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With its misty hills, centuries-old castles and quaint countryside villages, the Emerald Isle was made for fairy-tale weddings. If you crave something magical, say I do in front of a water cascade or a medieval-style tower (complete with a moat and drawbridge) at the magnificent Ballyfin Demesne resort (pictured). Opened in May 2011, this 19th-century estate boasts 600 acres of land and lakes at the foot of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. Or keep it romantic at the Bridgehouse Hotel's Secret Garden venue, unveiled in June 2011 and filled with Irish wildflowers, marble sculptures and a photo-ready loveseat. Melt away prewedding jitters with a group tasting at the Tullamore D.E.W. visitor center — new as of September 2012 — and be sure to snag a bottle for a traditional Irish wedding dessert of whiskey-laced fruitcake and almond icing. Infuse even more character into your big day with an Uilleann pipe-band performance ("The Irish Wedding Song" is perfect for the procession) and multiple toasts of Guinness.

