FULLER EDGE PHOTOGRAPHY WORDS BY JODY ROBBINS

Skiers head here for the powder, mountain bikers for the single track and intrepid couples looking for a classic alpine setting choose Fernie for hosting their nuptials. Less pretentious than many resort towns, Fernie is your classic mountain village complete with turn of the century buildings, snowcapped peaks and quiet, unspoiled wilderness. Even if your guest list is larger, mountain weddings have a way of feeling very intimate.











Whether you envision saying I do on the slopes of the Crowsnest Pass, at a rustic ranch, or amongst the blazing colours of Elk Valley, here's a look at how Fernie has captured our hearts.

SACRED SETTINGS - Imagine traipsing though an ancient cottonwood forest flanking a sparkling mountain stream, where canopies of vibrant leaves tower 30 to 50 metres above you. Then imagine all the romantic wedding pictures you'll be able to snap in this cathedral-like setting. Some of the world's oldest and largest black Cottonwoods lie in this old-growth red cedar forest, set close to town.

The 400-year-old trees are veloured in dense green moss and etched with deeply furrowed bark. A two km trail winds through the lush forest and over several bridges before reaching the largest trees. Don't let the fear of heels put you off roaming these trails. A nature path steers you clear of wet spots and avoids sensitive tree roots.

Another unusual spot can be found at the century-old Hosmer Coke Ovens. A mine once operated here for a short time, but its legacy remains with seven-foot high domed roof ovens that enhance the dramatic setting. You'll feel like you've discovered a secret ghost town as overgrown, tangled bush conceals somber abandoned buildings.





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