

# you & your wedding

IMMEDIATE  
MEDIA

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MAY/JUNE 2015 £4.99

NEWSFLASH!

## REAL BRIDE takeover!

14 BRIDES-TO-BE  
GUEST EDIT  
THIS ISSUE

MEET  
OUR REAL  
BRIDE  
COVER  
STAR  
*Gayle*

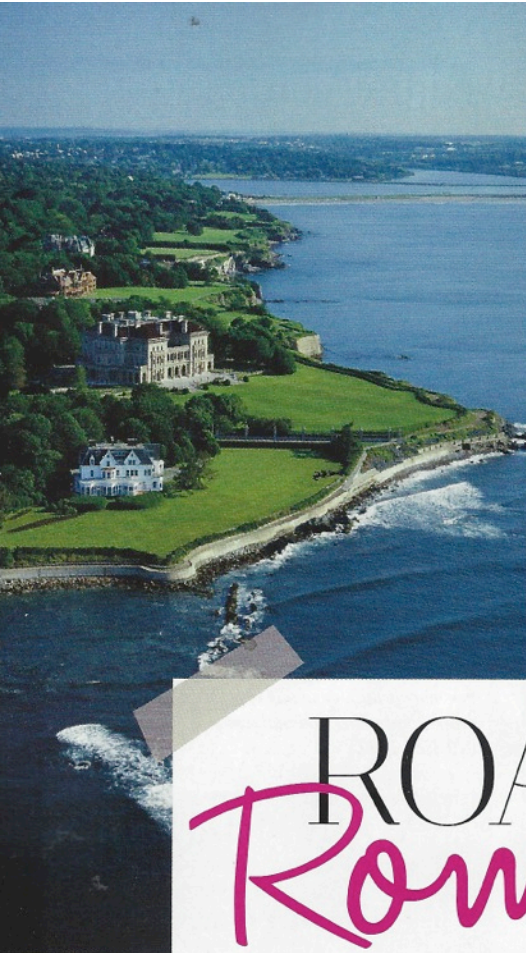
YOUR BIGGEST  
BUDGET &  
ETIQUETTE  
DILEMMAS  
SORTED

*They talk...*  
cakes, FLOWERS,  
DRESSES, DIYs &  
honeymoons

10 OF THE  
*chicest weddings*  
(chosen by our real brides)

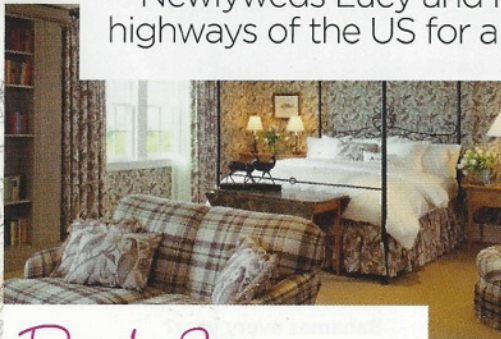
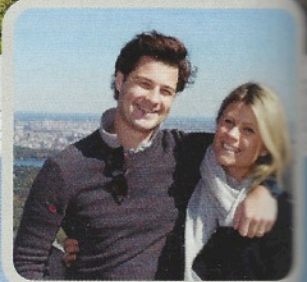






# ROAD TO *Romance*

Newlyweds Lucy and Ralph hit the east coast highways of the US for a star-spangled adventure



## Days 1-3

Our all-American honeymoon started off at a leisurely pace in Massachusetts on the picture-perfect and relaxing island of Nantucket, just off the coast of Cape Cod. First stop was the White Elephant, a romantic boutique hotel on the water's edge, where our gorgeous room came with a private terrace and dramatic harbour views. Keen to enjoy the New England lifestyle to the full, we dined on classic dishes such as clam chowder and lobster rolls at the hotel's Brant Point Grill. The White Elephant was just a short stroll from Nantucket's cobbled Main Street where we found independent boutiques, bars and restaurants. We soon discovered though that the best way to see the island was on the back of hire bikes, so we could take advantage of







Rhode Island to admire the Art Deco-style mansions of Newport. Here we set off on the long Cliff Walk to take in the sight of the most famous house in the area – The Breakers.

## Days 8-10

We'd heard incredible things about New England in the fall, so we pointed the Mustang northwards towards The White Mountains and lakes region of New Hampshire to catch a glimpse of the beautiful autumn scenes. After fuelling up on 'eggs sunny side up' in a classic American diner, we hiked up the mountains taking in the breathtaking views. The day culminated in an awesome drive back down to the glistening lakes – roof down, wind in our hair, singing along to *Lisomania* by Phoenix and reminiscing about our unconventional first dance! We rested our heads at the traditional and cosy Ballard House Inn at Lake Winnepesaukee, which is run by a lovely couple, Lynn and Brian, and their dog Newton. That night we ate at a local restaurant where Ralph managed to polish off a pound of lobster mac 'n' cheese – *Man v. Food* eat your heart out!

## Days 11-14

After saying goodbye to the Mustang, we hopped on a train for the finale of our trip – The Big Apple. This was more than just a means of getting from A to B though. The train



travelled along the Connecticut coastline, so we continued our tourist experience by looking at the picturesque views before arriving at Penn Station in Midtown Manhattan.

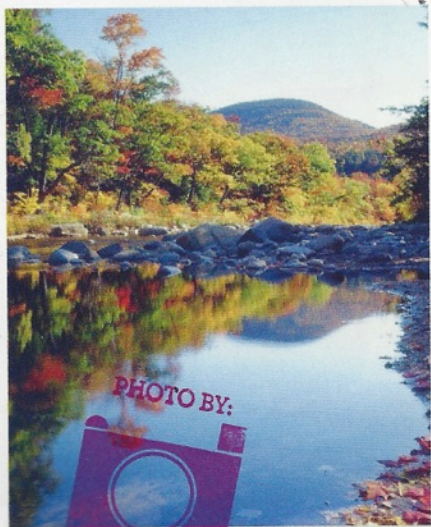
With so many hotels to choose from we decided to go for something completely new and oh-so-cool – The Ludlow, a Mr & Mrs Smith hotel – situated in the buzzing Lower East Side. Our suite was like something straight out of the movies with a private terrace and sweeping panoramic views of the Empire State Building. We didn't waste a second of our time in New York and full of energy from our relaxing New England break we did everything, from taking in the famous sites from The Top of The Rock and running around Central Park with the locals to getting a culture fix at The Museum of Modern Art and dining in NYC's top restaurants including Gramercy Tavern, Locanda Verde and La Esquina. We even found time to sip cocktails at The Standard roof terrace, walk along the High Line, discover boutiques in Soho, and both buy a whole new wardrobe at Bloomingdale's. In just two weeks we visited four states (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York), walked over 100 miles, drank countless cocktails and, most importantly, ignited ~~our~~ desire to continue discovering the world together as husband and wife – one road trip at a time.

the many cycle paths. Nantucket has a wonderful romantic charm, characterful clapboard houses and the most incredible wide, open, deserted beaches we'd ever seen. We loved that there were no high street brands or traffic lights on the island, making it possible for us to step back in time and completely switch off into honeymoon mode.

We said goodbye to Nantucket in style at The Wauwinet, one of the finest boutique hotels in the USA, with an amazing location on the north-eastern tip of the island, with Nantucket Bay on one side and the endless Atlantic Ocean on the other. We spent the day hand in hand, walking along the remote beach followed by a delicious dinner at The Wauwinet's gastronomic restaurant Topper's. Our tasting menu was delicious – dishes were made with the freshest seasonal produce and paired with the finest wines.

## Days 4-7

A 40-minute flight took us to the next point on our itinerary – the historic city of Boston. Our home for the next three nights was XV Beacon Hotel, a member of Preferred Hotels and Resorts. Our spacious Beacon Hill Studio Suite had sleek, sexy modern dark wood interiors and an impressive view of Boston Common. We headed straight to the hotel's rooftop hot tub for a romantic soak before taking advantage of the complimentary in-town Lexus courtesy service to get a better look at the town. The hotel was perfectly positioned for discovering the top sights on our to-do list – the famous Freedom Trail, Boston Harbour and the shops and restaurants on fashionable Newbury Street. But none of these came close in excitement factor to the moment that we picked up a red convertible Mustang – a real honeymoon highlight! Keen to make the most of our flash new wheels we headed straight for



## GETTING THERE

The White Elephant, from \$225 per night (whiteelephanthotel.com). The Wauwinet, from \$230 per night (wauwinet.com). XV Beacon Hotel, from \$355 per night (xvbeacon.com). The Ballard House Inn, from \$129 per night on B&B basis (ballardhouseinn.com). The Ludlow, from \$325 per night (ludlowhotel.com).