

IT WAS THE QUINTESSENTIAL perfect blue-sky day with the backdrop of the sublime Whitsunday Islands. Prudence and Dale's guests had gathered as the tropical sun began to set at the help of the six-star Qualla Resort – transformed into a magical setting with white chairs, a white petal strewn aisle, billowing white flags and a raised platform where the couple exchanged vows against the backdrop of the turquoise blue sea. A Spanish guitarist played as Prudence, in a classic gown and fabulously high Jimmy Choo shoes, arrived by golf buggy to marry the man she had met in Sydney six years earlier. "It looked simply amazing," Prudence said.

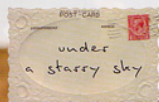
As Prudence works in event management and public relations, there was a huge expectation to produce 'an unforgettable event'. The couple flew to Hamilton Island for Audi Race week in 2008, and both fell in love with the island. "Dale had always wanted a destination wedding and he loved the Whitsundays. We are so lucky to have it on our doorstep". But it wasn't until Prudence visited Qualla for the first time, that the decision to hold the wedding on the island was sealed. "As soon as I entered the gates I was sold!" Prudence said.

From there Prudence worked with suppliers to create a seamless ceremony and dinner – all of which took 12 months to bring together. "Destination weddings are a fabulous idea – everyone is relaxed, no-one needs to travel far to get home and everyone has an unforgettable experience – not just the bride and groom".

A special highlight for the couple was landing at Hamilton Island airport a few days prior to the their big day. Friends greeted the couple with a huge banner reading 'Welcome the Bride and Groom'. There were cheers, champagne, and cameras flashing as the couple were welcomed off the plane. "It was so exciting," Prudence said.

Following the romantic ceremony, guests were seated at a stunning candle-lit dinner with a modern black tie theme. Paired with natural elements such as driftwood, silver orchids in tall vases and glowing candles dressed long white linen-covered tables. Prudence said having her closest family and friends around them made it the most memorable night of their lives. "With the stars in the sky and not a breath of wind, it looked so enchanting." ✦

RatWeddings



Prudence Slurphy and Dale Corrigan

QUALLA PEBBLE BEACH, HAMILTON ISLAND, QUEENSLAND
19TH OF SEPTEMBER, 2009
STORY by Sheriden Rhodes PHOTOGRAPHY by Studio Impressions



TRISTE ASAS Floral stylist Brett Cunell, created an elegant beach resort theme for Prudence and Dale's wedding. Inspired by the driftwood on the island, Brett transported cymbidium orchids and silver suede all the way from Melbourne for his magical setting. Tall glass vases of orchids, driftwood stars, pebbles and candles in lantern jars lined the long banquet tables whilst Prudence and her bridesmaids carried stunning, simple bouquets of orchid blooms. Chic perspex frames were also placed on the tables as placecards for each guest. ✦ Prudence's deckled edge cotton stationary cards, from papyrus design, reflected her elegance and style.



PRUDENCE'S STYLE GUIDE

GOWN: Jane Hill, 03 9826 6564
PHOTOGRAPHER: Studio Impressions,
07 3832 0444 CEREMONY AND RECEPTION
LOCATION: Qualla, Hamilton Island,
qualla.com.au RECEPTION DECORATIONS AND
FLOWERS: Brett Cunell, 0438 004 293 BIKINI:
Jimmy Choo INCENSEMENT AND STYLING:
RASH: Emil Braun, 03 9654 2100 HAIR/MAKEUP:
papyrus design, 03 9834 5177 CAKE: The
Cupcake Queens, 0411 220 699 MUSIC: Marty
Rose, 0402 420 499; Rush Entertainment,
0413 162 447 HIRE NIGHT: Qualla Pavilions
WINE/BEVERAGES: Bedarra Island, bedarra.com.au

