

Gerri & Paul

An Austrian wedding with splashes of violet and lots of *schnapps*, croquet and pop!

How they met

"We met at a party through mutual friends but I was going out with another guy at the time – it was a year after that before we got together," remembers Gerri

The proposal

"Paul proposed after six months together, on our first break away in Liverpool, December 2002," says Gerri. "I was laughing at him because he was drunk but he asked me again in the morning and of course, I said 'yes'! It was a very, very long engagement – six years later and we were married!"

The bride's outfit

Gerri's ivory tulle dress was from Moreland Bridal (morelandbridalwear.com) and was encrusted with jewels, with a cathedral-length, layered train



The big day details



Where: Kaprun Castle, Kaprun, Austria
When: February 2009
Photographer: © Nicky Faistauer
foto-faistauer.at



"Guests raised their skis as we made our grand entrance as man and wife..."



The accessories

Gerri wore a Swarovski crystal hair clip and a gorgeous stole from The Bridal Shop (thebridalshop.com). "I wore hand-made earrings from Djinr (djinnjewellery.com) and my mother's antique watch," says Gerri. "I did buy a necklace but it didn't suit the dress so I decided it was a birthday present to me instead!"

The bridesmaids

Gerri's two bridesmaids wore floor-length, deep purple-coloured gowns from Pamela Scott (pamelascott.ie). "I chose very low and very sexy dresses, with jewels at the front and criss-crossed at the back. The girls looked so slinky – I would've loved their dresses myself!" says Gerri

The groom

Paul looked gorgeous in grey with a cream-striped suit and matching cream shirt. All the groomsmen bought their Jeff Banks outfits from Belfast's Banbridge Outlet Store (the-outlet.co.uk)

The ceremony

"Our ceremony was very relaxed and just so much fun! The castle's resident dog took a shine to my bouquet and kept running off with it!" remembers Gerri

The flowers

The Hotel Sportkristall in Kaprun (sport-kristall.at) arranged the couple's flowers for them. "My bouquet included cream roses with purple tulips, green foliage and was tied with silver ribbon," says Gerri. Purple tulips and silver glitter was also used for centrepieces, with cascading ivy trailing down the table legs for a rich and textured look

The honeymoon

Gerri and Paul booked their whole wedding package from austrian-wedding.com and stayed on a further week in their secluded, mountain-top castle. "It was perfect," says Gerri. "We're all going back soon for skiing!"

LOVE THIS IDEA
WHEN IN AUSTRIA, GERRI AND PAUL SERVED OBLIGATORY SHOTS OF SCHNAPPS!



Bride's top tip

"We got married on my 30th birthday and because amethyst is my birth stone, we chose its beautiful violet colour for our big day's theme. I'd definitely say a bride should be guided by a theme that is personal to her. Also, try to get lots of sleep and rest before your wedding – it will take so much out of you!"



BIG DAY BUDGET
GERRI AND PAUL SPENT JUST UNDER £20,000 ON THEIR SPECIAL DAY