

New & improved bridal shops

Several metro Detroit bridal shops have recently opened or announced expansions in the area — and outside the state — to help turn your walk down the aisle into a strut down the runway.



Le Salon Is Picture Perfect

If nothing else, a wedding dress is a work of art, transforming the modern bride into a timeless masterpiece — the primary philosophy that Le Salon uses to provide clients with the ultimate couture experience. The Royal Oak salon, opened in January by photographer Alexis J. Williamson, specializes in that transformation process, with a little help from top designers such as Watters, Rosa Clara, and Vivienne Westwood, whose infamous “Carrie” gown design from the *Sex and the City* movie was displayed at the Crème de la Crème event last May at the Detroit Athletic Club. *Le Salon*, 212 W. 11 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, 248-219-4039; volteweddings.com.



Maria's Bridal Adds Vera Wang Outlet

Since the opening of her first bridal salon nearly two decades ago, Vera Wang has been synonymous with all things wedding. Maria's Bridal Couture of West Bloomfield recently became the only bridal salon in Michigan featuring Wang's timeless gowns in a “store-within-a-store” setting. Owner Nadica Ristivojevich hopes her salon will be a treasure trove for brides bitten by the Vera Wang bug. “I can't even put into words how excited I am to be so closely connected with one of the best bridal designers in the world,” she says. Additionally, Maria's carries designers such as Amalia Carrara and St. Pucchi Couture. *Maria's Bridal Couture*, 6325 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield, 248-539-3090; mariasbridal.com.

Katerina Bocci Expands to New York

Katerina Bocci has already been featured twice during New York City's Couture Fashion Week. She's hawked her wares in high-end stores in Michigan and New York, and her handcrafted, tailor-made creations have appeared in myriad modeling shows, theater, and television productions. Now the Albanian-born Bocci, who works out of a 3,200-square-foot studio, is planning to open a New York showroom in September. *Katerina Bocci Design Studio*, 14239 Rick Dr., Shelby Township, 586-247-3622; katerinabocci.com.



Sposa Bella Opens

Sposa Bella Bridal and Evening Gowns in Rochester realizes that brides are as beautiful and unique as their wedding gowns. Silvana Guraj's Rochester salon, which opened in March, offers designs from the fashion-forward to traditional elegance. The one-stop shop also features bridesmaid and flower girl dresses, as well as the perfect attire for the mother of the bride. *Sposa Bella*, 120 West 4th Street, Rochester, 248-453-5012.

V2V Expands Bridal Department

Vintage to Vogue, aka V2V, is an eclectic shop in Ann Arbor's Kerrytown Market & Shops. The 9,000-square-foot “lifestyle store” offers home goods as well as women's clothing. The shop has been steadily expanding its bridal offerings of late, with designers such as Amsale, Jenny Yoo, Siri, and more. *V2V*, 415 N. Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor, 734-665-9110; kerrytown.com/v2v.