



WEDGEWOOD METROPOLITAN:

An Affordable Wedding Oasis in the Heart of Oakland

by Katharine Gardner



PHOTO BY PRESTON DAVIS

Deciding on the perfect wedding site and planning the details of the reception is often the most difficult and time consuming part of getting married. A way to relieve that stress, and unnecessary cost, could be to have your wedding at a Wedgewood location. Wedgewood offers customized wedding packages on beautiful California golf courses at an incredible value.

At Mocha Bride, we are excited to tell you about Wedgewood's newest venue in the heart of Oakland: Metropolitan. The main advantage of the Metropolitan location is that it is "...unbelievably centrally located in the Bay Area," according to Bill Zaruka, Vice President of Operations at Wedgewood. The site is located minutes away from the Oakland airport just off of Highway 880, on the beautiful greens of a golf course. Your ceremony could take place under the picturesque gazebo, and the reception in the beautiful event tent that features an entire side of glass looking onto the green.

Wedgewood's humble beginnings came as an innovative idea to provide an affordable option to the Country Club for banquets and events – specifically weddings. In 1986, John and Linda Zaruka created a country club like experience, but with public golf course prices. For 23 years, Wedgewood has continued to achieve the goal of providing you, the bride, with the best value and service for your dollar. If the idea of someone else taking over the majority of the difficult details of planning your wedding, for an incredible value, is of interest to you – we suggest you consider Wedgewood for your wedding.

The Zaruka family has expanded the Wedgewood business to serve guests at nine locations in California. Metropolitan is the newest location. Metropolitan features a romantic gazebo and an impressive event tent. In addition to Metropolitan, Wedgewood has five other locations within an hour of Oakland.



Contact information

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SAMPLE WEDDING PACKAGE

THE GOLD PACKAGE

- Invitations and Response Cards from our Tatex Value with Love Collection
- Customized Music and MC Services
- Fresh Floral Centerpieces on all Dining Tables & Head Tables
- Engraved Glass Toasting Goblets and Personalized Cocktail Napkins
- Non-Alcoholic Strawberry Punch
- Cocktail Hour Hosted Bar featuring Well & Call Liquors, Premium Wines and Beers
- Your Choice of Six Selections from our Extensive Hors d'Oeuvres Menu
- Choice of one of the following Menu Selections:
- One of Our Fabulous Duet Plates:
 - Served with Wedgewood Salad Vinaigrette, Fresh Vegetable Medley; Specially Selected Potato or Rice, and Freshly Baked Breads and Butter
 - OR: a Three Item Buffet Including a Carved Item (Ham, Turkey or Top Round of Beef), Eight Great Salads, Fresh Vegetable Medley, Specially Selected Potato or Rice, Freshly Baked Breads and Butter
- House Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Merlot or White Zinfandel.
- Choice of Two Served Throughout Dinner
 - Korbel Champagne and Cider Toast
 - Deluxe Wedding Cake
 - Wedding Night Room at a Premium Local Hotel
 - Choice of Linen Napkin Colors
 - Full Service No Host Bar
 - Beverage Station throughout the Reception



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WEDGEWOOD WEDDING PACKAGES

Wedgewood's website outlines information about each package. Wedgewood offers five different wedding packages ranging from The Crystal package, which is the least expensive, to the Millennium Package which is the most extravagant. According to Bill Zaruka, the Gold package is the most popular because it is very inclusive, yet still affordable.

"You want everything, we can give you everything. You want bare bones, we can give you that," explains Zaruka. The only thing you have to include in your package at Wedgewood is food and beverage. Minimums may apply to certain, high-demand dates – like a Saturday night in the summer. If you are flexible on your dates, the minimums will never be an issue.

COST EFFECTIVE ELEGANCE

After performing thousands of weddings, the Zarukas have become very intelligent about how they package weddings for their brides and grooms. Wedgewood facilities host over 850 weddings a year, thus they

are able to negotiate great prices with their vendors, and pass the savings onto you. Wedgewood offers all-inclusive wedding packages, but the best part is the flexibility. This means that you can substitute any piece of the package you desire - except food and beverage. Do you already have a vendor to bake your cake? No problem, Wedgewood will simply deduct the cost of their baker from the total cost of the wedding package you choose. The Zarukas believe that weddings should be a wonderful experience, but should not place an unnecessary financial burden on the couple.

Friendly staff that smile and are helpful on the day of your wedding is of utmost importance for everyone to have a good experience. Wedgewood believes that personality is more important than experience. "I can train someone to make a martini," Bill Zaruka says, "But I cannot train someone to be friendly." We at Mocha Bride know that at the end of the day, it is your day, and it seems that the Wedgewood staff understands this as well.