

Bridal Guide

all about the options

by **Kim Saltmarsh**

The Atkinson Resort and Country Club - Atkinson, NH



It's a place set in charming Atkinson, N.H. A place filled with glittering white lights draped over bare branches and a white picket fence against a classic New England landscape. The Atkinson Resort & Country Club offers a wondrous setting for a magical wedding.

The property is a serene and sophisticated world amid the beautiful rolling hills of New Hampshire.

"It gives that country club feel without the stuffy feeling," said Nicolette Burns, the facility's weddings sales manager. "It's modern and inviting."

That inviting feeling had a lot to do with the 108 weddings in 2010 — that and Burns' commitment and passion for her job. "We pride ourselves on our bridal service. We want all our brides to feel special," she said.

One way they keep that "special" feeling alive is through lots of options. At Atkinson, your wedding will be your vision. Function rooms of various sizes allow for both small and large weddings. The Atkinson Resort & Country Club is home to three restaurants, wedding function rooms, an 18-hole, par-72 golf course, a pro shop, and a par-3 course that opened last year.

In addition to having your reception at Atkinson, you might want to consider the multiple ceremony sites, too, including the gazebo area and its cascading waterfalls, and the trellis area by the pond. As Atkinson's company controller Kristin Perry added, "No matter the size of your wedding, the views don't change," and that includes both outside and inside with the floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the tranquil sites of the golf courses.

So what about a bride on a budget? "We can certainly work with a budget, and there are bunches of ways to save, like our brunch package or a winter wedding," Burns explained.

The packages are a unique element at the Atkinson Resort & Country Club. Though they recommend various vendors for things such as floral arrangements and dress shopping, their packages are all-inclusive. For one price the package will include everything: a five-hour reception room, bridal salon, bar staff, bridal coordinator, four-course meal with hors d'oeuvres, linens, center pieces and an open bar.

When it comes to the food, they know what New Englanders want. "We're diverse, but we understand we're in New England — we want steak and garden salad and mashed potatoes, but if you're adventurous and want sea bass, we have that, too," Burns said.

Burns wants it to be a special day for her clients. "I take a lot of pride in what I do," she said. "People are trusting me, so there's a personal investment, and it's a real honor."

Above all, it comes down to the bride and groom. "We've had couples come back for baby showers. It's a big compliment," Burns said.

"It's not just a facility," Perry added. "It's a second home."

mvm

Atkinson Resort and Country Club

85 Country Club Drive | Atkinson, NH

(603) 362-8700

www.AtkinsonResort.com