

# KATIE HARP

— CREATIVE —

**SEO Keyword:** Gold Mountain Ranch wedding

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## **Blog Title: Gold Mountain Ranch Wedding in Ouray, Colorado**

Laura and Michael got married on October 9th, 2025 at the Gold Mountain Ranch in Ouray, Colorado. I've known Laura for years, so getting to be behind the camera for one of the most important days of her life was an honor. This is their story, and I'm so glad I got to tell it.

### **Gold Mountain Ranch: An Ouray, Colorado Wedding Venue Unlike Any Other**

If you haven't heard of Gold Mountain Ranch, let me be the first to introduce you. Perched high above Ouray, Colorado on 1,200 acres in the San Juan Mountains, this place is something else entirely. The ranch sits at around 9,300 feet, which means the views are the kind that make you stop mid-sentence and just stare.

What makes it so special for weddings is that it's also an overnight venue. The couple and their closest loved ones can actually stay there. Multiple rooms, plenty of beds, and so many different spaces both indoors and out that there's something for everyone.

The team there was incredibly hospitable, kind, and trusting from start to finish. You can feel that they genuinely care about the couples who celebrate there, and that energy shows up in everything.



*Laura and Michael celebrating their Gold Mountain Ranch wedding*

## **Laura and Michael's Love Story**

Laura and Michael met on Hinge and immediately fell head over heels in love. From the moment they started talking, it was clear something real was happening. They are, without a doubt, exactly what the other person needed. What I love most about them is how they complement each other. They fit together like yin and yang, each one making the other whole.

From the very beginning, Michael didn't try to pull Laura away from her life. He wanted to be part of it. He got to know her friends, showed up for her community, and made it clear he wasn't just falling in love with her. He was falling in love with her whole world. He treats her like an absolute princess, always has, and she gives that same care and respect right back. They are the kind of couple that makes you believe in love, full stop.

And for the proposal, Michael enlisted all of Laura's friends and got a local wine bar on board. He told everyone to plan a "homecoming night," everyone dressed up and showed up, and Laura was told there would be a vote for homecoming queen. When she walked in, each of her friends came up to her one by one and handed her a rose. On each rose was one of the things Michael loved about her.

At the end, he walked out from the back of the wine bar, got down on one knee, and handed her the final rose. They are truly an impressive couple and a match made in heaven!



*Laura and Michael's proposal with roses*

## **A Fall Wedding in the San Juan Mountains**

There is something about Colorado in October that just hits differently. The aspens are turning, the air has that crisp edge to it, and the mountains feel like they're putting on a show just for you. Laura and Michael chose their date and setting with that beauty in mind, and October 9th delivered.

We are so lucky to live in a state this beautiful, and they wanted the wedding to reflect that. Gold Mountain Ranch sits right in the heart of it all, surrounded by the peaks and valleys of the San Juans. Every photo, every video frame: you can feel exactly where you are.

You can also watch the [highlight video from their wedding](#), which I also captured.

**[insert Youtube video]**



*The bride and groom with mountains in the background*



*Chairs set up for the ceremony*



*Wedding guests looking at the view of Ouray, Colorado*



*View of the San Juan mountains*

## **Getting Ready at an Overnight Wedding Venue in Colorado**

The morning started early in Cedaredge, Colorado, where most of the bridesmaids are based. A shuttle, driven by a friend of the couple, picked everyone up, swung through Montrose for a few more bridesmaids, and made its way up to Ouray. By the time we arrived at Gold Mountain Ranch, the excitement was already building.

Getting ready in the bridal suite at the venue was one of those experiences I'll always remember. Because this is an overnight venue, there's no rushing out the door. Everything happens right there: the hair, the laughter, the quiet moments before the ceremony. As a photographer and videographer, being there from the very beginning is everything. You can't manufacture those morning moments, and I was so grateful to be there for all of it.



*Bride getting her wedding dress laced up*



*Bridesmaids wearing maroon dresses*



*The groom's boutonniere*

## **An Outdoor Mountain Wedding Ceremony**

The ceremony was set for 4pm, but anyone who has planned an outdoor Colorado wedding knows that the mountains have their own schedule. A little rain rolled in and pushed things to around 5pm. When Laura and Michael finally stood across from each other at the altar, the wait was absolutely worth it.

The outdoor ceremony space at Gold Mountain Ranch is stunning: layered peaks, open sky, and the kind of quiet that only exists at 9,000 feet. The most important thing to this couple on their wedding day was having the people they care about most there to witness their love. No pretense, no pressure. Just presence.

One of my favorite photos from the entire day was Michael at the altar, watching Laura walk toward him, with tears in his eyes. That image says everything. No caption needed.



*Michael at the altar*



*Michael looking at Laura at the altar*



*Laura and Michael during the ceremony*

## **When It Rains on Your Wedding Day**

Laura and Michael were not fazed. Not even a little. When the rain came in and pushed the ceremony back, they were ready to get married in it if they had to. That attitude tells you everything about who they are as a couple. Nothing was going to get in the way of this day. That energy spread to everyone around them, and by the time the sky cleared, the whole crowd was even more ready to celebrate.

If you're planning an outdoor Colorado mountain wedding, my honest advice is this: make peace with the weather early, make a plan B, trust your venue, and remember that the people you love being there is the whole point. Laura and Michael modeled that perfectly.



*The groomsmen standing in front of mountains*

## **Fall Wedding Colors in the San Juan Mountains**

The color palette was absolutely perfect for the setting. The bridesmaids wore maroon, and the groomsmen wore maroon and white with maroon bowties. There were rich, warm tones against the fall landscape of the San Juans.

Laura and Michael's vision was simple and beautiful: fall colors that felt right with Ouray as the backdrop. There was no strict dress code for guests, because they weren't trying to control the aesthetic. They were trying to create a feeling, and that feeling came through in every frame. One of my favorite photos was Laura walking through her bridesmaids, surrounded by that deep maroon, a huge smile on her face. Pure joy.



*The bride walking through her bridesmaids*



*The bride's bouquet of colorful flowers*



*The bride and bridesmaids wearing maroon dresses*



*The bride and groom during the ceremony*



*The bridesmaids celebrating with their bouquets*



*Guests standing up for the bride walking down the aisle*

## The Reception and After Party

After the ceremony, they went straight into dancing, and that set the tone for the whole evening. The dance floor was alive all night with music, laughter, and the kind of dancing that happens when people are genuinely happy.

As the night wound down, Laura's closest friends stuck around for a little after party. Laura was there, and Michael was there for Laura, which is such a small detail but so perfectly them. Happy and full and surrounded by her people. It was a beautiful ending to a beautiful day.



*The maroon and white dinner table at the reception*



*The DJ at the reception*



*Michael and his groomsmen dancing and having fun*

## **Why Gold Mountain Ranch Is Perfect for an Intimate Wedding Weekend**

The overnight venue model is something genuinely special. When the couple and their closest people all stay at the same place, the whole day feels different. There's no rushing to a hotel, no splitting up at the end of the night. You wake up in the same space you got married in and make breakfast with your best friends the next morning.

Gold Mountain Ranch does this better than anywhere I've seen. The property has multiple rooms and a variety of spaces, indoor and outdoor, that give couples and guests room to spread out and find their own moments throughout the weekend. And the variety of backdrops for photography and video? I could have stayed for a week.



*The bride smiling with guests*



*Guests smiling at the wedding*



*The bride standing with bridesmaids*



*The bride with little ones and her bouquet*

## **Planning a Wedding in Colorado? Let's Talk.**

Laura and Michael's wedding reminded me of exactly why I do this work. It's about capturing real moments: the tears of pure emotion, the laughter, the rain delay, the after party, and turning those moments into something the couple can hold onto forever.

If you're planning a wedding in Colorado, whether at Gold Mountain Ranch in Ouray or somewhere else entirely, I'd love to hear about it!

[Contact me](#) and let's start the conversation. Your day deserves to be remembered exactly as it was: real, beautiful, and completely yours.

## **Vendors**

Venue: [Gold Mountain Ranch](#)

DJ: [DJ Bass Torque](#)

Photographer and videographer: [Isabel Otis](#)