

The Caribbean Wedding, Honeymoon &

ROMANCE

Ultimate Guide 2024

Crafting the
**Perfect
Wedding
Invitations**

**Wedding &
Honeymoon
Adventures**

**Destination
Wedding
Etiquette**

The Importance of
Planning with a

**Travel
Advisor**

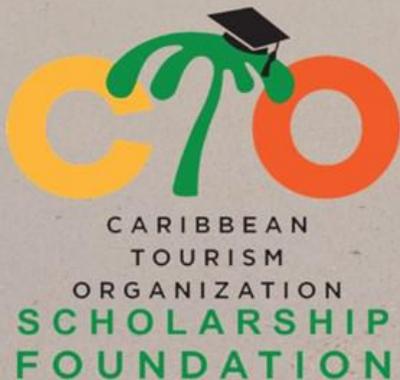
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DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN TOURISM

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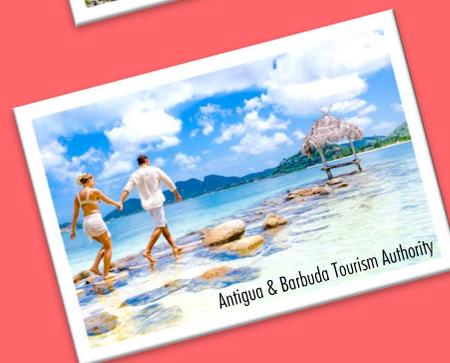


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MONTEGO BAY · JAMAICA
A ROCK RESORT

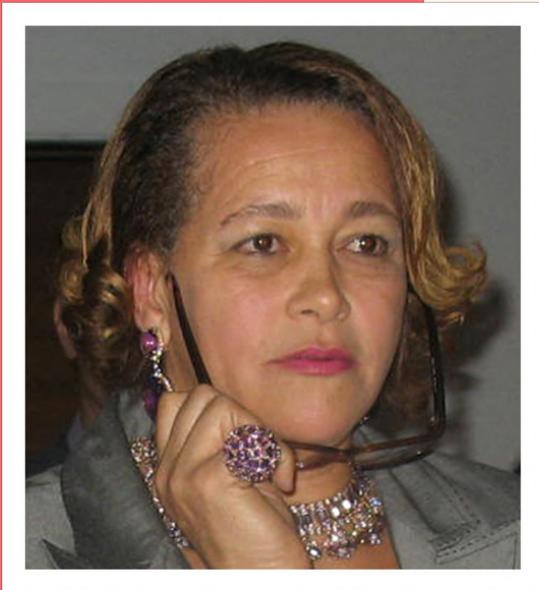


Situated on 400 acres and ribboned by two miles of beach, Half Moon is framed by the glistening Caribbean Sea to the north and lush hills to the south. Discerning guests may choose from any of our three resort experiences — Eclipse, Founders Cove, and Rose Hall Villas. Our stunning property is enhanced by our signature hospitality, welcoming each person with an inherent desire to make their visit a special one.



WELCOME

A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2024 to all!
Thank you for choosing the Caribbean for your romantic escape.



Jacqueline Johnson
President & CEO
MarryCaribbean.com

The Caribbean with its collection of countries/nations placed strategically in the crystal clear blue waters of the Caribbean Sea makes it difficult for the uninitiated to select the right island and activities for a dream destination Wedding, Honeymoon or Romantic jaunt.

The Annual Ultimate Caribbean Honeymoon, Wedding & Romance Guide is designed to provide you with the most current information on the plethora of experiences that the Caribbean has to offer to help you to design your ultimate romantic interlude/getaway.

Here you will find information on Marriage Requirements, Cuisine, What to Do and Where to do it and of course, tips to help you make the most of your time in Paradise.

Happy Reading.

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DREAM IN CAYMAN.

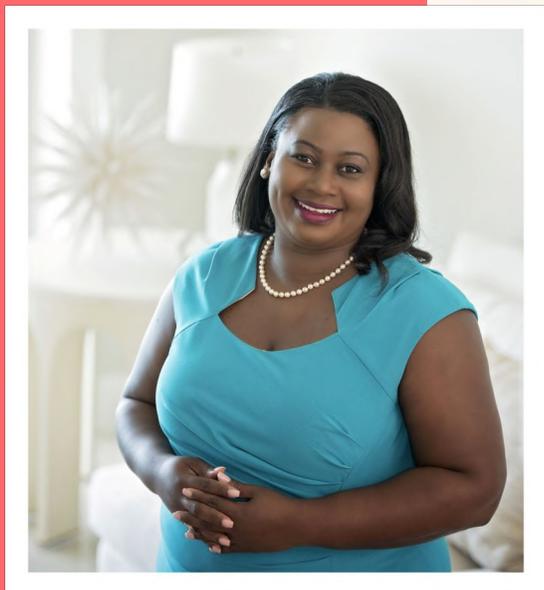
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GRAND CAYMAN | CAYMAN BRAC | LITTLE CAYMAN

VISITCAYMANISLANDS.COM



GREETINGS



Rosa Harris
Director
Cayman Islands
Department of Tourism

Planning a destination wedding, honeymoon, or travelling to a tropical paradise just to rekindle romance. The Cayman Islands is the perfect choice for you. We open our arms to offer a warm embrace to you and unparalleled stress-free moments for your special day that will linger in your heart forever.

In Cayman, we have all of the elements needed for the perfect wedding and the most romantic honeymoon. From adventure to relaxation and wellness – Whatever you desire, make your wedding and honeymoon dreams come true in Cayman.

Discover the culinary pleasures of Grand Cayman, the largest island boasting over 150 restaurants ranging from casual gems to impeccable 5-star dining. With cuisines catering to every palate, our dining selection provides impeccable menu options for your celebration. For those seeking privacy and ultimate relaxation, Little Cayman invites you with its tranquil charm. Here, amidst its serene environment, create unforgettable memories in an oasis that feels like another world dedicated to your love story. Cayman Brac, the larger sister island, beckons you to explore your adventurous side in this unique landscape full of wonder. With a perfect blend of natural beauty and vibrant culture, you have the ideal stage for a celebration as rare as the island itself.

Congratulations on your upcoming nuptials! We extend a Cayman-kind welcome to our islands, where dreams come true and love stories blossom, memories are imprinted against the backdrop of our picturesque paradise.



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A Romantic Escape

S Hotel's breathtaking location is the perfect setting for Anniversaries, Honeymoons & Destination Weddings. Plan your memorable getaway today!

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THE CARIBBEAN YOU LOVE



Caribbean Tourism Organization Foundation



Caribbean Tourism Organization Foundation



Grand Ballet Martinique by Antoine Omere



St. Martin Tourist Office



Aruba Tourism Authority

The Caribbean is considered the 'Oasis of the Western Hemisphere, and with its natural resources it is truly 'nature's garden'. A paradise that provides a wonderful backdrop for your lifestage event – getting married, enjoying your honeymoon or simply a romantic jaunt.

Culture

Caribbean culture has been shaped by a long and profound colonial history into an intense and complex hybridity that is unrivalled in any other part of the world. It is out of a convergence of African, Amerindian, Asian and European cultures that all things Caribbean, were born. There is a unique cadence to the Caribbean that can be observed in the way people express themselves and in the creativity they demonstrate in art, cuisine, dance, music and other attributes that make the Caribbean one of the most romantic and exotic places to visit, live, and love. Your romantic experience will benefit from these alluring cultural influences.

Art

Art through the many colors of the fauna and flora create a wonderful tapestry of memories. Each destination curates and is proud to display its heritage, music and lifestyle through art. You will always find museums and art shops providing a 'moving' experience of the history. And of course you can always take back a little piece of the history of the destination you have visited by purchasing what is for sale.

Dance

The Caribbean with its different mix of people draws on its rich historical tapestry for some of the most creative dances you will ever see. From the pulsating rhythm of Reggae, to the beautiful and fluid movements of Salsa to the African beat of quadrille, you will definitely want to get in the groove. I dare you to sit and listen to these catchy and pulsating rhythms without some sort of movement. Standard movements include the lower extremities with much of it in the hip. With a downing or two of rum punch, coupled with this gyrating and pulsating music - you will be getting your groove on in no time. Enjoy, you are in the Caribbean and amongst some of the friendliest people you will ever meet.

Music

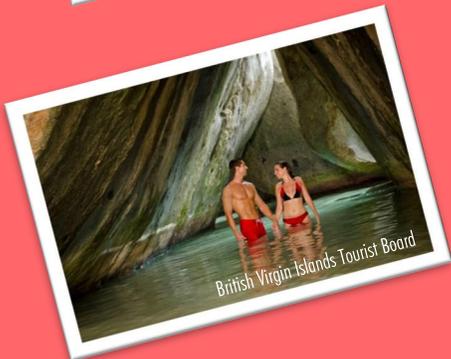
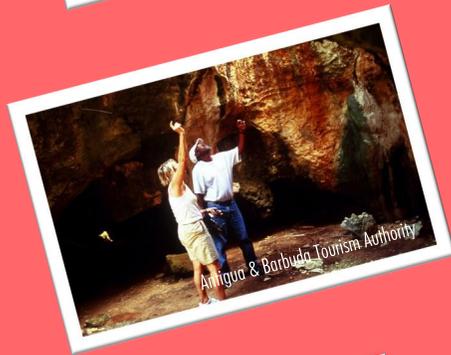
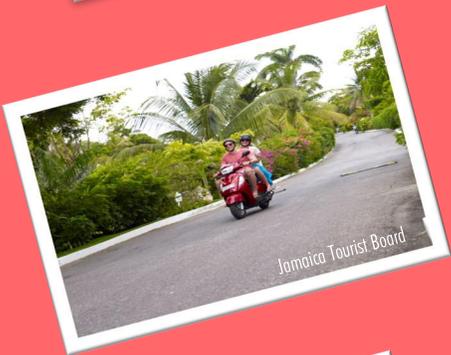
Bob Marley took Jamaican Reggae to the world and Caribbean music has never been the same. This is the day of your wedding, you have great food and now you will be dancing to the pulsating music. Do not forget to buy your copies to take home, where you can perfect the dance in the privacy of your home and with your new love.

Nightlife

Nightlife in the Caribbean is as varied and overflowing as one can imagine. The Caribbean offers some of the best hospitality and you are now among people who know how to celebrate life. Dancing and nightlife go hand in hand and soothes the soul. To get your groove on ask the hotel concierge the best places to go. Most likely the hotel you are staying at also have a very 'happening' nightlife.



PLANNING YOUR PERFECT CARIBBEAN WEDDING OR HONEYMOON



One of the main reasons people visit the Caribbean is for romance. Whether it is for a honeymoon, a destination wedding or a much needed romantic interlude, you'll find all the information you need to make your trip the best it can be at www.MarryCaribbean.com.

MarryCaribbean.com offers the internet's most complete listing of Caribbean destination wedding and honeymoon resources and I am delighted to share my love of romance and the Caribbean with you.

At MarryCaribbean.com you'll find information on some of the best and most romantic Caribbean hotels and resorts, entertainment and cuisine. And if you are one of those very lucky souls who has chosen to be married in the Caribbean you'll find detailed information on legal requirements for each island. Cheers!

I am delighted that you have chosen the Caribbean for this once in a lifetime event: the hospitality in this region is above and beyond and here, you can design, suggest, develop and realize the wedding of your dreams.

Choosing one of the 34 countries is, at best, a difficult task, but with the help of trained Romance Specialists – the experience will be the easiest and most special you will have.

I would again like to reiterate – it is imperative that you work with a Travel Specialist in destination weddings or honeymoon. Why? They know the destinations and the on-island contacts, understand the importance to follow through and pay attention to detail, all with the sole objective of making your day memorable. And while you are at it, why not work with your own Wedding Planner? Every country has its unique labor laws, and your wedding planner will relieve you of the responsibility of sourcing the necessary permits as part of their arrangement. (Of course, there are exceptions to this in the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, which are territories of the United States). Wedding Planners in the Caribbean are topnotch and are very skilled at working with you to achieve the look you desire and the event that meets your expectations within your budget.

- ◆ Most hotels already have a 'Director of Romance' on staff and like any other region, qualified independent Wedding Planners are also available for hire.
- ◆ The professional services of a Travel Agent and Destination Wedding Planner are critical to ensuring worry free planning of your important event. Your travel agent will know who to contact and work with, within the allocated budget.
- ◆ Depending on the number of guests attending, you will want to ensure that there are nearby hotels at different price points so that your guests may choose their accommodations based on their budget.
- ◆ Your Wedding Planner will manage that all important budget by negotiating the best deals from local specialists: florists, photographers, DJs, musicians, wedding cake, etc. We recommend that you ask for the local wedding cake—they are awesome! - and use the services of other local specialist to add that special island flavor to your event.

- ◆ Work with your Travel Agent to create a 'newsletter', with up-to-date information on activities, wedding location, schedule of events, temperature, a brief history of the destination, shopping and all relevant details for your guests. This should also include flight options to the destination.
- ◆ An island event for you and your attendants is highly recommended. Secure the services of your 'Director of Romance' or wedding planner to source island wedding gifts for your wedding party. As an added touch, you may wish to send a welcome basket to the rooms of each of your guests. (Welcome basket could include sandals, disposable cameras, suntan lotion, water and a small bottle of local rum/liqueur.)
- ◆ Most of all have fun, enjoy your time away and leave the perceived problems and headaches to the competent planner you selected.

MarryCaribbean.com is designed to encourage visitor interaction. So please share stories about your romantic vacation experiences with other readers. You can even submit your wedding or honeymoon photos to our Photo Gallery where our editors will select the photos of the month for the entire world to see!





CRAFTING THE PERFECT WEDDING INVITATIONS



Wedding invitations: they're not just pieces of paper; they're the heralds of love, the first glimpse into your magical celebration. Crafting the perfect invite is an art that blends elegance with your unique style. Ready to embark on this joyous journey? Here's your guide to creating wedding invitations that reflect your personality while setting the stage for a celebration to remember!

Setting the Tone with Style

Think of your invitation as the opening act, setting the mood for your big day. Are you envisioning a classic, formal affair or a whimsical, laid-back celebration? Choose a design that resonates with your theme and personality. From traditional embossed cards to quirky illustrations, let your style shine through!

Words that Dance

The language on your invitation should dance with joy and convey all necessary details. Inject a bit of fun into the wording—playful puns or heartfelt quotes can add a touch of personality. Be clear and concise about the who, what, where, and when while sprinkling in your love story's magic.

A Palette of Love

Colors speak volumes! Pick a color scheme that reflects your wedding's vibe. Whether it's romantic pastels, vibrant hues, or sleek monochromes, let the colors evoke emotions and tie your theme together.

Embrace Creative Formats

Who said invitations have to be a standard card? Explore unique formats like



scrolls, pop-ups, or even puzzle-like designs that unfold to reveal the details. Surprise your guests with an invitation that doubles as a keepsake.

Personal Touches

Incorporate personal touches that scream 'you!' Handwritten elements, custom illustrations, or even a wax seal with your initials add a touch of intimacy and make each invite feel special.

RSVP - Keep it Playful!

Make RSVPing a delightful experience! Incorporate witty response options or interactive elements. Maybe include a song request or a line for guests to share their favorite memory of you as a couple. It's a fun way to engage your guests and create anticipation.

Timing is Everything

Send your invitations with ample time for guests to RSVP. Aim to dispatch them 6-8 weeks before the big day, allowing for travel plans and accommodation.

Proofreading, the Superhero!

Before sending your invites to the printers, unleash your inner proofreader! Check and double-check for any typos or errors. Enlist a trusted friend or family member for a fresh set of eyes.

Envelopes - The Grand Unveiling

Don't forget the envelopes! They're the teaser to what lies within. Play around with envelope liners, calligraphy, or personalized stamps. The unveiling should be just as enchanting as the invitation itself.

Remember, your wedding invitations are the prelude to a beautiful symphony of love and celebration. Let them reflect your love story and set the stage for an unforgettable journey.

Crafting the perfect wedding invitation is a delightful blend of creativity, love, and a sprinkle of fun. So, let your imagination soar, infuse your personalities, and create invitations that mirror your love, setting the stage for a day filled with joy, laughter, and endless memories! **Cheers to your happily ever after!**





THE IMPORTANCE OF A TRAVEL ADVISOR IN YOUR PLANNING



BRENDA WASHINGTON O'NEAL

Ms. O'Neal serves on the board for the Association of Black Travel Professionals and the International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals.

She is a member of the Female Leaders and Travel ALLIES and Caribbean Wedding and Event Professional Association.

She contributes articles to Agent At Home Magazine and MarryCaribbean.com

Once again we have another chance to start the year with a clean slate. That is very true in the travel industry. Our suppliers, destinations and onsite contacts have been in a constant shift over the last few years. It has become a full-time job just to keep up with all the changes. Here are some suggestions when planning that destination wedding or honeymoon.

- ◆ Please pack your patience. With so many changes in personnel and so many resorts being added, it can be difficult to get expedited responses. Trust that all parties are working hard to speed up the response time.
- ◆ Please use a travel advisor, preferably one who has travelled and is well versed in destinations and suppliers. You also want an advisor with strong contacts in your destination as that will come in handy throughout the planning process.
- ◆ Make sure you plan the wedding or honeymoon of YOUR dreams. Yes, consider your guests but they cannot be the determining factor. Don't shortchange yourselves for guests that may not even attend your wedding.
- ◆ When getting married away, you give your family and friends a chance to connect and get to know each other. At local weddings, the couple only see their guests when they walk around the reception. With this option, families actually have time to spend together, and friends can reconnect.
- ◆ I always advise my clients that there are 3 types of guests: the guests who say we are ready, here's my money and when do we leave. The second type of guest is very honest and says we can't join you because we don't have the time or money. You can respect their honesty. The third group is the most difficult. They don't know why you want to get married away,

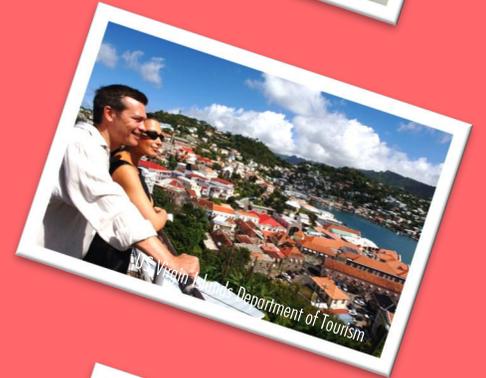


why does it cost so much, why did you pick that property, and the list goes on. The response is "we have decided to get married away and we are inviting you to join us. We understand if you cannot attend, and we will still love you."

- ◆ When picking your destination, consider your airfares, flight schedules and what the resorts have to offer so that you get the best bang for your buck. This is again where a travel advisor that specializes in destination weddings comes invaluable.
- ◆ Please don't plan to bring your whole wedding with you. Almost every destination offers everything you need from linens to local favors. Please don't plan to bring those things with you and increase your stress as the items may be held up in customs. Trust the destinations and what they have to offer.
- ◆ When picking your menu, take advantage of what the culinary options are in your destination. Your guests will thank you. You can also get local favors from local vendors and help the local economy.
- ◆ Keep it simple. Do not over plan. The more elements, the more chance for things to go wrong. Remember to breathe and enjoy.
- ◆ Don't over plan. Even though it is your wedding, it is also a vacation for some. Make sure to provide your guests with options to experience the destination.
- ◆ Be realistic with your guest count. Most resort packages have a limit and anything over that will be an additional charge.
- ◆ Make sure your bridal party has your best interest at heart and are excited to share with you.
- ◆ Invest in your food and photography. Check out local DJ's.
- ◆ Keep. In mind that many resorts charge vendor fees if you use services other than those offered at the property.
- ◆ Don't be afraid to use off-site venues.
- ◆ Relax, celebrate, and enjoy your family and friends.

Both of my sons got married away. The oldest got married at Hard Rock Punta Cana and the youngest son got married at Wind Jammer Landing in St. Lucia. It was an amazing experience as family and friends came together to celebrate the couple.

Work with a travel advisor and enjoy the advantages of getting married away. Happy 2024!





DESTINATION WEDDING ETIQUETTE

You are about to have your first contact with your Caribbean Service Provider (hotel, wedding planner, tour operator, etc.) There are simple things that you need to be mindful of when conversing from a distance. **Good Manners!!**

The old adage, "You can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar" applies here as it does in all other situations. Treat others the way you would like to be treated, and you will be surprised to see how others go out of their way to make sure your requests are fulfilled.

Respect

Respect the person; respect the culture. The fact that you are the customer does not give you the right to be disrespectful.

Honesty

Be honest with your Service Provider. If the cost of the arrangements exceeds your budget, say so and ask for a more affordable option. This is no time to be embarrassed. Do not hide behind the 'curtain' of negative negotiation. You would be amazed by what your Service Provider can deliver, possibly going out of their way to make sure your wishes are granted.

Civility

Ah...yes...you are from a superpower and therefore speaking with "natives" so you are about to show them how things are done. **Wrong!!** Never underestimate the level of sophistication of your service provider. With a smile and a gentle response to your unreasonable arrogant posture, the Service Provider will make sure you are 'nickel and dimed' for everything. That is not the experience you want!

Communication

Be gracious in your communications (verbal, text, email, etc.) and clearly state what your objectives are for your memorable day and your budget limitations.

Laws

Each destination is governed by rules/laws. You must abide by these or you will have the opportunity to meet your local Ambassador from a confined space (Jail). If the Laws forbid your Service provider from delivering your request due to the laws of his/her country...refrain from unleashing your hostility, and inquire what else might work to achieve a similar outcome. Remember that Service Providers, too, must also abide by the laws.

Attire

You have a great body and the desire to show it off. Save it for the beach! Dress appropriately in public spaces. If you would not do it in your hometown, then do not do it in someone else's.

Behavior

Loud, Aggressive, Profanity laced behavior will provide you the opportunity to meet the local law enforcement. This is not the memorable experience you are hoping for.

You are visiting the country for a new experience and to have a memorable wedding/honeymoon or romance. Take heed of these nuggets of etiquette and have fun!



Jamaica Tourist Board



Grenada Tourism Authority



British Virgin Island Tourism Board



Belize Tourism Board



NAVIGATING THE WAY TO A GRACEFUL ROMANCE

Embarking on a journey to tie the knot or revel in post-nuptial bliss amidst the enchanting Caribbean landscapes? The sun-drenched beaches and tropical paradises offer the perfect backdrop for unforgettable moments of love and celebration. However, amidst the excitement, it's essential to embrace etiquette to ensure an experience that's not just memorable for you, but respectful to all involved.

Respectful Conduct: The Heart of Caribbean Hospitality

In the Caribbean, hospitality is king, and etiquette revolves around respecting the locals, customs, and environment. The warmth of the islands extends beyond the sun-kissed shores—embracing the local culture is key. Greetings are often accompanied by a smile and a friendly demeanor, so channel your inner goodwill ambassador and spread positivity wherever you go.

Dress Code and Cultural Sensitivity

While the Caribbean invites relaxation, remember that some areas, especially religious sites or formal dining venues, might have specific dress codes. Modesty and respect for local customs are appreciated. Embrace the vibrant island fashion but be mindful of attire that might be considered inappropriate in certain settings.

Wedding and Honeymoon-Specific Etiquette

For couples exchanging vows or enjoying their honeymoon, it's considerate to communicate with the resort staff or event planners in advance. This ensures a smooth experience and

allows for any special requests to be accommodated seamlessly. When celebrating on the beach, leave no trace behind—respect the environment by cleaning up after any festivities.

Engage and Appreciate the Local Flavors

Explore the culinary wonders of the Caribbean, but remember to be courteous at local restaurants and markets. Appreciate the delicacies and engage with the chefs or vendors—it's a fantastic way to immerse yourself in the culture while showing appreciation for their craftsmanship.

Thank You Goes a Long Way

Expressing gratitude is universally appreciated. Whether it's to the resort staff, locals offering guidance, or vendors providing services, a heartfelt thank you extends the spirit of love and gratitude that defines these romantic escapades.

Navigating Sensitive Issues with Grace

Sometimes unforeseen situations may arise. Should any misunderstandings occur, maintaining a calm and respectful attitude goes a long way in resolving issues harmoniously. Communication, done with kindness and understanding, helps smoothen out rough patches.

Embracing Unforgettable Memories with Elegance

In the heart of the Caribbean, romance intertwines with respect. Etiquette isn't about stifling fun—it's about enhancing it for everyone involved. So, as you plan your dream destination wedding or honeymoon, remember that embracing etiquette adds an extra layer of charm to your experiences, leaving behind not just footprints in the sand but also a legacy of love, respect, and cherished memories.

In the end, etiquette in the Caribbean is a beautiful dance of embracing the local customs, expressing gratitude, and treating others with the same warmth and kindness you'd wish to receive. Cheers to a celebration filled with love, laughter, and unforgettable moments in this stunning paradise!



Cayman Islands Department of Tourism



Grenada Tourism Authority



British Virgin Islands Tourist Board



British Virgin Islands Tourist Board



BALANCING THE DANCE: INVOLVING PARENTS

Planning a wedding or a honeymoon involves a whirlwind of emotions, excitement, and decisions galore. It's your day, your dreams, and your memories in the making. But what if parents want to be part of the action, especially if they're contributing to the festivities? Here's a guide on how to gracefully involve your beloved parents without compromising your joyous celebrations.

The Dance of Inclusion

Your wedding day marks a new chapter in your life, and it's natural for parents to want to contribute or be involved. Whether it's financial support, ideas, or simply their heartfelt desire to be part of the planning, their enthusiasm often comes from a place of love.

Communication is Key

Open and honest communication is the golden ticket. Share your excitement and plans with your parents early on, allowing them to feel included without overpowering the decision-making process. Acknowledge their input and express gratitude for their support—it can make all the difference.

Setting Boundaries with Love

While it's essential to appreciate their involvement, setting boundaries early on helps maintain a healthy balance. Kindly express areas where you'd prefer to take the lead in planning, ensuring your vision aligns with your dream day.

Personalizing Moments of Involvement

Find ways to involve your parents in meaningful ways that align with your vision. Whether it's seeking their advice on certain aspects, inviting them to join in specific planning sessions, or dedicating a special moment during the celebration to honor their love and guidance, these gestures can deepen the bond and make them feel valued.





IN YOUR WEDDING AND HONEYMOON ADVENTURES

Navigating Honeymoon Contributions

When it comes to the honeymoon, if parents are contributing, consider their wishes while balancing your dream destination. Share your ideas and preferences, and seek a compromise that satisfies everyone. Perhaps consider a compromise where you plan the majority but incorporate a special activity or stay recommended by your parents.

Creating Cherished Memories Together

Remember, weddings and honeymoons are not just about a day or a week; they're about creating lasting memories. Embrace the moments spent with your parents as part of the larger tapestry of love and celebration. Capture these moments through photos and share the joy together.

Gratitude and Appreciation

Throughout the process, express your gratitude and appreciation. A simple 'thank you' carries immense weight, acknowledging their love, support, and contributions. Their efforts, regardless of the scale, reflect their desire to be part of your happiness.

In the end, it's about finding that delicate balance, ensuring your parents feel valued and appreciated while staying true to your dreams. Remember, it's your day, your memories, and your love story. Embrace the journey, cherish the moments, and celebrate the love that brings everyone together.

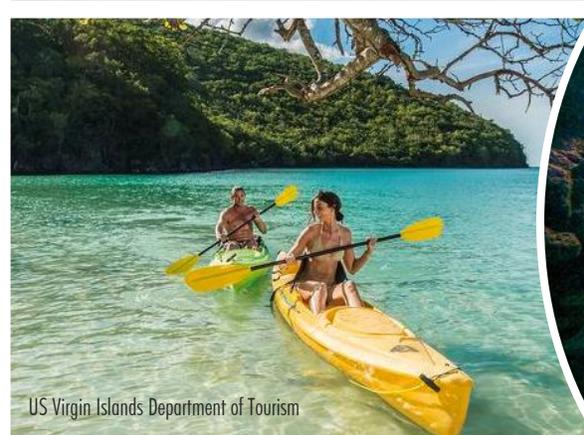
As the music plays and the dance unfolds, let it be a celebration of unity, joy, and shared love, uniting generations in a beautiful tapestry of family and cherished memories. Cheers to weaving your dreams with love, respect, and a sprinkle of parental involvement!



British Virgin Islands Tourist Board



Barbados Tourism Marketing, Inc.



US Virgin Islands Department of Tourism



St. Martin Tourist Board



Curacao Tourist Board



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Montego Bay | St. James | Jamaica
Tel: 876.392.6566

Email: dynamic.eventservices1@yahoo.com

Veteran tourism industry marketing gurus, Janet Silvera and Dollis Campbell, Dynamic Event Services (DES) is a full service, event Management Company. DES principals are reshaping the Jamaican events management landscape with their proven track record of professionalism, service excellence and customer satisfaction for close to 12 Years.

We have established a reputation for providing strategic planning, integrated marketing, communications and logistical services for a wide range of events. Our staffs of trained professionals have mastered the art of delivering personalized service and attention to details.

“Going the extra mile is not cliché for us at DES, we are never too busy when it comes to serving our clients. We can facilitate your event at any time, seven days per week, including public holidays. Our offices are located in Kingston and Montego Bay”.

DES has a wealth of knowledge and proven expertise executing events for Weddings, Conferences and Meetings. Clients can count on DES to be their partner in the successful staging of memorable events.

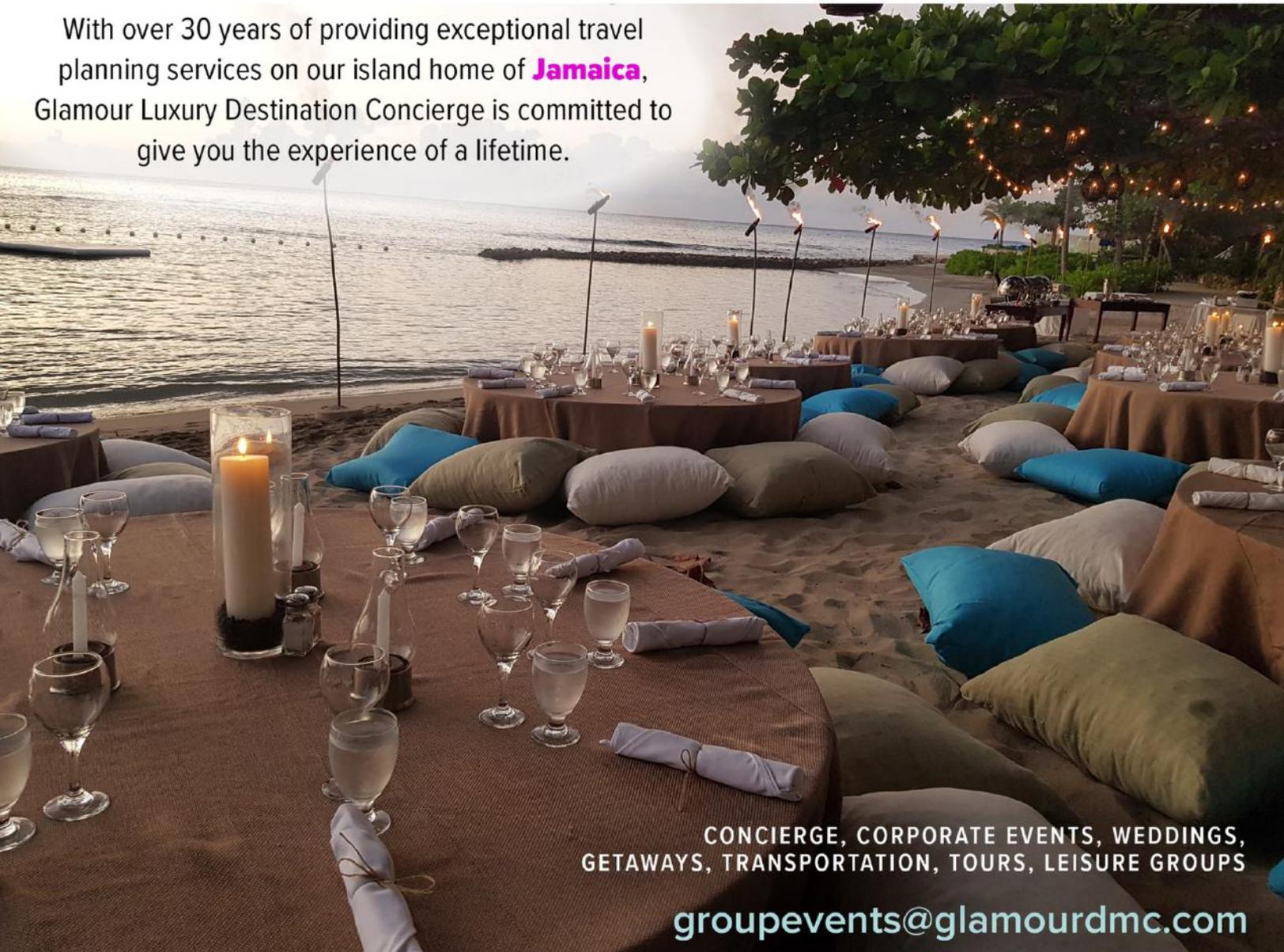


Glamour

LUXURY DESTINATION
CONCIERGE



With over 30 years of providing exceptional travel planning services on our island home of **Jamaica**, Glamour Luxury Destination Concierge is committed to give you the experience of a lifetime.



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WEDDING CUSTOMS IN THE CARIBBEAN

Caribbean wedding customs and traditions are influenced by our African and European heritage, and although not all customs are practiced in every destination today, here are a few of the common yet unique ones.

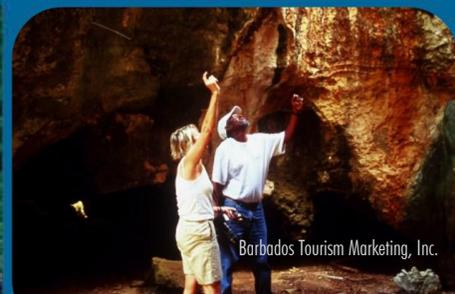
- ◆ A dime placed in the bride's shoe on the day of the wedding will bring wealth and prosperity to couple.
- ◆ Throw your bouquet directly to someone and do not let it fall on the ground. If it falls on the ground and break into pieces, your husband will cheat on you throughout your marriage.
- ◆ Never give the dog a taste of your wedding cake or let the crumbs fall on the ground as this may not bode well for the longevity of the marriage.
- ◆ To appease the departed and ward off any evil intentions, sprinkle a little white rum in the yard outside so that everyone can enjoy in the celebration.
- ◆ Keep a sliver of wedding cake wrapped under your pillow as it will guarantee fertility.
- ◆ Brides maid should dress in white to confuse any evil spirits lurking by. Hence Kate's sister Pippa was dressed in white for the Royal Wedding.
- ◆ Do you know why shoes are tied to the back of the car after the wedding ceremony? This is a symbol by the father of the bride that the new husband is now financially responsible for his daughter. In modern times, shoes have been replaced with tin cans.
- ◆ The only cake served at a wedding in the Caribbean is the 'black cake'. Tradition dictates that this fruit cake (fruits are soaked in rum and wine for at least six months) When baked it is more like a plum pudding – all fruits are melted in the batter (a different feel, taste and texture of the American fruit cake). Recipe of this traditional cake is handed down among families.
- ◆ Of course the something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue is strictly adhered to.
 - ⇒ **Old:** You want something from a close friend or family who enjoys a good relationship with their partner – then this luck could be transferred to you.
 - ⇒ **New:** Your wedding attire and shoes – bringing new ideas, new thoughts to the marriage.
 - ⇒ **Borrowed:** A quality piece of jewelry or expensive trinket – good fortune should follow you throughout the marriage.
 - ⇒ **Blue:** Signifies purity and love.
- ◆ Wearing of the veil – A full veil that covers the entire face is worn and lifted only after the ceremony is over. This signifies modesty, purity and basically you have had no emotional attachment to anyone else. In some areas, the veil is also used to hide you away from evil spirits.
- ◆ Dancing of the Wedding Cake: this tradition is actively practiced on the islands of Carriacou and Petite Martinique in Grenada and on Myreau, Canouan and Union Island in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Mothers of the bride and groom (or their representative) do a traditional dance with a wedding cake on their head. This custom signifies the beauty and unity of everyone who will consume the marital cakes.



Barbados Tourism Marketing, Inc.



St. Martin Tourist Board



Barbados Tourism Marketing, Inc.



CELEBRATING YOUR LOVE IN PARADISE

The Caribbean with its collection of Islands placed strategically in the crystal clear blue waters of the Caribbean Sea makes it difficult to select the right island and activities for your dream destination wedding or honeymoon. With the engagement season in high gear you may want to think about your likes and dislikes before you make your choice to Marry in the Caribbean.

Q?: I do not plan on getting a Passport, and would like to know what Caribbean Islands I can visit.

A: Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands

Q?: I would like to visit a destination with great beaches and quiet evenings.

A: This you can find in almost all the destinations

Q?: I am looking for great beaches and active nightlife.

A: The larger Islands, Bahamas, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, United States Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Aruba all offer great beaches and good nighttime activities.

Q?: I am into nature and looking for a destination that is compatible with my lifestyle.

A: Dominica, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Cayman, St. Kitts, Guadeloupe.

Q?: I am definitely into water sports and would like to know the destination that offers this.

A: All destinations offer a varied selection of water sports.

Q?: Cost is a factor and I would like to have my fantasy wedding at minimal cost.

A: Luckily for you, each island offers a package to suit every budget. And they are skilled in the preparation and execution of weddings.

Q?: I would like to bring the family and friends to witness to my destination wedding. How do I begin to plan?

A: You should not attempt to do this by yourself. Seek out a good travel agent and they will work with the hotel or a destination wedding specialist to pull it all together for you. Yes, you do know the destination and would prefer to do this by yourself. A word of caution! Unless you have friends or family in that destination, work with a professional.

Q?: Can I have a religious ceremony in the Caribbean?

A: Whatever your religion or custom, there is a house of worship to accommodate your request.

Q?: Can I use the American Dollar?

A: Yes, American currency is accepted throughout the Caribbean.

Q?: If I get married in the Caribbean, will my marriage be legal in the United States.

A: A legal marriage in the Caribbean is legal in the United States.





Gulf of Mexico

The Islands of the Baha

USA

FLORIDA

Mexico

Cancún

Cozumel

Belize

Guatemala

Honduras

Nicaragua

Costa Rica

Panama

Pacific Ocean

Cuba

Cayman Islands

Jamaica

Haiti

Caribbean Sea

Colombia

GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

ABACOS

N. BIMINI

BERRY ISLANDS

S. BIMINI

ELEUTHERA

ANDROS

NEW PROVIDENCE ISLAND

EXUMAS

CAT ISLAND

SAN SALVADOR

LONG ISLAND

CROOKED ISLAND

ACKLINS

INAGUA

GRAND CAYMAN

LITTLE CAYMAN

CAYMAN BRAC

mas



Bermuda

Bermuda is located approximately 675 miles east/southeast of Nags Head, N.C.



www.CaribbeanTravel.com



www.OneCaribbean.org

Language Spoken

- English
- French
- Spanish
- Dutch

Turks & Caicos Islands



Atlantic Ocean





CUISINE OF THE CARIBBEAN

Wedding Cakes

From Rum Cake to Black Cake, a Caribbean Wedding Cake is a mouth watering delight that will take center stage at your reception.

Tradition would dictate that the cake is a minimum of three tiers - the bottom one is cut by the bride and Groom and then shared with the guests. The top tier cake would be put in the freezer to celebrate and share on your first anniversary.

From the Second tier cake... a sliver... and I mean a sliver of the cake should be put under the pillow of the bride and groom that same night to guarantee conception. Now the reason for the 'sliver' of cake is that the bigger the slice the more children you will have. So unless you want a large family, stick to a sliver.

What makes this cake so different and special? Well to begin with once a wedding date has been set the family or the cake baker would go into preparation mode. All the dried fruits will be put in a large bowl/vat or container of wine and rum to 'soak' for at least six months. At the end of this period when it is baking time, the fruits will literally melt into the alcohol so when the other ingredients are mixed in and the cake is done - there will be no tasting of any particular fruit. This is very much unlike the American Fruit Cake which has no bearing, resemblance or taste to a Caribbean Wedding Cake.

The Caribbean Wedding Cake is then covered in 'English Icing' not a frosting. The English Icing is firmer, sweeter with more body and so easy to decorate. You are in the Caribbean, you are there for a memorable event - your wedding. Enjoy the bounty, beauty and elegance of the destination. Utilize local products or incorporate what you can in your Caribbean Wedding.

Throughout the islands, the traditional 'Black Cake' is a must have for your Caribbean wedding. This is derived from the English Plum Pudding: a rich mixture of blended fruits soaked in wine/rum and baked. End result a rich, moist dark brown cake and this is generally topped with English icing. (Royal icing) This icing holds up well in the Caribbean and is heavily decorated as per the choice of the bride/groom. Unlike an American fruit cake, the fruits blend into the Caribbean wedding black cake. Your Wedding Planner will know the best wedding cake baker on the island of your choice.

One Wedding Planner who makes absolutely delicious cakes is [Dreamy Weddings of St. Kitts & Nevis](#)—they work in 14 different Caribbean destinations.

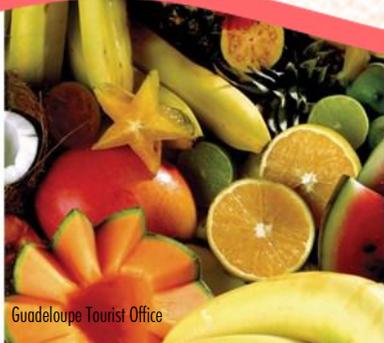
See some sample of wedding cakes here <https://www.pinterest.com/marrycaribbean/wedding-cakes/>

Fruits and Vegetables

The Caribbean, otherwise known as 'Nature's Paradise, is blessed not only with great beaches and fabulous weather, but also an abundance of fresh fruits. From coconut water, soursop, mangoes to name a few and the healthiest of vegetables that you can incorporate in any meal and at anytime, you will definitely not lack for anything.

If you are a vegetarian, vegan or just need to give your body a rest from meats: you have selected the right region for this your memorable occasion.

Photos Credits: CTO Foundation; Guadeloupe Tourist Board; Grenada Tourism Authority; St. Maarten Tourist Board; Cobble Stone Inn, St. Vincent & the Grenadines; Half Moon, Jamaica,





Seafood and Meats Caribbean Cuisine

You have contacted your Caribbean wedding destination, planned all the elements and now choosing the menu, and of course you are working with a Wedding Planner. What fun! Now you will want to incorporate the local cuisine to impress your guests. Having a Caribbean wedding or Caribbean honeymoon is more than Sun, Sand and Water. The local food and customs can be included to provide a new experience, thereby giving your special day that memorable edge.

Caribbean cuisine is a rich mixture of African, French, Spanish, Dutch and English. There are customs and 'must have' foods that are a part of the local tradition when getting married. Most of the food tends to be on the spicy side, so do make sure you explain dietary habits to your Caribbean Wedding Planner. Spices are a fundamental basic in cooking to enhance the taste of European dishes brought to the Islands.

Healthy Eating

I cannot imagine another region on planet earth that can offer such an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables. You can eat 'local' and find some of the healthiest meals. You can even have your local contact take you to learn from the 'sage' locals about the different plants/fruits that promote not only a healthy lifestyle, but create a healthy body inside and out. In some destinations you will find people that eat nothing but fruits and vegetables. No meats. You'll also find 'herbalists' or older folks who specialize in healthy living. Be sure you check with your local Wedding Planner or at your hotel to inform them of your dietary needs.

Main Course

You simply cannot have a main course without the traditional rice and peas. (This is white rice and red beans cooked in coconut milk with special seasoning): truly mouthwatering. Of course you have the choices of fish, meats or chicken. You may also want to include some of the famous Jamaican Jerk cooking. 'Jerk' was developed by the runaway slaves during the British occupation. It is a simple way of cooking meats heavily spiced over a slow open fire.

Spices

What would the Caribbean do without spices? Jamaica is internationally known for its 'jerk' meats/foods. Meats are properly seasoned with select spices (pepper, onions, etc.) and the result is a finger-licking delicacy.

Grenada, known as the 'Isle of Spice' will create or provide a lesson in gastronomic dining, uses spices that can only be had in that region. So is the Island of Guadeloupe...it is about the spices whether it is served in ice cream, coffee, sweets and any delicacy your mind can dream of. And the good thing, you can bring this home as a reminder of your travel experience. One caution regarding certain spices that are pepper based: if you have no tolerance for spicy food, I would suggest you always order very mild.

Drinks

The bounty of fruits in the Caribbean gives rise to whatever concoction the mind can conceive. Have the bartender create your signature Caribbean wedding drink to be served to everyone. As a matter of fact, make your signature drink the centerpiece of the cocktail hour. Arrange for the hotel to present you with the recipe and the date of your wedding in a photo frame for display in your new home. This will also provide you with the opportunity to serve your special signature drink at your first dinner party.

Desserts

The offerings are numerous and truly appetizing. Work with the Wedding Planner to have a table of varied desserts using local products.

I can assure you that you will be pleased with the delicacies that can be had in the Caribbean. From the traditional 'black cake' (it is not black, but the crushed spices give it a very rich color) puddings using everything you can think of: rice, cassava, yam, bananas...and they are all good. Sweets using coconuts are my favorite.



Cobble Stone Inn, St. Vincent and the Grenadines



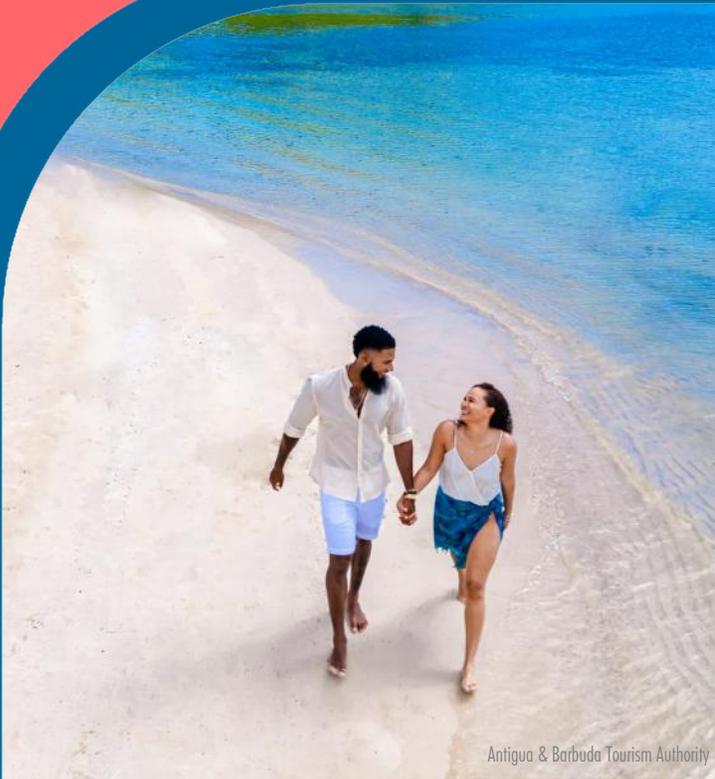
Grenada Tourism Authority



Half Moon Inn, St. Lucia



St. Maarten Tourist Office



Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Authority

The expansive, winding coastline of Antigua is a tremendous wealth of secluded, powdery soft beaches. And the fascinating little island of Barbuda — once a scavenger's paradise because so many ships wrecked on its reefs — is now home to one of the region's most significant bird sanctuaries. More and more people are getting married while on vacation, and it's now easy to do so in Antigua and Barbuda. Even cruise ship visitors can now get married.

If it is peace and quiet you are after, head to quiet Barbuda, the lesser known of the two islands. It feels untouched by progress with the principal inhabitants being the graceful frigate birds.

Things To Do

Great Beaches: Antigua and Barbuda is one of the best beach destinations in the Caribbean with over 365 beaches each with its own personality including features such as rock pools filled with tiny crabs, aerial displays by diving pelicans or organized water sports.

Most beaches are not equipped with facilities so it is important to remember to bring water and sun protection. On holiday weekends the beaches often fill up with locals picnicking.

Divining: Get an experienced dive guide to show you around the coast of Barbuda as there are many wrecks, from differ-

ent periods of the islands history, and beautiful coral reefs.

Frigate Bird Sanctuary: Barbuda's Frigate Bird Sanctuary is located in the island's northwestern lagoon and is accessible only by boat. The sanctuary contains over 170 species of birds and is home to over 5,000 frigate birds.

Fig Tree Drive: is a 32km (20-mile) scenic route along winding roads through the lush tropical hills and picturesque fishing villages along the southwest coast.

Yachting and Sailing: Antigua's trade-wind kissed seas have earned the title, "[Sailing Capital of the Caribbean](#)." A not to be missed event is **Antigua Sailing Week** at the end of April which culminates with lots of food, drinks and on-shore partying.

Cuisine of Antigua and Barbuda

There are numerous restaurants covering all price ranges. The more upscale restaurants require jackets for the men and appropriate attire for women. Tipping is a minimum of 10% if not included in the bill.

The national dish of Antigua and Barbuda is fungie pronounced "foon-jee") and pepper pot. Fungie is a dish very similar to the Italian Polenta, and is almost completely made from cornmeal. Other local dishes include ducana, season rice, saltfish and lobster (from Barbuda). There are also local confectionaries which include: sugarcake, fudge, raspberry and tamarind stew and peanut brittle.

Marriage Requirements

If either of you have been previously married, then bring the original divorce decree or, in the case of a widow or widower, the original marriage and death certificates. Both parties must be over 15. If under 18, written authorization from your parents or guardians is required.

It is important that all documents presented are original or certified original by the issuing departments or offices. Ensure that all documents are in your legal name and provide affidavits in cases where you are known by another name.

Your marriage must also be solemnized or celebrated in the presence of two or more witnesses, apart from the Marriage Officer. (You can even ask two guests from your hotel). There is no residency requirement for the **Special License**.

Cost-US \$: The registration fee of \$40 that must be paid at the courthouse on Queen Elizabeth Highway.

- ◆ The Special Marriage License application is \$150.
- ◆ The Marriage Officer's fee is \$250.
- ◆ The certified copy of the Marriage Certificate \$10.
- ◆ Valid passports are needed as proof of citizenship.

For further information please contact the Ministry of Legal Affairs at 1-268-562-0381.

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GORGEOUS
WHITE SAND **BEACHES**

AND

WE ALSO HAVE
PINK SAND BEACHES
IF THAT'S MORE YOUR THING

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ANTIGUA
AND
BARBUDA



Barbados Tourism Marketing

Renowned for its sophistication and charm, Barbados will make you swoon with her enchanting beauty. This island offers boundless liveliness, turquoise waters and white sand under your bare feet. Paradise unspoilt, her tropical rhythm beckons you to explore, to desire her more. That's Barbados!

Lovers stroll leisurely under towering palms swaying over turquoise waters; waves gently roar and crash against the shores of this beautiful coral island, Barbados stands alone, exclusive in her offerings. Secluded spots for romantic rendezvous in a land touched by joy, warmth, friendship and a stunning beauty you will never forget.

Accommodations are wide-ranging – choose from 5-star luxury properties to all-inclusive resorts from historic plantation houses to intimate boutique hotels, or just select a charming Bed and Breakfast. There's the ideal place for everyone.

Things to Do

While in Barbados, you can simply relax, soak up the sun, savor the sumptuous epicurean delights and enjoy a cocktail made with one of its famous rums. Or you may opt to take in a cricket match or just explore the beautiful island. Take a tour and explore the stunning tropical landscapes, the unique wildlife, or visit one of the beautiful Botanic Gardens.

The famous Harrison's Cave is not to be missed! A tram-ride underground reveals flowing streams, deep pools of crystal-clear water, the formation of towering columns and

the slow-growing stalagmites.

Love life on the water? There are many water sporting activities for you. Take a dive or snorkel along the coast and among the variety of colorful fish.

Cuisine of Barbados

Create unforgettable experiences as you enjoy a meal. Take the opportunity to sample everything: the national dish of flying fish and coucou, rice and peas with stewed chicken or choose from an assortment of curries, rotis, sweet plantains, roasted breadfruit with salted codfish or fresh, locally caught fish. And if it's the weekend, you must indulge in some pudding and souse. You must!

At most hotels you can enjoy a breakfast menu that include freshly prepared tropic fruits and juices, omelets with your choice of filling, fish cakes and delicious homemade breads and pastries. For lunch and dinner, the choices are endless! There are countless restaurants, cafés and even food trucks which offer Bajan, Caribbean or even international cuisine. You can choose to go formal or even try a beachfront shack where the dress code is your swimsuit and bare feet. Your options are endless so eat up!

Marriage Requirements

There is no waiting period to get married in Barbados! Both parties must apply for the license in person. You will require:

- Valid passports and birth certificates
- If applicable, original Death Certificate or Decree Absolute
- Your priest to sent relevant documents to the priest in Barbados for a church ceremony
- To arrange with a Magistrate or Marriage Officer to perform the ceremony prior to applying for the license and present the letter from either the when making the application. ALL documents MUST either be in English or accompanied by a Notarized translated copy

Applicable fees (US \$) include:

- Civil Marriages in court \$125 out of court, \$175
- Marriage license and certificate \$122
- Solemnization of a civil marriage \$50
- Publication of banns for church weddings \$38
- Other fees totaling \$150

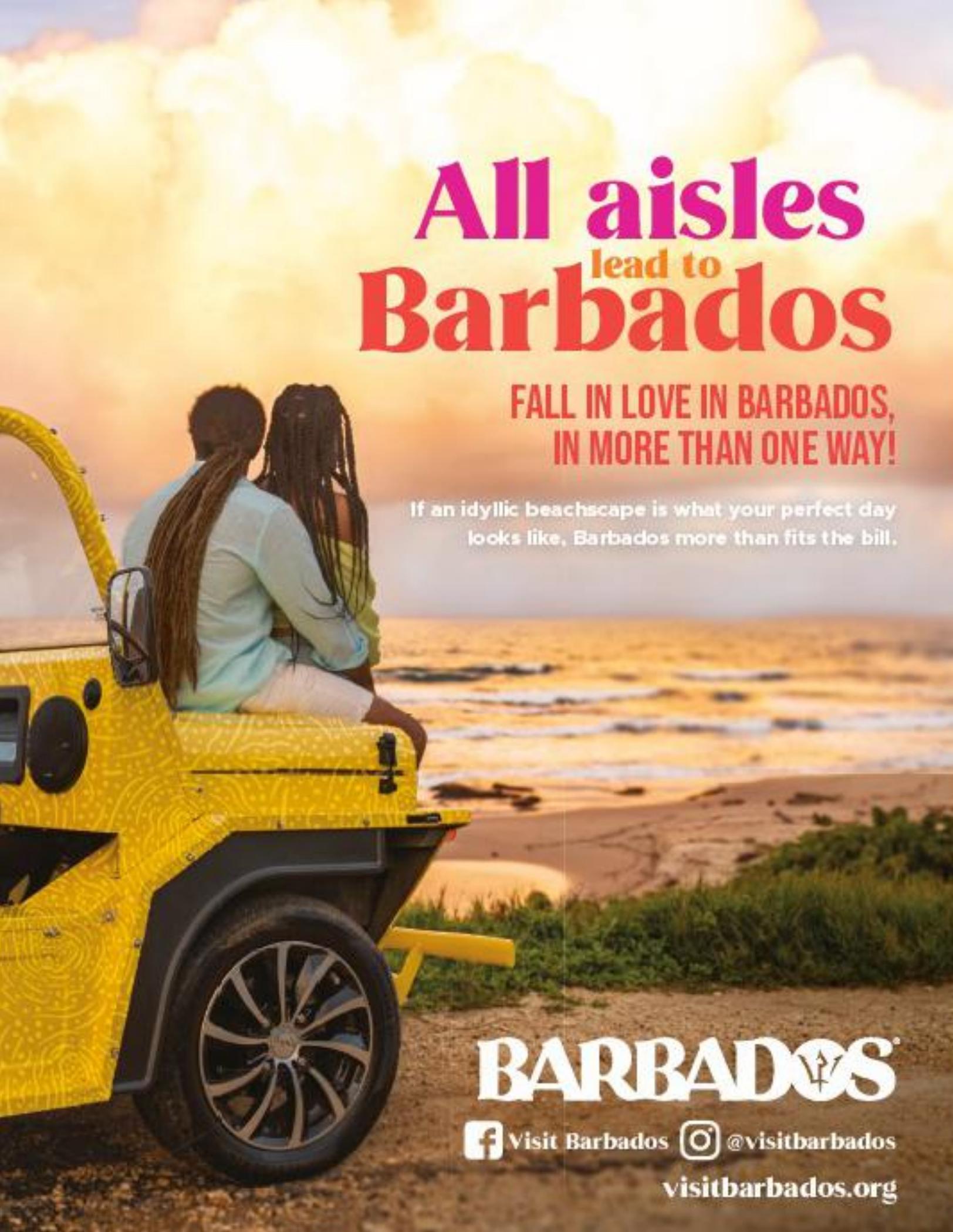
Fees are less if either party is a citizen or resident of Barbados.

For more information contact:

Ministry of Home Affairs

Phone: 1-246-535-7260

E-mail: homeaffairs@mha.gov.bb

A couple is seen from behind, sitting in a bright yellow open-top jeep. They are looking out over a beach and the ocean during a golden sunset. The sky is filled with large, soft clouds illuminated by the setting sun. The man is wearing a light blue shirt and the woman has long braids. The jeep is parked on a dirt path with some greenery in the foreground.

All aisles lead to Barbados

FALL IN LOVE IN BARBADOS,
IN MORE THAN ONE WAY!

If an idyllic beachscape is what your perfect day
looks like, Barbados more than fits the bill.

BARBADOS

 Visit Barbados  @visitbarbados

visitbarbados.org



Belize Tourism Board

*M*other Nature and history worked overtime on Belize! An adventurer's paradise, where Mayan Pyramids tower above rainforest canopies. An incredibly colorful array of marine wildlife find protection in Belize's Great Barrier Reef. Join us in Belize!

If you envision a unique wedding or honeymoon, Belize is the place for you – that is, if you like beautiful beaches, tropical gardens, swaying palm trees, glorious sunsets and of course, summer-like weather. And whether you are considering a legal or a religious ceremony, getting married in Belize is easy-breezy. In fact, we welcome the opportunity to design your perfect day.

There are no large resorts or hotels in Belize. However, Belize is home to a variety of small and midsize properties and a variety of small nature-oriented eco lodges across the interior. You can live among the trees and be one with as hundreds of species of birds fly by. Admire monkeys and sloths in the tree-tops or learn about the flora surrounding your room from generally available tour guides.

These properties can range from considerably basic and comfy to deluxe. The more popular resort destinations of Ambergris Caye, Caye Caulker and Plaencia offer a wider variety and a higher standard of accommodations.

Things to Do

To love adventure is to love Belize! This diverse country with various cultures and languages is known for its extreme biodiversity and distinctive ecosystems. Belize has many jungles, wildlife reserves, several species of flora and fauna and the largest cave system in Central America. Among

Belize's flora and fauna is the very special black orchid, the country's national flower and the ever-beautiful keel-bill toucan, the national bird.

Belize is also home to the world-famous Blue Hole Natural Monument, a marine sinkhole that is 1,048 feet in diameter and 407 feet in depth and although known as one of the best dive sites in the world, is not for the faint-hearted. The world's second largest barrier reef lies just 43 miles off the coast of Belize City and is the largest reef system in the Western Hemisphere.

Cuisine of Belize

Belizean cuisine incorporates food from the various ethnicities that call Belize home including Mayan, Creole, Garafuna and Hispanic American and also influenced by its Caribbean and Central American neighbors.

Foods are fresh and mouthwatering. Favorites include the national dish of Rice and Beans, served with fish or meat, fried plantains and potato salad is available on the lunch menu in every restaurant. Others are the popular Hudut (fish coconut stew served with mashed plantain or fu-fu), Boil-Up (root vegetables and pigtail in tomato and onion sauce), Pupusas (corn cakes usually filled with cheese, meat or beans) and Bollos (a corn dough filled with chicken or pork cooked in plantain leaves). These foods would leave you wanting more, every time.

Marriage Requirements

Getting married in Belize is simple and your marriage will be valid internationally.

- Both parties **MUST** be in the country at least three days before applying for the Marriage License.
- The marriage license can be acquired either at:
Registrar General's Office
Belize City | Phone: +501-227-7377 or
Attorney General's Ministry
Belmopan | Phone: +501) 822-2504
- ◆ License and administrative fees cost a total of US \$100
- The completed and signed Marriage License Application must be presented to the General Registrar or Attorney General with the following documents:
 - ◆ Proof of identification (your passport)
 - ◆ Proof of Marital status—divorce decree if divorced, death certificate if widowed
 - ◆ Passport showing the Belize entry stamp
 - ◆ If under age 18, signed, notarized consent from parents

The marriage must be registered with the Registry Department within 10 days after being performed.

A couple in wedding attire is walking up a set of stone steps leading to an ancient Maya temple. The temple is built into a hillside and features intricate carvings and a large stone structure with a doorway. The scene is set against a backdrop of lush green grass and a clear sky. The overall atmosphere is romantic and scenic.

START YOUR JOURNEY **Together**
FROM THE **Perfect** DESTINATION.

What better place to say "I do" than in paradise? In Belize, we offer several picture-perfect wedding locations such as prehistoric caverns, majestic Maya temples, and a dreamy island sandbar, just to name a few. Grab Life with your forever partner surrounded by friends, family, and stunning tropical beauty.

Learn more at TravelBelize.org.

belize



Things to Do

The BVI offers breathtaking vistas of the ocean from almost every corner. In its pristine waters, snorkelers and scuba divers can relish in the reef's mazes, underwater caves, tunnels and drops, inhabited by marine life. Hikers and nature lovers can enjoy the protected national parks, home to nature sanctuaries and the very distinct natural wonder, the Baths National Park which encompasses rock pools hidden in the shadows of massive granite boulders along the beach. A site that will forever keep them in awe.

Cuisine of British Virgin Islands

Seafood is major in the BVI's cuisine with Anegada's spiny lobster, conch and fresh fish, including Mahi Mahi and Grouper, available on the menu of local restaurants. The national dish of 'Fish and Fungi' (Okra cooked with cornmeal and served with fish braised with onions tomatoes, peppers and other spices) is very tasty and certainly worth trying.

Marriage Requirements

The couple must first apply for a Marriage License from the Registrar-General's Office. A *Special License* (US \$220) is required if resident for less than 15 days or an *Ordinary License* (US \$120) if resident for 15 days or more.

The following original documents are required:

- Valid Passport
- Divorce Decree (if applicable)
- Death Certificate (if applicable)
- Previous Marriage Certificate (if applicable)
- Affidavits as proof of Identity (where applicable)

Foreign languages documents must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

There are also other fees (US \$) involved including:

- \$120.00 – for marriages in the Registrar's Office
- \$220.00 – for marriage by a Civil Marriage Officer
- \$25.00 – per certified copy of the Marriage Certificate
- \$15.00 – for correction of each error or omission
- \$75.00 – for couple's late arrival for wedding outside the office by Registrar General

For further details and additional costs, please contact:
Registrar-General's Office | Road Town | Tortola
Phone: (284) 468-3442

Email: info@crisvi.gov.vg or infocris@gov.vg
Visit: www.crisvi.gov.vg

The marriage must be registered with the Registry Department within 10 days after being performed.

The British Virgin Islands (BVI) has more than 60 islands with pristine, palm-fringed, powdery, white-sand beaches; lush green mountains; protected national parks; sheltered, yacht-filled harbors; quiet coves and safe anchorages. While some islands are uninhabited and designated as national parks, others enjoy a robust lifestyle with warm, friendly and hospitable people.

Tortola, home of the capital and business hub Road Town, is a haven for yachts and a center for tourism. Accommodations range from luxury resorts and private villas to Campgrounds.

Virgin Gorda entices some visitors with its yacht clubs, quiet coves and safe anchorages. The island has natural beauty in abundance and is easily accessible via indigenous plant-lined trails. Evidence of the island's rich African, Indian and Spanish history is plentiful. From the Spanish ruins at Little Fort National Park to the Cornish Copper Mines, from the local cuisine to its arts and fashion, the influence is visible everywhere.

Jost Van Dyke, the BVI's smallest island was once home to Arawak Indians, Caribs, Dutch, Africans and the British. Famous inhabitants included William Thornton, architect of the U.S. Capitol Building, and John Lettsome, founder of the London Medical Society.

You can explore the old sugar mill ruins, observe whales and dolphins or treat yourself to a freshly grilled lobster or any of the many other local, mouth-watering dishes.

Anegada is the only coral island in the Virgin Islands' volcanic chain. This island can be easily identified by its nearly flat elevation, its striking coral reefs, secluded sandy beaches and clear springs bubbling from its coral beds.



Seek new horizons.
Treasure
the LOVE.

Even ordinary moments become extraordinary when you spend them surrounded by BVI Love. Come see for yourself and dive into an adventure like never before.



BVI Tourism.com | 1-800-835-8530

Tortola | Virgin Gorda | Jost Van Dyke | Anegada | Cooper Island | Guana Island

Little Thatch | Necker Island | Norman Island | Peter Island | Saba Rock | Scrub Island





Things To Do

For some, Cayman is a diver's dream. With three islands to choose from you can pretty much select an island for your mood.

Cayman Brac – a nature lovers paradise with walking and hiking trails and is home to the only dive-accessible Russian warship in the western hemisphere.

Little Cayman with a population of 250 also boasts spectacular diving.

Cuisine of the Cayman Islands

A destination that is as cosmopolitan as Cayman will offer the best dining experience. Local, Caribbean, International, Gourmet, Chinese, Italian, Mexican and much more is offered in the

most delightful setting. The more upscale restaurants do require jacket for men and appropriate attire for women.

Marriage Requirements

With the proper preparation, you can get married in Cayman as soon as the day you arrive. Here is a list of everything you'll need to have and to hold:

- Proof of citizenship and age (Passport or Birth Certificate and Photo ID)
 - Proof of marital status (Divorce Decree or Death Certificate, if needed)
 - Immigration Department Cards for non-cruisers
 - International Embarkation/Disembarkation Cards For cruise passengers
 - Two witnesses at the ceremony
 - A Non-Residents Marriage License
 - A Letter from the authorized officiating Marriage Officer
- Applications for non-resident marriage licenses and a list of licensed Marriage Officers can be obtained from the Passport and Corporate Services Office. These are provided by the District Commissioner's Office:

Passport & Corporate Services Office

128 Elgin Avenue
George Town | Grand Cayman
Phone: 345-943-7678
Email: passport&corporate@gov.ky

District Commissioner's Office

P. O. Box 240
Cayman Brac KY2-2101
Phone: 345-948-2506
Email: BracDC@gov.ky

Can you imagine a destination more perfectly suited for lovers of life, beauty and romance than the Cayman Islands? Nestled in the Caribbean, just one-hour south of Miami, the three islands shine like a trio of jewels sparkling in a turquoise crown and they are all waiting to welcome you.

The Cayman Islands is the place where love stories begin again, with secluded beaches and indulgent spa treatments setting the scene. Lazy mornings lead to intrepid afternoons, followed by candlelit evenings – as every sunrise and sunset brings added romance.

The real treasure, however, is the special brand of romance each island delivers.

Grand Cayman, the largest and most cosmopolitan, welcomes young and old alike with 5-star accommodations, a bustling local culture and one of the longest, most beautiful stretches of beach in the world.

Little Cayman, famous for its world-class diving and science wonders, isn't just a romantic retreat; it's a romantic surrender.

Cayman Brac, with its awe-inspiring bluff and laid-back lifestyle, splits the difference. The perfect place, not only to get away, but to be away.

With dozens of world class dining options and a host of luxury accommodations, couples come to Cayman Islands to experience an enchanted wedding. So, whether you want a lavish or intimate celebration, everyone gets to enjoy it in a tropical paradise with a choice of world-class amenities and the option of wedding planners who have a reputation for exquisite excellence and resolve to meet every desire

Crystal Caves, Grand Cayman. This is a creative representation; stepping in the water is not permitted.

DREAM IN CAYMAN.

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St. Eustatius Tourism Development Foundation

A dormant volcano reigns over the tiny Dutch-Caribbean Island of St. Eustatius. Towering at nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, The Quill dominates this island of 8.1-square miles, nicknamed Statia.

Discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493, the tiny island changed hands among 22 countries but has remained with the Dutch since they took over in 1816. During the 1700s, the capital town of Oranjestad, was the trading hub for slaves as well as cotton, sugar, and other commodities from Europe.

Small hotels, inns, lodges, apartments and luxury villas, are your choices for accommodation. Restaurants are aplenty...and one can certainly join the locals and enjoy the favorite goat meat with rice and peas. A meal to die for!

Things to Do

Statia's large crater is home to a tropical rainforest where orchids, bromeliads ferns and lianas are part of the flora. The Quill was designated as a National Park in 1997. Hikers get the opportunity to visit multiple vegetation zones, from dry forest to evergreen seasonal woodland. For the adventurous, you'll need only to stop at the rim of the crater to catch your breath and enjoy the magnificent views before descending into the pit to explore the lush vegetation, including fruit and silk cotton trees.

Statia is just as popular for what lies below the sea as what lies above. It's a diver's dream with several ancient wrecks, submerged anchors, cannons, pristine corals, and a

variety of colorful fish, rays and turtles.

Statia Cuisine

While St Eustatius does not really have its own specialized cuisine, there are some tasty Creole (Caribbean of African descent) options if looking for something a little exotic. Although the food has a strong Dutch influence, there is an array of international eateries, including European, American, and Asian.

Specialities include Carnistoba or Goat Stew that's usually served with rice and peas and provisions, Funchi or corn (polenta) mush, Pan Bati, a corn flour pancake, and Bolo Pretu, a black, fruit cake prepared for Christmas and at weddings and special occasions. There is also a variety of local seafood including pickled conch, baked snapper in shrimp sauce, grilled fish and lobster.

Marriage Requirements

Statia rightly boasts of being prime for a unique wedding. Look beyond the beach and the courthouse. Imagine the historic Fort Oranje built in 1636 or the ruins of "Honen Dalim Jewish Synagogue built in 1793. There's also The Miriam C Smith Botanical Gardens. So, if you're looking for a one-of-a-kind experience, look no further. You will need:

- A completed application of marriage
- To register your *Notice of Intent to Marry* in writing at least 3 weeks before the wedding
- Be at least 18 years of age—if under 18, proof of parental consent stamped and notarized
- Valid passports
- Birth certificates with the parent's name
- Proof of "Single" status: divorce decree or death certificate
- If applicable, proof of name-change by Deed Poll, stamped and notarized. Documents must be presented in English or Dutch. If translated, present original and translated copies
- Two witnesses must be present if getting married at the Registrar's Office and six witnesses are required for marriages taking place elsewhere
- Total Fees: US \$300—\$330 depending if you get married on a weekend or weekday, at the courthouse or elsewhere.

For more information, please contact the:

Census Office

Kenip Road

Princess Garden | St. Eustatius

Phone: +599 318 2027

census.office@statiagov.com



*Explore the boundless possibilities
of the Golden Rock!*

statia-tourism.com



St. Martin Tourist Office

The Isle of two! St. Martin is divided into two geographical zones. St. Martin, or the French side, occupies two thirds of the island to the north and is an overseas collectivity of France. The southern end of the island, the Dutch Side, Sint Maarten, a country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Although these are two very distinctly different countries by characteristics, only welcome signs and flags indicate that there is a border. Yes, everyone is free to travel across both countries without any hassle. The island has beautiful landscapes, an array of beaches from lively to the quiet, and offers every watersport you love or dream of trying.

Whether you choose to stay at a luxurious hotel, a charming villa, or a pretty guesthouse, there's white sand, turquoise waters, and quiet romantic hideaways available for all. So, soak up the sun while you sip a fresh cocktail, enjoy the magnificent sunsets as you take a stroll with your loved one or delight in a romantic candlelit dinner just for two ... after all St. Martin is a Lovers' Paradise. Savor each moment!

Things to Do

A trip to St. Martin also offers the tantalizing opportunity to go island-hopping. You can take a ferry to Anguilla, St. Barts or Saba or a short flight to St. Eustatius or St. Kitts and Nevis. Be sure your visas are in order before leaving home and your visit could become quite an expedition to the neighboring British, French and Dutch islands.

Marigot, the capital is home to beautiful colorful houses,

an open-air waterfront market and a variety of cozy, chic boutiques. It is also a base for duty-free shopping with many clothing, shoes, jewelry, cosmetics, and liquor shops.

Cuisine of St. Martin

French cuisine with Caribbean flavors best describes St. Martin's cuisine. The subtle mix of flavors, spicy sweetness, chili peppers, achiotes, chayote, fish, lobster, and shellfish will ravish your taste buds and surprise and tantalize your senses.

The island's best chefs convene on the Grand Case waterfront where the main road is lined with restaurants serving Creole, Italian, French among other foods. It has been described as a happy gastronomic "melting pot!"

Looking to enjoy a taste of Caribbean including grilled lobster or stuffed crab then check out one of the lolos along Grand Case beach. These typical open-air restaurants on the waterfront give you the chance to savor St. Martin like a local.

Marriage Requirements

Civil ceremonies are held exclusively at the **Collectivité of St Martin Salles des mariages** (the Marriage Hall)

- Both parties must be at least 18 years of age
- If either party is French, one person must be resident for at least 1 month
- Wedding banns **MUST** be published for 10 days prior
- Submit a letter with names and date of marriage 14 days prior to the ceremony along with the following notarized and translated documents:
 - ◆ ID for both parties and their witnesses
 - ◆ Birth certificate issued within 3 months along with a French translation
 - ◆ Proof of address for both parties and their witnesses
 - ◆ Marriage contract (Contrat de Mariage), if applicable
 - ◆ Foreigner nationals need to provide "Certificat de coutume" - a document stipulating the laws of their country regarding marriage and "Certificat de Célibat" - certificate proving celibacy issued within 3 months
 - ◆ Copy of previous marriage certificate with proof of divorce or death, if applicable
 - ◆ Authorization from your superior (if in the military)

Send documents to:

**President
Collectivité de Saint-Martin
BP374 - 97054 Saint Martin**

For more details call: +05 90 87 61 80 63 09



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falling in love

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US Virgin Islands Department of Tourism

Revitalize your heart with an escape to Utopia - St. Croix and experience the beauty of love. With no passport required and the U.S. Dollar as the official currency, you can experience exotic beauty easily.

Delight in celebrating your love in one of the most unique and beautiful places in the world. Renew your vows on your own private beach or get married at any of the historic houses of worship that are scattered across the island.

There are a variety of places for couples to explore together. St. Croix offers secluded beaches to lie in the sun or swim together. You can also snorkel together with sea turtles and all kinds of exotic marine life at Buck Island.

St. Croix, the largest of our islands, is a tranquil tropical destination for honeymooners, culture seekers, scuba divers and more. St. Croix has a fascinating history rich in cultural diversity. Spain, Great Britain, the Netherlands, France, the Knights of Malta, Denmark and the United States all played a role in shaping St. Croix. Experience the island's unique culture through its arts, crafts, music and more during a variety of festivals and cultural events throughout the year.

Take the Plunge on St. Croix

Known for its exceptional diving, St. Croix offers one of the most distinctive ways to get hitched.

Adventurous couples can literally “take the plunge” in an underwater ceremony complete with scuba gear.

In fact, St. Croix holds the world record for the largest underwater wedding: an event that drew more than 100 certified divers as guests. For those who prefer to begin their life together on land, other St. Croix settings include 19th-century churches and a lush botanical garden.

St. Croix offers a wonderful mouth-watering mix of cuisine. Check out the Food and Wine Experience to explore all the tastes the island has to offer.

Marriage Requirements

To make your dream wedding become a reality, request an application for a wedding license by writing to:

The Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands
P. O. Box 929 | Christiansted
St. Croix, USVI 00821
or Call 340-778-9750

After the island receives a completed and authorized application, there is a required eight-day waiting period.

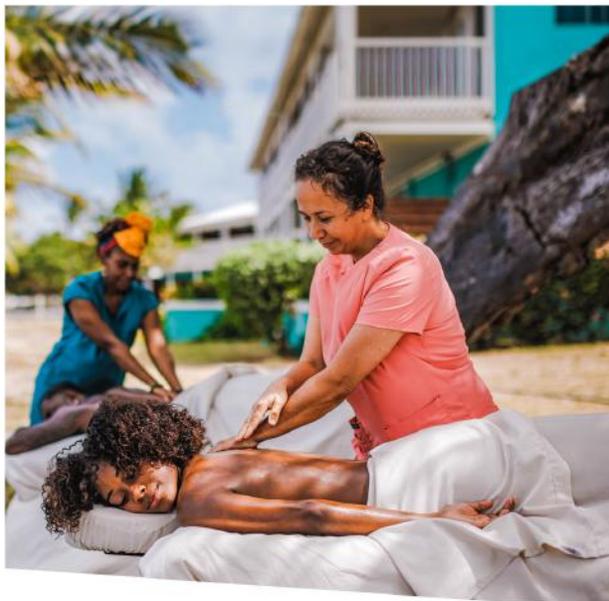
If either party is divorced, he or she must have a certified copy of the divorce decree or a notarized affidavit stating when the divorce was granted.

Additionally, please specify whether the marriage will be performed by a judge in the court or by a clergy member. If you wish to be married in court, you need to make an appointment. You can make appointments for court marriages on St. Thomas, Monday through Friday, and on St. Croix, Monday through Thursday by calling the appropriate Territorial Court.

The marriage application fee is US \$25 and the marriage license fee is US \$25. If you are not being married in the court by a judge, there is also a fee of US \$200 for the ceremony. **Personal checks are not accepted.**

For more information on destination weddings and honeymoons in the USVI, check out our website visitUSVI.com.





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Come for unspoiled beauty, stay to create memories in St. John. With no passport required and the U.S. Dollar as the official currency, you can experience exotic beauty quick and easy.

If being pampered together is more your style then you can visit the exquisite resorts of St. John. Though it is the smallest of the three main U.S. Virgin Islands, St. John's unspoiled beauty is perhaps the greatest found anywhere in the Caribbean. The natural beauty of the Caribbean, St. John offers visitors pristine splendor amid modern luxuries.

Get Hitched in Secluded Natural Splendor

Exquisite natural beauty takes center stage in ceremonies on St. John, the smallest of the islands, where wedding settings include waterfront gazebos, island chapels and tropical villas.

The island, two-thirds of which is undeveloped, is an extraordinary choice for nature lovers who will find the 11,560-acre Virgin Islands National Park an incomparable setting featuring 800 varieties of plants and 160 species of birds.

St. John has some of the world's most beautiful beaches,

like the much-beloved Trunk Bay. This beach is renowned for its crystal sands and underwater nature trail, and it just one of the many memorable beaches on St. John.

If you and your partner want something a bit more casual and laid back, then a local pub or patio overlooking moonlit Cruz Bay on St. John. Whatever you choose to do together, let the magic of our islands strengthen your Real Nice connection to yourself and each other.

Originally settled by the Arawak and Carib Indians, the island has a history as rich as its landscape. The United States purchased St. John from the Danish West India and Guinea Company in 1917.

Marriage Requirements

To make your dream wedding become a reality, request an application for a wedding license from the Territorial Court of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Write to:

Territorial Court | Family Court Division
P. O. Box 70 | St. Thomas, USVI 00804
or call 340-774-6680.

After the island receives a completed and authorized application, there is a required eight-day waiting period.

If either party is divorced, he or she must have a certified copy of the divorce decree or a notarized affidavit stating when the divorce was granted.

Additionally, please specify whether the marriage will be performed by a judge in the court or by a clergy member. If you wish to be married in court, you need to make an appointment. You can make appointments for court marriages on St. Thomas, Monday through Friday, and on St. Croix, Monday through Thursday by calling the appropriate Territorial Court.

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US Virgin Islands Department of Tourism

Discover an island that pulses with energy! St. Thomas is our most cosmopolitan island, yet it still retains the distinctive atmosphere of a Caribbean paradise. For families or couples, St. Thomas is packed with opportunities for smiles and surprise.

If you're more the adventuresome type, check out Coral World on St. Thomas and explore the depths, petting sharks or swimming with sea lions.

Enjoy the mouth-watering entrees on St. Thomas that range from continental cuisine to Caribbean and Mexican foods.

There is plenty of duty-free shopping, spectacular diving and world-class dining. Enjoy the island's world-renowned golf course, picture-perfect beaches and spectacular nightlife.

Take the Skyride 700 feet above the city or climb the famous 99 Steps of Charlotte Amalie for an incomparable view of the Caribbean. And if you're interested in culture and history, don't miss seeing the **second-oldest synagogue in the Western Hemisphere**, the 1680-built Fort Christian or

the childhood home of Camille Pissarro, one of the best-known French Impressionists.

Take Your Pick

On St. Thomas, settings can take on the island's more cosmopolitan atmosphere, including the bustling backdrop of Charlotte Amalie harbor.

Forty beautiful beaches, including heart-shaped Magens Bay, voted one of the ten most beautiful beaches in the world by *National Geographic*, ensure there's no shortage of shoreline for seaside nuptials.

For those spellbound by local legend, the medieval-style Skjotsborg, better known as Blackbeard's Castle, adds a touch of the 17th-century lore to the wedding day.

Marriage Requirements

To make your dream wedding become a reality, request an application for a wedding license from the Territorial Court of the U.S. Virgin Islands at:

Territorial Court | Family Court Division
P. O. Box 70 | St. Thomas, USVI 00804
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Additionally, please specify whether the marriage will be performed by a judge in the court or by a clergy member. If you wish to be married in court, you need to make an appointment. You can make appointments for court marriages by calling the appropriate Territorial Court on the listed days:

- St. Thomas: Monday through Friday
- St. Croix: Monday through Thursday

The marriage application fee is US \$25 and the marriage license fee is US \$25. If you are not being married in the court by a judge, there is also a fee of US \$200 for the ceremony. **Personal checks are not accepted.**





SAY "I DO" IN PARADISE.

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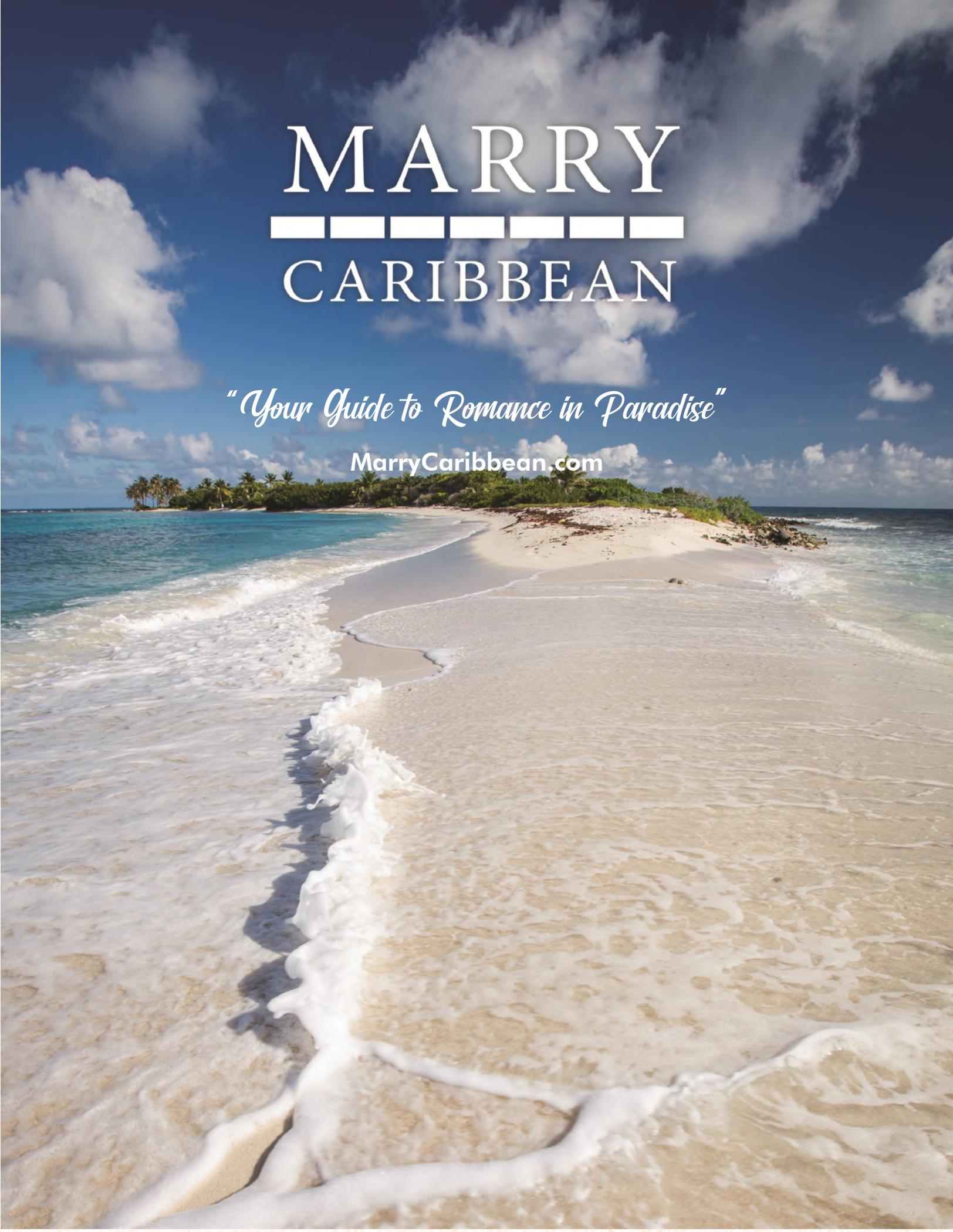
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