

# DESERT ROMANCE



**Pool party:** the cute couple sip some margaritas by the pool at the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess resort in Arizona.

## IT'S BEEN AN AMAZING YEAR

for Rascal Flatts star Joe Don Rooney, 30, and his stunning wife, *Playboy* Playmate turned TV presenter Tiffany Fallon, 31. Not only did the pair get married in Mexico in April, the band topped the billboard charts after selling one million copies of their latest album, *Me and My Gang*, in just two weeks. Now, their tour is a nationwide sellout.

*OK!* caught up with the gorgeous couple at The Fairmont Scottsdale Princess resort in Arizona, where we asked them about married life. Plus, we found out how they'll welcome their new Nashville neighbors Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban.

## What's the best thing about being married?

**Tiffany:** Within two weeks, I started to feel this immense pressure lift off my shoulders. We've made a commitment; this is my life partner.

**Joe Don:** I fell in love with her the day I met her. She's helped me out in many ways.

## How did you two meet?

**Joe Don:** Through my business partner in Rascal Flatts, Jay DeMarcus. His girlfriend at the time, now wife, Allison, knew Tiffany from her beauty pageant days when Tif was Miss Georgia USA in 2001. I first saw her in a Toby Keith video called "Who's Your Daddy" [laughs]. Jay called me one night in April 2003 and said Allison and Tiffany were in town. I was like, "Yeah! I'd love to meet her!" It was pretty ironic learning her father

ON HER: TOP: JEANS, ROBBIN'S JEANS; RING, DAVID YURMAN; EARRINGS, COOMI; ON HIM: SHIRT, KENNETH COLE; JEANS, JUST CAVALLI; BRACELET AND RING, DAVID YURMAN

The trip felt like a second honeymoon for Tiffany and Joe Don, who married in Mexico in April.

# vacation

BIKINI: BRETTE SANDLER. CUFF, COOMI; EARRINGS, KENNETH COLE. INSET: ON HER, BIKINI, BRETTE SANDLER. ON HIM, CHAIN, DAVID YURMAN



*Making a splash: "We love Mexican-style resorts," says Tif.*

# vacation

Water therapy:  
The picturesque  
Mesa Oasis Pool  
at the Willow  
Stream Spa.



*Table for two: Joe Don and Tiffany have dinner at the AAA Five Diamond Marquesa Restaurant.*



*Even on vacation, Joe Don brings a guitar along and strums a tune for his beloved wife.*

and brother's names are Joe and Don!

Tiffany: We've been attached at the hip ever since. He's my best friend, my confidant, my supporter and my sounding board.

## You met before Rascal Flatts became huge...

Joe Don: It's been pretty cool because we've grown in our relationship for one, but success-wise we've also grown together. When Tif called me about the *Playboy* thing we'd been dating for six or seven months, I guess.

Tiffany: I told him I had an opportunity to pose for *Playboy*, and there was silence on the other end! [laughs]

Joe Don: I don't want her 20 years from now kicking herself in the butt wishing she'd tried. She went for it. That's what I love about her — she's not afraid to challenge herself.

## How easy is it for you to take time off for a vacation like this?

Joe Don: For me, we pretty much do four shows on a weekend, then back home for a couple of days. That's me the whole year.

Tiffany: Sometimes I go on the road with Joe Don for a few days, and we bring the dogs on the tour bus. We have to be very on top of our calendars.

## Every couple has one little persistent argument — what's yours?

Joe Don: Ours is my being late and me not hearing her when she tells me things.

Tiffany: He takes longer to get ready than I do! I've named myself "Early Shirley" and Joe Don is "Late Nate."

## Would you like to have kids?

Tiffany: We want to enjoy marriage for a couple years, but it's something that we do talk about. Seeing kids around the pool here, you get this little "awww" factor.

Joe Don: Every day we learn more and more about each other in stressful situations and tedious things, even just with our dogs. It's been such a good learning experience for us with the dogs. To wake up in the morning and take them for a walk — you're going to have to do that. With a real-life baby, we're going to be like, "Oh, my gosh!"

## Have you thought about how many kids you want?

Tiffany: Enough for a duo! If it's anything like having dogs, I'd probably have a whole pack of them! [laughs] I want a



Tiffany and Joe Don enjoy a LaStone massage in the Willow Stream spa, which Tiffany described as “amazing.”



“The hotel was lovely!” beams model and TV host Tiffany.

puppy farm.  
Joe Don: I just don't want her to find some adoption agency.  
Tiffany: I'll be like Angelina Jolie!

**Do you hang out in Nashville with other country-music folk?**

Tiffany: We usually all do our own thing and stay tucked in our home with our dogs, taking care of household things like making sure the insecticide guy comes.

**That doesn't sound like star behavior!**

Tiffany: [Laughs] Believe me, I ask Joe Don to take out the trash!

**You've got Nicole Kidman moving into town, now that she's married to Keith Urban.**

Tiffany: I know, I can't wait to meet her! I'm going to be knocking on the door with some brownies, saying, “Welcome to the South!” [laughs]. That's the best

about being in the South — we can go to Target or the Waffle House or the nicest restaurant in Nashville and Joe Don doesn't get bothered.

**‘I still ask Joe Don to take out the trash!’**

**Each of you has a large fan base of the opposite sex — is that hard?**

Tiffany: I don't get to interact with most of my male fans as often as he interacts with his female fans. I just carry on picking up the dog doo-doo in the yard [laughs]. Doing that and jumping on an airplane is my life. But for Joe Don, it's neat to see him be so idolized.

**Can you sing?**

Tiffany: Hell no! No way.  
Joe Don: I dragged her up on stage this year at the Playmate of the Year Party to introduce Hef.  
Tiffany: We looked like Donnie and Marie!

**Did Hef try to make you his fourth girlfriend?**

Tiffany: No, I'm a brunette! [laughs]  
Joe Don: I knew I didn't have anything to worry about! [laughs]

**Do you guys keep fit?**

Tiffany: I hate to work out. I sit with the dogs, watching Joe Don work out! **OK!**

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