

# *Styling* FILES

Mood-board-ready reception inspiration

## *A midsummer night's dream*



### THE BRIEF

**MOOD** An enchanted, woodland wedding straight out of a Shakespeare play, with ethereal touches and wild blooms

**PALETTE** Berry tones mixed with pops of fuchsia, which stand out dramatically against the moody forest backdrop

**VENUE** Woodland Weddings' secluded glen in Buckinghamshire, where you can hold a magical festival-style big day and then camp in a bell-tent village at night

*Styling* BOCHIC WEDDINGS  
AND EVENTS  
*Photography* MATTHEW BISHOP



*“Flora and fauna were a big inspiration. The cake featured hand-painted flowers, trees, deer and sugar-craft butterflies”*



Everyone wants their wedding to be magical. But this beautiful big-day theme, inspired by Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, with its enchanted-forest setting, ethereal dresses and bewitching strings of golden lights, actually feels as if it could be straight out of the pages of a fairy tale. As well as looking to the famous play for inspiration, stylist Ela Aksoy from Bochic Weddings and Events, drew from nature for decor ideas. “Flora and fauna were a big inspiration,” she says. “For example, the cake table was carved out of one of the trees, the amazing cake featured hand-painted flowers, trees, deer and sugar-craft butterflies, and moss was used on the tables to bring a sense of wild romance.”

The fairy-tale woodland theme continued with fun details such as stags, antlers, gold-painted donkeys, tiny gold keys and wooden mushrooms nestled between tree stumps, while hundreds of lanterns and candles cast a romantic glow over the setting. Even the fabulous food and natural stationery looked as if it could have been made from the surrounding woodland.

A look like this calls for free-flowing blooms, and florist Willow & Thyme achieved the perfect forest-style arrangements by contrasting large roses and lots of foliage with more dainty flowers and soft mosses. “The overall style was wild, overflowing and unstructured,” says Ela. “Flowers featured everywhere, from the lush bouquets and oversized flower crown to the pretty flowers in the bride’s plait.”



# Reception trends

## CEREMONY SETTING



If you've chosen a woodland-wedding setting, space is on your side. Make the most of it by having a dedicated ceremony area and go to town with standout details, like the beautiful boho tepee frame and willow arbour the team created for this shoot. Use festoon lights and candles to lighten up the aisle, and think about fun details that will look great in the photos, such as a pretty rope swing hanging from a tree and wooden toadstools.



WORDS BY HOLLIE BOND. MALE MODEL: NICHOLAS ILLINGWORTH. BACKGROUND PHOTOGRAPHS BY GETTY IMAGES

# Reception trends



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**THE DREAM TEAM**  
**Planning and styling** [bo-chic.com](http://bo-chic.com)  
**Photography** [mbishopphotography.co.uk](http://mbishopphotography.co.uk)  
**Venue and props** [woodland-weddings.com](http://woodland-weddings.com)  
**Flowers** [willowandthyme.co.uk](http://willowandthyme.co.uk)  
**Hair** [trampsbedgrove.co.uk](http://trampsbedgrove.co.uk)  
**Make-up** [lcmakeupandhair.co.uk](http://lcmakeupandhair.co.uk)  
**Stationery** [bigdaydesigns.co.uk](http://bigdaydesigns.co.uk)  
**Cake** [neviepiecakes.com](http://neviepiecakes.com)  
**Dresses** [shehurina.com](http://shehurina.com)  
**Flower girl outfits** [littlebevan.co.uk](http://littlebevan.co.uk)  
**Catering** [gooseandberry.co.uk](http://gooseandberry.co.uk)  
**Furniture and prop hire** [furniturerecyclingshop.co.uk](http://furniturerecyclingshop.co.uk)  
**Confetti** [shropshirepetals.com](http://shropshirepetals.com)  
**Bridal crowns** [18thcenturycorsets.com](http://18thcenturycorsets.com)

