

We married at SAVOY PARK

Ayr

Luciana O'Loone
and John Clark,
28th May 2016

Photography by *Adore Weddings*
www.adoreweddings.com



People are at the heart of any wedding, but for John and Luciana they were integral to the vision they had for their touching Ayrshire day.

"We wanted something local so friends and family could get there easily, as John has a big family," explains Luciana. "Also, my father was very ill at the time and I wanted to be able to get him home if necessary." It wasn't long before Ayr's Savoy Park emerged as the front-runner in their search for a warm and welcoming hotel that would be sensitive to their needs.

"It was the first place we visited," she admits. "It was a sunny May weekend in 2014 and we were out for a drive. We thought we'd go and look for a venue for two years' time, hoping the weather would be the same. We loved everything about the hotel: its lush enclosed gardens, which were ideal for the children; its location right next to the beach (but still close to the town); and the chance for us to marry outside."

The empathetic Savoy Park team rose to the occasion, not only crafting special moments for the couple but really taking care of their guests. "The hotel was fantastic," says Luciana. "Nothing was too much trouble. Our co-ordinator Barbara thought of everything, helping the whole day come together in such a relaxed way. She even made sure my father had a meal to suit him on the day. He stayed for the wedding night as he felt so comfortable."

The couple had planned to exchange vows under a leafy archway in the grounds, and in the





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lead-up to the ceremony, Luciana was overwhelmed by the efforts of the staff to orchestrate this. “On the morning, we were in the stunning bridal suite and I found myself staring out at the lawn,” she describes. “I saw everything set up to perfection: my dress hanging up, the flowers. The staff never failed us on anything. Barbara brought my youngest boy up to the room to see me then arranged for the car to be waiting for me discreetly so I could go and collect my dad. She walked me to the bottom of the fire escape, with the hotel’s owner holding my dress all the while, so that no one would see me before my father did.”

Speaking of the flowers, Luciana and John had a moving rationale for their

choice of bloom, which came as part of the venue’s Wedding Wish package. “Our theme was based around the pale blue and ivory hydrangeas my Italian grandmother (who passed away many years ago) had in her garden,” she says. “They were not in season in May, so cost more. But it was worth it. My advice is to be prepared to pay extra for better options.”

Along with a sprinkling of powder-blue balloons (to echo the bouquets) around the venue, the pair’s personal approach extended all through their day. “We wanted to have unusual, humorous stationery, which is why we chose Garry Thorburn of the Caricature Card Company to design our stationery - they show Savoy Park as the background and us in cartoon form,” Luciana says. “We also hired a candy cart, photobooth, dancefloor and bouncy castle.” The castle caused quite a stir: “We all loved it, even though I ripped my dress when a guest stood on it! Luckily, a seamstress friend saved the day!”

www.savoypark.com ♥

