

Princess Eugenie and her husband leave St George's Chapel as man and wife

The Big Day

Everything you need to know about Princess Eugenie's royal wedding day

Words by Rachel Avery

After months of speculation and excitement, Princess Eugenie and Jack Brooksbank got married on Friday 12th October at St George's Chapel, Windsor. Sticking with tradition, the couple didn't see each other the night before the wedding. Jack stayed at an unknown location in Windsor, while Eugenie stayed at her father's home, Royal Lodge in Windsor Great Park, about three miles from Windsor Castle and St George's Chapel.

DRESS BY DESIGN

As with any wedding, the biggest talking point was the dress. Eugenie wore a breathtaking Peter Pilotto gown, crafted by London designers Peter Pilotto and Christopher De Vos. The elegant ballgown made from ivory duchesse satin featured a folded off-the-shoulder neckline and a large train. The back of the dress had a deep V, designed for Eugenie to show off her scar, from spinal surgery for scoliosis when she was 12. In a recent interview with *This Morning*, she said: "I think you can change the way beauty is, and you can show people your scars and I think it's really special to stand up for that."

In true Eugenie style, she paired her beautiful dress with a statement headpiece fit for a Princess. The stunning Greville Emerald Kokoshnik Tiara with glistening emeralds and diamonds set in platinum is a family heirloom, lent to her by the Queen, and the matching emerald earrings were a wedding gift from the groom.

THE GUEST LIST

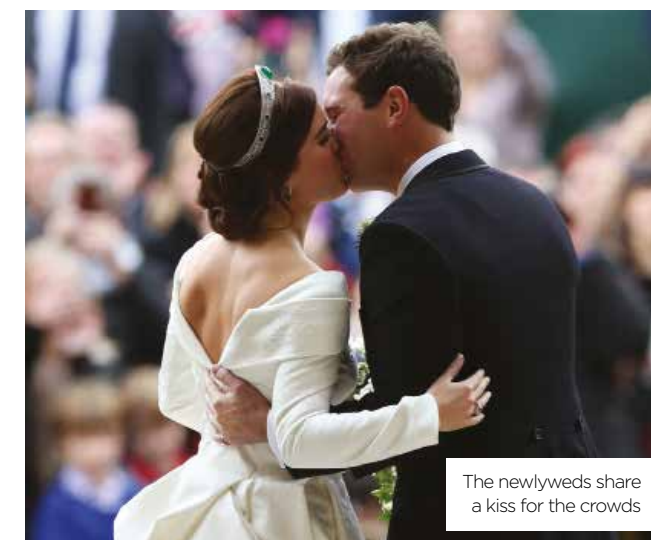
The 850-strong guest list included many members of the royal family, as well as high-profile celebrities like Naomi Campbell and Stephen Fry. Eugenie's sister, Beatrice, was by her side as maid-of-honour, while there was a star-studded list of little ones in the bridal party of six bridesmaids and two pageboys. Prince George and Princess Charlotte were joined by Savannah and Isla Phillips (the daughters of Autumn and Peter Phillips), Mia Tindall (the daughter of Zara and Mike Tindall), Maud Windsor (the daughter of Lady and Lord ▶

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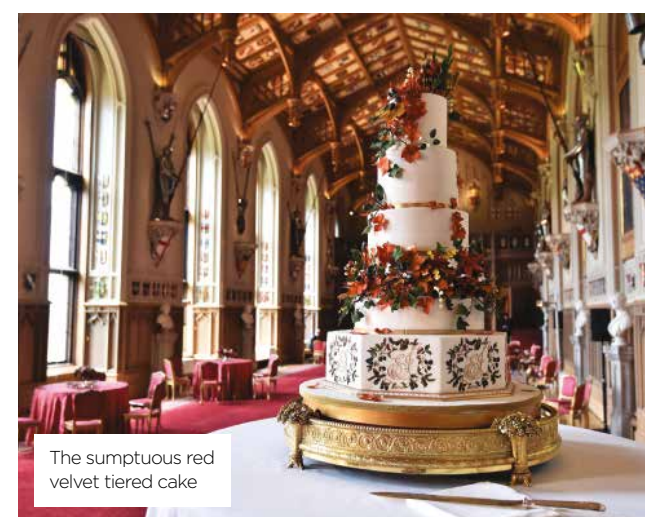
Eugenie looked gorgeous in an ivory duchesse satin gown by Peter Pilotto



The cute attendants leaving the chapel



The newlyweds share a kiss for the crowds



The sumptuous red velvet tiered cake



A stylish ride to their evening reception

Frederick Windsor), Louis de Givenchy (the son of Zoe and Olivier De Givenchy) and Theodora Williams (the daughter of singer Robbie Williams and Ayda Field).

THE CEREMONY IN THE CHAPEL

The chapel was beautifully decorated with autumnal foliage by florist Rob Van Helden, setting the scene for the ceremony which began at 11am as Prince Andrew, Eugenie's father, walked her down the aisle. Waiting nervously, Jack Brooksbank broke into a huge smile as soon as he saw his beautiful blushing bride. Once vows were exchanged, Charles Brooksbank, Jack's cousin, and Princess Beatrice both shared thoughtful readings with the congregation. Beatrice veered away from biblical text and chose to read a passage from F Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, and as well as classic hymns and organ music, Italian singer Andrea Bocelli performed two songs, *Panis Angelicus* and *Ave Maria*.

After the ceremony, the newlyweds kissed on the chapel's steps while crowds clapped and cheered, it was an extra-special moment, just like Prince Harry and Meghan on those very steps back in May. Everyone was then treated to a closer view of the couple as they took a short tour around Windsor in the enclosed horse-drawn Scottish State Coach, protected from the blustery winds of the day.

NOT ONE BUT TWO RECEPTIONS

The Queen then hosted a private reception to toast the happy couple in the Waterloo Chamber of Windsor Castle.

Guests were served champagne, finger food and slices of wedding cake. Their magnificent five-tier cake, decorated with seasonal leaves and berries, was perfectly suited to their autumnal theme. The couple chose to shun a traditional fruit cake in favour of white-frosted tiers of red velvet sponge and chocolate. It's reported that British cakemaker, Sophie Cabot, used 400 eggs to make the magnificent creation!

After cake was served, the couple left in a sleek silver Aston Martin DB10 sports car to head to their second reception, held at Royal Lodge. This is where the couple changed into their second wedding outfits, with Eugenie sporting a stunning blush-hued silk gown designed by Zac Posen. The partying didn't end there though. Saturday saw a festival-style celebration at Royal Lodge, where her family resides, with fun fairground rides for the guests to really let their hair down.

All in all, Eugenie has showed us that the perfect balance between traditional Princess bride and down-to-earth modern bride can be achieved. We loved following every minute of their wedding, and wish them well for their future together! 🍷

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