

virginia  
*Bride*

WINTER 2017



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DISPLAY UNTIL APRIL 7, 2017  
\$6.95

FEATURED VENUE

SINKLAND FARM

# Country



# Strong

## IMAGINE THIS:

A bride and groom exchange their wedding vows in front of family and friends beneath a canopy of blue sky, surrounded by nature's splendor. A single fiddler serenades the wedding party as the bride walks down a grassy aisle towards a majestic arch fashioned from saplings and twigs. After "I do's," the bride and groom exit the ceremony in a horse-drawn carriage.

These are just a few of the memorable vignettes that a farmstead wedding might include, and Southwest Virginia is the perfect place to make the imagined become a reality.

Southwest Virginia is paradise for outdoor lovers and for those that appreciate amazing scenery. Many are charmed by the rolling hills, lush scenery, and rustic barns that can provide amazing backdrops for wedding ceremonies, cocktail parties, and receptions. Many countryside venues like Sinkland Farms include elegant wedding details inside rustic chic spaces which bestow the allure and charm of a pastoral setting.

The Sinkland Farms logo is "There is an art to planning the perfect wedding. Let us be your canvas." As this theme implies, the options are truly limitless. From the breathtaking outdoor views to the expansive lawns and barns, a bride and groom will be able to capture the true essence of numerous sophisticated and rustic themes on the Sinkland property.

Sinkland Farmstead Weddings offers several locations for a ceremony and reception. Couples may choose to entertain in the amazing open spaces at The Meadows or The Tuscan Pond where bucolic fields and flowering meadows provide escapes for guests to stroll where the hillside views are unparalleled. You may also select the Farmstead Barn which is gorgeously embellished with a signature chandelier. Utilizing café lights or draped linens to highlight the space are good starting points as you design your wedding canvas. Couples will have free range to instill whatever décor and theme desired in their wedding locale while nature provides warm sunlight, amazing sunsets, flower gardens, and twinkling starlights for stunning photographs.

There is a certain easiness of spirit about a farm; a sense of genuine welcome and warmth that makes it the perfect setting for a celebration of love. The idea of things growing and taking root all around creates a magical, bountiful atmosphere. It is good luck for a bride and groom to be surrounded by such a rich abundance of life and nature when beginning their new life together.





Because the location of the wedding is the first and most important decision brides and grooms must make, Susan Sink of Sinkland Farms in Christiansburg, Virginia has numerous suggestions on how to make her farm venue extraordinary.

### KEEP IT SIMPLE AND STUNNING....

Look for picturesque spots for the ceremony and practical spots for the reception. Imagine getting married in a meadow dotted with wildflowers or between ivy-covered pillars flanking the pond. Verdant fields and the rolling Blue Ridge Mountains can provide a stunning backdrop as well. Add to this vision an open space for dinner and dancing, perhaps under a billowing tent affixed with chandeliers and hanging floral accents and you'll have the perfect combination for a ceremony and reception guests will never forget.

### BE PREPARED FOR MOTHER NATURE....

There are seasonal and climate considerations when planning a farm wedding. Since most ceremonies and receptions are held at least partially outdoors, we ensure there is an indoor space sufficient to accommodate guests in case of a shower or storm. Our Farmstead Barn provides complete coverage from all weather conditions, and can create a warm and intimate setting for dinner and dancing. Fill this space with fragrant flowers and twinkling lights to expand the rustic ceilings, or ask about the props from the farm to use in your decor selections. Decorate wheelbarrows, wagons, and country cupboards to display favors of locally canned honey, apple butter, or seed packets. Or, use a stack of hay bales and old wooden planks as the table for the wedding cake. An old farm wagon can go

a long way as a perfect buffet table for treats, and wildflowers or seasonal plants from farmers' markets and can truly bring the outdoors in and allow your guests to enjoy nature, even on a rainy day.

### MAKE IT MEMORABLE....

Plan fun and unique activities during the cocktail hour or reception. How about a horseshoe throwing contest, pony rides for kids, or sunset hayrides around the property for guests while the final photographs of the wedding party are completed? Hire a live, country-style or bluegrass band. Book the best square-dance caller in the county for at least a portion of the reception. The meal can be memorable as well, with the long dining tables





in the barn calling to mind family-style meals that so many of us fondly remember from days gone by.

The farm is a symbol of our nation's enduring connection to the land and America's heritage. It provides a certain nostalgia and a sense of genuine welcome and warmth that makes it the perfect setting for a wedding.

Sinkland Farms has gained recognition in southwest Virginia for its harvest pumpkin festival and other family oriented activities. Over the years, it has become a popular destination for wedding ceremonies, receptions, showers, parties, and other events.

Sinkland Farms has been ranked a top 10 Virginia epic wedding venue, named the best farm to visit in the south by Blue Ridge Country Magazine, and voted the best fall festival in Southwest Virginia. ♥



For more about **Sinkland Farms**, please visit [sinklandfarms.com](http://sinklandfarms.com).

PHOTOS: Hillary Gaskins Photography

