

Something OLD,
Someone NEW,
Someplace
BORROWED
to Say “I DO”



The Scottish Rite Temple • Photo courtesy of RandolpMcKellie Photography

YOU SWORE YOU'D NEVER get married again, and yet here you are, years later, madly in love and ready to tie the knot with the new man of your dreams.

You are not alone. Few trends highlight the durability of marriage in modern culture more convincingly than the popularity of encore weddings.

The beauty of an encore wedding is that times have changed, and so have you. This isn't like planning your first ceremony. The rules are more relaxed. The etiquette is not nearly as strict and, bless her heart, your mother is not calling the shots. You can wear whatever you want, say your vows in your own words and invite only the people who matter to you most. The distant cousins once-removed can be once-removed from the guest list.

You are a little older, and hopefully a lot wiser, going into this relationship. You know what you want in a marriage, from a partner and for the future. This time you know it will work, so don't feel bad that it isn't your first wedding, plan with the confidence it will be your last.

It is your day, make it special. Don't settle for an impersonal ceremony at City Hall when you could have a memory you'll cherish forever.

Venues, like weddings, come in all shapes and sizes. Large, small, indoor, outdoor, religious and secular are all options to consider when selecting a location. The average wedding has 45-60% of its budget allocated for the reception. This makes your venue and catering selection very important.

You really need to know your personality when selecting a location. Some brides are flexible enough to bargain on the weather and will choose an outdoor wedding for the beauty of their surroundings.

Others know they cannot risk having a rain plan and opt to stay indoors.

Wichita has a variety of venues to choose from, each with its own unique qualities. Wedding planners, photographers and brides all agree the Scottish Rite Temple is one of the most beautiful locations for a ceremony.

Perhaps you would rather wed your prince charming in a fairy tale atmosphere. If so, an exclusive reservation at the Castle Inn Riverside would be a wonderful choice.

If you love the outdoors you can't go wrong exchanging your vows among the intoxicating scents at Botanica, The Wichita Gardens, one of the most popular venues in the city.

Eberly Farms is a fresh alternative for an outdoor wedding with grounds to wander and a covered facility in the event of rain. Perfect if there are lots of young ones in attendance.

You may not even need to go far in search of the perfect location. Think about where you met and

what you enjoy doing together. Is horseback riding a shared passion? You might not want to “get hitched” in a stable, but what about that scenic trail with the trees in full bloom?

Your wedding retreat may be a little closer to home. Many apartment complexes have club houses available for a more intimate gathering. Or think about the people you know. Do you know of a home with the perfect staircase, one that has been waiting for just such an occasion?

If you are still stumped, don't be afraid to ask for advice from family and friends. If you are working with a wedding planner, this is where they earn their money. Not only will they have many suggestions concerning locations, they work within your budget and understand the hidden fees you won't know about until it's too late. In the end they will probably save you money. 🍷

~TINLEY INNES, *Professional Wedding Consultant*