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**Destination Wedding Or Traditional Wedding**

**By Charles Cater**

So the engagement has finally come and you are ready to start the planning on your dream

wedding. Every girl has dreamed of the perfect wedding. Big Church, Fancy White Gown, Men in Dinner Tuxedo's, Flowers everywhere, now society has this new idea. The Destination Wedding. Which do you choose, Traditional or New Age. Big blowout event or small intimate setting with close friends and family.

My wife and I are wedding coordinators that have coordinated and participated in both types of weddings. We have been the Bridesmaids and Groomsmen in the local society wedding. We have been the Bridesmaid and Groomsmen in weddings on the beach and by a mountain stream.

All of these adequately fit the individuals that had them. The couple in the mountains would have been miserable in a large Church wedding. Likewise the Couple in the large Church wedding would have had an inadequate feeling had they not hosted this lavish event. So what is really the difference.

The first thought is that the small wedding is cheaper. Don't be fooled by this at all. Generally speaking this wedding will have family and friends being transported to a resort destination, causing the cost of accommodations and food to increase. The wedding party is also there in the same location as the honeymoon site. So why use this option:

\*You don't want family and friends involved in the Ceremonies at all. \*You want to have a close knit wedding and get to enjoy everyone involved in it. \*You are looking for something that is simply different from the norm. \*Mother-in-Laws are overbearing and will ruin the wedding. \*Better site for the Honeymoon location.

So the Traditional Wedding is the route you want to go. Well be forewarned there are several advantages and disadvantages to this as well. The cost of the rehearsal dinner and the reception have to be calculated. The guest from out of town have to be put up in a local hotel. So why spend the expense.

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\*The Family generally does not have to travel as far and are local. \*Your traditional minister can perform the ceremony. \*Your dreams of the Perfect White Church Wedding can be fulfilled. \*Old friends and family acquaintances will be at the wedding. \*You prefer short amounts of time to be spent with many different individuals.

No matter which you choose, make sure that you are well informed and have read sites such as

<http://www.bridalblog.info>

and

<http://www.travelblogger.info>

. These sites will provide insight into your

coming decision and outline how others have dealt with this difficult decision. As I get older and purportedly wiser I wish my wife and I's Large Church Wedding would have been a South Pacific Destination wedding. Then I get out the old Wedding Photo Album and see all of the relatives who were at the wedding and are no longer with us and am glad that we had the Large Church Wedding.

Make sure to Consider all details and take time to make this decision. It will define you as a couple starting into your new lives together.

Charles Cater

Charles and his wife run a wedding coordinator business in the Upstate of South Carolina. They have been coordinating weddings for the last two years. This article may be reprinted freely as long as all links remain active.

<http://www.bridalblog.info>

<http://www.thewebllama.com>

<http://www.travelblogger.info>

## **Destination Weddings: No Longer Reserved For The Wealthy**

**By Kirsten Hawkins**

For a long time the destination wedding, a wedding combined with a vacation for the couple, wedding party, and guests, was an exotic treat attainable only by the extremely wealthy. This is no longer the case as destination weddings have, in recent years, become an attainable and attractive alternative for more and more couples seeking to put an enjoyable romantic spin on their nuptial occasion.

Destination wedding planners like to advertise that the destination wedding can cost thousands less

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than a traditional wedding. While this may or may not be true, depending on what a particular couple plans to spend on their traditional wedding as opposed to what they'll have to spend for a destination wedding, it is certainly a fact that a destination wedding is no longer completely out of the question for the average couple. If you're interested in celebrating your own marriage ceremony with a destination wedding, here are some helpful pointers that can have you enjoying your wedding in a vacation locale without completely emptying the coffers.

### Your Destination Doesn't Have to be Distant:

One of the truly beautiful things about living in the United States is that we have vacation spots nearly everywhere. By planning your destination wedding in a place that is relatively close to home, you can save considerably on airfare or other travel arrangements. Do you live on the East Coast? Make Orlando, Florida your destination and enjoy your honeymoon with Mickey Mouse. Already in Florida and been to Disneyworld far too many times? Set your sights on the Big Apple and enjoy a destination wedding in the City that Never Sleeps. Maybe you're in the Midwest? If so a destination wedding in Chicago may have just the right romantic touch for you. You could also consider heading south to Texas to visit the Alamo. Live in the Southwest or Northwest? Then Las Vegas and Los Angeles are mere hours away by plane. The point is that your destination wedding doesn't have to be held in London, Paris, or Munich to be an event you will remember fondly and cherish forever.

### Plan Ahead and Get Group Rates:

Everyone knows that air passage costs less when booked and purchased well in advance. Be sure to make the reservations for your destination wedding far ahead of time to get the best value for you and your guests. Also, utilize the services of a talented travel agent who can negotiate your airfare and hotel accommodations all together. Doing so can save you an amazing percentage of the overall cost of your destination wedding.

### If There's an 'Off Season,' Take Advantage of It:

Many of the vacation spots around the country have an off season where the rates for hotels, airfare, and attractions are quite lower than they are during their busier times. By planning your destination wedding during these non-peak times you can save money and enjoy your destination when there are fewer tourists getting in the way of your enjoyment.

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

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

for more

event planning tips, strategies, and resources.



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