

MIAMI

One of Miami's Most Iconic Venues Is Hosting Virtual Weddings

Sometimes the best things in life don't happen how you may have imagined them. For some, that's getting married during the coronavirus pandemic. Sure, you may never have thought a "virtual wedding" was in the cards, but one of Miami's most iconic venues has adapted to these unprecedented times with a solution we hope sticks around. (Seriously, we're not kidding.)

South Miami's **Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden** has launched the **Garden of Love**, a virtual wedding experience where couples get to exchange their vows online. Forget fussing over flowers and guest lists, all a bride and groom has to do is say "I do" in front of friends and family via a live video stream. Parents can attend, but otherwise the event is strictly closed-door. (Hey, no need to worry about offending your third cousin who was certain she was scoring an in-person invite.)

For \$1,400, a couple can choose one of five romantic locations throughout the garden. Even better, a secure streaming link is taken care of by an on-site videographer, as well as full audio, video and lighting set up. Take it up a notch with add-ons like an hour-long photo session around the garden, a musician and a six-inch cake.



COURTESY OF FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN

What makes this even more special is that the virtual ceremonies allow you to hold your service in places at Fairchild that have never been used for a wedding before, due to size limitations. Locations include the vibrant Chihuly sculpture garden surrounded by a koi pond, the secret sunken garden featuring a waterfall or the classic Bailey Palm Glade, which overlooks the Glade Lake. Pretty exclusive, huh?

Weddings can be scheduled on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays during sunrise or Monday through Sunday at sunset. And, in an effort to follow all local and state health regulations, the Fairchild team and videographer will wear masks and carry sanitizer throughout the entire experience.

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