



Rizzieri Salon & Spa

— THE —  
**PHILADELPHIA  
BRIDE'S GUIDE**  
TO LOCAL  
**SPAS**

THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO UNWIND AND beautify before your walk down the aisle than with a stress-relieving massage, a glow-boosting facial or some pretty polish—with your bridesmaids soaking it all in right alongside you, of course. Whether you've decided on a low-key bachelorette party or you simply want to gather your best girls for a bit of pre-wedding pampering, you can't go wrong with a few hours spent at one of the Philadelphia area's most luxurious spas.

BY **ALEXANDRA LESHNER**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **COURTNEY APPLE**



# RESCUE SPA

1601 Walnut Street, 3rd floor, Rittenhouse, 215-772-2766, [rescuespa.net](http://rescuespa.net)

**THE VIBE:** Once you step off the elevator into this modern European oasis, it won't take long to forget you're in the center of a bustling city. The brightly lit space is the epitome of elegance, with dark wood, whitewashed brick, soothing gray walls, and a long manicure table lined with high-backed Victorian chairs.

**THE SERVICES:** To ensure glowing, gorgeous skin for your Big Day, treat yourself to Rescue's Luxe Facial—a new addition to the menu that combines microdermabrasion, a topical peel and non-invasive electric currents, to achieve firmer, more radiant skin. As for your girls, they'll want to book blowouts in



Rescue's salon, indulge in manicures and pedicures with the talented Kelly Jean Collana, and have a go at the lash extension services now being offered by the spa's primary makeup artist, Victoria Roggio (above).

**THE EXPERIENCE:** Rescue's relaxing, intimate atmosphere is best suited to smaller parties (say, the bride and two or three girlfriends), since you'll be sharing the lounge—which has a huge, comfortable couch that's perfect for everyone to gather on between treatments—and locker room (complete with showers and a steam sauna) with the spa's other guests.

**ASK FOR:** When you give the spa a call, ask to speak to the general manager, Aggie Otrebska, who will help coordinate the appointments for your entire party.

**CATERING:** Rescue is strictly BYO; you're welcome to bring along a bottle of bubbly and a light snack or cupcakes to nibble on during your stay.





## RIZZIERI SALON & SPA

400 State Route 38, Moorestown, 856-985-1225, [rizzieri.com](http://rizzieri.com)

**THE VIBE:** This massive 14,000-square-foot space is sleek and contemporary, with crisp white countertops and dark wood accents. The entire space is extremely open and bright, and while there's plenty going on here, each area of the spa and salon still feels very private.

**THE SERVICES:** Decompress before the Big Day with a facial and massage that'll leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated. The Enbrightenment Facial promises to increase luminosity and even your skin tone, while the Hydrotherm massage—warm water-filled cushions cradle your body while the therapist works your muscles—will help release tension. Your 'maids will love grabbing a seat at Rizzieri's blow-dry and brow bars.

**THE EXPERIENCE:** The spa area here is incredibly spacious, so you'll have plenty of room to spread out and enjoy your treatments as a group—your entire party can get pampered at once in the pretty pedicure room. Have your girls pick and choose which



services they want to indulge in, or the Rizzieri team can build a custom package to suit your needs.

**ASK FOR:** The spa managers work closely with all brides and will appoint a direct point of contact for your party when you call to schedule your appointments.

**CATERING:** The Rizzieri team has a great relationship with local eateries Osteria, Distrito and Harvest, and can coordinate any type of catering you have in mind for your spa day. You're more than welcome to bring along your own snacks and drinks as well.

## THE RITTENHOUSE SPA & CLUB HAIR BY PAUL LABRECQUE

210 West Rittenhouse Square, Rittenhouse,  
215-790-2500, [therittenhousespaclub.com](http://therittenhousespaclub.com)

**THE VIBE:** The Rittenhouse Hotel's shiny new spa, salon and fitness center opened just last year, perched on the third floor overlooking Rittenhouse Square. The salon's interior details were inspired by Alexander McQueen's wedding gowns, and the spa's black stone and glass detailing are a nod to Jean Paul Gaultier.

**THE SERVICES:** Your 'maids can have their pick from a wide array of services: Manicures and pedicures, massages, body treatments, blowouts and brow shapings are just a few of the choices they'll love. For the bride-to-be, the Express Facial and the oxygenated peel are sure to leave your skin smooth, hydrated and radiant.

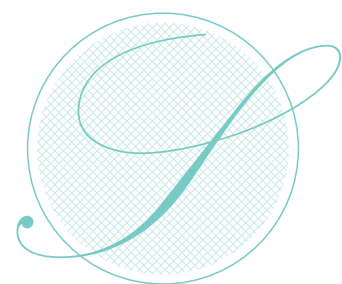
**THE EXPERIENCE:** No matter the size of your party, you can expect privacy and personalized service throughout your stay. The options are endless here: You can reserve the Spa Suite as an exclusive retreat for you and your girls in between treatments, at

which up to eight people can get pampered at once. The team here will customize a treatment package for your party based on the services you choose.

**ASK FOR:** To book your bridal party's spa day, give the Rittenhouse a call and ask for spa and salon director Laura Lambert or assistant spa director Najada Merdani.

**CATERING:** All catering requests are filled by the helpful culinary team at the Rittenhouse Hotel.





## Suede SALON & SPA

500 Route 73, Marlton,  
856-985-0700, [suedesalonspa.com](http://suedesalonspa.com)

**THE VIBE:** Suede underwent a massive renovation and redesign in the past two years, and the updated spa area is now even more relaxing. Soft earth tones coat the walls, and comfy oversized furniture makes the space warm and inviting. Crystal accents and soft mood lighting promote a calming, serene environment.

**THE SERVICES:** For the bride-to-be, the Suede team recommends the Hydrafacial, which cleanses, tightens and rejuvenates the skin and is best when done one week before the wedding. The Raindrop Therapy is also a great option to help bring balance to the body and release energy blocks. Your best girls will want to sign up for manicures and pedicures and Suede's organic airbrush spray tan.

**THE EXPERIENCE:** Here, bridal parties occupy a separate little area where you'll have privacy to enjoy lunch and hang out in between treatments. Depending on how many services you want to have done—Suede will design client-specific bridal-party packages to accommodate your group—you can spend a few hours or the entire day at the spa.

**ASK FOR:** When scheduling your appointment, ask for Mercedes Santiago, one of Suede's guest service representatives; she manages the bridal bookings.

**CATERING:** For bridal parties visiting Suede in advance of the Big Day, the spa will suggest a few yummy lunch options from local restaurants. (They usually run about \$10 per person.) Feel free to bring your own champagne or wine to drink during your stay.

# JOSEPH ANTHONY RETREAT & SPA

243 Baltimore Pike, Glen Mills, 610-459-4663, [josephanthony.com](http://josephanthony.com)

**THE VIBE:** This Glen Mills sanctuary is striking even from the outside: Its unique structure and stone-and-glass facade are just a hint at what this state-of-the-art facility has to offer. Inside, the European-style day spa has something for everybody, including a cafe bar and a full-service medical spa.

**THE SERVICES:** Massages, facials and nail services are all on the menu here, but the one-of-a-kind offerings—like the Alpine Herbal Steam therapy—will definitely pique your interest. Banish wedding planning stress with the Pantai Herbal Energy treatment,

designed to relax tense muscles and increase circulation, or opt for one of Joseph Anthony's hour-long soft-pack float treatments that will leave you feeling pampered from head to toe.

**THE EXPERIENCE:** Expect to spend a few hours here, indulging in Joseph Anthony's unique treatments and sprawling out in the second-floor lounge. Your visit will begin with a trip to the Transition Room, where you'll enjoy a gentle aromatherapy footbath while sipping on a cool drink. In between treatments, your group can gather in the dimly lit Brine Light Inhalation Suite, where a misting waterfall and calming music create a most soothing and relaxing environment.

**ASK FOR:** Lisa Reed and Nicole Centrella handle Joseph Anthony's bridal clientele, so from the moment you book your appointments to the day you arrive, they'll be your main points of contact.

**CATERING:** Joseph Anthony works with a variety of restaurants in the area that can provide treats for your party. All food requests are preordered prior to your visit, so you'll want to discuss the options when you call to schedule your treatments. Complimentary wine and champagne will be waiting for you, too.





# DAVID J. WITCHELL

25 South State Street, number one, Newtown,  
215-579-1200, davidjwitche.com

**THE VIBE:** The scene here is reminiscent of an Aspen ski lodge: warm, woody, and so cozy you'll never want to leave. Stone walls, fireplaces and lots of candlelight give this Bucks County retreat its comfy atmosphere.

**THE SERVICES:** Massages, facials and nail treatments are all on the menu here, but the DJW team suggests you get wedding-ready with Shirodhara therapy—an ancient holistic technique that involves the pouring of a special blend of warmed essential oils over your forehead. It's said to calm the mind and alleviate stress. Another best-selling service is the body-bronzing treatment, which will give you a back-from-the-beach glow just in time for your Big Day.

**THE EXPERIENCE:** When it's just the bride and one other guest (your sister or maid of honor, perhaps), DJW's luxurious couples suite is perfectly private and relaxing. If your party is on the

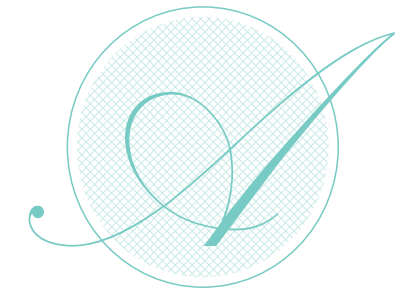
larger side, they'll reserve the entire spa level—complete with a lounge, eight treatment rooms, two steam showers, changing areas and a pedicure room—just for you. DJW's concierge can even arrange transportation, flowers and entertainment for your spa day.

**ASK FOR:** Diane Davies-Dixon is the bridal specialist at DJW, and also the concierge, so she can assist you with booking appointments. Online requests can be made through the website and mobile app, too, though it's not suggested for larger parties.

**CATERING:** The spa staff is happy to make recommendations from local restaurants they love, or you can bring along your own spread of snacks to nosh on.



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## AME SALON & SPA

111 Waynewood Avenue, Wayne,  
610-995-2631, amesalonandspa.com

**THE VIBE:** The salon and spa here offer two distinct experiences: The salon is energetic, creative and social, while the upstairs spa is utterly Zen-like, with low lighting, candles, peaceful music and a soothing waterfall. (The sumptuous tub room isn't to be missed.)

**THE SERVICES:** A must-try for every busy bride is the blissful Rest on Water—after an invigorating scrub and AME's Swiss shower, you'll be coated in a body wrap of your choice and lowered into a heated flotation bed. An assortment of global therapies (think Thai massage) is also available here, in addition to the FIT Bodywrap, which can boost your metabolism, burn calories and promote body detoxification.

**THE EXPERIENCE:** AME can host up to six guests at a time, and a staff member will work with you to coordinate each girl's schedule. (The spa's party guests typically plan for two services apiece.) Prior to the start of your treatments, your party can mingle quietly in one of two relaxation areas. If there are three or fewer in your group, AME's beautiful third-floor loft is ideal for side-by-side massages.

**ASK FOR:** Any of AME's knowledgeable salon and spa coordinators can assist you with scheduling or make service recommendations for you and your girls.

**CATERING:** There are plenty of fantastic restaurants in the heart of Wayne, and the AME team is happy to offer catering suggestions. They'll provide complimentary seasonal snacks and beverages, too, but if you'd like to bring your own bottle of wine or champagne, they ask that you limit the amount to one glass per guest.