



Wedding Date: 23 Ağustos 2008 Cumartesi (Married)

Welcome!

\*New Information

Our Story

Bride & Groom

Calendar of Events

\*Accommodations

Directions

Registry

Guest Book

## We are Getting Married!

*Saturday, August 23, 2008*

*At: The Chesapeake Bay Beach Club  
500 Marina Club Road  
Stevensville, MD 21666  
Ph 410.604.1933*



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**Dear Guests, (as of August 17, the following timetable for bus pick-up is correct)**

Currently, we have 56 people staying at the Annapolis Inns, so will have two buses **picking people up at exactly 3:50pm**. Please confirm pick-up arrangements and time with the reception desk of the hotels. The busses are now able to pick up directly at State Circle. An information-sheet with additional instructions will be available for you at the reception desk of your hotel upon arrival.

***People have to be ready, so the pick up times are shown as 3.50 and 4.20 with leaving at 4.00 and 4.30 respectively***

There are currently 11 people reserved at the Marriott SpringHill Suites and **pick up time scheduled for 4:20pm**. Again, please confirm arrangements with the reception desk and there will be information sheets waiting for you at arrival.

Please note that as no one that we are aware of have reserved at the other two hotels, we have released the wedding block and will no longer be arranging transport to the wedding site from these hotels. Contact us if you have booked at either of the other hotels without our knowledge.

You can contact us or the hotel if you have any questions.

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**Tugrul and Sharon met in 2001.**

*Their mutual friend Jay introduced them at Cities Bar and Restaurant* in downtown Washington DC. End of story, **Part I. Part II.**: Jay sat in front of Sharon in their Cross-Cultural Communications class with professor Mitch Hammer. He gave Sharon Tugrul's business card not once but twice, and suggested that she call him. Sharon called him one week before Easter, March 15. Thus went the first date! and the second, and third.

Tugrul was gregarious and seemed to know everyone in DC; the DJs at all of the clubs they went to and the owners at all of the restaurants, and hotels they visited in the DC area. Always pulling strings! He travelled a lot and was also a wonderful cook, and a very determined academic with an inquisitive mind. She remembers in particular, very early on thinking that he was handsome, and that he was possibly the neatest man she has ever met! Tugrul spent many nights sitting by her side while she wrote papers for her Master's degree, and helped her come up with a topic for her thesis. And she has done the same for him. This year, they have even written and published an article together.

They lived together in graduate housing at the American University and in Arlington, Virginia while Tugrul applied to transfer from American University. They visited his hometown of Istanbul, Turkey together three times, once in the middle of a winter blizzard and twice in the summer. Sharon met his family and visited a traditional Turkish bathhouse in addition to the Turkish coast and Ephesus. Sharon and Tugrul have travelled many places together: Mexico, Israel, Puerto Rico and the Carribean, Canada for Tugrul's annual American Sociological Society meeting in Montreal, and Tugrul arranged a trip to visit her hometown of London, England together in 2006. They have also shared time together in Vermont, California and Las Vegas. Tugrul learned to ski, Sharon learned to love mediterranean food and orange paint! In their time together, Tugrul has completed his PHD coursework and has become an visiting Professor at James Madison University and Sharon has completed two Masters degrees and several years at the World Bank. Having finally completed their studies, and having supported eachother through many changes along the way, they are tying the knot, and request the honor of your presence in joining them!

Tugrul's father took many trips during his lifetime across the Bosphorus where he would navigate his passenger ferry. Tugrul joined him as a small boy and so he loved the water. Sharon has also always loved spending time with her family on the water and they have together spent several summers visiting her aunt Mary's home in Chestertown, Maryland. The most beautiful part of the trip was always crossing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, and the view on the way over. Therefore, their wedding will be held by the water, at a site that overlooks the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

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#### About the Bride:

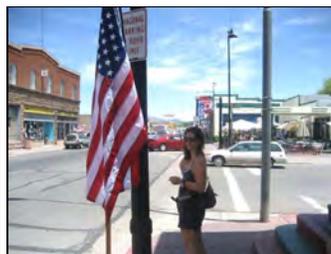
Sharon grew up in London, England, and spent time in the US in the summers visiting extended family and grandparents. She has also lived in Switzerland in addition to a cumulative one year in the Middle East! She returned to the US for college in 1993 where she has lived in Washington DC for more than 12 years. The attraction to DC was its international character; the excellent schools in the area that draw foreign students, in addition to the embassies and government and diplomatic work.

Sharon wrote her Master's thesis on the European Union Accession Negotiations, European identity and Turkey's candidacy and is proud to call herself a global nomad - at home everywhere. She likes to take on challenges such as running (half) marathons and scuba-diving. Sharon is best known by her friends as unconventional, and quick to make light of a situation. She has recently made a move into the field of management consulting where she will work with public sector clients in assessing their business requirements. It will be outside of the international arena, but she has that covered for now in other areas of her life.

#### "Her-story:"

I do not believe there was one particular moment when Tugrul and I decided that we were meant to be together. It took place as a confluence of events and over a long period of time. We have been together for eight years. In this time, he has joined me and my family on almost every vacation. Each part of our lives is connected to the other person through our history together and every time something significant happened in either of our lives, the other person was either right there, or instrumental in making it happen. When I bought my first home it was a direct result of his support; when I graduated from my master's degree we celebrated together, when I received a job offer, he was sitting next to me when the phone rang.

We have spent five years commuting to see each other while he studied at university several hours away. We made this commute every few weeks even when we were both busy and tired. At one point I remember clearly; walking down the street on my way to work one cold December morning and wondering where we were headed, having not seen him for many weeks. Just then, I noticed a woman walking just a few steps ahead of me on the street. In her hands she was playing with a colorful object. I looked more closely as I passed her and it was the 'Nazar Boncuk' talisman, used in Turkey as a symbol of good luck. Typical, I thought! I seem to meet Turkish people everywhere I go; the owner of a store and restaurant my family and I happened upon when skiing at a small town in Vermont, the Maître d' on our cruise ship to the Carribean, the cartoonist displaying his work at Disney World, the person I sat across from at Starbucks. Coincidence? Probably. But the fact remains, that no matter where we are in our lives, over a period of 8 years, even in the midst of great challenges we have continued to plan the course of our lives together.



#### About the Groom:

Tugrul began his studies in the US at George Mason University in Virginia, where he studied political economy and sociology of economics. He then worked for a year or so and returned to school as a PHD student at American University in 2000 and later transferred to Virginia Tech University. He stayed in DC throughout this period and had many friends. His favorite spot was the 'Cities' Bar and Restaurant in Adams Morgan, frequented by a diverse crowd from around the world where the theme of the restaurant downstairs would change each week to represent the cuisine of a different country. It is appropriate that Sharon and he would meet there!

Tugrul's job and study-related conferences have included trips to Italy, China and Vancouver and he currently works as

a Ph.D. candidate and adjunct lecturer in Sociology while teaching classes such as *Gender and Work in Modern Society*. Tugrul's family live in Turkey and in Germany. Tugrul is a wonderful cook is known to 'just throw something together' that can easily feed an army. Ironically, his secret dream is to open up a restaurant and become a part-time chef or a bartender in the Bahamas! Sharon has said that he can make the best use of these skills for now, by feeding the hungry at home (: He relates easily to people from all walks of life; professors, mechanics, restauranteurs, journalists, politicians and socializes freely with people due to his gregarious nature. Tugrul's father was active in the Turkish nationalist movement, and his favorite soccer team is Fenerbace which beat the English Soccer team Chelsea this year. He refers to their cat Sofia as 'a person', and is known to say things about Sofia such as, "isn't she a ridiculous person?" He once threatened that if Sharon, an animal-lover, bought another pet Ferret she would have to choose between the Ferret and he. An unfair choice, she still thinks (hasn't he seen the movie *Along Came Polly?*).

Tugrul loves asking the difficult questions, because of his earlier background as a journalist, and Sharon does too. She loves 80's music, U2, Annie Lennox, and Enya and he loves Turkish (Sezen Aksu, Zeki Muren, MFO) and Mexican Folk Music, in addition to Flamenco, Cuban Jazz, and Classical music. Sharon worked at the World Bank and Tugrul spent his time writing articles about the 'powerful Western financial institutions.' Opposites do attract! Their first challenge in thinking about marriage has been to agree on the type of service to have; after all, between them, they represent three religions: Christianity, Judaism and the Muslim religion. As fate would have it, they were able to find a minister that specializes in inter-cultural and religious ceremonies, a woman who is herself cross-cultural; half-Jewish, half-Christian and from Germany, and speaks several languages including Yiddish and Farsi! So as Tugrul and Sharon discover time and again, there is always a common path to be found, if you look closely.



Other fun facts about these two? Their favorite shows are 'Seinfeld,' 'Friends,' Saturday Night Live and Conan O'Brien. Tugrul likes to spice things up; Sharon always has to remind him that mild Chili Peppers are more her style than Jalapenos. In England, Sharon introduced Tugrul to British-Chinese food and Pizza Express. In Turkey, Tugrul introduced Sharon to cow face, intestine soup, and raki. Somehow they get by, with a wink and a smile!



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### Friday, August 22:

#### Pre-Wedding Events & Arrival of Out-of-town Guests

**Rehearsal Dinner.** A rehearsal dinner will take place at 7:00pm at the [Marriott Waterfront Hotel's Pusser's Grill](#). This event will include just the immediate family of the bride and groom. However -

*\*At 10:00pm we are opening up the event for early arrivals to join us for drinks at the Marriott Waterfront!*



View our [Wedding Day Weather: August 23, 2008 in Stevensville, MD.](#)  
Just educated guess-work, we presume!

### Saturday, August 23rd:

#### Wedding Day

**Hotel Check-in.** Guests are encouraged to check into their hotels early on Saturday. Check-in for most hotels begins at 11am and ends at 3pm but check with your particular venue. Daytime events in Annapolis include sight-seeing in the heart of Annapolis, a very quaint town, and America's 'Sailing Capitol' with all kinds of stores and restaurants. There are walking tours of Annapolis: <http://www.watermarkcruises.com/tours.htm> -- [Other things to do in Annapolis](#) (click to view website link).

**Transportation to the Wedding site.** For your convenience, we have arranged for buses to pick up guests staying in Annapolis and bring them to the wedding site. The bus schedule for each of the hotels is as follows: (please check back for revised bus schedules closer to the date).

- The Historic Inns of Annapolis: **Bus will arrive at 3:50 pm (confirm with the reception desk at check-in).**  
***Please note: the buses will now be able to pick up directly from State Circle!***
- The Marriott SpringHill Suites: **Bus will arrive at approximately 4:20pm (confirm times with the reception desk at check-in)**
- The Westin Hotel: We are no longer arranging for pick-up at this hotel!
- The Hilton Garden Inn, Annapolis: We are no longer arranging for pick-up at this hotel!

**The Wedding Reception will begin at 5:30 pm, and the Ceremony-proper at 6:30pm.** Plan on arriving early and account for traffic at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Without traffic, the trip is approximately 1 hour from Washington DC. The Chesapeake Bay Beach Club is approximately 30 minutes from Annapolis. Website link to the [Chesapeake Bay Beach Club](#).



**Transportation back to Annapolis.** A bus will arrive at the wedding site to pick guests up and bring them back to their hotels in Annapolis at 10:00 & 12:00pm.

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**Sunday, August 24:**

**Brunch & Sailing Cruise**

**Hotel Check-Out.** Please note that hotel check-out will need to take place promptly by 11:00am for most hotels, unless you have made prior arrangements. However, for those guests who are able to join us for brunch and sailing, arrangements have been made with the hotels to store luggage and personal belongings for the afternoon. Please confirm your check-out arrangements with the hotel at check-in. Sunday afternoon activities will last until approximately 4:00pm.

**Post-Wedding Brunch.** We have made reservations to have brunch the next day at the famous and very scenic [Chart House Restaurant](#) on the water. We are able to make reservations in advance for guests who would like to join us. The cost per person is \$25.00 (self-pay) including champagne mimosas! We will require your **RSVP** to hold a place at the restaurant. We welcome guests to join us if their travel schedule permits, any time from 10:30am. We have reserved the room until 12:30 so feel free to join us at your leisure.



**Sailing Cruise.** Directly following brunch, we invite guests to join us on board the **Annapolis Schooner-Woodwind**. This is the *sailboat featured in the movie 'Wedding Crashers', and we will even have the same crew!!* If you think you would like to attend, kindly **RSVP**. Young children are welcome. Please note that capacity of the boat is limited to 48 guests, so we will need to know your availability well in advance and will be on a first come first-served basis. View [Schooner-Woodwind Brochure](#). We are asking for \$30.00 per guest to attend the cruise as we are arranging a private charter with drinks on-board.

**Boarding Time & Location.** Please join us to board the boat no later than 1:15pm at the **Marriott Waterfront Hotel**, to sail at 1:30pm. The trip will last 2 hours and will take us to some lovely spots along the Chesapeake River, including a tour of the Annapolis and the famous bridges. We will try to sail right by the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club where the ceremony was held!

**We are so excited to have you all join us!**

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## HOTELS:

We have reserved a block of rooms at each of the hotels listed below but you will need to individually book your rooms early. Please call your chosen venue and book under the 'Watkins/Keskin wedding party'.

\* = Suggested Venues

\*1. **Historic Inns of Annapolis:** Their cost is \$169.00 each + tax. Their normal rates are \$189.00 per night but I have been able to book a block of rooms at the discounted rate.

- Pros are that this chain is located right on the central square and are very quaint & pretty
- Telephone: (410) 263-2641
- Website: [Click here](#)

*Block reserved - please note that a majority of our guests are staying here and the bus will arrive at exactly 3:50pm to transport people to the wedding site. You will now be picked up right at State Circle. Confirm all transportation information at check-in! We will have information-sheets waiting for you at the reception-desk.*

\*2. **The Westin Hotel:** We have reserved rooms at the Westin at \$189.00 each. Pros - very cosy and nice décor, close to the town center - 5 min free shuttle-bus to downtown.

- Telephone : (410) 972-4300
- Website: [Click here](#)

*Please note that as no one booked here we have released the block, and will not be making arrangements for transportation to the wedding site from this hotel. Please contact us if you have made a reservation here and we are not aware of it.*

\*3. **Marriott SpringHill Suites** (best low-priced option):

- The costs are \$119 per night + tax, but obviously the rooms and hotel are not nearly as nice and is located 3 miles from the center of Annapolis & will require transportation arrangements to reach activities
- Telephone: 1443-837-3602
- Website: [Click here](#)

*Block reserved - a Bus will arrive to pick up guests from the SpringHill Suites at exactly 4:20pm. Please confirm all transportation information at check-in! We will have information-sheets waiting for you at the reception-desk to confirm pick-up time.*

4. **Hilton Garden Inn, Annapolis** (another low-priced option):

- Cost is \$159.00 + tax, and is located 3 miles from downtown Annapolis. As above, own transportation arrangements will need to be made on Sunday but transportation to the wedding site Saturday will be provided.
- Telephone: 410-266-9006
- Go to [Website: Click here](#)

*Please note that as no one booked here we have released the block, and will not be making arrangements for transportation to the wedding site from this hotel. Please contact us if you have made a reservation here and we are not aware of it.*

## BED & BREAKFASTS:

1. **Queenstown Inn Bed & Breakfast** - 7109 Main St., Queenstown, MD 21658

- Cost is \$165.00 + tax/night (+ taxes)
- Make reservations [here](#)
- Phone: 1-888-744-3407, Email: [gtbb@dmy.com](mailto:gtbb@dmy.com)
- 25 min from downtown Annapolis, 15 from Stevensville
- Website: [Click here](#)

2. **Gibson's Lodgings Of Annapolis** - 110 Prince George Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

- Cost is \$149.00 per night/shared bath/ non-shared bath is \$189.00
- 2 night minimum booking, located in Downtown Annapolis
- Website: [Click here](#)

## OTHER OPTIONS:

**Sleep Inn at Kent Narrows**

- Cost is \$159.00 + tax, Telephone: 877-330-0057
- Closest to wedding site, but 20 min from Annapolis (useful if you do not plan to attend pre or post- wedding events in Annapolis)
- Website: [Click here](#)

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View our [Wedding Mapper](#), with visual links and details for all locations that we will be visiting or staying. We recommend that you check this first, and then refer below!

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**Hotels: For directions, see the website tab "Accommodations"** Please note that the wedding site takes approximately 25 minutes to reach from Annapolis (assuming no traffic).

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#### I. Rehearsal Dinner & After-Dinner Drinks: The Waterfront Marriott

Driving directions to the Annapolis Waterfront Marriott: [Pusser's Grill](#)

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#### II. Wedding Site - The Chesapeake Bay Beach Club:

Please be advised that Mapquest provides incorrect directions to the Beach Club - we recommend Rand McNally as a source for accurate online driving directions. Please note that GPS Navigation systems do not always pick up Marina Club Road; instead, but if you program your destination to be the Bay Bridge Airport then you will arrive at the right place.

View the following page for written instructions from 4 alternative starting-locations (from the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Annapolis, Baltimore, Pennsylvania and Washington DC): [http://www.baybeachclub.com/?page\\_id=83](http://www.baybeachclub.com/?page_id=83)

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#### III. Chart House Brunch - Google Maps: <http://www.chart-house.com/loc-annapolis.html>

*From Route 50 to Exit 24 (Rowe Blvd./Route 70) stay in right lane and merge onto Rowe Blvd; follow Rowe Blvd to end staying in right lane and bearing right at split. At first traffic light after split continue straight to Church Circle; Follow to right; turn right on Duke of Gloucester Street; follow to end; turn right and cross over Eastport Bridge; at first light turn left onto Severn Ave; follow to Second Street and turn left; Chart House is at the end of Second Street on Spa Creek.*

Hand-drawn Map: [Chart House, Schooner Woodwind & Parking Garage](#)

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#### IV. Schooner Woodwind Sailing-Cruise <http://www.schoonerwoodwind.com/directions.asp>

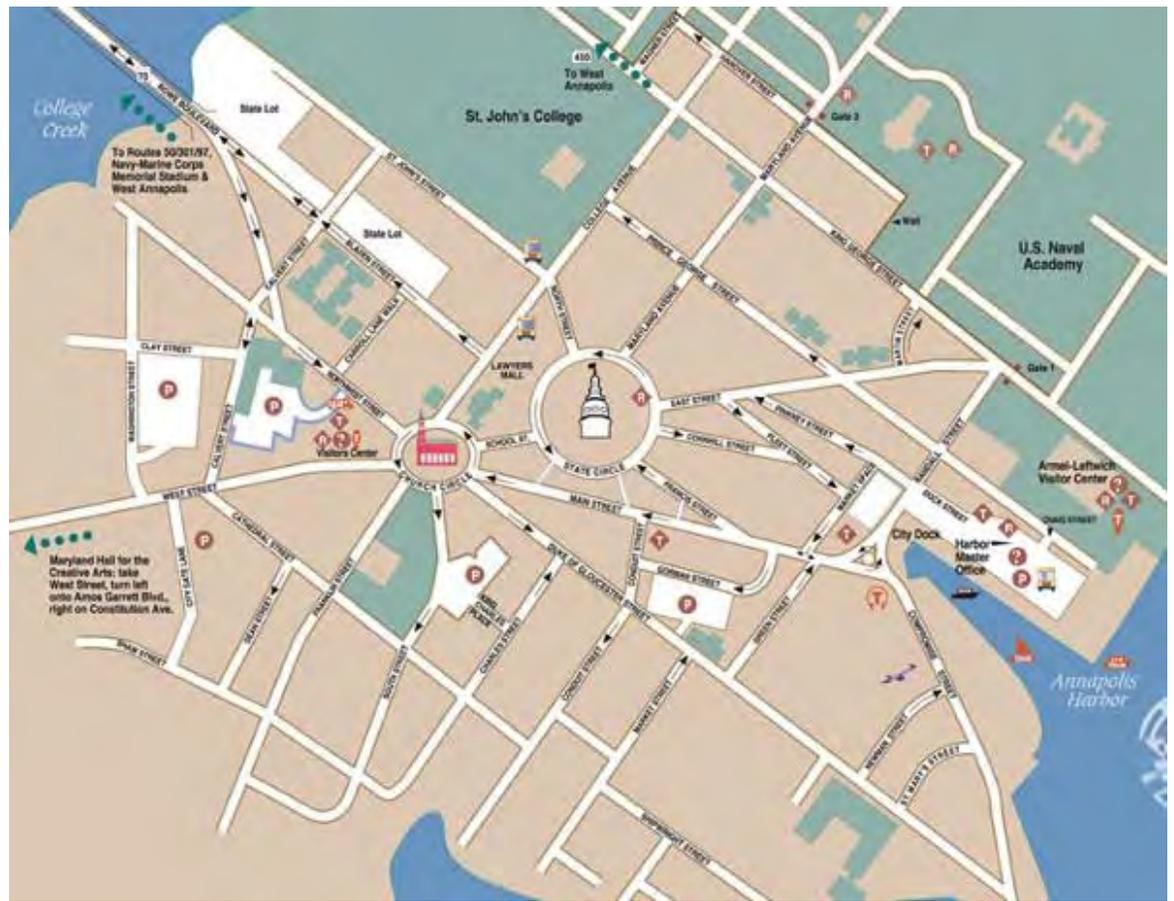
From Rowe Blvd: - Go into Annapolis towards the Capital - Take right onto College Ave. and around Church Circle. - Follow around Church Circle (stay in right lane(s)) - Veer right off Church Circle at Duke of Gloucester St. - Follow Duke of Gloucester St., take left onto St. Mary's St. - At the base of this street is Compromise Street and the Annapolis Marriott Waterfront Hotel - Street Address is 80 Compromise Street (There are many, many one way streets in this old town- please use caution if using any Map sites like MapQuest.

*Directions to the Schooner Woodwind from the Chart House:* Exit the restaurant and turn Right onto 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (heading away from the water). Take your first Right onto Severn Avenue. Take the fourth Right onto 6<sup>th</sup> Street and cross over the Draw Bridge. After the Draw Bridge, take the second driveway on the Right into the Annapolis Yacht Basin parking lot right next to the Annapolis Marriott Waterfront Hotel (large 5-story brick building). In the back left corner of the parking lot is a dock that wraps around behind the Hotel (there is a tall wooden fence with a Woodwind sign on it). Follow this dock around behind the hotel and you will see the boats. If you need assistance you may call the onsite ticket office at 410-263-8994.

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Resource 1. Least Expensive [Parking Garage](#): Noah Hillman Parking off Main Street

Resource 2. Downtown Annapolis & parking facilities:



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Please visit our wedding registry:

<http://www.travelersjoy.com/members/sharontugrulwedding/>

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Sign Guest Book



Nildan & Bugra ATSIZ

Dear Sharon And Tugrul, Sorry we could not be present at one of your happiest days, but our thoughts were with you all the time. We wish you all the happiness of the world.

Posted on Ağu 23, 2008 at 7:14 PM



Michelle

Congratulations Tugrul and Sharon!!! I wish I could be at your wedding but I pray for lots of love, happiness, and future blessings!!! :P

Posted on Ağu 22, 2008 at 7:13 PM



Jackie

Sharon and Tugrul--love the pictures on the home page! Looking forward to your wedding....finally! All my love.

Posted on Tem 16, 2008 at 9:49 AM



Patti

Cool website. We're looking forward to the 23rd and wish you many happy years ahead.

Posted on Tem 7, 2008 at 1:44 PM



Mom & Papa Clive

Can't wait! We love you both very much. We love your difference and the things you share. Moving beyond cultural boundaries is something we know about. Have a wonderful life together. We look forward to the next chapter!

Posted on Tem 7, 2008 at 1:07 PM



Marina & Mohamed Trad

Dear Sharon and Tugrul, Congratulations and much love and happiness to you in the years to come! You have already proven your dedication to one another without a piece of paper. May your upcoming wedding be both a celebration of what you have already achieved together and a start of your next chapter. Love, Marina & Mohamed

Posted on May 27, 2008 at 10:19 AM



Lou & Bonnie Ritt Lentini

S & T, Your memorable SAVE THE DATE is already hanging on our frig. You both look so happy and in love. May your lives continue to shine. We loved reading about your histories and how you have thoughtfully chosen all your destinations. All we can say is "WOW! What a COUPLE." We are soooo happy for both of you and that you found each other. It's a better world with your love. Happiness Always, Love, Bon & Lou

Posted on May 19, 2008 at 10:01 PM



Sharon and Tugrul  
Married: 08/23/2008  
Reviews: 5

wonderful occasion and much love Mary

Posted on Nis 19, 2008 at 2:58 PM