

CELEBRATIONS

LOVE IS SWEET
Terry Baawuah and
Porsha Summerville
shared a quiet post-
ceremony moment
among the ruins of
a historic sugar
plantation in Sandy
Bay, Jamaica.



The bride's Rubin Singer gown featured accents of gold in a nod to Ghana (once known as the Gold Coast), where Terry was born. The groom wore a tux by Musika Frère.



Dinner was served on the lawn, where guests were treated to a prime view of the ocean.

PORSHA SUMMERVILLE & TERRY BAAWUAH

JUNE 24, 2017 / SANDY BAY, JAMAICA

Porsha Summerville was exhausted—but didn't mind a bit. As an account manager for a fashion designer, she had been in Paris for 10 days—and had spent every night on the phone with Terry Baawuah. The two had recently connected at a party in New York City and, feeling an instant spark, discovered they could talk about anything. “We were head over heels, chatting eight hours a day,” she says. When she returned home, they became inseparable; after a month of dating, Terry invited Porsha on vacation in Jamaica. They explored the island—and left even more in love.

Six years later, Porsha was again headed to Paris, and Terry, who is now a senior manager for a data-and-analytics company, joined her. He planned to propose but knew she'd be suspicious, so he took her to jewelry stores and played dumb—never hinting that he already had a ring. Later, in the Tuileries Garden, he popped the question while a photographer he'd hired snapped shots on the sly. “It seemed simple at the time, but the pictures look so glamorous,” Porsha says. The pair knew they wanted a destination wedding. “Terry has

family in Ghana [his birthplace] and London and all over,” says Porsha, “and we like to travel.” They decided on Jamaica, in honor of their first trip, and chose the Tryall Club for its elegance and “wow factor” views. “We didn't want to get married on a beach,” Terry says. The festivities began with bachelor and bachelorette parties on Thursday and continued Friday with a welcome party at Half Moon resort. “By Saturday, we'd gotten to hang with everybody, so we didn't have to spend much time greeting at the wedding,” he says.

The Christian ceremony took place on a hill overlooking the ocean; afterward, guests moved to the waterfront reception. “When we entered, we didn't even get to the dance floor—they were all so excited, they met us on the walkway,” says Porsha. The couple eventually shared their first dance, swaying together to Sade's “Kiss of Life,” performed by a friend. “She has a lyric in the song: ‘Look at the sky, it's the color of love,’” recalls Porsha. “And during our dance, the sky was the most beautiful pinks and blues we'd ever seen! It was a perfect moment.” —*Chrisanne Grisé*

SOURCES Location and catering The Tryall Club Welcome-party location Half Moon Flowers, décor, and rentals Tai Flora Luxe Photography Jillian Mitchell
Officiant Ashley P. Williams **Stationery** Minted **Calligraphy** Nancy Letts **Cake** Leanne Cooke-Popkin of Cakes by Noida **Music** Ajua Kouadio (ceremony soloist); Silver Birds Steel Orchestra (cocktail hour); Elite Media Concepts (DJ); Pilin Anice Giddings (first-dance soloist) **Bride's gown and veil** Rubin Singer
Bride's accessories Erickson Beamon (earrings, comb, and welcome-party jewelry); Nicholas Kirkwood (shoes) **See the Guide for more details**



Porsha's sister held a golden pineapple at the welcome party. Rum punch was the unofficial signature drink of the weekend.



Their bridal party could easily have been 10 to 20 people, but instead they opted to keep things simple, with one maid of honor and two best men.

“
 We were going for a natural but elegant vibe. We didn't want to take away from the beauty of Jamaica, so we focused on lighting and natural green elements.”

—PORSHA

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Nicholas Kirkwood heels added another touch of gold to Porsha's ensemble.

African-inspired attire or all white was the dress code the first night. And some guests, like these, continued the theme on the wedding day, too.



All were invited to the welcome party, which took place at the villa rented by the bride's family. Porsha surprised Terry by hiring a fire-eater as the entertainment.



A Caribbean steel band provided the soundtrack to cocktail hour at the Tryall Club.