

GETTING MARRIED IN Jamaica

WHY JAMAICA

If love and romance are part of your Jamaican adventure, getting married on the Island is as easy as ever. Your event can be as extravagant or as simple as you want it to be. Whether you are getting married or enjoying your honeymoon, anywhere in Jamaica is ideal. The resort areas of Ocho Rios, Negril and Montego Bay are the trendiest locations to "tie the knot", although in Jamaica it really depends on your desires. Get married at an all-inclusive resort, an old fashioned hotel, a cozy inn, or a private villa. There are sufficient accommodations for large groups or smaller intimate parties.

Choose Jamaica and let us help you plan an enchanting and memorable wedding experience complete with a picturesque backdrop. Whether you've envisioned exchanging vows on a white-sand beach, a cliff overlooking turquoise waters or even in an exotic garden, Jamaica is the ideal tropical portal to your "happily ever after".

GETTING MARRIED IN JAMAICA IS EASY

Jamaica is often ranked as one of the top places for weddings and honeymoons. This can be credited to the hassle-free wedding approach coupled with the island's beauty. Jamaica is also easy to get to, with flights from most major international gateways and across Canada.



WEDDING CEREMONY OPTIONS

In Jamaica, we can celebrate your nuptials in your chosen denomination. You can have a traditional or non-traditional, a religious or a non-denominational ceremony, the choice is yours. There are many houses of worship in Jamaica celebrating a variety of religions. There are also non-denominational Marriage Officers who can officiate at a place chosen by the couple, and are able to provide witnesses. Marriage Officer fees may vary.

BEST TIME TO GET MARRIED IN JAMAICA

When it comes to a wedding, weather plays a big role in video, pictures and the overall atmosphere. Most of our days are filled with sunshine and warmth; weddings are popular year-round in Jamaica. Summer months are our warmest because of the excellent weather. December through to May is very popular due to the increase in flights servicing the Island. If you are looking to be more cost effective, September, October and November are great months to consider.





REQUIREMENTS FOR GETTING MARRIED

Visitors can be married just 24 hours after arriving in Jamaica, providing prior application has been made for a marriage licence to the Ministry of Justice. If you are getting married at one of our local hotels, the wedding co-ordinator will make these arrangements on your behalf.

If you choose to make the arrangements yourself, the application must be submitted to:

Customer Service Desk Ministry of Justice 61 Constant Spring Road - Commerce Gate Kingston 10

Tel: (876) 906-4923-31/279-8199

For more details about obtaining a marriage licence visit: http://moj.gov.jm/services-and-information/marriage-licence



REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Unlike many countries, Jamaica does not require a blood test before getting married. However, the following documentation is required:

- Proof of citizenship
- Certified copy of birth certificate, which includes father's name
- Parent's written consent if under 18 years of age
- Proof of divorce if applicable (original certificate of divorce)
- Certified copy of death certificate for widow or widower

SPECIAL NOTE

All documents that are not issued in English must be translated by an Official Translator and subsequently certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country of residence and by the nearest Jamaican Mission or Honorary Consulate.

PROCESSING FEE

The processing fee for the Marriage Licence is Four Thousand Jamaican Dollars (approximately US\$50.00). This fee is included in the price quoted by most, if not all, hotel wedding packages. The marriage licence is valid for 3 months and the application is a same day process.

North, south, east or west, each of Jamaica's regions has its own distinctive vibe. Montego Bay features elegant locations on and off the beach, complete with tropical trimmings. Montego Bay boasts a host of brand name resorts offering stellar dining options, full-service spas, golf courses and more. Montego Bay also features the Montego Bay Convention Centre for those needing an extra spacious wedding facility.

For couples that prefer a laid-back island-style mantra, Negril will fit this bill. Negril is a cliff lover's paradise and will serve as the picture-perfect setting for any style of wedding and a relaxed and enjoyable honeymoon. The region's Seven Mile Beach has been ranked amongst the best beaches in the Caribbean by Trip Advisor's Traveler's Choice Awards.



Jamaica is well suited for couples seeking adventure along with their nuptials and honeymoon. With more attractions than any other English-speaking Caribbean island, Jamaica boasts natural wonders such as Dunn's River Falls, Fern Gully in Ocho Rios, bamboo rafting on the Martha Brae and mountain biking in the Blue Mountains. Couples can also go off the road with ATVs through adventure outfitters, including Island Routes Adventures and Chukka Caribbean Adventures, or horseback riding in the ocean. They can also explore the island on a romantic catamaran sunset cruise or fly through the forest on Mystic Mountain's heart-pumping bobsled mountain ride and canopy zip-line tour.



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Port-Antonio, one of Jamaica's best kept secrets, offers a variety of options. Nestled between the Blue Mountains and the Caribbean Sea, there are a variety of luxury, echo-chic, boutique hotels and villas to choose from. If you are looking for a really unique wedding, Trident Castle may interest you. It's a sprawling 7 acre, 8 bedroom oceanfront estate that creates an exceptional retro-chic ambiance.

For the couple that wants anything but a cookie-cutter wedding, Jamaica offers wedding locations that allow them to customize every single detail themselves. There are venues that will allow you to rent the whole facility with very few restrictions, including no additional charge for guests to attend. The island is home to many beautiful beaches, lush gardens, historical sites and natural and untouched waterfalls.

HELP ALONG THE WAY

If there's one thing we take seriously here on the island; it's love! There are lots of ideas and options for all budgets and tastes, to make your wedding or honeymoon special. There are many ways to book and plan your dream wedding. At the Jamaica Tourist Board, we love and support travel agents. We always recommend talking to your local or preferred travel agent to book your Jamaican wedding or honeymoon. We are also very social and would like to introduce you to Wendy, our resident love guru on twitter. Wendy can help with your day and can be tweeted any questions at twitter.com/weddingsinja