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# Europe's best hotels for wedding venues

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**A** truly great wedding hotel has a combination of privacy, style, location (for that all important breathtaking backdrop for the album shots) and a team working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure everything goes to plan. With the average UK wedding now ringing in at £24,000 (according to Brides magazine), having a party in a sun-drenched finca, palace or castle for a third of that price is a no-brainer for many couples.

## Villa Cora, Florence, Italy

The fabulously opulent Villa Cora (think marble hallways, elaborate stuccoes, frescoes and vast chandeliers), was built in the 1870s by Baron Oppenheimer as a tribute to his beloved wife, so romance is in the very walls. Exclusive use gives you the run of 45 gorgeous bedrooms, splendid public rooms such as the mirrored pink, green and gold ballroom plus lovely, rose-filled gardens and a rooftop terrace with 360 degree views. In warm weather, the extensive pool area and conservatory restaurant are popular for receptions. A subterranean spa offers bridal pampering and the Fifties-inspired top floor Suite 401 (with private lift access) is perfect for the wedding night. Double rooms from €380; Suite 401 from €500.

Read the full review: [Villa Cora, Florence](#)

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Villa Cora was built in the 1870s by Baron Oppenheimer as a tribute to his beloved wife. CREDIT: ANDREA GETULI/ANDREA GETULI

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