

> CIGARS: Bringing an ancient art to life.



Location: **The Chanler at Cliff Walk** Newport, RI;
Tuxedo: **Viking Tuxedo** Middletown, RI; Photography:
M. Benedicte Verley Photography Cranston, RI



Every wedding includes some elements that make the day enjoyable. Yet not every wedding offers something “different.” But then there are the weddings that make you think: “that was so them.” Those are the ones that become favorites, allowing you to navigate all of the unexpected details and they remain memorable.

Marcia Weaver is an expert at adding that certain je ne sais quoi to an event. Well known in the industry as a professional cigar roller, Weaver’s story began in 1990 when her friend, Angel Garcia, fled Cuba with eleven other men on a handmade raft. They remained lost as sea for nine days—suffering dehydration and sun stroke; “lighting their way through the darkness with fireflies captured in glass jars,” Weaver recalls—until they were rescued and boatlifted to Guantanamo Bay.

After settling into Key West, Fla., and gaining his US citizenship, Weaver apprenticed Garcia, eventually bringing the art of cigar





rolling in Cuban tradition to Boston in 1996 as the Boston Cigar Factory. Weaver and her partner Jack Keating now share two downtown locations and travel to events all over the world.

With weddings being one of the most popular events on their vitae, the rollers at the Boston Cigar Factory typically roll for a couple of hours during cocktails or following dinner. “Live cigar rolling brings the excitement of live entertainment reminiscent of exotic places,” notes Weaver of the unique service that also acts as the perfect party favor. It also “brings an ancient art to life, piques the senses of taste and aroma and brings people together in celebration.”

With flavored cigar options like vanilla, chocolate, rum or cognac, this doesn’t seem to be entertainment that is geared solely for the men anymore. It is very popular among female guests and makes a great addition to anything from cigar trolley tours to birthdays, corporate events, anniversary parties and more.

To personalize your event all the more, they also “provide custom-labeled cigars complimentary with any order of one box or more.” Recently joined by her daughter Madeleine and Keating’s daughter Lizzie, Weaver smiles at the thought of her daughter joining her at events. She proudly points out: “my favorite part of my profession is not only making a beautiful product that is full of history, but that everyone always looks forward to seeing us! We have been told that not only do we roll, but we rock!”

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