



2024 ISSUE



TOP 7 DESTINATION WEDDING RESORTS IN THE CARIBBEAN

WHY SELECTING THE RIGHT RESORT IS SO IMPORTANT



When it comes to your destination wedding, it's not just about the beach and the sunshine; it's about creating memories that will last a lifetime. Your wedding day should reflect your unique style, desires, and personalities. Here's why choosing the right resort is a big deal:

Your Vision: Your wedding should be a reflection of your dreams and aspirations. The right resort will help bring your vision to life, whether it's an intimate, barefoot ceremony on the beach or a lavish celebration in a tropical garden.

Time of Year: Timing is everything! The season and weather can greatly affect your wedding experience. Choose a resort that aligns with your preferred wedding date and climate.

Number of Guests: Your wedding guest list matters. Make sure the resort can comfortably accommodate your loved ones while maintaining an intimate atmosphere.

Your Budget: Weddings can be expensive, but they don't have to break the bank. Find a resort that offers wedding packages within your budget, allowing you to celebrate without financial stress.

Your Guests' Budgets: Be considerate of your guests. Pick a resort that offers a range of accommodations to suit various budgets, ensuring that everyone can join in on the celebration.

Children Attending: If you're planning a family-friendly wedding, check if the resort has kid-friendly amenities and activities.

Wedding Packages Available: Resorts often offer specialized wedding packages that can simplify your planning process. Explore these options to see which one aligns best with your desires, including customized packages.

Wedding Venues: Your choice of wedding venue within the resort can make or break your big day. From stunning beachfront settings to charming garden locations, choose a spot that resonates with your vision.

Your wedding day is a reflection of who you are, and your choice of resort should enhance that uniqueness. Don't settle for anything less than a place that fits your style and meets your group's needs. It's not just a destination; it's a celebration of you!

Hey, we're Mike and April

First and foremost, congratulations on your engagement. It is a time to celebrate and enjoy this special time in your lives!

We planned our very own destination wedding and know the process can be very stressful and time consuming. However, when the big day comes, it will be a beautiful and memorable moment in your lives. We love traveling, especially to the Caribbean, Hawaii and far off places, and have a particular passion for all-inclusive resorts and finding new adventures. This brought us both to becoming travel advisors and helping plan special moments for others.

Our specialty is helping busy and time-starved couples design and plan their perfect destination wedding.

We enjoy getting to know our clients during the consultation process and being able to narrow down what destination and resort will fit their personal needs and desires. We've had the privilege of assisting several friends and clients with planning and booking their destination weddings and honeymoons.

Some of our designations include Certified Destination Wedding, Honeymoon and Romance Travel Specialist with the Destination Wedding & Honeymoon Specialist Association, Certified Sandals and WeddingMoon Specialist, Travel Leaders Network associate and member of the American Society of Travel Advisors, among others.

Mike & April



TOP 7 DESTINATION WEDDING RESORTS

The KEYS to Discovering The Perfect Beach Wedding Venue For Your Wedding

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WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN YOUR BEACH WEDDING RESORT

The Right Resort

Picking the 'right' resort can be a little daunting. There are so many options available that at some point they all start to look the same and blend together.

Here are our best tips to help you narrow down the resort:

Type: Adults-only or Family oriented. Are you planning on inviting children or not?

Size: Smaller, more intimate resorts, with limited activities and restaurants or a larger resort with a lot of restaurants and activities. Does it have elevators and/or a shuttle service across the resort.

Cost: We know costs come up a lot when planning a wedding. However, it is important to know which resort will fit your guest's budget. Setting an average or maximum price (per person/per night) will help narrow down the list.

Distance from the airport: How long will it take to get to and from the resort. Some resorts are 10-15 minutes away and others can be up to a 2-hour drive.

Wedding venue: Does it have the type of venues you have imagined for your wedding?

The number of ceremonies: How many weddings per day are performed at the resort? Most of our preferred business partners only have one wedding per resort or venue per day.

Backup location: Think of having another resort in mind, just in case the dates, budget or amenities you are looking for, don't align.

Finding the Right Venues

Depending on the type of wedding event you want to have, there could be different venues involved. For most weddings, there will be three. One for the ceremony, one for the cocktail hour and one for the dinner or reception.

The most common ceremony venues are:

- The Beach
- A solid platform overlooking the ocean such as a gazebo or pier.
- Sky terrace
- Garden
- Terrace
- Resort Chapel

Here are some of the elements you will want to take into consideration in picking a venue:

Privacy: How private do you want the location to be? The beach is great but not always the most private. However, some of the garden and terrace locations are amazing and partially or completely hidden.

Capacity: How many people can a venue hold? Will it be big enough for your group or will it feel too small or possibly too big?

Extra Cost: Some resorts consider certain venues or the time of day to use that venue to be premium and charge a fee on top of the wedding package to use it.



SANDALS GRANDE ST. LUCIAN



Facts

Rooms: 311

Adults Only: Yes, 18+ (couples only)

Room Service: Yes, depending on room category

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 11

Bars: 7

Cafe: Josephine's Creperie

Pools: 5 (including 1 swim-up bars)

Entertainment: Yes - day/night entertainment and special themed nights throughout the week

Spa: Yes - world class Red Lane Spa

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of Red Lane Spa

Fitness Center: Yes

Sandals Grande St. Lucian is located on Rodney Bay, known to have the calmest waters in Saint Lucia. Situated on its own peninsula, the 360-degree views are often described as picture-perfect postcards, with volcanic mountains magically rising from the clear blue sea. Be greeted by a three-story, palatial style lobby that opens to grand ocean views. Experience five grande pools including a zero-entry signature pool. Experience championship-level golf at the golf legend, Greg Norman designed Cap Estate Golf & Country Club or La Toc Golf Course, both perfect for all levels of play. Choose from twelve specialty restaurants

offering an adventurous culinary tour around the globe. Then retreat back to luxurious accommodations including gorgeous Over-The-Water Bungalows or Beachfront Rondoval suites. Let the views stir your soul and the people steal your heart at Saint Lucia's grandest all-inclusive resort.

Wedding Venues

Over-the-Water Serenity Chapel

Over-the-Water Gazebo

Oceanfront Gazebo

Beachfront

Garden Gazebo

Wedding Packages

Sandals offers 4 different wedding packages with additional add-ons to customize your wedding.

Overall

A Sandals destination wedding is a dream come true, that's because they give you everything you need to create a celebration that is uniquely your own. With a destination wedding designed exclusively for you, by you (or the on-site wedding coordinator), you can be sure that the most important day of your life will reflect your personal tastes perfectly.

We love this resort for the amazing venues you can use for your ceremony and the options available to host your reception afterward. With the inclusion of green fees and the Red Lane Spa, both the bride and groom have options to spend some time with their bridal parties.



VALENTIN IMPERIAL RIVIERA MAYA (MEXICO)



Facts

Rooms: 540

Adults Only: Yes, 18+

Room Service: Yes, 24-hour in-suite dining

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 7

Bars: 11

Cafe: Cafe Sisal + 3 snack carts

Pools: 3 (including 2 swim-up bar)

Entertainment: Yes - day/night entertainment and special events throughout the week

Spa: Yes - Aromance Spa

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of Aromance Spa

Fitness Center: Yes

Other: Cigar Lounge - \$\$\$

This 5-star all-inclusive luxury hotel is designed in the style of an elegant Mexican hacienda nestled amid sumptuous tropical gardens. It boasts one of the most breathtaking swimming pools in Riviera Maya and offers luxurious and spacious accommodations. It has two daytime restaurants, a cafeteria and two food trucks in the main pool for snacks. Guests can also enjoy unlimited dinners at 7 à la carte restaurants with no reservations required, premium Wi-Fi, 11 bars, 24-hour room service, daily activities, nightly entertainment, and a spectacular half-mile-long secluded white sand beach.



Wedding Venues

Beachfront

Gazebo

Bridge

Catholic Chapel San Valentin

Wedding Packages

Valentin does not offer complimentary wedding packages; however, their packages start at \$759. Certain venues or day and time will cost additional.

There are 5 wedding packages to choose from, including an incredible Mayan Wedding package that offers a traditional Mayan wedding ritual with prayers, traditional musical instruments and songs. Customizable wedding add-ons include flower arrangements, a romantic dinner, a sparkling wine toast, and a VIP cocktail hour. Both symbolic and legal ceremonies are available. They hold up to 2 weddings per day - all at different times and locations.

Overall

Valentin Imperial Riviera Maya is an idyllic location for your exotic destination wedding in Mexico. We work with the amazing wedding team at the resort to create a celebration of love that will be remembered forever.

Whether you are considering an exotic Mayan wedding, to renew your vows, to say "I do" as a symbolic gesture or to build the ceremony of your dreams from the very beginning, the Valentin Imperial Riviera Maya's experienced team can help you through this journey.

JADE MOUNTAIN (ST. LUCIA)



Facts

Rooms: 24

Adults Only: No, 15+ for children

Room Service: Yes, 24-hour in-suite dining available

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 7 (with Anse Chastanet)

Bars: 2

Cafe: No cafe

Pools: 4

Entertainment: Yes - limited day/night entertainment

Spa: Yes - Kai en Ciel

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of spa

Fitness Center: No EP, Half Board and AI Options

Rising majestically above the 600 acre beach front resort of Anse Chastanet, Jade Mountain Resort on St. Lucia's south-western Caribbean coastline is a cornucopia of organic architecture celebrating St. Lucia's stunning scenic beauty.

Expect grand sweeping spaces where bedroom, living area and an extravagant private infinity pool glide into one another to form extraordinary platforms floating out into nature. With the fourth wall entirely absent, Jade Mountain's sanctuaries are stage-like settings from which to embrace the full glory of St. Lucia's Pitons World Heritage Site, and of course, the eternal Caribbean Sea.



Wrapped around an infinity pool with a dazzling kaleidoscope of colors, the Jade Mountain Club celebrates James Beard Award winner Chef Allen Susser's "Jade Cuisine." Hovering in space above the Jade Mountain Club is the Celestial Terrace, perfect for sunset cocktails or star-gazing.

A wide range of spa services can be enjoyed in the privacy of the Jade Mountain sanctuaries or at Kai en Ciel, Jade Mountain's boutique spa and fitness studio. The resort major domos and a dedicated resort team ensure outstanding service around the clock.

Enjoy the exclusivity and privacy of Jade Mountain with all of sister resort Anse Chastanet's restaurants, bars, boutiques, art gallery, spa, scuba, bike and watersports facilities as well as 2 soft sand beaches available and easily accessible to Jade Mountain guests by foot or resort shuttle at all times.

Wedding Venues

Celestial Terrace

Anse Chastanet Beach

Anse Mamin Beach

Wedding Packages

Jade Mountain has 3 wedding packages to choose from, plus additional add-on services available.

Overall

Jade Mountain is a luxury property which will surpass any and all dreams you had about your Big Day. Having access to the sister properties will allow larger wedding groups as well. If you are looking for an indulgent resort with extra romantic amenities, Jade Mountain is the resort for you!

SECRETS PLAYA MUJERES (MEXICO)



Facts

Rooms: 424

Adults Only: Yes, 18+

Room Service: Yes

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 9

Bars: 8

Cafe: Coco Cafe

Pools: 3 (including 1 swim-up bar)

Entertainment: Yes - day/night entertainment and special themed nights throughout the week

Spa: Yes - Secrets Spa by Pevonia

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of Spa

Fitness Center: Yes

Other: Golf course; Dolphin habit access at Dreams Playa Mujeres

Secrets Playa Mujeres Golf & Spa Resort perfectly situated in the exclusive gated community of Playa Mujeres within a world-famous 18-hole signature Greg Norman golf course. This stunning AAA Four Diamond Resort, all-suite resort boasts 424 graciously appointed and luxuriously equipped, non-smoking suites, surrounded by secluded white sand beaches and the turquoise Caribbean Sea. It's only 35 minutes from the Cancun International Airport and 10 minutes from downtown Cancun. Secrets Playa Mujeres Golf & Spa Resort elegantly equipped, accompanied by an



exceptional level of luxury and all of the benefits of the Unlimited-Luxury® experience where everything is included, and no wristband or gratuities are required.

Wedding Venues

Wedding Gazebo

Beachfront

Ballroom

Wedding Packages

Secrets offers a complimentary wedding with some great amenities for stays of 3-nights or longer in a Preferred Club Jr Suite Oceanview or higher.

Secrets also offers additional wedding packages starting at \$999 which includes additional amenities and higher number of guests.

Overall

There are countless ways to define all-inclusive romance at Secrets with packages to celebrate the beginning of your lives together and every romantic milestone thereafter.

Playa Mujeres is an amazing location to host your destination wedding. It is about 30-minutes north of Cancun and has some of the best beaches around the Cancun area.

Secrets Playa Mujeres would be an amazing location to host your destination wedding if you are looking for high levels of romance, plentiful activities, entertainment and dining options. Secret's Unlimited-Luxury experience would be a welcomed additional to any destination wedding.

SANCTUARY CAP CANA (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)



Facts

Rooms: 249

Adults Only: Yes, 18+

Room Service: Yes, 24-hour in-suite dining available

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 5

Bars: 7

Cafe: Coffee Shop

Pools: 6 (including 1 swim-up bar)

Entertainment: Yes - day/night entertainment and special themed nights throughout the week

Spa: Yes - Sanctuary Spa

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of Spa

Fitness Center: Yes

Other: Golf course; Nightclub; Private Island

Sanctuary Cap Cana resort is located in Cap Cana, a private gated community retreat inside Punta Cana. Cap Cana is made up of 30,000 acres of flawless beaches, and oceanfront valley roads. It is the ideal destination for any type of traveler, with a variety of things to do, such as, water sports and outdoor activities, and high-quality restaurants. This destination is also home to Punta Espada Golf Club, which is considered one of the best golf courses in the Caribbean. Cap Cana also holds one of the most spectacular marinas in the world, famous and accredited by international journals for its fishing. All



of these amenities combined with Cap Cana's turquoise waters and white sand beaches make it one of the most beautiful and desirable vacation spots in the world.

Wedding Venues

Island Suite

Beachfront

Castle Ocean Lounge

Blue Marlin Portico

Grand Colonial Terrace or Sunset Garden

Juliette Balcony

Wedding Packages

Sanctuary Cap Cana has a complimentary wedding package starting with a 7-night stay in qualifying room categories. Certain venues or day and time will cost additional.

Sanctuary Cap Cana offers several other wedding packages starting at \$749 depending on the number of guests, number of nights booked and day and time of day.

Overall

Sanctuary Cap Cana offers a variety of romantic wedding venues to select from. Unique scenarios, all surrounded by turquoise waters that will take your breath away. An on-site wedding planner is ready to help you organizing all the details.

This is our top resort in the Dominican Republic for your adults-only destination wedding. If you are looking for the ultimate in service, entertainment, dining and ensuring your guests have an amazing time - Sanctuary Cap Cana is the perfect resort to host your Big Day!

SECRETS CAP CANA (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)



Facts

Rooms: 457 suites

Adults Only: Yes

Room Service: Yes - 24-hour service

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 9 (including 1 Preferred Club restaurant)

Bars: 5 (including 2 swim-up bars)

Cafe: Coco Cafe

Pools: 2 (1 Preferred Club pool; 2 hot tubs)

Entertainment: Day & Night Entertainment

Spa: Yes - Full-Service Spa

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of Spa

Fitness Center: Yes

Escape into luxury at Secrets® Cap Cana Resort & Spa, a AAA Five Diamond Resort. Perfectly situated in the exclusive gated community of Cap Cana, Secrets Cap Cana Resort & Spa features gorgeous suites and brings all-inclusive dining and drinks to the crystal blue waters and magnificent sugar-sand Juanillo Beach, one of the most beautiful beaches in the Dominican Republic. Luxe and superior, couples can enjoy the epitome of luxury and romance — an idyllic getaway, or the setting for your perfect wedding, all complete with our signature Unlimited-Luxury® experience.

Wedding Venues

Garden Terrace

Pool Terrace

Juanillo Beach

Preferred Beach

Gazebo

Rosewater

Ballroom

Wedding Packages

5 wedding packages are available, including complimentary package when specific requirements are met. Packages start at \$999 or complimentary if booked for 7-nights in a specific room category.

Overall

Perfectly situated in the exclusive gated community of Cap Cana, Secrets® Cap Cana Resort & Spa will bring the highest level of luxury to your wedding or honeymoon celebration. Whether you prefer a seaside “I do” or a garden celebration, your on-site wedding coordinator assists with every detail to customize your day to you. The crystal blue waters and magnificent sugar-sand beaches will make it a romantic experience you’ll remember for years to come. Be sure to confirm your date directly with the wedding coordinator to secure availability and use the resources in this section to create the perfect experience.

Secrets Cap Cana is one of our favorite resorts in the Dominican Republic for destination weddings. The on-site staff are great to work with and the venues are an amazing backdrop for your ‘Big Day.’

(Note: Picture to left is from one of our wedding couples who got married at Secrets Cap Cana in December 2023.)



BEACHES TURKS & CAICOS



Facts

Rooms: 758

Adults Only: No - Beaches is family friendly

Room Service: Yes, depending on room category

Wi-Fi: Yes - throughout the resort

Restaurants: 23

Bars: 15

Cafe: Cafe de Paris

Pools: 10 (including 3 swim-up bars)

Entertainment: Yes - day/night entertainment and special themed nights throughout the week

Spa: Yes - world class Red Lane Spa

Beauty Salon: Yes - part of Red Lane Spa

Fitness Center: Yes

Other: Aqua Park & Sesame Street

This amazing all-inclusive resort features five magnificent villages boasting the architecture and ambiance of Italy, France, the Caribbean and Key West, a 45,000 square-foot waterpark, 23 gourmet restaurants, a 12-mile beach lapped by clear turquoise waters, and 10 impressive pools. There are endless fun activities for everyone from tots to tweens and teens, featuring Sesame Street® characters, an Xbox Play Lounge and a sizzlin' teen disco—all located on Grace Bay, voted the World's #1 Best Beach by TripAdvisor Travelers.

Wedding Venues

Oceanfront Gazebo

Beachfront

Wedding Packages

Beaches offers a complimentary wedding with some amazing amenities for stays of 3 nights or longer.

Beaches, being part of Sandals, also offers a Bells & Whistles program which includes additional amenities based on the number of guests and room nights booked. Additional costs based on amenities, location of venue and time of day.

Overall

Location is critical when it comes to setting the stage for your big day. Beaches Turks & Caicos provides the most beautiful and natural backdrop you're likely to come across. This is our top pick for families or those who intend to allow children to come to their destination wedding.

This resort is amazing for any age - it has the different villages for different vibes, activities for all ages, a large number of rooms and family "Together Nests" to choose from and plenty of options for dining and entertainment.

Venue options are limited here, however, if you are looking for that premium or luxury Sandals experience and want the whole family there for your special day, Beaches Turks & Caicos is our top choice. This resort is large and perfect for those looking for some privacy to those who want to be entertained day or night.



BIG DAY PREVIEWS



Most of the resorts listed in this report have Wedding Previews or "Big Day" Previews starting as low as \$400-\$500 for two nights (airfare not included). These previews are a great way to visit your top resorts and see them firsthand.

During your time on the resort, you will meet with your wedding coordinator, discuss the various wedding packages and any costs associated with extras (photographer, DJ, etc), walk the resort and preview each of the venues available for your Big Day, along with getting a chance to try the various activities, entertainment, food and drinks to ensure you are selecting the right resort.

The best part of these previews is when you decide to book your wedding at that resort, they will credit you the cost of your preview towards the wedding. These programs are truly a great way to visit the resort and ensure the resort will be the ideal location for your dream wedding.

We can assist with scheduling these previews and ensure that we have an itinerary in place to maximize your time on resort to get all of your questions answered so you can make an informed decision.

Most of our preferred business partners have these packages available. Please contact us for more information.



LET'S RECAP



Thank you for taking the time to read through our free guide.

As you can see, all seven of these beach wedding resorts offer some amazing amenities and venues for a destination wedding, but that doesn't mean they're the perfect fit for your destination wedding.

As we mentioned earlier, there are many factors that go into choosing the perfect beach wedding resort for you and your wedding group: Price, travel time, wedding date availability, size of your guest list, etc.

These are all the things we hammer out with our own clients when helping them choose the perfect wedding location.

Along with our personalized planning services, we also provide a booking website for our wedding couples, hosted on our site. This site is used by the couple's guests for booking their rooms for the destination wedding. We can also assist your guests with booking their airfare and any excursions or tours as well.



BOOK YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION TODAY!

If you are currently trying to plan your own destination wedding and feel like you are getting bogged down or overwhelmed trying to figure all of this out on your own, then feel free to schedule a complimentary consultation with us so that we can discuss where you are getting stuck, and hopefully, we can get you moving forward in your wedding planning!

It's easy to get started...just click on the button below to schedule a time to meet with us and we can get started. It's that simple!

[YES! I WANT TO SCHEDULE NOW!](#)



Talk to you soon,

Mike & April

