



DESERT PARADISE ✿

The month of March in the California desert averages 80 degrees, but daytime temperatures can easily rise higher while evenings cool into the lower 50s. For a tented wedding at the historic Smoke Tree Ranch in Palm Springs, Classic Party Rentals of Palm Springs made sure to plan for both extremes.

The clients wanted a cathedral wedding, but it was impractical given the Smoke Tree reception site. Instead, they decided to create their own churchlike structure, using a 50-by-100-foot Fastrack® tent accompanied by a 15-by-50-foot frame canopy for the entry and orchestra.

The four-day installation for the Classic crew included navigating a tight gravel area and creating a carpeted step between the entrance and the tent. To keep guests comfortable, Classic Party Rentals used two 25-ton air conditioning units and another five-ton unit from Aggreko along one of the tent's sidewalls and also provided heaters around the stage outdoors.

New York City-based Lewis Miller Design adorned the tent interior with full cloth swagging, chandeliers and elaborate floral and plant arrangements around the

carpet-wrapped altar and lining the aisle. Classic Party Rentals supplied Chameleon Chairs' Bella Fleur Vintage Ivory collection with ivory-stretched knit cushions for seating, along with the wood floor with bisque carpet.

The indoor and outdoor reception decor featured fruitwood chiavari chairs topped with white cushions, two oak dance floors, and bar and lounge furniture from Designer8* Event Furniture Rental. Tabletops included hand-stitched napkins and crystal wine and water glassware.

After the ceremony, the couple couldn't help but linger in the wedding tent. "They almost missed their entire cocktail reception because they just couldn't get enough of what had been done," says wedding coordinator Laurie Lund of The Events Department, La Quinta, Calif. "They just sat there, taking it all in."

Classic Party Rentals transformed a Fastrack tent into a temporary cathedral for a desert wedding. Swagging, chandeliers, carpeting and generous arrangements of flowers and plants contributed to the elegant atmosphere. Photo by Leon Bennett.

