

Franklin, Tennessee

by Linda Holloway *Photography by Larry Holloway*

From months of planning your perfect wedding, to the exuberance of the big day, it is finally time to relax. You want your first days of forever to be the most romantic time of your life. Honeymoon in a town reminiscent of your favorite Hallmark movie, with the bright lights of Broadway and Bridgestone Arena less than 30 minutes away. Your honeymoon haven awaits in Franklin, Tennessee.

The Harpeth Hotel – A Curio Collection by Hilton

Finally, your time is your own at the Harpeth. Nestled along the Harpeth River, this 119-room lifestyle property will transport you to a state of romance in downtown Franklin. Reserve a corner king suite featuring a separate living and entertainment space, a lavish bathroom with oversized showers, and the best amenity—a soaking tub with a bottle

of luxurious bubble bath. Ah, the good life! Luxury is woven perfectly together with art, comfortable bedding, and richly appointed furniture. My favorite is the wall of windows, dressed in lush curtains, complete with a balcony. Here, indulgence and hospitality pamper all the senses. Downstairs, you will find the library, where books, art, and seating areas showcase dancing flames from the fireplace.

Make reservations for the hotel's **1799 Kitchen and Cocktails** for modern American cuisine, where farm-fresh is the secret. For starters, I tried the salt-roasted carrots, followed by petite filet Oscar with crab, and sweet potato gratin. My husband raved over the diver scallops with mushroom risotto. Finish with chocolate cheese cake. The service was excellent, and the atmosphere was beyond romantic. The banquettes are always a plus, but 1799 added drapes to envelop you in privacy.

The Harpeth Hotel

Photo by Crowe, PR





DeAnn Gallery – The Hat Bar

Photo by Larry Holloway

For those who want a destination wedding as well as a honeymoon location, the Harpeth Hotel has a Southern-inspired courtyard—perfect for the bride to float down the stairs to meet her groom. For larger weddings, the Riverside ballroom and the courtyard flow seamlessly into one another to allow for more mingling. The excellent staff can help accentuate your style. A nice perk for couples and the wedding party is exclusive access to Willow Plunge, the speakeasy-style VIP lounge for snacks or a wardrobe change.

Historic Franklin: Wander along America's favorite main street, recognized worldwide for its diverse mix of architecture, historic landmarks, boutique shopping, art galleries, and restaurants. Star in your own Hallmark movie with a selfie and video in front of the historic marquee at the Franklin Theater. Since 1937, this icon has been known as the home of first kisses. Now, couples can enjoy a variety of live performances and films.

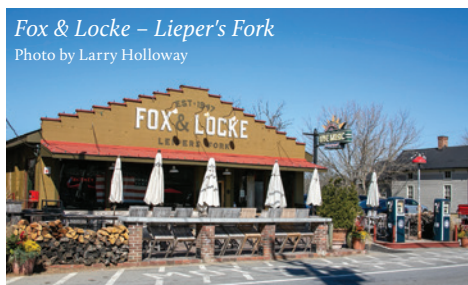
Find unique items for your new home at the wonderful shops of Historic Franklin. Hester & Cook has attractive kitchen décor and more. Stop by DeAnn Gallery, where the art is captivating—the angels are my favorite. For a custom fit, try the Hat Bar in the back of the gallery, where the hats are banded on the spot. Select a feather for a finishing touch. For lunch, stop at Gray's on Main and try their amazing fried pimento cheese balls. For the best barbecue, dine at Puckett's restaurant.

Dozens of activities for couples can be found throughout Williamson County. Take a short drive to Arrington Vineyards, where acres

of trellised grapevines are the backdrop for an incredible picnic experience. Catch “Music in the Vines” for an excursion with a mixture of wine and music. Kix Brooks of Brooks and Dunn is one of the owners. Another must-see is Dark Horse Recording, which offers studio tours. Stars like Dolly, Keith Urban, Taylor Swift, and more come to this secluded world-class studio to record.

Less than ten miles from downtown Franklin is Leiper's Fork, a place that time forgot. The small village is packed with world-class talent, food, shops, and plenty of laid-back charm. Visit the David Arms Gallery and enjoy their sunroom overlooking Leiper's Fork Creek. Stop by Fox & Locke—established 1947, where you can grab lunch and listen to great music. Vince Gill is just one of many Nashville stars who have popped in for a set. Live music is presented on Saturday and Sunday afternoons with no cover charge. Evening shows require tickets that are best purchased in advance. See foxandlocke.com/shows for details.

For Harpeth information, call 615-206-7510 or visit www.harpethhotel.com. For tourist information, visit www.visitfranklin.com



Fox & Locke – Lieper's Fork

Photo by Larry Holloway