

“MY SHOES WERE GORGEOUS – THEY HAD AN EIGHT CENTIMETRE HEEL AND WRAPPED AROUND THE ANKLE WITH A DIAMANTE BUCKLE.”

From the moment Lisa and Karl Coates locked eyes across a crowded nightclub dancefloor in 1998, it was love at first sight.

“We met in a nightclub in Gosford,” Lisa shares. “Karl was on a rugby trip and I was out with workmates. I had seen Karl dancing around us all night but it wasn’t until the last song that we finally met.”

After withstanding a year living in London together and an epic four month journey around Europe in a campervan, Lisa and Karl realised that their relationship could survive even the toughest of tests and while holidaying in Fiji, Karl delivered his proposal.

“We were on a holiday in Fiji on Malolo Island. Karl took me to dinner and then after dinner, he walked me down to the jetty to look at the tropical fish. While I was watching the fish, he got down on one knee and said the most beautiful things and asked me to marry him. He was very romantic,” Lisa says.

“To my surprise he also had a ring which he had designed all by himself. It was gorgeous. We celebrated with a bottle of red wine on the jetty afterwards. It was perfect!”

When they returned to Sydney, the couple busied themselves planning their dream wedding and on February 22 2008, Lisa walked down the aisle to meet Karl and begin their married life together. The pair pledged vows of love to one another in the most perfect, beautiful and touching ceremony.

“The ceremony was in a park overlooking Pittwater with all the boats. We had tall white Balinese flags as our altar and multicoloured rose petals lining the processional walkway.

“My dress was a strapless, taffeta gown in light gold. From the first time I tried it on, it was all I could think about. My shoes were ivory and wrapped around the ankle with a diamante buckle.

“We held our wedding in summer so everybody was handed Chinese fans to keep them cool and extra rose petals for confetti. The champagne was flowing freely, our three tier chocolate mud wedding cake was amazing and everybody had a great time. Although I was half an hour late to the ceremony, it all went really smoothly. It was really special to have our best friends with us and also to have our family involved as well. And of course it felt amazing being announced as Mr and Mrs Coates – finally!”



COUPLE Lisa and Karl Coates
BRIDE'S GOWN Roz la Kelin from Bridal Avenue
BRIDE'S SHOES Panache Bridal Shoes
GROOM'S SUIT Spurling Formal Wear
PHOTOGRAPHY Caterina Photography
RECEPTION Dunes Restaurant, Palm Beach NSW
FLOWERS Flora Luna Wedding Floral Designs
CAKE Batch Patisserie
TRANSPORT Corporate Coaches
HONEYMOON Noosa and New Zealand

SAVE THE LAST DANCE