

# WHY DO A DESTINATION WEDDING?

Choosing to have your wedding in an exotic destination, especially a tropical location is quickly becoming a hot trend among brides-to-be. When choosing between a local versus a destination wedding, here are some important things to consider for deciding which option is best for you and your guests.

## #1: COST

With the cost of weddings skyrocketing to \$25,000 or more, many couples will find a significant cost savings by having a destination wedding, especially since you're often combining the wedding and honeymoon into one. Some hotels, especially in Mexico and the Caribbean even offer free wedding packages that include a variety of wedding services and amenities plus customizable wedding packages for a reasonable cost – typically under \$5,000 for the entire wedding.

While this represents a cost savings for the bride and groom, it may mean some of your guests may be unable to attend due to the extra travel costs associated with a destination wedding. So, before booking your destination wedding, you may want to get a feel for who can all attend to see if those closest to you able to come along. However, a destination wedding is a great opportunity to give your guests a vacation of their own while also celebrating your big day.

## #2: YOUR WEDDING & HONEYMOON ALL IN ONE

Sometimes, planning for your honeymoon takes almost as much time and effort as the actual wedding. A destination wedding is the perfect way to do everything all at once, which can make the planning process easier and less stressful for the bride and groom.

## #3: A TRULY MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

Having your wedding in an exotic location makes it truly unique and memorable for both you and your closest friends and family because they'll be able to celebrate your marriage not just for one day, but for the entire time they're in the destination with you. Plus, many resorts offer plenty of ways to customize your wedding to fit your personality in addition to simply stunning settings.

## #4: QUALITY VS. QUANTITY

For many couples, a destination wedding is ideal for them because it takes some of the pressure of having to be the center of attention in front of a group of potentially hundreds of people. Plus, with having so many people present, the wedding can become more about your guests than about you and your future spouse. The intimacy of a destination wedding means you'll get to spend more time with the people that mean the most to you for longer than just your wedding day, giving you a more quality experience, even though the quantity of people may be fewer.

## #5: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Even if your guests can't or don't want to all stay at the same hotel you're getting married at, many resorts offer day passes so that the guests can attend your wedding and use the public facilities such as the pools, restaurants and common areas.

Some hotel chains such as Riu, Iberostar, Sandals, Palladium and Barcelo have sister properties within the same resort complex with free exchange privileges to use the facilities and restaurants at the neighboring hotels. This gives your guests more options for hotels to stay at for your wedding without them necessarily incurring an extra expense to attend your wedding.

## #6: BEING IN CONTROL

Not being able to see the hotel prior to your actual wedding in addition to requiring everyone who's attending to travel, there's a certain level of control you have to forgo with a destination wedding, especially if weather or other unforeseen events change your wedding day plans.

To help with the unexpected, Funjet Vacations offers All-In-One travel protection which allows you to cancel your trip for any reason, no questions asked, until your day of departure and receive a full refund minus the cost of the travel protection plan. You can also make a change without any fees, get our lowest price guarantee and you'll even have during-travel insurance in case something happens while you're in the destination such as lost baggage, emergency assistance and more. This is a truly invaluable way to give yourself control in case of the unexpected.



*Destination Weddings*