

DESTINATION



WEDDING

CHECK
LIST



YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST:

9-12 MONTHS BEFORE



DECIDE ON YOUR WEDDING STYLE

BEFORE YOU CAN DO ANYTHING ELSE, YOU AND YOUR FIANCÉ NEED TO DECIDE HOW BIG OR BOLD YOU'D LIKE TO GO. WILL THIS BE A LARGE CELEBRATION WITH 150+ GUESTS? ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE INTIMATE? YOU'LL ALSO WANT TO DECIDE ON THE LEVEL OF FORMALITY BEFORE YOU START PLANNING

DETERMINE YOUR BUDGET

ONCE YOU'VE CONSIDERED THE SIZE AND STYLE OF YOUR WEDDING, IT'S TIME TO CRUNCH NUMBERS. CREATE A DETAILED BUDGET FOR YOUR BIG DAY, AND DON'T FORGET ALL THE LITTLE THINGS LIKE STAMPS AND THANK-YOU CARDS. ACCOUNT FOR THE MONEY YOU HAVE NOW, WHAT YOU'LL REALISTICALLY BE ABLE TO SAVE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AND ANY CONTRIBUTION FROM PARENTS.

DECIDE ON A WEDDING DESTINATION AND RESEARCH THE RULES

SO, WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GET HITCHED? SOMEWHERE WARM AND TROPICAL? MAYBE IN THE MOUNTAINS? CREATE A SHORT LIST OF DREAM WEDDING DESTINATIONS AND BEGIN TO RESEARCH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A LEGAL MARRIAGE IN EACH. IF YOU'RE STUCK BETWEEN TWO, THIS RESEARCH MAY HELP YOU CHOOSE THE EASIER OPTION. YOU CAN HIRE A DESTINATION WEDDING TRAVEL AGENT (THAT'S ME) IF YOU WANT HELP FROM START TO FINISH.

START VETTING VENUES & VENDORS

NOW THAT YOU'VE NARROWED DOWN A LOCATION, RESEARCH VENUES AND LOCAL DESTINATION WEDDING VENDORS. REQUEST PROPOSALS AND IMAGES TO SEE IF THEY MATCH YOUR WEDDING BUDGET AND STYLE.

PICK A WEDDING DATE

AFTER YOU SELECT YOUR WEDDING DESTINATION AND VENUE, IT'S TIME TO CHOOSE A DATE. YOU MAY WANT TO RESEARCH THE TIMES OF YEAR WITH THE BEST WEATHER, OR MAYBE MONTHS WITH THE SMALLEST CROWDS. LEARN ABOUT SOME DESTINATION WEDDING DATES TO AVOID. ALSO, YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOUR CHOSEN VENUE IS AVAILABLE ON THE DATE YOU WANT. NO MATTER WHAT, MAKE SURE YOU RUN THE DATE BY ANY LOVED ONES YOU NEED TO HAVE BY YOUR SIDE.

DO A SITE VISIT

IF TIME AND BUDGET ALLOW, VISIT YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING LOCATION BEFORE YOU BOOK. YOU DON'T WANT ANY SURPRISES WHEN YOU ARRIVE, AFTER ALL. TRY TO DO THIS AFTER YOU'VE NARROWED DOWN YOUR VENDORS SO YOU CAN SCHEDULE FOOD TASTINGS, BEAUTY TRIALS, AND MAYBE EVEN AN ENGAGEMENT SESSION WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER.

LOCK DOWN YOUR LOCATION

WHEN YOU'VE DONE ALL THE RESEARCH YOU CAN, DOUBLE-CHECKED YOUR DATES, AND REVIEWED YOUR BUDGET, IT'S TIME TO PUT DOWN THE DEPOSIT (IF REQUIRED) ON YOUR VENUE. THIS IS A HUGE STEP! ENJOY IT.

GET ORGANIZED WITH A WEDDING FOLDER OR BINDER

PLANNING A WEDDING IS A HUGE PROJECT WITH SO MANY MOVING PIECES. HELP YOURSELF STAY ORGANIZED SO YOU CAN ENJOY THE PROCESS. WHETHER DIGITAL OR PAPER, CREATE A SYSTEM WHERE YOU CAN STORE YOUR BUDGET, PAPERWORK, CONTRACTS, TO-DO LISTS, AND ANY INSPIRATION FOR THE BIG DAY

CREATE YOUR GUEST LIST

SOLIDIFYING A GUEST LIST CAN BE EXTRA HARD FOR DESTINATION WEDDINGS. OFTEN, THE LIST IS SMALLER THAN IT WOULD BE FOR A HOMETOWN WEDDING. JUST REMEMBER THAT WEDDING ETIQUETTE IS A BIT DIFFERENT FOR DESTINATION WEDDINGS—IT'S OK TO STICK WITH YOUR CLOSEST CREW. IF YOU NEED SOMEWHERE TO START, SIMPLY WRITE DOWN EVERYONE YOU'D EVEN CONSIDER INVITING. THEN BEGIN SEPARATING OUT YOUR TOP-TIER GUESTS—YOU KNOW, THE ONES YOU COULDN'T IMAGINE THE DAY WITHOUT. FROM THERE, WORK WITH YOUR PARTNER TO CONSIDER HOW MANY GUESTS YOU CAN AFFORD, PARENTAL INPUT, AND OTHER FACTORS. YOU'VE GOT THIS!

COLLECT CONTACT INFORMATION

GATHER YOUR GUESTS' EMAIL AND MAILING ADDRESSES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. YOU CAN KEEP TRACK OF THEM ALL USING THIS RSVP TRACKING SHEET. THIS WAY YOU CAN START PLANNING SAVE-THE-DATES AND OTHER COMMUNICATION.

CHOOSE YOUR BRIDAL PARTY

YOU AND YOUR FIANCÉ SHOULD DECIDE HOW MANY LOVED ONES YOU WANT IN YOUR WEDDING PARTY. ONCE THAT'S SETTLED, IT'S TIME TO PERSONALLY INVITE EACH BRIDESMAID AND GROOMSMAN TO STAND BY YOUR SIDE. MAKE SURE THESE INVITES ARE SENT OUT SOONER THAN LATER SO THEY CAN BEGIN TO SAVE FOR TRAVEL AND ATTIRE.

SAY 'YES' TO THE DRESS (OR TUX)

THE MOMENT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR: WEDDING DRESS AND ATTIRE SHOPPING! MAKE SURE YOU CONSIDER YOUR DESTINATION'S CLIMATE WHEN SEARCHING. CONSIDER UNPREDICTABLE ELEMENTS LIKE TEMPERATURE, WIND, SAND, AND WATER. READ THIS GUIDE TO CHOOSING A DESTINATION WEDDING DRESS FOR MORE TIPS

YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST: 6-9 MONTHS BEFORE



CHOOSING YOUR CEREMONY

IT'S IMPORTANT TO GIVE THIS CHOICE A LOT OF THOUGHT. CHOOSE THE TYPE OF CEREMONY YOU PREFER: **SYMBOLIC, RENEWAL OF VOWS OR CIVIL/LEGAL.**

WEDDING COLLECTIONS: YOU WILL ALSO NEED TO DECIED WHAT WEDDING PACKAGE THAT IS OFFERED BY THE RESORT THAT FITS YOU BEST!

LOCK DOWN A PHOTOGRAPHER

IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE THIS ALREADY, MAKE SURE YOU DO IT ASAP BECAUSE THE GOOD ONES GET BOOKED QUICKLY! FOR MANY COUPLES, THE PHOTOGRAPHER IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT VENDORS BECAUSE THEY CAPTURE THE MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST FOREVER. IF THE BUDGET ALLOWS, ~~I RECOMMEND SETTING UP AN ENGAGEMENT SHOOT WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER. THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER. WEDDING PHOTOS ARE AN INTIMATE THING, AND BEING FAMILIAR WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER WILL MAKE IT LESS AWKWARD AND WAY MORE FUN~~

RESERVE A BLOCK OF HOTEL ROOMS FOR GUESTS

WHEN HOSTING A DESTINATION WEDDING, IT'S PROPER ETIQUETTE TO RESERVE ROOMS FOR YOUR GUESTS SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO STRESS ABOUT LODGING. IT'S ALSO FAR MORE FUN IF ALL OF YOUR GUESTS ARE STAYING IN ONE PLACE BECAUSE THEY CAN SOCIALIZE BEFORE AND AFTER THE NUPTIALS. IF YOU DECIDE TO HIRE A TRAVEL AGENT, SHARE THEIR INFO WITH YOUR GUESTS. ***BEA ABOUT IT TRAVEL WILL HANDLE THIS PROCESS!***

CREATE YOUR WEDDING WEBSITE OR APP

CONSIDER TRYING EASY-TO-USE DESTINATION WEDDING WEBSITES OR AN APP. THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO SHARE WEDDING DETAILS WITH GUESTS. AND THESE PLATFORMS OFFER LIFE-SAVING TOOLS LIKE A GUEST LIST AND RSVP MANAGER, EMAIL SERVICES, PERSONALIZED WEBSITE DESIGN, AND SOME EVEN OFFER A TRAVEL CONCIERGE TO ASSIST WITH BOOKING HOTELS AND OTHER AMENITIES.

SEND OUT SAVE-THE-DATES

MAKE IT OFFICIAL BY SENDING OUT YOUR SAVE-THE-DATES AT LEAST 6 MONTHS BEFORE THE BIG DAY. MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE THE DATE AND DESTINATION OF YOUR WEDDING ALONG WITH YOUR WEDDING WEBSITE URL. OR YOU CAN EVEN SEND YOUR WEDDING WEBSITE AS THE 'SAVE THE DATE'. NOW YOUR GUESTS CAN HAVE ACCESS TO ALL THE FUN DETAILS, AND EVERYONE CAN BE AS EXCITED AS YOU!

FINALIZE YOUR FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

CONFIRM YOUR FLORAL VENDOR AND SEND THEM ARRANGEMENTS THAT INSPIRE YOU. DON'T FORGET YOUR WEDDING BOUQUET, BRIDESMAIDS' BOUQUETS, BOUTONNIERES, CENTERPIECES, AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS. **THE RESORT WILL HAVE THEIR FLORAL FOR YOU TO SELECT FROM**

SETTLE ON A MENU AND CAKE—YUM!

ONCE YOU'VE ENJOYED ALL THOSE FREE TASTINGS, IT'S TIME TO SETTLE ON A FINAL MENU AND WEDDING CAKE (OR OTHER DESSERT). WHEN CHOOSING, CONSIDER YOUR AND YOUR FIANCÉ'S FAVORITE DISHES, LOVED ONES' DIETARY NEEDS, AND HOW THE FOOD CAN REFLECT YOUR BEAUTIFUL DESTINATION. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD INCLUDE LOCALLY GROWN INGREDIENTS OR THE COUNTRY'S SIGNATURE DISH. **THE RESORT WILL HAVE THEIR CATERER FOR YOU TO SELECT FROM**

BOOK YOUR LIVE BAND OR DJ

MUSIC CAN MAKE OR BREAK A WEDDING, SO MAKE SURE YOU DO YOUR RESEARCH AND BOOK YOUR ENTERTAINMENT QUICKLY. PROS OF A LIVE BAND: UNIQUE, LOTS OF ENERGY, AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MASHUPS AND MEDLEYS. PROS OF A DJ: MORE AFFORDABLE, WIDER VARIETY, NO MUSICIAN BREAKS. **THE RESORT WILL HAVE THEIR LISTING OF DJ'S FOR YOU TO SELECT FROM**

ACCESSORIZE, ACCESSORIZE!

NOW THAT YOU HAVE YOUR WEDDING ATTIRE, IT'S TIME TO ADD THE FROSTING. CONSIDER SHOES THAT WILL BE COMFORTABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR DESTINATION (SAND CAN BE TRICKY). THINK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF WINDY CONDITIONS WHEN YOU PICK A VEIL OR OTHER HEADPIECE. OTHER ACCESSORIES TO SHOP FOR ARE JEWELRY, A GARTER, AND WEDDING NIGHT LINGERIE.

DECIDE ON YOUR BRIDESMAID DRESSES

THERE ARE SO MANY OPTIONS FOR BRIDESMAID DRESSES, SO HERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO NARROW THEM DOWN. FIRST, DO YOU WANT TO MIX AND MATCH OR GO WITH ONE STYLE? THEN, DO YOU WANT TO GO LONG OR SHORT? THESE TWO QUESTIONS ALONE WILL HELP YOU GET FOCUSED. IF YOU DECIDE TO MIX AND MATCH, THERE ARE BRANDS SPECIFICALLY CREATED FOR THIS PURPOSE, ESPECIALLY IF YOU'D LIKE YOUR BRIDESMAIDS TO PICK THEIR MOST FLATTERING NECKLINE. IF YOU'RE COMFORTABLE ASSIGNING A COLOR AND LETTING YOUR BRIDESMAIDS CHOOSE THEIR OWN GOWNS, YOU CAN GIVE THEM A LIST OF REQUIREMENTS (NECKLINE, LENGTH, FABRIC, MODESTY) AND SIGN OFF ON EACH PURCHASE. CUSTOM DRESSES CAN TAKE A LONG TIME SO MAKE SURE THEY ORDER NOW.

CREATE A WEDDING REGISTRY

YOU MAY NOT WANT TO ADMIT IT, BUT CREATING YOUR WEDDING REGISTRY IS JUST PLAIN FUN. NOTE THAT DESTINATION REGISTRIES CAN BE A BIT DIFFERENT. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CAN INCLUDE THE GIFT OF EXPERIENCES DURING YOUR WEDDING WEEKEND (COUPLES MASSAGE, OFF-RESORT EXCURSION, ETC.). AND MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF PRICE POINTS AVAILABLE SINCE YOUR GUESTS ARE ALREADY SPENDING MONEY ON TRAVEL. THEY HAVE BUDGETS JUST LIKE YOU!

YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST:

4-6 MONTHS BEFORE



GET THOSE PASSPORTS READY!

IT CAN TAKE UP TO THREE MONTHS TO GET A NEW PASSPORT, SO MAKE SURE YOU DO THIS AT LEAST FOUR MONTHS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO SEND A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO WEDDING GUESTS, TOO.

GET ANY REQUIRED VACCINES OR BLOOD TESTS

~~DEPENDING ON YOUR DESTINATION, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO GET CERTAIN VACCINATIONS OR BLOOD TESTS. DO THE RESEARCH AND SHARE YOUR FINDINGS WITH GUESTS SO THEY CAN TAKE IT OFF THEIR TO-DO LIST TOO.~~

BUY YOUR BLING

SURE, YOU'VE BEEN STARING IN AWE AT YOUR ENGAGEMENT RING FOR MONTHS NOW, BUT IT'S TIME TO BUY THE WEDDING BANDS. THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO PURCHASE A CUTE RING BOX FOR WEDDING DAY PHOTOS, TOO.

ORDER THE WEDDING INVITATIONS

MORE BEAUTIFUL MAIL! IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR FORMAL WEDDING INVITATIONS. IN ADDITION TO THE RSVPS AND PLUS-ONES, NOW'S THE TIME TO ASK FOR MEAL PREFERENCES.

BOOK YOUR TRAVEL

TIME TO BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS! PAY ATTENTION TO TRAVEL TIME, LAYOVERS, ETC. TO SAVE AS MUCH ENERGY AS YOU CAN FOR THE WEDDING. ENCOURAGE YOUR GUESTS TO BOOK THEIR TRAVEL TOO. **BEA ABOUT IT TRAVEL WILL MAKE ALL OF YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS FOR YOUR WEDDING PARTY**

IT’S ALL IN THE DETAILS–SO BUY THEM!

SO MUCH PERSONALIZATION CAN APPEAR IN THE LITTLE THINGS, LIKE YOUR GUEST BOOK, CAKE TOPPER, CENTERPIECES, AND OTHER DÉCOR. WHEN ORDERING, BE MINDFUL OF HOW YOU WILL GET THESE ITEMS TO THE DESTINATION WITHOUT SPENDING TOO MUCH MONEY ON EXTRA LUGGAGE OR SHIPPING.

HONEYMOON ATTIRE TIME

MORE SHOPPING? NO PROBLEM. IT’S TIME TO START PLANNING AND SHOPPING FOR YOUR HONEYMOON ATTIRE. TREAT YOURSELF TO SOME NEW, FUN OUTFITS

ARRANGE WEDDING DAY TRANSPORTATION

~~FIRST, IF YOU PLAN ON LEAVING THE VENUE FOR WEDDING PHOTOS, MAKE SURE A LIMO OR BUS IS READY FOR YOUR WEDDING PARTY. IF YOUR WEDDING IS OFF RESORT, YOU’LL ALSO WANT TO CHECK THAT WEDDING GUESTS HAVE EASY ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION FROM THEIR HOTEL TO THE VENUE.~~

PLAN THE PRE-WEDDING EVENTS

THINK THROUGH HOW YOU’D LIKE TO WELCOME YOUR GUESTS. ARE YOU HAVING A WELCOME RECEPTION WITH COCKTAILS AND APPETIZERS? IS THERE A PRE-WEDDING EXCURSION OR POOL PARTY? AND DON’T FORGET TO FINALIZE ALL THE DETAILS OF YOUR REHEARSAL DINNER, LIKE THE MENU, WELCOME SPEECHES, AND ACTUAL REHEARSAL. **BEA ABOUT IT TRAVEL WILL MAKE AARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE EVENTS**

GET THE GROOM’S AND GROOMSMEN’S ATTIRE

DECIDE ON COORDINATING GROOMSMEN ATTIRE AND ACCESSORIES, LIKE THEIR TIES AND POCKET SQUARES. KEEP THE WEATHER IN MIND WHEN DESIGNING THEIR LOOKS. A WOOL SUIT WOULD NOT DO WELL ON A BEACH, AFTER ALL.

CHECK ON THOSE BRIDESMAIDS’ DRESSES

BECAUSE CUSTOM BRIDESMAID DRESSES TAKE A LONG TIME TO SHIP, IT’S IMPORTANT TO DOUBLE-CHECK THAT YOUR ‘MAIDS ARE ON TOP OF IT. THAT WAY, YOU CAN PUT OUT ANY FIRES NOW VS. WHEN IT’S TOO LATE. IF THEY’VE RECEIVED THEIR GOWNS, ASK THEM TO CHECK THE FIT AND BEGIN PLANNING ALTERATIONS.

PLAN THOSE PLAYLISTS

SURE, EVERY DJ LOVES A MUST-PLAY LIST, BUT DON'T FORGET A DO-NOT-PLAYLIST. IF “YMCA” AND “THE CHICKEN DANCE” RUIN THE MOOD, YOU’VE GOT TO LET THE DJ KNOW! KEEP UPDATING EACH LIST WITH NEW SONGS AND GUEST REQUESTS FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST:
2-3 MONTHS BEFORE



FINALIZE FAVORS AND WELCOME BAG ITEMS

ONE WAY TO SHOW GRATITUDE TO YOUR GUESTS IS THROUGH DESTINATION WELCOME BAGS OR WEDDING FAVORS. EITHER CAN BE BOTH CREATIVE AND PRACTICAL. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD GIVE THEM HOTEL KEY HOLDERS OR HANGOVER RECOVERY KITS.

GET FINAL CONFIRMATIONS FROM EVERY VENDOR

USE THAT WEDDING BINDER TO DOUBLE-CHECK EVERY DETAIL WITH EVERY VENDOR. MAKE SURE THEY HAVE AN ACCURATE SCHEDULE, GUEST COUNT, AND CONTACT INFORMATION. AND GET IT ALL IN WRITING! **FOR YOUR WEDDING WE WILL CONFIRM WITH THE RESORT, THE VENDORS YOU SELECTED ARE AVAILABLE.**

MAIL OUT THE INVITATIONS

ONCE YOU’VE DOUBLE-CHECKED ALL THE DETAILS, SEND OUT THE INVITES. GET READY FOR THE RSVPS TO START ROLLING IN!

FINALIZE YOUR HAIR AND MAKE-UP ARTIST

IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE THIS, NOW IS THE TIME. ASK YOUR LOCAL PLANNER OR THE RESORT YOU'RE STAYING AT FOR REFERRALS. STYLISTS LOVE INSPO PICS, SO HAVE THOSE READY BEFORE TRIALS.

FIND A GIFT FOR YOUR FIANCÉ

SOME COUPLES LIKE TO GIVE EACH OTHER A PERSONALIZED GIFT BEFORE THEY SAY, "I DO." IF THIS IS YOU, IT'S TIME TO BRAINSTORM AND BUY YOUR LOVED ONE A LITTLE SOMETHING. STUCK? TRY ETSY FOR ONE-OF-A-KIND ITEMS.

BUY YOUR BRIDAL PARTY GIFTS

IT'S TIME TO SHOW YOUR WEDDING PARTY SOME LOVE! THEY'VE GONE ABOVE AND BEYOND TO STAND BY YOU ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY, SO SHOW THEM HOW MUCH IT MEANS TO YOU WITH A THOUGHTFUL GIFT. YOU CAN GO SENTIMENTAL AND PERSONALIZED, OR CONSIDER PRACTICAL ITEMS FOR THEIR STAY, LIKE A BEACH TOTE OR PASHMINA.

**YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST:
1 MONTH BEFORE**



ATTEND THE FINAL GOWN FITTING

WHEN CHECKING THE FINAL FIT OF YOUR WEDDING DRESS, MAKE SURE IT FEELS COMFORTABLE AND LOOKS GORGEOUS WITH YOUR ACCESSORIES, SHOES, AND WHATEVER BRA/UNDERWEAR YOU’LL BE WEARING ON YOUR WEDDING DAY. THIS IS ALSO WHEN YOU’LL LEARN TO BUSTLE THE DRESS, SO BRING A BRIDESMAID TO LEARN THE INS AND OUTS BEFORE THE BIG DAY.

PLAN YOUR WEDDING DRESS DELIVERY

ONCE YOU’VE HAD THAT FINAL FITTING AND EVERYTHING IS PERFECT, MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PICK UP YOUR DRESS OR HAVE IT DELIVERED TO YOUR HOME.

ORGANIZE THE WELCOME BAG CONTENTS

DOUBLE-CHECK THAT YOU HAVE ALL THE GOODIES FOR YOUR WELCOME BAGS. IF YOU’RE PERSONALIZING EACH BAG FOR EACH GUEST, NOW’S THE TIME TO GET ORGANIZED.

DECIDE ON YOUR WELCOME BAG DELIVERY

THERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO MAKE SURE YOUR GUESTS GET THEIR THOUGHTFUL GIFTS. YOU CAN HAND DELIVER THEM, GIVE THEM OUT AT THE WELCOME PARTY, OR HAVE THE RESORT PLACE THEM IN EACH ROOM. EITHER WAY, YOU’LL NEED TO GET THE BAGS TO YOUR DESTINATION, SO MAKE SURE YOU READ OUR TIPS ON HOW TO TRAVEL WITH YOUR WEDDING WELCOME BAG.

ORDER YOUR PROGRAMS

CEREMONY PROGRAMS ARE A SMALL DETAIL THAT GUESTS LOVE. THEY GET TO FOLLOW ALONG DURING THE NUPTIALS, LEARN THE NAMES OF YOUR WEDDING PARTY, AND SAVE THEM AS A SOUVENIR. FOR WARM DESTINATIONS, CONSIDER PROGRAM FANS!

FINALIZE THOSE VOWS & READINGS

ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS OF YOUR NUPTIALS WILL BE WHEN YOU EXCHANGE WEDDING VOWS. IF YOU’RE WRITING THEM YOURSELVES, I RECOMMEND STARTING NOW. IT CAN TAKE A FEW DRAFTS TO GET THEM JUST RIGHT. IF YOU’RE GOING WITH SOMETHING PRE-WRITTEN, GREAT! SEND IT OVER TO YOUR OFFICIANT SO THEY CAN REVIEW AND REFERENCE THEM. THE SAME GOES FOR ANY CEREMONY READINGS. MAKE SURE YOU SELECT THEM AND SEND THEM TO THE READER SO THEY CAN PRACTICE.

CONFIRM HOTEL RESERVATIONS/ GUEST LIST

CALL YOUR HOTEL OR RESORT AND DOUBLE-CHECK ON RESERVATIONS—YOURS AND YOUR GUESTS. **YOU WILL BE RECEIVING MONTHLY UPDATES WITH YOUR GUEST LIST.**

SETTLE ON A SEATING CHART AND PLACE CARDS

THE EVER-LOOMING SEATING CHART NEEDS FINALIZING. NOW THAT YOU HAVE A FINAL HEAD COUNT AND PLUS-ONES NOTED, YOU CAN CREATE AN IDEAL SEATING CHART. CONSIDER WHO WILL WANT TO SIT NEAR YOU, LOVED ONES WITH CONNECTIONS, AND MAKE SURE YOU GIVE ANY SINGLES A FUN PLACE TO DINE. ONCE IT'S DESIGNED, CREATE YOUR PLACE CARDS AND HAVE THEM PRINTED.

YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST: 2 WEEKS BEFORE



CONFIRM ALL TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS ONE MORE TIME

IT MAY SOUND LIKE OVERKILL, BUT, SERIOUSLY, CHECK YOUR RESERVATIONS ONE LAST TIME. MAKE SURE YOUR FLIGHTS ARE BOOKED, HOTEL ROOMS ARE RESERVED, AND EVERY GUEST HAS THEIR TRAVEL AND LODGING LOCKED DOWN. **YOU WILL BE RECEIVE AN UPDATED GUEST LIST.**

RE-CONFIRM THE DETAILS WITH EVERY VENDOR

WITH JUST TWO WEEKS TO GO, IT'S TIME TO TRIPLE-CHECK WITH YOUR VENDORS. IS EVERYONE ON THE SAME PAGE? MAKE SURE NOTHING HAS FALLEN THROUGH THE CRACKS. THE EXTRA EFFORT NOW MEANS MORE FUN AND RELAXATION LATER. WE WILL REVIEW EVERYTHING.

REVIEW YOUR RSVPS

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT YOUR RSVP LIST TO GET A FINAL HEADCOUNT. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THEIR ARRIVAL DATE, LODGINGS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION SAVED.

YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST: 1 WEEK BEFORE



START PACKING

I PROMISE, IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START PACKING. AS THIS LIST PROVES, THERE ARE SO MANY MOVING PIECES TO ORGANIZE AND CHECK OFF. START A WEEK EARLY TO IDENTIFY ANY LAST-MINUTE NEEDS AND DETERMINE IF LOVED ONES NEED TO TAKE SOME ITEMS IN THEIR LUGGAGE DUE TO LACK OF SPACE OR DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCE RULES. FOR MORE, CHECK OUT OUR DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING TIPS.

YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST: WHEN YOU ARRIVE



INSPECT YOUR CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUES

YOU’VE ARRIVED! IF ANY DETAILS DON’T MATCH THE DESCRIPTION, HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH THE VENDOR OR PLANNER AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

DO A WALK THROUGH OR REHEARSAL

IT’S EXTRA IMPORTANT TO REHEARSE FOR A DESTINATION CEREMONY BECAUSE THE CONDITIONS ARE OFTEN LESS PREDICTABLE. IF YOUR ‘MAIDS ARE WALKING THROUGH SAND OR FENDING OFF WIND, IT’S IMPORTANT THEY GET A LITTLE PRACTICE.

APPLY FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE

IT’S IMPORTANT TO DO SOME RESEARCH BEFORE YOU LEAVE SO YOU BRING THE PROPER DOCUMENTS TO RECEIVE A FOREIGN LICENSE. IF YOU’RE GETTING MARRIED AT A RESORT, THEY WILL SOMETIMES PREPARE THE DOCUMENTS FOR YOU AS A COURTESY. JUST ASK!

FINALIZE EVERYTHING WITH YOUR OFFICIANT AND PLANNER

NOW THAT YOU’VE SEEN THE SPACES AND EXPERIENCED THE REHEARSAL, IT’S IMPORTANT TO CHECK OFF ALL THE DETAILS WITH YOUR WEDDING TEAM. THIS IS WHEN YOU PASS THE BALL SO YOU CAN BE PRESENT AND ENJOY YOURSELF. GO THROUGH THE SCHEDULE, ASK ANY REMAINING QUESTIONS, AND PASS ALONG CONTACT INFORMATION. YOU’RE ALMOST THERE!

~~TAKE CARE OF ANY REQUIRED BLOOD TESTS~~

~~SOME COUNTRIES REQUIRE BLOOD TESTS AFTER ARRIVAL. SINCE THIS ISN'T EXACTLY ROMANTIC, I RECOMMEND CHECKING IT OFF RIGHT AWAY. THEN YOU CAN FOCUS ON THE GOOD STUFF.~~

ASSEMBLE AND DELIVER THE WELCOME BAGS

CREATE AN ASSEMBLY LINE AND GET THOSE BAGS ORGANIZED. YOU CAN SEE IF THE RESORT IS ABLE TO PLACE THEM IN THE ROOMS FOR YOU, OR YOU CAN CHOOSE TO DELIVER THEM YOURSELF SO YOU CAN PERSONALLY GREET EACH GUEST.

ARRANGE DELIVERY OF FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

MAKE SURE YOUR PLANNER OR VENDOR KNOWS WHEN AND WHERE YOU'D LIKE THE BOUQUETS AND BOUTONNIERES DELIVERED. THE LESS YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ON THE BIG DAY, THE BETTER. THIS WILL BE HANDED

BEA ABOUT TRAVEL AND THE RESORT VENDORS

GET YOUR BEAUTY TRIALS

IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO VISIT YOUR HAIR AND MAKEUP VENDORS BEFORE THE WEDDING WEEK, NOW'S THE TIME TO ENJOY THOSE BEAUTY TRIALS. IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO DO A TEST RUN SO THE BIG DAY IS SEAMLESS. IF PLANNED ACCORDINGLY, YOU COULD HAVE SOME GORGEOUS HAIR AND MAKEUP FOR A PRE-WEDDING PARTY

LOCK DOWN THE MENU

AGAIN, IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO DO FOOD TASTINGS IN ADVANCE, ARRANGE A QUICK TASTING OR MENU REVIEW WITH YOUR VENDOR. YOU DESERVE TO HAVE EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT.

ENSURE A WRINKLE-FREE WEDDING DRESS

HAVE YOUR DRESS STEAMED OR PRESSED THE NIGHT BEFORE THE WEDDING. ODDS ARE IT GOT A BIT WRINKLY DURING TRAVEL, AND IT'S TOO BEAUTIFUL TO LET THAT SLIDE.

MANI/PEDI ANYONE?

ENJOY A LITTLE SELF-CARE WITH A MANICURE AND PEDICURE BEFORE THE BIG DAY. INVITE YOUR BRIDESMAIDS AND OTHER LOVED ONES TO MAKE IT MORE MEMORABLE. BUT MAKE SURE YOU DO THIS THE DAY BEFORE, SO IT'S NOT RUINED BY ANY WATER FUN.

YOUR WEDDING DAY CHECKLIST



MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR RINGS

AFTER YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER GETS A DETAILED SHOT OF YOUR WEDDING BANDS, MAKE SURE THEY GET TO THE RIGHT PERSON. IF YOU’RE SENDING THEM DOWN WITH A RING BEARER, DO NOT PASS THEM OVER UNTIL RIGHT BEFORE THE CEREMONY... I DON’T THINK I NEED TO EXPLAIN WHY.

GIVE YOUR FIANCÉ THEIR GIFT

SEND A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER TO YOUR FIANCÉ WITH YOUR PERSONALIZED GIFT. MAKE SURE THE PHOTOGRAPHER IS READY TO CAPTURE THEIR REACTION.

BREATHE. BE PRESENT. CELEBRATE!

GIVE YOURSELF A PAT ON THE BACK—YOU DID IT! YOU’VE CHECKED OFF EVERYTHING ON THIS MASSIVE DESTINATION WEDDING CHECKLIST AND ARE READY TO GET HITCHED. NOW, ENJOY THE DAY AND HAVE FUN!

15 THINGS TO DO BEFORE PACKING FOR YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING



START A CHECKLIST OF EVERYTHING THAT NEEDS TO BE PACKED A FEW WEEKS BEFORE, ADD TO IT EVERY TIME YOU THINK OF SOMETHING, AND DOUBLE-CHECK IT THE NIGHT BEFORE YOU LEAVE. YOU’LL BE SO OVERWHELMED WITH LAST-MINUTE DETAILS ON THE DAYS BEFORE THE WEDDING THAT IT WILL BE VERY EASY TO FORGET SOMETHING IMPORTANT BACK HOME.

***DON’T CHECK-IN YOUR WEDDING GOWN, VEIL, SHOES, GROOM’S ATTIRE, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU’LL NEED ON YOUR WEDDING DAY. CARRY IT ON SO THAT IF YOUR LUGGAGE GETS LOST, AT LEAST YOU’LL HAVE YOUR CEREMONY ATTIRE.**

***ASK YOUR DRESS RETAILER FOR ADVICE ON HOW TO PACK YOUR GOWN/TUX.** THEY WILL USUALLY GIVE YOU A GARMENT OR WALLY BAG WHICH YOU CAN STORE IN THE AIRPLANE’S OVERHEAD COMPARTMENT. OTHERWISE, FOLD IT UP NICELY IN A SMALL CARRY-ON SUITCASE. ASK YOUR RESORT IF THEY CAN PRESS IT TO SMOOTH OUT ANY WRINKLES IT ENCOUNTERS ALONG THE WAY

***DON’T SHIP ANYTHING IMPORTANT TO YOUR DESTINATION –** THERE HAVE BEEN MANY HORROR STORIES WHERE WELCOME BAG ITEMS, DECORATIONS, FAVORS, OR EVENT THE DRESS GET HELD UP IN CUSTOMS OR LOST IN TRANSIT AND NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME FOR THE WEDDING DAY

*PUT YOUR CLOTHES IN VACUUM SEAL STORAGE BAGS TO FREE UP MORE ROOM IN YOUR LUGGAGE.

*VISIT YOUR DESTINATION'S CUSTOMS WEBSITE TO FIND OUT WHICH ITEMS CAN BE INCLUDED IN YOUR PERSONAL LUGGAGE EXEMPT FROM DUTY. THEY MIGHT TELL YOU THAT YOUR ITEMS CANNOT EXCEED A CERTAIN DOLLAR VALUE. ARMED WITH THIS INFO YOU CAN DIVIDE FAVORS AND WELCOME BAGS AMONG FAMILY AND FRIENDS SO THAT NO ONE PERSON'S LUGGAGE EXCEEDS THAT VALUE.

*IF YOU'RE TRAVELING WITH FAVORS OR ITEMS THAT CAN BREAK, USE YOUR CLOTHES OR TOWELS TO WRAP THEM UP AND STUFF THEM IN THE CENTER OF YOUR SUITCASE SO THAT THEY'RE PADDED ON THE TOP AND BOTTOM.

*WHEN YOU'RE PACKING FOR YOUR DESTINATION WEDDING MAKE SURE YOU TAKE ALL RECEIPTS FOR YOUR FAVORS, WELCOME BAG ITEMS, AND DECORATIONS. THE CUSTOMS OFFICER AT YOUR DESTINATION MIGHT REQUEST THEM IF HE SUSPECTS THAT THE VALUE OF YOUR ITEMS EXCEEDS THEIR LIMIT AND YOU'RE GOING TO SELL THOSE ITEMS.

*PUT YOUR SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR INSIDE YOUR SHOES TO MAKE EXTRA ROOM

*YOU WON'T NEED AS MUCH LUGGAGE ON YOUR WAY BACK HOME SO AVOID PAYING EXCESS LUGGAGE FEES BY PACKING YOUR DECORATIONS AND FAVORS IN AN OLD CHEAP SUITCASE THAT YOU CAN LEAVE BEHIND AT YOUR DESTINATION.

*YOUR HOTEL ROOM MIGHT HAVE A BLOW DRYER, ALARM, OR/AND IRON. CALL THEM AHEAD OF TIME SO THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO PACK BULKY ITEMS UNNECESSARILY.

*BAGS ARE INSPECTED SO USE A TSA APPROVED LOCK.

DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING LIST: MOST IMPORTANT ITEMS

- PASSPORTS
- WEDDING RINGS
- WEDDING DRESS/GOWN
- VEIL OR HEADPIECE
- WEDDING TUX/SUIT
- WEDDING DAY SHOES
- VISAS (WHERE NECESSARY)
- COPIES OF YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATES
- PLANE TICKETS/ITINERARY/BOARDING PASSES
- CREDIT CARD/TRAVELER'S CHECKS/CASH

DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING LIST: WEDDING DAY ESSENTIALS

- WEDDING NIGHT LINGERIE/UNDERGARMENTS
- GUEST FAVORS
- WEDDING DAY JEWELRY (EARRINGS, BRACELET, NECKLACE)
- YOUR VOWS
- CHANGE OF SHOES/SLIPPERS FOR DANCING AT THE RECEPTION
- GARTER
- TIARA OR HAIR CLIP
- CAKE TOPPER
- PROGRAMS
- MENU
- GUESTBOOK
- CEREMONY CELEBRATION ITEMS (I.E. UNITY CANDLE OR SAND CEREMONY SUPPLIES)
- RING BEARER ACCESSORIES (I.E. PILLOW)
- DECORATIONS
- ONE OF YOUR INVITATIONS FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHY
- SOMETHING OLD, NEW, BORROWED, BLUE
- IF YOU'RE BRINGING YOUR OWN SILK/REAL TOUCH BOUQUET, DON'T FORGET TO PACK IT
- SMARTPHONE LOADED WITH MUSIC FOR YOUR RECEPTION (IF YOU'RE NOT HIRING ENTERTAINMENT)
- SEATING/PLACE CARDS/TABLE NUMBERS (IF YOU'RE BRINGING YOUR OWN)
- AISLE RUNNER

DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING
LIST: TOILETRIES OR PERSONAL
ITEMS

- EXTRA CONTACT LENSES
- READING GLASSES
- SUNGLASSES
- INSECT REPELLENT
- SUNBLOCK
- ALOE VERA GEL
- TOOTHPASTE & TOOTHBRUSH
- DEODORANT
- SHAVING CREAM
- RAZORS
- CONTRACEPTION
- NAIL CLIPPERS
- TWEEZERS
- NAIL FILER/EMORY BOARD
- NAIL POLISH AND REMOVER
- MEDICATION
- FEMININE PRODUCTS
- LIP BALM

DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING
LIST: ELECTRONICS

- CELL PHONE
- PHONE CHARGER
- CAMERA & CHARGER

ITEMS YOU’LL NEED THE DAYS
LEADING UP TO YOUR WEDDING

- STRAPLESS SWIMWEAR (TO AVOID TAN LINES ON YOUR WEDDING DAY)
- WELCOME BAG ITEMS

DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING
LIST: HAIR/MAKEUP

- MAKEUP (BLUSH, MASCARA, FOUNDATION, EYELINER, CONCEALER, LIPSTICK/GLOSS, EYESHADOW, ETC.)
- MAKEUP BRUSHES
- MOISTURIZER, EYE CREAM, NIGHT CREAM, ETC..
- MAKEUP REMOVER
- FACIAL CLEANSER
- HAIR GEL
- HAIRSPRAY
- FLATIRON AND/OR CURLING IRON
- SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER
- COMB & BRUSH

DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING
CHECKLIST: MISCELLANEOUS

- GROOM’S GIFT
- BRIDESMAID’S GIFTS
- PARENT’S GIFTS
- TSA APPROVED LUGGAGE LOCKS
- LUGGAGE TAGS
- BEACH BAG
- TRASH THE DRESS ATTIRE (IF DIFFERENT FROM YOUR WEDDING GOWN)
- SCISSORS, RIBBON, AND TAPE FOR ANY LAST-MINUTE DIY WEDDING PROJECTS
- SAFETY PINS
- TRAVEL SEWING KIT
-

**DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING
LIST: IMPORTANT PAPERWORK**

- COPIES OF ALL VENDOR, RESORT, AND VENUE CONTRACTS
- LIST OF ALL VENDOR CONTACT INFO
- PROOF OF DOWN PAYMENTS YOU’VE MADE TO VENDORS
- RECEIPTS FOR FAVORS/WELCOME BAGS (TO SHOW WHEN CROSSING BORDERS & CUSTOMS)
- PHOTOCOPIES OF ANY VACCINATION DOCUMENT/PRESCRIPTIONS/HEALTH INSURANCE CARDS
- TRIP INSURANCE
- YOUR WEDDING PLANNING BINDER OR FOLDER WITH ALL THE DETAILS YOU’VE ALREADY ARRANGED, PRINTOUTS OF ALL EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS WITH VENDORS, CONTRACTS, ETC
- PHONE NUMBER OF THE CLOSEST US EMBASSY
- MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE IF YOU HAD YOUR LEGAL CEREMONY AT HOME AND WILL BE HAVING A RELIGIOUS CEREMONY ABROAD (THEY WILL SOMETIMES REQUIRE PROOF THAT YOU ARE LEGALLY MARRIED)

**DESTINATION WEDDING PACKING
CHECKLIST: HONEYMOON**

- SUMMER DRESSES
- WALKING SHOES/SANDALS
- SUN HATS
- SHORTS
- SWIMWEAR
- LINGERIE
- CARDIGAN OR WRAP FOR CHILLY AIR-CONDITIONED AIRPORTS AND RESTAURANTS
- SWIMSUIT COVER-UP
- EVENING DRESSES/SHOES
- STRAPLESS BRAS FOR STRAPLESS OUTFITS
- EVENING BAG/PURSE
- GUIDES/MAPS



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