



EDITOR'S *picks*
SAN DIEGO VENUES THAT REALLY STAND OUT

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One of the biggest wedding decisions you'll make is where to host your ceremony and reception. While San Diego is home to many fabulous venues, some really stand out. From luxurious resorts to lush gardens to exotic backdrops, the venues below deserve your attention.



Scripps Seaside Forum



SCRIPPS SEASIDE FORUM

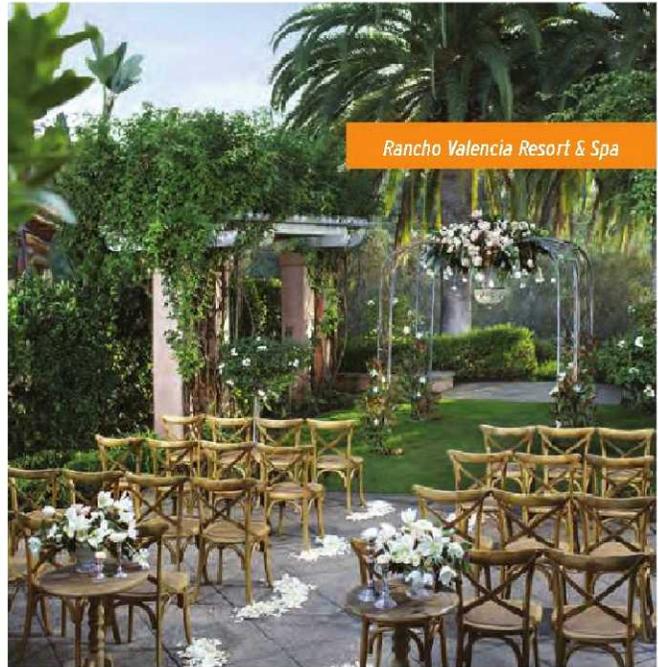
La Jolla

The Robert Paine Scripps Forum for Science, Society and the Environment, also known as Scripps Seaside Forum, boasts stunning views along the La Jolla coastline.

The Forum can accommodate wedding banquets as small as 20 guests or as large as 200. You can rent the entire complex or choose the auditorium or other rooms at the venue.

It's an eco-friendly space too, with LEED certification, drought friendly landscaping, plantation-grown interior and exterior teak and carpet made from recycled materials.

Brides and grooms must work with an approved caterer.



RANCHO VALENCIA RESORT & SPA

Rancho Santa Fe

An award-winning resort, Rancho Valencia Resort & Spa recently completed a \$30 million property-wide transformation.

The property features 12,000 square feet of redesigned wedding space and can host weddings with as many as 300 guests. The newly transformed spaces include the 1,900-square-foot ballroom, the 620-square-foot Sunrise Room and 2,600-square-foot adjoining patio, as well as the 9,000-square-foot Croquet Lawn, which is surrounded by lush landscaping.

Another wedding option is the 5,000-square-foot Hacienda that received a \$1 million update. The private three-bedroom villa accommodates up to 180 guests.

"Couples love hosting their weddings at Rancho Valencia as it provides a feeling of intimacy with courtyards privately tucked away, trickling fountains, pristine lawns and dramatic views surrounded by lush gardens," says Tracy Apodaca, the resort's director of catering and conference services. "Exceptional service coupled with a relaxed atmosphere makes Rancho Valencia the perfect location to start a new chapter together."

Rancho Valencia's transformation also includes guest casitas with private patios; a world-class spa; signature restaurant Veladora; the Pony Room bar; an award-winning tennis program and a fitness facility with a 1,000 square-foot Serenity Yoga Pavilion.