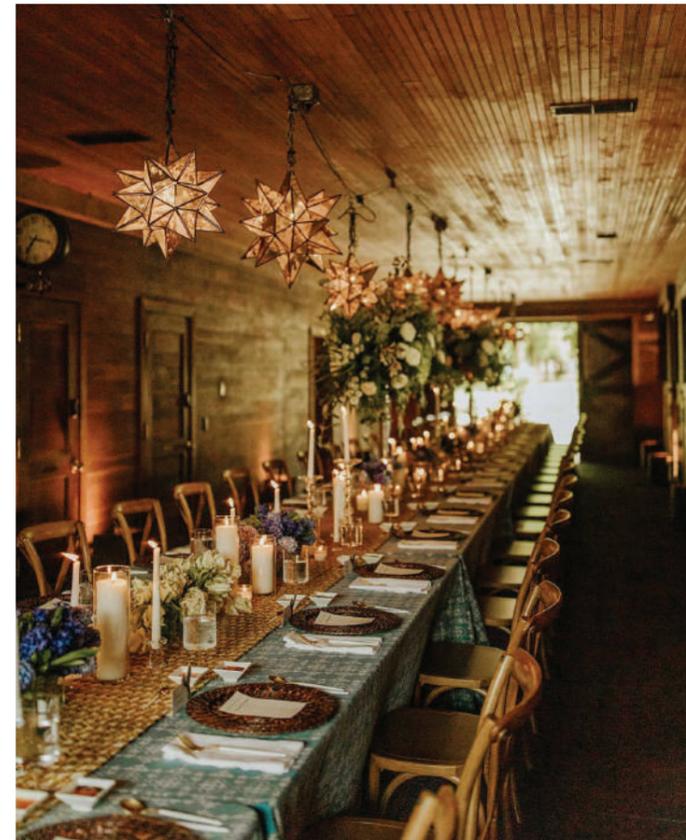
Real Weddings

*30+ couples share
their special day*

HOME of HAPPILY *Ever Afters*

The Estate at Cherokee Dock provides an all-encompassing luxury event venue and resort experience for fairy-tale weddings and more.

WRITTEN BY NICOLE BROWN



Located just outside of Nashville in Lebanon, Tennessee is a venue that is nothing short of magical. Nestled on 15 spacious acres of gorgeously landscaped waterfront property sits The Estate at Cherokee Dock, a mansion fit for royalty complete with a variety of indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces. Now under the management of Infinity Hospitality (known for their dynamic event experiences at venues including The Bell Tower and The Bridge Building), this illustrious abode is transforming into a 5-star luxury event and resort venue with all-inclusive offerings to create picture perfect weddings and events.

The former home of country music icon and actor Reba McEntire, the estate's beauty and appeal is undeniable. Originally built in 1960, the Southern Colonial mansion encompasses over 13,000 square feet and features eight bedrooms, seven bathrooms, a home theater, wine cellar, game room, parlor, poolside promenade, and separate family and formal living rooms. And yet with as much grandeur as the estate boasts, each room is designed to provide an intimate and inviting atmosphere.

Between the mansion itself and a cozy stable lounge, 29 guests can be comfortably accommodated for overnight stays with the option of additional roll-away beds for larger groups. But

a glamorous overnight stay is just one of the many unique perks provided at The Estate at Cherokee Dock. Along with the option of on-site lodging, booking your big day at Cherokee Dock comes with the luxury of an entire team dedicated to making your stay a memorable one with service that embodies the best of Southern hospitality.

"It's such a gorgeous house. You're basically spending the night at Reba McEntire's mansion and then there's the grounds and service. We have people out there 24/7 waiting on you. It is full service; it's truly staying at a resort but by yourself. So, you're getting waited on hand and foot based on the experience you want to have," says Nathaniel Beaver, president of Infinity Hospitality.

From large parties to intimate gatherings, The Estate at Cherokee Dock offers multiple, one-of-a-kind event spaces for fairy-tale weddings. The Lakeview Event Center offers a luxurious, state-of-the-art space positioned right on the banks of the Cumberland River. Along with retractable glass doors, an abundance of natural light, and unparalleled waterfront views, the space also features a beautiful covered outdoor patio. Boasting 4,412 square feet of space, the event center can accommodate up to 250 guests (seated capacity) and 300 guests (cocktail capacity).

Garden party meets waterfront wonderland at Lakeside Lawn. This idyllic, sprawling lawn is a picturesque spot for a romantic ceremony or cocktail hour with various layout options for either seated or standing events. Opposite the gorgeous lakefront view, which features direct access to Old Hickory Lake and the Cumberland River, the mansion and poolside promenade provide an equally breathtaking backdrop for a dreamlike day. Seated capacity for the Lakeside Lawn is 350 people, and cocktail capacity is 500.

Located on the west side of the property is the Sunset Terrace. With finished concrete floors beneath a large, framed tent, the space allows for a seated capacity of 250 people and a cocktail capacity of 400. The space is perfectly situated to showcase stunning sunset views over the water, and acts as a blank canvas to be custom designed for each special day. And for a more intimate feel, the Carriage House Stables offer a cozy setting for an unforgettable rehearsal dinner, cocktail mixer, or small reception. Seated capacity is 50 people and cocktail capacity is 100, but the long, narrow space can easily accommodate a variety of layouts.

The Estate at Cherokee Dock also features Serenity Gardens, a breathtaking backdrop for a picturesque ceremony that exudes tranquility

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(capacity 300). And, for a dreamy golden hour ceremony or photo op, there's the Willow Oak Canopy situated beneath a canopy of lush oak trees (capacity 500).

Because every wedding vision varies depending on the couple, each event space at The Estate at Cherokee Dock serves as a blank canvas to turn any and every dream into a reality.

"It's a bare space that allows for the accents to come in, which is what we're looking for when we design our event spaces. It's got so much character and natural beauty both outdoors and the mansion itself. It doesn't have to fit into a box. If you want to do more of a modern themed wedding, it's a perfect space. If you want to go super rustic and traditional, perfect place for it. The venue doesn't limit you," says Beaver. "The scenery and the view are second to none at Cherokee Dock, just great spots for photos and weddings. Photographers drool when they get out there."

From event planning and design, to in-house catering with an on-site kitchen, to all the details that accompany the wedding planning process, the team at Cherokee Dock eliminates the guess work so couples can focus on what's most important: enjoying their big day. Whether it's vendor management, creating custom menus, event day timeline, on-site coordination, and beyond, the team works tirelessly to ensure every event is as stress-free as it is unforgettable.

"When you book an event with us you have an entire event team—designers, coordinators—that come with the venue working with you to help plan and design everything you want, and there's no limit. We can do anything with anyone and any vendor; whoever we need to get the look that you're trying to achieve," explains Beaver. "When a client books a venue, they don't know what they're getting into. Then, once you get into planning you go, I had

no idea that I had to get linens, I wasn't thinking about all these tables and how many flowers, and I've never served food for 200 people before.' That's the unique thing about the wedding business—we provide a product that most people only do once and have never done before, so it's a lot of education and we realized that we can help provide that education and extra layer of security. It's been better for the clients and we're able to create better events with less headaches."

Beyond the big day itself, there is so much to discover at The Estate at Cherokee Dock. With offerings and excursions such as boating; golfing; fishing; yoga; horseback riding; wine, whiskey, and beer tastings; kayaking; private spa services; and much more, it's easy to transform a one-day, whirlwind wedding into a fun-filled, long weekend retreat.

"The idea is that when you come here you can truly experience a five-star resort feel that is privately yours. From a wedding standpoint, what we're seeing a lot of people do is they'll book three or four nights, or more, and they'll come in and spend the whole weekend. We'll set up golf for them, horseback riding, boat rentals, we'll have

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special food curated throughout the week, different experiences, breweries, distilleries, wine," says Beaver. "That idea of getting up for your wedding and you walk downstairs and there's a chef going, 'How would you like your eggs?' There's nowhere else that I know of doing that."

Along with whimsical weddings, The Estate at Cherokee Dock is an extraordinary venue for a variety of events ranging from corporate events, large scale fundraising events, team building experiences, company parties, executive retreats, and everything in between. And whatever the occasion, the team at The Estate at Cherokee Dock is committed to covering all the details, large and small, to create unforgettable memories as you celebrate all of life's big moments.

"We want people to understand when you book our venue everything from the way your appetizers taste, to your send off, to your design and your decor, is important to the venue as opposed to, 'I booked a venue; now I've got to find someone that cares about what my event looks like.' I think there's an added security in knowing your venue cares about the overall product of your event," Beaver says. "I want every event we do to have one little thing that's like, 'I've never seen that. That was something different.' It's not just the cool factor of it. It doesn't have to be a large expense, it just needs to be something that separates it, so people go, 'They know how to throw a party. They know how to celebrate. They know how to make it special to them.'" (175 Cherokee Dock Rd., Lebanon, 615-369-6474; cherokeedock.com)



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