



A 'magical oasis' in Marrakech

Hend Krichen, 29, married Ben Oakford, 29, at the Beldi Country Club in Marrakech, Morocco, on 16th April 2017. She says:

The drive up to Beldi Country Club in Marrakech is what sealed the deal when choosing our venue. You have to go off-road, so the anticipation builds until you reach this beautiful oasis at the end. **The hotel itself sits within 14 hectares of stunning grounds,** with rose gardens (home to more than 12,000 of them!) spreading out in the direction of the Atlas Mountains. It's completely magical. **Our best decision was, hands down, marrying outdoors.** We were consumed by the beautiful scent of flowers and sounds of birds singing. **Each guest received a miniature bottle of rose-scented perfume as a favour.** My mother sourced these from Tunisia, where I'm from, and chose jasmine for the men as it's widespread there and symbolised my heritage. **We wanted our flowers to blend in with the already-stunning setting.** Gypsophila lining the aisle added just the right touch of detail, without upstaging the location. I had a white peony bouquet and olive branches acted as a motif throughout the arrangements. **My top tip:** When planning a wedding abroad, make sure you tally up potential costs. And be aware that local suppliers can work differently from those at home.



How *they* did it



Where they bought it

THE VENUE beldicountryclub.com/en

THE PLANNER bybrucerussell.com

THE BRIDE Gown and custom veil, lizmartinez.co.il. Earrings, nigaam.com. Shoes, miumiu.com

THE GROOM Bespoke suit, moss.co.uk. Shoes, hugoboss.com

THE BRIDESMAIDS Dresses, asos.com

THE FLOWERS fleuritel.com

THE CATERING Off-site catering by fourseasons.com/marrakech

THE CAKE 16cafe.com

THE ENTERTAINMENT

Band and DJ both by salutband.com

THE PHOTOGRAPHER petarjurica.com



OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP FAR LEFT THE LONG TABLE ADDS A CLASSIC TOUCH. HEND'S THREE AND A HALF METRE-LONG VEIL WAS CUSTOM MADE BY LIZ MARTINEZ. VASES OF ROSES, PEONIES, RANUNCULUS AND FOLIAGE. TABLE PLANS **CLOCKWISE FROM TOP FAR LEFT** HEND AND BRIDESMAIDS. LANTERNS LIGHT UP THE NIGHT. THE CAKE WREATHED WITH OLIVE BRANCHES. THE COUPLE WORE TUNISIAN DRESS FOR THE EVENING AND WERE CARRIED IN ON PALANQUINS. A DRUMMER. DREAMY GYPSOPHILA LINES THE AISLE **B**

