

# Bridal GUIDE 2023

This Bridal Guide is to help you make your wedding a day to **CHERISH FOVEVER!**



## Preparation Canyon

an unique wedding ceremony destination

By Jenna Comes

Preparation Canyon is located in the heart of the Loess Hills. Its unique landscape is normally enjoyed by hikers but some couples have chosen the location for their wedding ceremony.

### Hallie and Cody Baurichter

Hallie and Cody Baurichter wanted a neutral outdoor venue with a beautiful view and Preparation Canyon provided that.

"We thought the scenery looked so different than anywhere else in Iowa," Hallie said. "The

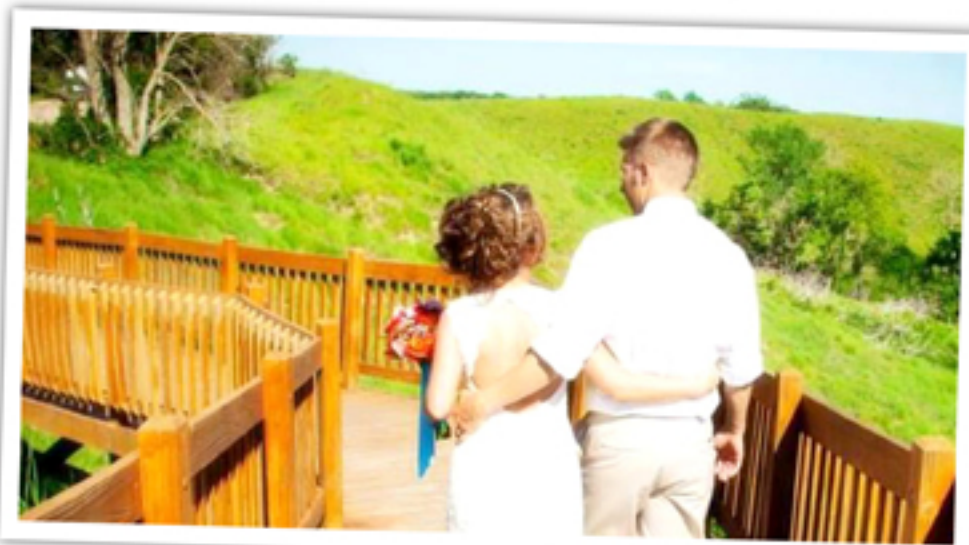
large observation deck did not need much decor to make it perfect."

The Baurichter's were married on July 19, 2013 and it was a hot day. Hallie said they were able to obtain a tent and a few hand-held fans for their guests.

"Despite the heat, a few of our guests including my Grandpa Wayne Seuntjens insisted on donning his dapper suit," she said.

Even though it was hot, Hallie noted the pictures came back beautiful. She personally loves a hot summer day.

Few wedding guests knew about the hidden gem "Preparation Canyon." They commented on how green it was and how the ridge-like landscape was unlike the surrounding area.



Hallie and Cody have made a few trips to Preparation Canyon since their wedding during different seasons.

"It is fun to go back and see aspects that we didn't notice with the fast-paced day," Hallie said. "It will always be a special place for us, and it brings us joy every time we receive texts

that friends of ours visit there. It is very much a place that brings the solitude of nature and a reprieve from anything else going on in the world."

The picture on the left is of Hallie and Cody Baurichter on the observation deck at Preparation Canyon on their wedding day.

### Abby and Josh Koenigs

The overlook at Preparation Canyon has always been one of Josh and Abby Koenigs' favorite places.

"After being engaged for several years, we wanted to do something simple, yet unique for our wedding. The overlook just felt right.

The Koenigs wedding was on October 6, 2007, the first Saturday of the month and it was hot. Abby said it was 94 degrees, sunny and windy that day.

"The foliage was just turning and blessed us with amazing fall colors," she said. "The grass was a mix of burnt red hues and the leaves were tinged in orange and yellow."

Abby's dad made a cedar trellis that they stood under. They still have the trellis and it now sits in one of their flower gardens.

They hauled over 100 chairs up to the deck along with decorations and audio equipment.

"There is no power there so we ran extension cords from the audio equipment, under the deck, out to our van and plugged the cords into the van for power," Abby explained.

Abby and Josh had decided that during their vows, they would take two small glass jars filled with sand and pour them into one large jar to symbolize our lives joining.

"Well, because of how windy it was, all three jars blew over and broke before the ceremony even started," she said. "We tried to make due by

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