

*The newlyweds posed for pictures on the shore post-ceremony.*



*Lauren's cousin's son served as ring bearer—the same role his dad played at the bride's parents' wedding.*

*Mini Adirondack-chair escort cards referenced the full-size ones that dot Castle Hill's lawn.*



## LAUREN AUSLANDER & DAVID HILL

October 11, 2013, Newport, Rhode Island

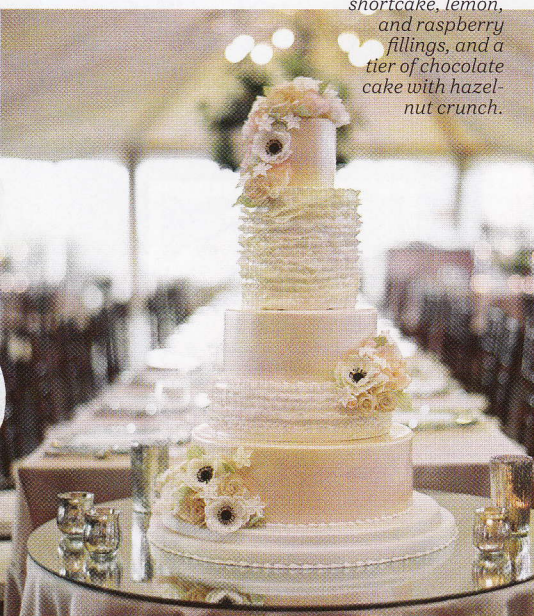
As sometimes happens, Lauren Auslander found her wedding location before she found her groom. “I was in Newport, Rhode Island, on a girls’ trip a few years ago, and we went to the Castle Hill Inn for cocktails,” she says. “I wasn’t even dating anybody, but I thought, ‘This would be an amazing place to get married.’” A year later, while Lauren, a New York City publicist, was on a January 2011 vacation in Miami, the second piece of the puzzle fell into place. It was there that she met Chicago financier David Hill, who happened to be in town for a golf outing. He approached Lauren and her friend at a hotel pool, where the New York girls felt a little out of place among Miami’s sparkly party crowd. He jokingly asked, “What are you two squares doing in a place like this?” And, in Lauren’s words: “That was it.”

The pair dated long-distance until August, when Dave moved to Manhattan; they got engaged while decorating their Christmas tree a year and a half later. When they checked out Newport as a potential venue, “Dave just loved it,” Lauren says, so it did, in fact,

become the setting for their fall wedding, which fell on the same day as both of her parents’ 60th birthdays.

“I wanted our wedding to be whimsical, elegant, and personal,” says Lauren, who kicked it off by having her bridesmaids walk down the beachfront aisle to The Crystals’ “And Then He Kissed Me” (it’s on the soundtrack of one of her favorite ’80s movies, *Adventures in Babysitting*). After the duo exchanged their own vows in a nondenominational ceremony, 180 guests strolled around the lawn sipping Hugos, a variation on Dark and Stormies named in honor of the couple’s dog, a Havanese that didn’t make the trip but was there in pictures printed on the drink flags. Then it was time to head to the dinner tent for a meal that included New England clam chowder and beef tenderloin. After the reception ended at 11 p.m., the lobby of the inn became the site of an after-party that raged until 2 a.m. “We didn’t want our wedding to feel fancy or stuffy,” says Lauren. “We wanted people to be able to let loose and have a good time.” Mission accomplished. —Megan Deem

The towering confection included vanilla cake layered with strawberry shortcake, lemon, and raspberry fillings, and a tier of chocolate cake with hazelnut crunch.



#### ONE THING I LEARNED

"WE ALMOST DIDN'T DO A VIDEO BECAUSE IT WAS SO EXPENSIVE. BUT NOW WE'RE SO THANKFUL WE DID ONE AND HAVE IT TO SHOW OUR FUTURE FAMILY."

—Lauren



A picnic basket holding hand-tied programs was set on the shore where the ceremony took place.

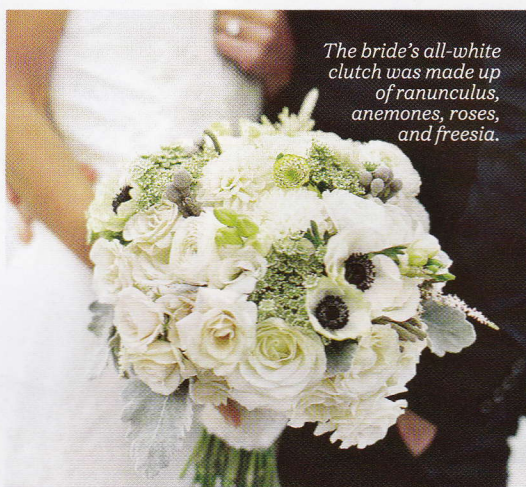


Basking in congratulations, the couple made their way back up the aisle to a version of The Beach Boys's "God Only Knows."

The stylish crowd included model Coco Rocha (second from left).



The bride's all-white clutch was made up of ranunculus, anemones, roses, and freesia.



#### SOURCES

Location Castle Hill Inn

Flowers Stoneblossom Floral and Event Design

Photography Judy Pak

Videography Avec Lumiere Productions

Stationery Alana Jones-Mann

Cake Confectionery Designs

Music Big Mix with Joe Shane

Bride's gown Lusan Mandongus

Bride's and men's shoes Prada

Hair Roque Jimenez of Tracey Mattingly

Makeup Christopher Ardoff of Art Department

Bridesmaid dresses Amsale

Groom's suit J.Crew

See The Guide for more vendor sources



Longtime friend (and client) Jessica Simpson was one of Lauren's seven bridesmaids.