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NANCY J.FRIEDMAN PUBLIC RELATIONS



ship, travel writer Elizabeth Haddad, 27, and medical student Christopher Schwartz, 28, took their time. They had their first date three years after they met at a Coldplay concert (using then-new Facebook to become friends in the meantime) and were together for four years before Christopher popped the question. ("He did it over pancakes at the kitchen table-simple and perfect," says Elizabeth.) No surprise, then, that the two planned a leisurely three-day destination wedding on Sea Island in Georgia, a nod to the bride's Southern roots. "We didn't want to squeeze everything into a few hours," she says. "We wanted time to mingle with everyone."

hen it came to their relation-

Last June, 125 of their nearest and dearest converged on the Cloister at Sea Island, a resort known for its Mediterranean architecture and miles of beaches. After a raucous rehearsal dinner on Friday night, complete with Southern comfort food and a Dixie jazz band, everyone donned their black-tie best for the Saturday-morning ceremony. "We wanted to beat the heat," says Elizabeth, who floated down the aisle in an ethereal Elie Saab. Guests gathered for lunch beneath a tent filled with herb topiaries and boxwoods before the newlyweds and attendants took a joyride on a vintage yacht.

But the festivities weren't over yet. At twilight, the crowd regrouped in the hotel ballroom for a full-on dance party (with a shrimp-and-grits bar!). Elizabeth hit the floor in a knee-length silver lace dress by friend and designer Jes Wade. "Chris and I didn't sit down until midnight," she says. "We made every second count!"



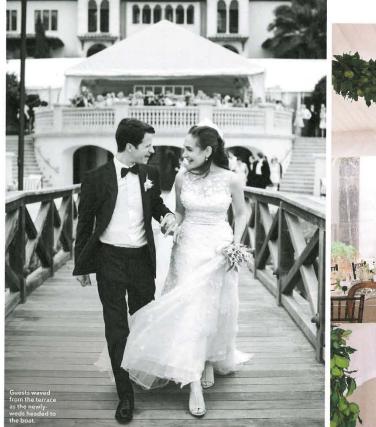
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Venue, catering, and cake: The Cloister at Sea Island; seaisland.com. Event designers and coordinators: Maren White and Meilssa Ippensen, Sea Island Resorts; seaisland.com. Bride's dresses: Elie Saab (ceremony and lunch); eliesaab.com. Jes Wade (reception); seawade.com. Bridesmaids' dresses: Joanna August; joannaaugust.com. Groom's tuxedo: Martin Greenfield; mgreenfield.com.

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The yacht ride gave the couple a chance to hang out with their wedding party. "It was incredibly peaceful," says Elizabeth





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Elizabeth opted for a recensauthern palette (with poss

Floral designer: The Vine Garden Market; vinegardenmarket.com. Stationery: The Printery; iprintery.com. Music: Music by Pegge (ceremony); musicbypegge.com. Powerhouse Band (reception); thepowerhousegroup.com. Rentals: Beachview Event Rentals; beachview .net: Party Tables; partytables.com. Photography: Shawn Connell for Christian Oth Studio; christianothstudio.com.

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