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 Travel & Events with Style

By going beyond, Travel and Events with Style specializes in distinctive destination weddings and style infused local event design and planning. They have the combined professional services of a travel agency, wedding coordinating firm, and have a Marriage Commissioner on staff. With their design firm, With Style Designs, they also offer custom wedding stationary. A perfect cocktail for a dream wedding, whether it is local or away in paradise!

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We're just starting to plan our destination wedding. Do you have any planning advice?

Start by mapping out what you want for your wedding, vision-wise, listing all the important items that you would like to obtain. It is important to consider what type of resort or location you are looking for, and how important is it to you to be close to towns for excursions or shopping. Are you looking for something special for the over-all look and vision of your wedding? Not all locations can offer certain flowers, amenities, beaches, sports or climate you may be hoping for. Most importantly, make a budget! Make one budget for the travel portion and one for the wedding itself. It is important to be realistic as well. Expect to pay the worth of the location you have chosen (5 star resorts in the Caribbean and Mexico usually start at \$1800 or more per person with most travel expenses). By making these lists, you now can express the most important details to your destination wedding specialist and they can effectively work with you to find the best match for your wedding or honeymoon.

We're having trouble deciding where to go for our destination wedding. What are the most popular destination wedding spots, and why?

The majority of the time when asked about the most popular destination wedding spots, we answer with locations that offer direct flights. When going out of the country abroad, most groups feel more comfortable knowing that their route will be straight forward. In the case of destination weddings, it is sometimes a challenge to persuade 30 to 60 of your nearest and dearest to fly 18 hours with 3 connections just to arrive to the spot where you want to be wed. A few tropical locations that never seem to slow down are Hawaii, the Mayan Riviera and Puerto Vallarta (among others in Mexico), Punta Cana, and various areas of Jamaica (Montego Bay, Negril, and Ocho Rios). All of these locations also offer a lot to tourists by way of shopping and excursions.

What do we need to bring with us?

This question is definitely dependent on where you are traveling to, but if you are planning to be away for a while on your honeymoon or destination wedding, there is always a large chance that you could miss the little items. The best tip I can offer is to make a running list (yes, this may be obvious). Start it well in advance and keep it close by so you can add to it whenever you think of something. When you are in the midst of planning a wedding, don't expect yourself to just sit down one day and make a complete list.

Another idea is to open your suitcase a month early and start dropping in items you think you will need. There's nothing like seeing the reminder of a suitcase half full with your bathing suit, brochures, a great book, and passport as a friendly reminder that you will soon be whisked away to somewhere wonderful with your new spouse!

What are the top honeymoon hotspots?

ROMANCE Nothing says romance like over-the-water bungalows! Tahiti and Bora Bora have had these options for years and it never gets tired. Imagine crystal blue waters, walking out on the pier to your private cabin and enjoying the sounds of the peaceful waves rocking you to sleep at night. And for those who don't wish to travel as far as the South Pacific, Sandals in St. Lucia will be unveiling their over-the-water bungalows very soon. A much shorter jaunt, but the same, if not more, luxury.

ADVENTURE Costa Rica! All in one country, your travel provider can arrange white water rafting, zip lining, surfing off the Pacific Coast of Jaco Beach, and then ending the vacation with a few days soaking up the sun at a 5 star resort in Guardalavaca. If you have a few weeks for a honeymoon and a middle to higher budget, this entire list is obtainable and the best memory you could imagine!

FUN IN THE SUN Instinctively, most would answer with an option on the beach, but my answer is a luxurious 12 night Mediterranean cruise! Imagine departing from Barcelona, Spain and traveling along the gorgeous Mediterranean coast. Your stops would include France, Rome, Italy and Croatia with a return to Spain. As a luxury cruise the cost is relative, but the fun and experience right after having the most important day of your life as a couple would make it an amazing beginning to your new lives together. If you have the time, exploring a little more in Spain or Europe would make it a trip of a lifetime.

CANADIAN The Canadian Rockies have so much to offer from summer to winter, so any time during the year will not disappoint. There are hot springs, summer and winter sports, and everywhere you go, an essence of peaceful tranquility while staying at luxurious hotels and cabins. The Okanagan Valley is full of orchards and wineries. The best point of traveling out west is that there are many options for travel. Most locations can be reached by car (not just plane), so a quiet road trip with multiple stops may be a great way to spend a honeymoon.