

Come To Vegas For An Elvis Wedding!

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By Kirsten Hawkins

Las Vegas is known for a great many things, not the least of which are Elvis Presley and weddings.

Elvis is literally everywhere in Vegas. There's a museum full of Elvis memorabilia and most of the hotels have some kind of Elvis presence. Weddings are as much a part of Vegas as Elvis is. About 100,000 wedding ceremonies are performed each year in Las Vegas and there are wedding chapels all over town. With so many weddings and so much Elvis it seems only natural that the denizens of Las Vegas came up with a way to merge the two into a bizarre yet popular hybrid known as the Elvis Wedding.

Elvis Weddings have been available at a number of Vegas chapels for quite some time. The concept that seems like a bad sitcom joke is actually quite popular in Vegas and couples show up every day to be married by Elvis, serenaded by Elvis, picked up in a limousine driven by Elvis, or accompanied on a tandem bicycle by Elvis. One chapel offers the option of having Elvis give away the Bride. The Elvis wedding is nothing short of a unique experience. And that experience is offered at just under a dozen chapels on and off the Strip. Some of the chapels themselves seem designed around the Elvis Wedding. If you're getting married at the Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel or the Graceland Wedding Chapel, you pretty much have to expect an appearance by The King. The Viva Las Vegas chapel offers a "Blue Hawaii" Elvis Wedding that includes a Priscilla impersonator.

It may go without saying that the Aladdin Wedding Chapel is proudest of their Elvis Weddings and they are quick to point out that they were host to the original Elvis Wedding - the eight minute wedding of Elvis and Priscilla Presley took place in one of their rooms (at the original Aladdin) in 1967. The Elvis Weddings at the Aladdin Wedding Chapel may be the most low key of the bunch. Here you can be married by Elvis and have the option of having him serenade you.

Other locations that offer Elvis Weddings in Vegas include the Silver Bell Wedding Chapel, A Las Vegas Wedding Chapel, Cupid's Wedding Chapel, A Hollywood Wedding Chapel, and the Shalimar Wedding Chapel. Each chapel has different features included in their Elvis weddings and your choice of a site may be determined by just how much or how little Elvis you'd actually like in your Elvis wedding.

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The prices for an Elvis Wedding vary by location and the different options included. Most are priced similarly to what you'd pay for a regular (i.e. non-Elvis) wedding at a Vegas chapel. So, if you're going to choose to marry in Las Vegas, why not go all out with the wackiness and fun of the Elvis Wedding? You'll definitely be left with interesting stories to relate to your friends, family, and any little Lisa Marias that may be in your future.

Kirsten Hawkins is an event planner from Nashville, TN. Visit

<http://www.wedding411.net/>

for more

event planning tips, strategies, and resources.

Wedding Theme Central: Vegas, Baby

By "Amy K. Spade"

Who hasn't thought of getting married in Las Vegas at some point or another? Whether it's the glitz and the glamor of the city or just the fun environment, you might want to take that and put it into your own wedding.

And you won't have to run off and elope to do it either. Bring everyone with you. Blue suede shoes?

No, you don't have to have the groom dress up as Elvis to have a traditional Vegas wedding—although that's not a bad idea.

You can start off the wedding plans with an invitation that looks like a deck of cards. This is an indication of the fun, relaxed atmosphere of the wedding. You may even want to drop in a few real cards just for good measure.

Take the theme even further by naming all of the tables by the various hotels and casinos in Vegas—the Flamingo, Bellagio, and the Golden Nugget are just a few. You can have favors that are Vegas inspired—cards, poker chips, etc.

You may want to make the ceremony look like one of the strip's wedding chapels. Put up a sign that says "Chapel of Love" or something like that.

And yes, there's more

One of the neatest ways to capture your Vegas wedding is to find someone who can create a cake in the shape of your favorite Vegas building. Why not have a cake in the shape of the Sphinx at the Luxor hotel? Or perhaps you want something more clichéd—like the old boy Elvis himself.

Although the groom may not want to dress up like Elvis, you may want to incorporate red and black

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into your overall color scheme. These are the colors of Vegas, after all. Perhaps you can even set up small slot machines or card tables for the night. Hire a few blackjack dealers and you're sure to have some impressed and satisfied guests.

Food is easy for a Vegas wedding because buffet is the way to go in the casinos. Set up a similar food sampling, and people will forget that they're not in Vegas, but at your wedding.

And of course, a lounge singer is always nice, but not necessary.

Having a Vegas themed wedding is all about having fun. Perhaps you were engaged in Vegas or just want to capture its essence, either way, get creative and let the night be one you can bet on.

Amy Spade is an expert on planning weddings, and she has written an amazing totally free minicourse on how to make sure that you have the day of your dreams, and avoid wedding day disaster! Get the free course "Your Special Day from Start to Finish" now at at

<http://www.weddingdata.com>



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