

FOR THE BRIDE

SPRING 2014

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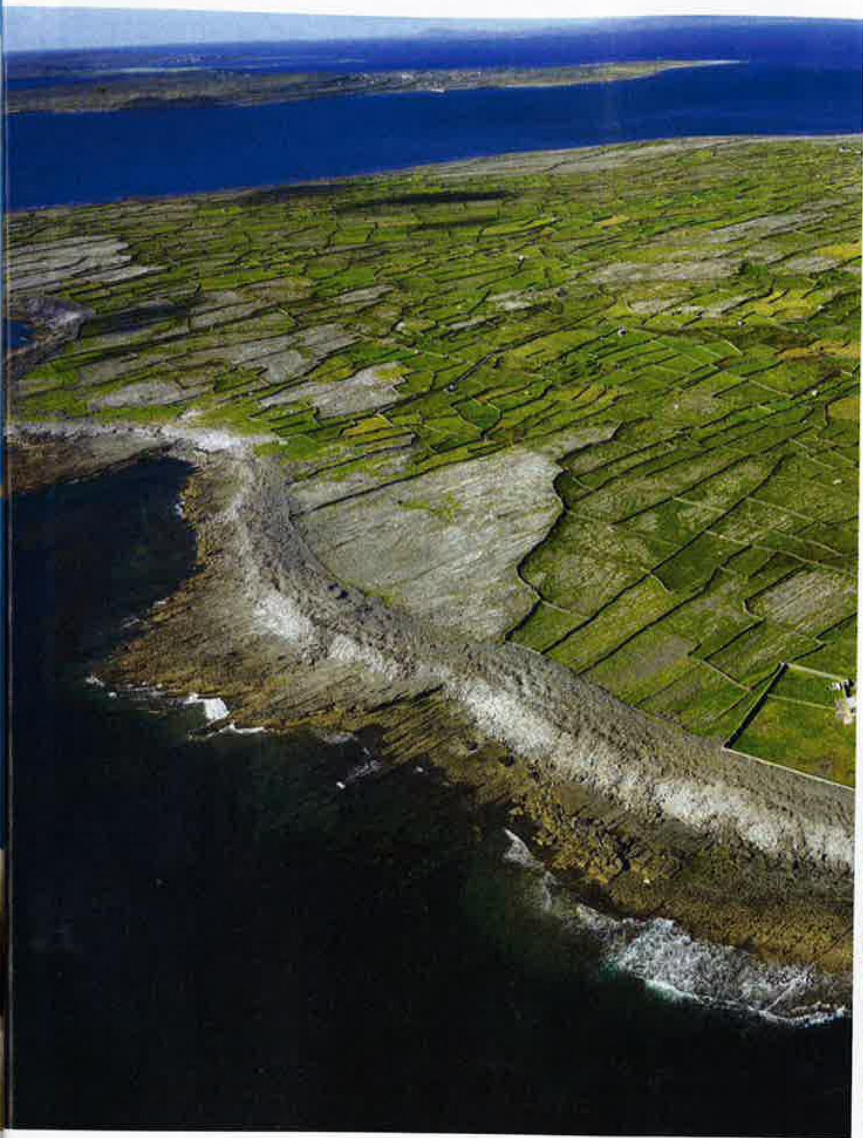
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CAPRI

WHY HERE Curvaceous Capri, in the Gulf of Naples, has teased lovers for centuries with tug-at-your-heart scenes (think lemon trees, olive groves, cliffhanger cafes and a brilliant turquoise sea). It was a favorite romantic playground of Roman emperors—and it will be yours, too.

WHAT TO DO Take a wooden boat tour of magical Grotto Azzurra (Blue Grotto) and you'll more than satisfy that "something blue" for your wedding. Visit La Piazzetta, a fashionable piazza that is the heartbeat of Capri, with open-air cafes—perfect for celebrity sightings; settle into a white-leather banquette and order the thin-crust pizza at Ristorante Aurora, the island's oldest restaurant, steps from the piazza.

WHERE TO STAY The views of the Bay of Naples from elegant **Hotel Caesar Augustus** (caesar-augustus.com) are as intoxicating as a fine Italian wine. Crowned on a cliff 1,000 feet above the sea, you'll swim in the heated infinity pool, succumb to an outdoor couple's massage and nibble on local olives and Mediterranean cuisine at a candlelit table-for-two at the Lucullo Terrace restaurant. Tip: Splurge for the new Capri Suite, a spacious penthouse, with bragging rights as the tallest spot on Capri.



ARAN ISLANDS

WHY HERE Traditionalist couples will love the remote Aran Islands where life is simple and locals still speak Gaelic Irish, one of the few places in Ireland where it's still spoken. Comprised of three rocky, limestone outposts strewn in Galway Bay, you'll stumble upon fairytale castles, historic lighthouses and churches, old stone forts, sunning seals and pretty harbors.

WHAT TO DO Rent bicycles to explore the grassy lanes that show of the islands' beauty. Inis Meain is the quietest of the three islands and you'll want to visit the Inis Meain Knitting Company for his and her sweaters. Inis Mor is the largest of the three; visit Dun Aengus, a historic, semi-circular stone fort, one of the largest in Western Europe. Inis Mor is idyllic for sunning on sandy strands and you'll also want to take a guided walking tour to learn about the islands' culture and traditions.

WHERE TO STAY Your morning porridge at the 18th-century stone **Kilmurvey House** (kilmurveyhouse.com) is topped off with a splash of whiskey, a perfectly acceptable way to begin a day in Ireland. The 12-room bed and breakfast is located in the shadow of Dun Aengus and Kilmurvey Beach.