



# ANTIGUA FOR THE *Perfect Wedding*

**The ‘Romance Capital of the Caribbean’, Antigua and Barbuda are a match made in heaven for couples wanting to tie the knot and honeymooners. All the ingredients for romance are here and getting married is a breeze – an island breeze that is! With no residency requirements, you can be exchanging your vows on one of our beautiful, palm-fringed beaches within the hour ...**

**A**ntigua has beautiful white sand beaches and activities galore; Barbuda is a back-to-nature island blessed with miles of secluded pink sand beaches. Whichever island you choose as the backdrop for your perfect wedding, professional wedding planners will be on hand to help with everything from the legal formalities to the champagne and flowers. Hotel wedding packages are also readily available, special group deals making it easy for family and friends to join you in this (hopefully!) once-in-a-lifetime event.

Most people decide to get married on the beach, in their hotel grounds, or in the gardens of their rental villa, specialist wedding photographers readily available to capture all the special moments. Ceremony locations include anything from sun-kissed sands and palm-studded pool decks to lush, tropical gardens and even breeze-cooled jetties. Wherever you choose, your special day can include memorable treats like romantic wedding breakfasts overlooking the Caribbean Sea or champagne and canapés around infinity-edge swimming pools.



**ANTIGUA  
AND BARBUDA**  
*The beach is just the beginning...*



You can even get married in one of our quaint island churches provided you allow additional time and fulfill certain formalities. These include getting permission from the individual church authorities and sometimes attending pre-nuptial consultations. Allow some extra time if planning a church ceremony.

Whether you're a bride, a groom, or a guest, our full-service hotel spas and beauty salons will ensure you look your best on your special day. Anything from seaweed scrubs and detoxing body wraps to bridal make-up and hair styling feature on the long list of treatments available. One of the island's leading bridal hair specialists is David's Hair Salon just outside St. John's on Friar's Hill Road.

Obviously, Antigua and Barbuda is also an ideal honeymoon destination. Indeed, thanks to our halcyon climate, idyllic beaches and exclusive hotels, our twin island nation is likely to provide such a splendid beginning to married life that you'll want to return for your anniversary to keep the romantic momentum alive!



## LEGAL PROCEDURE

**It is easy to get married in Antigua and here is some information to prepare you for your island style wedding.**

The legal procedure starts at the Ministry of Legal Affairs on Queen Elizabeth Highway in St. John's. You must take both passports and a copy of your divorce papers, if relevant. There will be a friendly interview, then your licence will be issued. The cost is EC\$405.00 (US\$150.00).

The next step is a visit to the Registrar General's office which is also on Queen Elizabeth Highway. The fee is EC\$100.00 (US\$40.00) and please note that this is only for registering at the Court House. An official marriage certificate costs EC\$25.00 (US\$10.00).

If the wedding is performed outside the Court House, there is a Marriage Officer fee of EC\$270.00 (US\$100.00).

The location is left solely up to you, although most people choose to get married in their hotel or villa grounds and, of course, on the beach.

Your marriage must be solemnised in the presence of two or more witnesses - just ask some fellow hotel guests to do this for you.

## DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Please ensure you bring the following documentation with you to Antigua and Barbuda:

- Valid passports as proof of citizenship.
- Original divorce decree or, in the case of a widow or widower, the original marriage and death certificate.
- If there has been a name change provide affidavits in cases where you are known by another name.
- Both parties must be over 15. If under 18 written authorisation from parents or guardians is required.

NB: All documents presented should be original or certified original by the issuing departments or offices.

**The Ministry of Legal Affairs Tel: (268) 462-0017 is open Monday to Thursday from 8am to 4:30pm and on Fridays from 8am to 3pm.**

**The Registrar General's office Tel: (268) 462-3744 is open Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 4:30pm and Friday 8:30am to 2pm.**