



a royal romance

What do you get when a beauty queen and TV prince tie the knot? A supremely regal affair.

TEXT BY IVY JACOBSON PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE WHY WE LOVE

When it came to Alyssa Campanella (26 and a fashion and travel blogger and former Miss USA) and Torrance Coombs's (32 and an actor on CW's *Reign* and ABC's *Still Star-Crossed*) wedding planning, it was a no-brainer as to what would inspire their nuptials. "Our theme was 'a royal California wedding,'" Campanella says. "Everyone knows how much I love European royal history, so I think it came as no surprise to anyone." The first step in bringing this vision to life was choosing the perfect venue. The couple fell in love with Sunstone Villa right away, since it reminded them of a villa they vacationed at in France. To match the elegant, sweeping space, the bride enlisted her close friend and designer Lauren Elaine to make her ceremony and reception dresses, which were inspired by royal brides like Grace Kelly. The white silk dupioni and French lace ceremony dress had a regal balloon skirt with illusion lace sleeves, and a special detail on the train. "Since Lauren knows how much

I love Kate Middleton and her style, she had my wedding train be the same length as hers," Campanella says. To top off her look, she chose a majestic bouquet of cascading blooms inspired by the ones carried by Princess Diana and Princess Mette-Marit of Norway on their wedding days. Every other detail, from the scroll ceremony programs with wax seals to the music, including their recessional of "Crown Imperial" from the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's wedding, was chosen with their theme in mind. The couple's 55 guests feasted on a five-course dinner, complemented by "his" and "hers" signature drinks appropriately named The King's Cocktail (a pre-Prohibition martini) and The Queen's Cocktail (a pomegranate Bellini). Thanks to their dream team of pros, headed by planners Christina Schneider and Erica Hartman of Cake and Punch Productions, the wedding day was "blissfully perfect," Campanella says. "Our vendors were so positive and such joys to work with. They all had beautiful visions for our wedding."

vineyard
vows

The bride and groom
in Sunstone Villa's
breathtaking vineyard.





*in the
bride's words*

It really clicked that I was getting married when...

...I was in the limo with my bridesmaids and father headed to the ceremony.

I couldn't have gotten through the day without...

...my bridesmaids, my wedding planners and my cats!

My top three must-have bridal beauty products were...

...Bobbi Brown lipstick, Illuminum White Gardenia Petals perfume and Kate Somerville Quench Oil Free Hydrating face serum.

The song that had everyone dancing at the reception was...

...Tor's secret request to the DJ—"Never Gonna Give You Up" by Rick Astley.

The biggest unexpected surprise on the day of our wedding was...

...how smoothly the entire wedding day went!

My best piece of advice for other couples is...

...make sure your wedding day is about you and your partner and the love you have for each other.

top The maid of honor (Campanella's sister) and bridesmaids (her stepsister and two best friends) also wore dresses designed by Lauren Elaine, made with silk chiffon. "Like Kate Middleton, I knew I wanted my bridesmaids to wear a light color, so I chose ivory for my girls," Campanella says.

above Coombs wore his own Ralph Lauren tuxedo with a gold bow tie to match the groomsmen gold ties and complement the wedding colors of white, gold and green. *right* Pink and white flowers and greenery cascaded down the dramatic staircase behind the ceremony altar, which was a wine barrel—a nod to the vineyard venue. Pretty green garlands also lined each side of the aisle. "Our ceremony décor was magical," Campanella says.



left Campanella and Coombs opted to have one long reception table, which they sat at the head of, to create an intimate, interactive setting for guests. *below* “As a unique twist for our place settings, we had menus, napkins and an herb bundle wrapped in silk at each seat with the guest’s name written in calligraphy,” Campanella says. Gold and white place settings and gold candleholders also gave the table a regal feel, while a lush green garland complemented the color palette.



above The wedding wouldn’t have been complete without the couple’s cats, Renly and Daenerys (pictured), who wore a mini flower crown. *right* The bride and groom have their own royal moment on a balcony. *below right* The four-tier naked wedding cake had vanilla bean and lemon cake with white chocolate buttercream frosting. *below left* Campanella’s sapphire engagement ring complemented Coombs’s clean and simple white gold band. *bottom* One of Campanella’s charities she worked with during her Miss USA reign was Cookies for Kids’ Cancer, which funds pediatric cancer research. Guests were given chocolate chip cookies for favors with a note that said a donation had been made in their honor to the charity.



and the bride wore...

Designer Lauren Elaine created Campanella’s ceremony and reception gowns, while her rehearsal dinner dress was a custom Rosa Clará two-piece.



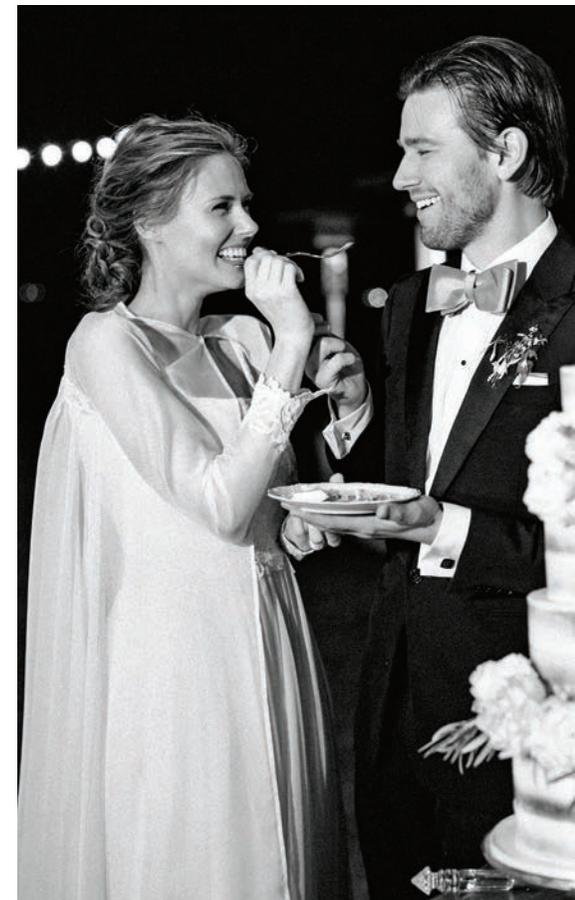
rehearsal dinner Campanella met with the Rosa Clará team during Bridal Fashion Week in New York City to design her dress.



ceremony Her wedding dress was traditional white and had delicate lace sleeves as a nod to Kate Middleton’s gown.



reception Elaine designed a beautiful silk chiffon cape overlay on the flowing gown that was perfect for dancing.



ingredients

- Ceremony & Reception Site** Sunstone Villa, Santa Ynez, CA
- Photography & Videography** Danielle & Kevin Snelson/The Why We Love
- Planner** Cake and Punch Productions
- Flowers** Anna Le Pley Taylor
- Officiant** Marriage With Meaning
- Wedding Dress & Veil** Lauren Elaine
- Hair & Makeup** The Blushed Company
- Shoes** Valentino
- Wedding Rings** INTA Gems & Diamonds
- Bridesmaid Dresses** Lauren Elaine
- Formalwear** Calvin Klein; Ralph Lauren
- Stationery** Linen & Leaf
- Rentals** Archive Rentals; Otis + Pearl Vintage Rentals
- Catering** Omni Catering
- Cake** Frost It Cakery
- Music & Photo Booth** Epic Entertainment
- Favors** Frost It Cakery; Linen & Leaf
- Rehearsal Dinner Dress** Rosa Clará
- Rehearsal Dinner Accessories** Tiara: Eden Luxe Bridal; clutch: Kate Spade New York; shoes: Stuart Weitzman