

Visit Loudoun hosts first premier wedding showcase

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Loudoun County, VA (Feb. 20, 2014) -Visit Loudoun, in partnership with Lansdowne Resort, will offer D.C.-area brides a unique experience next month as the tourism organization hosts the first Loudoun Boutique Bridal Show.

The March 2 bridal showcase will be the first in the area that allows brides to experience Loudoun's most sought after venues. The three-hour show begins at 11 a.m. in Lansdowne's Ballroom. At 1 p.m., brides participating in one of three themed tours will be whisked away to picturesque wineries, rustic barns as well as historic mansions and estate properties.

Northern Virginia has always been a popular D.C.-area wedding destination, but Loudoun has seen a significant increase as more brides look to escape to the lush vineyards and rolling countryside of D.C.'s Wine Country. The number of weddings booked in Loudoun has more than doubled since 2006.

"The growth in the industry is phenomenal and we are thrilled to offer this one-of-a-kind bridal show that allows brides to experience Loudoun's charm first-hand," Visit Loudoun Interim President and CEO Beth Erickson said. "Loudoun's diversity really makes it appealing to brides. With everything from wineries and historic sites to resorts and gardens, brides can customize their wedding here and create a unique and memorable wedding day."

Details on the bridal show are featured on Visit Loudoun's weddings website <u>weddingsinloudoun.com</u>. During the bridal show, which will feature close to 50 vendors, brides can meet with the area's top wedding professionals, savor tastings from award-winning caterers, view the latest in event design and décor as well as experience live demonstrations.

"We are proud to host the inaugural 'Loudoun Boutique Bridal Show' at our property," Michael Snapkoski, director of sales and marketing at Lansdowne Resort said. "This event is a great opportunity for us and the county to showcase why weddings in Loudoun are so special. Lansdowne witnessed more than 100 weddings or receptions last year. As this area grows, so will the wedding business, not just for us but also for other unique and memorable venues throughout Loudoun County."

Lansdowne has also created a <u>special overnight package</u> for the show, perfect for mothers and daughters or friends who want to indulge in Lansdowne's spa and overnight accommodations prior to the showcase.

Tickets for the show are \$15 and include the cost of the tours, which are being provided in partnership with Reston Limousine. For more information visit http://weddingsinloudoun.com/index.html

About Visit Loudoun

Visit Loudoun is the destination management organization for Loudoun, Va., known as DC's Wine Country®, located 25 miles from Washington, DC. This not-for-profit organization develops and implements programs that promote tourism and travel to Loudoun and its towns, to increase visitation and generate visitor spending. The organization showcases Virginia's culinary and heritage assets, including award-winning vineyards, horse country, scenic byways, and towns and villages steeped in history. Visit www.VisitLoudoun.org for more information.