



# MATPRA

## MID-ATLANTIC TOURISM PUBLIC RELATIONS ALLIANCE

### The Mid-Atlantic Region Provides Options Galore to Celebrate Love

**(Mid-Atlantic Region, USA, January 18, 2018)**- With Valentine's Day just around the corner, destinations in the Mid-Atlantic Region offer so many unique options to celebrate love. The Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance ([MATPRA](#)) invites you to consider one (or more!) of the romantic locations listed below, which are sure to sweep that special someone off their feet! Interested in learning more about a romantic location across the Mid-Atlantic? Email the contact in the description below for specific information.

#### DELAWARE

##### Delaware's Quaint Villages

Escape to Delaware's Quaint Villages' Historic Belmont Hall for guided tours, or celebrate your love in this romantic Georgian Mansion built in 1773, by Thomas Collins, a Delaware politician. Today, Historic Belmont Hall is known as one of the most historic houses in the State of Delaware. *Delaware's Quaint Villages, Danielle Jonigan, [djonigan@visitdelawarevillages.com](mailto:djonigan@visitdelawarevillages.com), [VisitDelawareVillages.com](http://VisitDelawareVillages.com)*

##### Greater Wilmington

Rated a WeddingWire 5-star "Couples' Choice" award winner, Deerfield is the definitive Delaware wedding venue with its inspiring blend of grand elegance, stately architecture, fine art and exquisite décor with majestic natural landscapes all around. Deerfield's refined, understated elegance will awe your guests, creating an experience remembered for years. *Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau, Lyn Lewis, [lynlewis@visitwilmingtonde.com](mailto:lynlewis@visitwilmingtonde.com), [VisitWilmingtonDE.com](http://VisitWilmingtonDE.com)*

#### MARYLAND

##### Calvert County

A romantic escape is closer than you think! Back Creek Inn, Solomons Victorian Inn and the Blue Heron Inn offer beautiful views of the Patuxent River and Back Creek, and are within an easy walk to many locally-owned restaurants in Solomons. Catch a little romance, in Calvert County. *Calvert County Department of Economic Development, Katie Brittain, [katie.brittain@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:katie.brittain@calvertcountymd.gov), [ChooseCalvert.com](http://ChooseCalvert.com)*

##### Cecil County

Relax in one of Elk Forge's romantic B&B fireplace suites with whirlpools for two. Enjoy the fire in the cozy sitting room at Fairwinds Farm B&B. Or check in at Blue Max Inn where their baby grand player piano offers tunes for toe tapping beside the fire. *Cecil County Tourism, Sandy Turner, [sturner@ccgov.org](mailto:sturner@ccgov.org), [SeeCecil.org](http://SeeCecil.org)*

### **Frederick County**

A beautiful rustic setting on a quiet mountain road is what Thorpewood is best known for. The distinct timber frame lodge and stunning natural backdrop are perfect for a memorable wedding any time of year. *Visit Frederick, Melissa Joseph Muntz, [mmuntz@fredco-md.net](mailto:mmuntz@fredco-md.net), [VisitFrederick.org](http://VisitFrederick.org)*

### **Hagerstown - Washington County**

Elmwood Farm Bed & Breakfast is anything but ordinary. The innkeepers' pride stems from family heritage at Elmwood and the uphill battle revitalizing the historic farm after it had fallen into complete disrepair. The experience couples have here for romantic getaways and weddings is remarkably special. *Visit Hagerstown, Betsy DeVore, [betsy@visithagerstown.com](mailto:betsy@visithagerstown.com), [VisitHagerstown.com](http://VisitHagerstown.com)*

### **Harford County**

From rolling countryside to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, Harford County has an abundance of character and charm for your wedding. If you desire a tranquil backdrop, choose waterfront settings like a lighthouse, riverfront, or bayside venue. Naturally enchant with stately manor homes, colorful barns, or a summer garden. *Visit Harford, Mindy Schneider, [mindy@visitharford.com](mailto:mindy@visitharford.com), [VisitHarford.com](http://VisitHarford.com)*

### **Kent County**

Kent County offers a surprising destination on the Upper Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. From country-chic inspired venues like the Crystal Barn at the Inn at Huntingfield Creek, to stunning waterfront settings like the Inn at Osprey, Kent County has everything you need for your dream wedding. *Kent County Tourism, Bernadette Bowman, [bbowman@kentgov.org](mailto:bbowman@kentgov.org), [KentCounty.com](http://KentCounty.com)*

### **Montgomery County**

Live like a lockkeeper along the C&O Canal in one of six historic lockhouses through the award-winning Canal Quarters program - managed by the C&O Canal Trust. Each lockhouse has been rehabilitated and features historic furnishings, décor and interpretive materials that tell stories from various periods in the C&O Canal's history. *Visit Montgomery, Cory Van Horn, [cory@visitmontgomery.com](mailto:cory@visitmontgomery.com), [VisitMontgomery.com](http://VisitMontgomery.com)*

### **St. Mary's County**

Charming Historic Leonardtown, located near the Potomac River, makes for a romantic getaway this February. Cozy up at the in-town hotel, Executive Inn & Suites, browse small shops and galleries around the Square, enjoy sweets from nearby Heritage Chocolates, and sip locally-produced wine at Port of Leonardtown Winery. *St. Mary's County Division of Tourism, Andrew Ponti, [andrew.ponti@stmarysmd.com](mailto:andrew.ponti@stmarysmd.com), [VisitStMarysMD.com](http://VisitStMarysMD.com)*

### **Talbot County**

The only thing better than our stunning Chesapeake views and gorgeous historic locations? Our people. Welcoming professionals say "we will" to help you say "I do" - whether you want the most formal ceremony or an intimate affair. And you can always say you were married

where "Wedding Crashers" was filmed! *Talbot County Office of Tourism, Cassandra M. Vanhooser, [cvanhooser@talbgov.org](mailto:cvanhooser@talbgov.org), [TourTalbot.org](http://TourTalbot.org)*

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

### **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

Whether it's cuddling up by the fire at one of our 19 ski resorts, getting a massage at our world-renowned spas, or relaxing at more than 700 bed and breakfast inns or farm stays, Pennsylvania is all about spreading the love and helping couples indulge in romance. *Pennsylvania Tourism Office, Emily Hemming, [ehemming@tierneyagency.com](mailto:ehemming@tierneyagency.com), [VisitPA.com](http://VisitPA.com)*

### **Butler County**

The Stables at Connoquenessing offers guests a rustic, chic barn-perfect for intimate weddings and receptions. The ballroom is located on the second floor and is adorned with hardwood floors and three glistening chandeliers. This unique venue mixes rustic and modern elements to create a classy and cozy atmosphere. *Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau, Tiffany Hernandez, [tiffany@visitbutlercounty.com](mailto:tiffany@visitbutlercounty.com), [VisitButlerCounty.com](http://VisitButlerCounty.com)*

### **Central Pennsylvania**

Traditional favorites for a romantic venue are the Carnegie Inn & Spa, Nittany Lion Inn, and the Arboretum at Penn State. Two newer wedding venues off the State College beaten path are Rolling Rails Lodge in Port Matilda and Above the Valley Event Center in Centre Hall. *Central Pennsylvania Convention & Visitors Bureau, Andy Rupert, [andy@visitpennstate.org](mailto:andy@visitpennstate.org), [VisitPennState.org](http://VisitPennState.org)*

### **Cumberland Valley**

Whether it's a young couple tying the knot, or lovebirds celebrating years of marriage, the Allenberry Resort is perfect for a quaint and relaxing getaway. The historic resort underwent dramatic renovations, highlighting the scenic Yellow Breeches and illustrious mansions. Guests can enjoy the spa, The Barn restaurant, and theatre entertainment. *Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau, Aaron Jumper, [aaron@visitcumberlandvalley.com](mailto:aaron@visitcumberlandvalley.com), [VisitCumberlandValley.com](http://VisitCumberlandValley.com)*

### **Endless Mountains**

Eagles Mere, "the town that time forgot", is in the heart of the Endless Mountains near wineries, hiking trails, museums, and outdoor recreation making it an ideal romantic getaway. Home to the historic Crestmont Inn and the charming Eagles Mere Inn, visitors can reconnect in this cozy atmosphere. *Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau, Morgan Christopher, [sales@endlessmountains.org](mailto:sales@endlessmountains.org), [EndlessMountains.org](http://EndlessMountains.org)*

### **Erie**

Lake Erie and Presque Isle State Park are the perfect settings for a waterfront wedding. World-class sunsets and sandy beaches await at the #1 attraction in Pennsylvania and the #1 freshwater beach in the country! *VisitErie, Christine Temple, [cvb1@visiterie.com](mailto:cvb1@visiterie.com), [VisitErie.com](http://VisitErie.com)*

### **Franklin County**

Franklin County is a place for sweethearts and lovers alike. Enjoy a romantic getaway at The Inn at Ragged Edge, delicious local wine from Jan Zell Winery and Tuscarora Mountain Winery, and locally crafted chocolate from Olympia Candy Kitchen. A memorable weekend or

extended stay is in store for couples! *Franklin County Visitors Bureau, Lauren Cappuccio, [lcappuccio@explorefranklincountypa.com](mailto:lcappuccio@explorefranklincountypa.com), [ExploreFranklinCountyPA.com](http://ExploreFranklinCountyPA.com)*

### **Greater Johnstown/ Cambria County**

Reopened in 2012 as the rechristened "Grand Halle," a magnificent, 101-year-old Victorian Gothic Revival building served as a German Roman Catholic church. It hosts special events and weddings. Its outstanding features include Hummelstown brownstone trim, richly hued Munich-style stained glass and a pipe organ with 2,000 handmade pipes. *Greater Johnstown/ Cambria County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Olivia Bragdon, [oliviab@visitjohnstownpa.com](mailto:oliviab@visitjohnstownpa.com), [VisitJohnstownPA.com](http://VisitJohnstownPA.com)*

### **Lancaster County**

Warm up in Lancaster County, home to the second largest B&B community in the eastern U.S. Combine a cozy stay with some authentic Amish interaction during the area's unique "mud sales" season, from late February to mid-April. These community auctions provide a wonderful opportunity to mingle with our Amish neighbors. *Discover Lancaster, Joel Cliff, [jcliff@discoverlancaster.com](mailto:jcliff@discoverlancaster.com), [DiscoverLancaster.com](http://DiscoverLancaster.com)*

### **Laurel Highlands**

With settings in and around the Barn at Fallingwater, you'll find a combination of rooms and special features to create the picture-perfect setting for the most amazing wedding. The converted barn features a gorgeous stone fireplace, barn-board walls, post-and-beam construction, a lovely courtyard, an outdoor amphitheater and much more. *Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau, Anna Weltz, [aweltz@laurelhighlands.org](mailto:aweltz@laurelhighlands.org), [LaurelHighlands.org](http://LaurelHighlands.org)*

### **Lehigh Valley**

Find unique settings in Lehigh Valley to celebrate your love. Retreat to the stunning 100+ acres of the Glasbern Inn for a rustic-inspired event. Or, celebrate in modern luxury combined with historical magnificence in downtown Allentown's Vault 634, the region's newest event space housed in a former bank. *Discover Lehigh Valley, Kaitie Burger, [kaitie@discoverlehighvalley.com](mailto:kaitie@discoverlehighvalley.com), [DiscoverLehighValley.com](http://DiscoverLehighValley.com)*

### **Pittsburgh**

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens is home to towering tropical plants, miniature orchids, indoor and outdoor gardens, and a fabulous bonsai collection. Twenty-three distinct gardens and a 15-acre expanse make this a dreamy destination for both a ceremony and reception. *VisitPITTSBURGH, Julia Millman, [julia.millman@visitpittsburgh.com](mailto:julia.millman@visitpittsburgh.com), [VisitPittsburgh.com](http://VisitPittsburgh.com)*

### **Pocono Mountains**

In the heart of the Poconos remains "The Land of Love," where champagne tower whirlpools and heart-shaped tubs await the romantics. For other tastes, quaint B&Bs, boutique hotels, adults-only inns, and luxury spas are the perfect getaway locations for couples. Fine dining, wineries, and breweries are date night options, too! *Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, Kelly Shannon, [kshannon@poconos.org](mailto:kshannon@poconos.org), [PoconoMountains.com](http://PoconoMountains.com)*

### **Potter County - Tioga County**

Experience the romantic accommodations at La Belle Auberge, a grand Victorian bed & breakfast, minutes from the scenic Pennsylvania Grand Canyon. Elegant rooms, in-house spa room, and a gourmet breakfast prepared daily await you. Explore the charm of the historic

downtown, within a short walk of local restaurants and attractions. *Visit Potter-Tioga, Morgan Christopher, [morgan@visitpottertioga.com](mailto:morgan@visitpottertioga.com), [VisitPotterTioga.com](http://VisitPotterTioga.com)*

## **York County**

Situated in historic Downtown York, The Bond is a unique, post-industrial venue sure to make your wedding unique. Featuring exposed brick, tall glass windows, polished concrete floors, and dazzling crystal chandeliers, the building's austere simplicity is the essence of urban elegance. *York County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Louise Heine, [louise@yorkpa.org](mailto:louise@yorkpa.org), [YorkPA.org](http://YorkPA.org)*

## **VIRGINIA**

### **Alexandria**

Located within eyesight of Washington, D.C. on the Potomac River waterfront, Alexandria is the third-most romantic destination in the U.S. according to Amazon.com. Founded in 1749, Alexandria is a popular wedding destination due to its walkability, accessibility, timeless history, beautiful waterfront setting, and proximity to D.C. *Visit Alexandria, Leah Spellman, APR, [ispellman@visitalexva.com](mailto:ispellman@visitalexva.com), [VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://VisitAlexandriaVA.com)*

### **Charlottesville and Albemarle County**

Named one of the most romantic cities in the South, Charlottesville & Albemarle County is the perfect spot for couples to celebrate their love. With more than 30 wineries, an impressive selection of restaurants, plus many romantic lodging options, love is always in the air in the Charlottesville area! *Charlottesville & Albemarle County CVB, Bri Warner, [warnerb@charlottesville.org](mailto:warnerb@charlottesville.org), [VisitCharlottesville.org](http://VisitCharlottesville.org)*

### **Fairfax County**

From stunning Virginia wineries and a botanical garden with a one-of-a-kind Korean Bell to historic homes and world-class hotels, Fairfax County offers many unique and romantic wedding venues. Guests also have access to 100+ accommodation options, three nearby airports, and a plethora of sites/attractions to visit while in town. *Visit Fairfax, Ali Morris, [amorris@fxva.com](mailto:amorris@fxva.com), [FXVA.com](http://FXVA.com)*

### **Fredericksburg**

Choose from the 10 historic private antique cottages with modern amenities at Stevenson Ridge for a romantic getaway or chose one of the three venues available for a wedding ceremony. Located on 87-acres in Spotsylvania, boasting beautiful walking trails, warm fireplaces, and rocking chairs on the porch. *City of Fredericksburg, Debbie Aylor, [daylor@spotsylvania.va.us](mailto:daylor@spotsylvania.va.us), [VisitFred.com](http://VisitFred.com)*

### **Hampton**

Couples can say their vows in the charming, intimate chapel at the Magnolia House Inn, near the Hampton waterfront. A Queen Anne Victorian Bed & Breakfast, the Magnolia House Inn boasts an in-house officiant and works with local vendors, venues, and accommodations to design the perfect wedding day. *Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, Elizabeth Severs, [elizabeth.severs@hamptoncvb.com](mailto:elizabeth.severs@hamptoncvb.com), [VisitHampton.com](http://VisitHampton.com)*

### **Harrisonburg**

Your dream wedding begins on Sunny Slope Farm near Harrisonburg. Enjoy gorgeous gardens, breathtaking views, lush landscapes, and intimate surroundings. The beauty of this historic, 67-acre farm provides an air of distinction and elegance that marries the past and

present to provide the perfect backdrop for your storybook wedding. *Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services, Jessica Williams, [jessica.williams@harrisonburgva.gov](mailto:jessica.williams@harrisonburgva.gov), [VisitHarrisonburgVA.com](http://VisitHarrisonburgVA.com)*

### **Lexington & Rockbridge**

Experience 250 acres of rolling Shenandoah Valley farmland with stunning mountain views at Heartstone Lodge. The remodeled barn and grounds are perfect for a wedding celebration or renewal of vows. Create the picture-perfect day around our grapevine covered pergola, fountain, waterfall, labyrinth, meditation garden, and more. Overnight accommodations available. *Lexington & Rockbridge Area Tourism, Patty Williams, [marketing@lexingtonvirginia.com](mailto:marketing@lexingtonvirginia.com), [LexingtonVirginia.com](http://LexingtonVirginia.com)*

### **Lynchburg**

Lynchburg has taken Virginia Tourism's LOVEworks program to heart with no less than four LOVE sculptures throughout the city! Drive through Virginia and check off your LOVEworks bucket list with a stay in Lynchburg to take your Instagram photos at all four with someone you love. *Lynchburg Office of Economic Development & Tourism, Krista Boothby, [krista.boothby@lynchburgva.gov](mailto:krista.boothby@lynchburgva.gov), [LynchburgVirginia.org](http://LynchburgVirginia.org)*

### **Prince William County & Manassas**

With shimmering glass and marble walls reaching up to 210 feet, the Leatherneck Gallery in the National Museum of the Marine Corps makes a unique and show stopping backdrop for your magical wedding night. Experience the bird's-eye view of the event from the overlooks, balconies, and four observation decks. *Prince William County Office of Tourism, Nicole Warner, [nwarner@pwcgov.org](mailto:nwarner@pwcgov.org), [VisitPWC.com](http://VisitPWC.com)*

### **Richmond**

Open Table recently named Richmond one of the top 25 Most-Romantic Cities in America. Libby Hill Park is the perfect proposal spot, with stunning views of the historic James River. The recently-renovated 5 Star/5 Diamond Jefferson Hotel offers beautiful venue space, catering, music, and decor. *Richmond Region Tourism, Meghan Gearino, [mgearino@visitrichmondva.com](mailto:mgearino@visitrichmondva.com), [VisitRichmondVA.com](http://VisitRichmondVA.com)*

### **Shenandoah County**

Surround yourself in the cozy atmosphere of a newly-renovated 18th c. Montpelier-style home. The Holliday House Bed & Breakfast is a romantic couples retreat in the center of town in Strasburg, VA. With an emphasis on world class fine dining, the Innkeepers are committed to creating an extraordinary guest experience. *Shenandoah County Tourism, Jenna French, [jfrench@shenandoahcountyva.us](mailto:jfrench@shenandoahcountyva.us), [VisitShenandoahCounty.com](http://VisitShenandoahCounty.com)*

### **Shenandoah Valley**

The gorgeous Shenandoah Valley is the perfect romantic escape. Whether you choose a luxury cabin rental in the mountains, a country inn, or boutique hotel in one of our notable historic downtowns, the Shenandoah Valley is for lovers. Breweries, vineyards, fine dining, scenic drives, and picturesque wedding venues nearby. *Shenandoah Valley Travel Association, Kathy Moore, [svta@moorepublicrelations.com](mailto:svta@moorepublicrelations.com), [VisitShenandoah.org](http://VisitShenandoah.org)*

### **Virginia's Blue Ridge**

Virginia is for Lovers of mountains, outdoors, craft beer, wineries, trains, and all of the above. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains and along the Appalachian Trail, Virginia's Blue Ridge is the perfect metro-mountain romantic weekend getaway. Shop, dine, and relax in one of the

most picturesque spots in Virginia. Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Taylor Spellman, [tspellman@visitvbr.com](mailto:tspellman@visitvbr.com), [VisitVBR.com](http://VisitVBR.com)

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

### **Hampshire County**

Two hours from Washington DC, Capon Crossing Farm provides an authentic barn venue for weddings and receptions. Enjoy farm products, including grass fed and pastured meats, and award-winning bluegrass music. For a one-of-a-kind honeymoon, stay at the nearby, all-inclusive, historic Capon Springs & Farms resort! *Hampshire County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Jonathan Bellingham, [info@cometohampshire.com](mailto:info@cometohampshire.com), [ComeToHampshire.com](http://ComeToHampshire.com)*

### **About Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance**

The Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance (MATPRA) is a cohesive unit of regional tourism partners encompassing Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C. The group serves travel journalists by creating a regional resource that ignores geographical boundaries. The Alliance promotes common threads and offers saleable stories to journalists about the mid-Atlantic destination as a whole. For more information, visit [www.matpra.org](http://www.matpra.org).

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### **Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance**

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MATPRA Chair 2017-2018

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