



barbados

WEDDING GUIDE



ELEGANT HOTELS

BARBADOS

elegance with a twist

Why Get Married in Barbados?

- How does over 3,000 hours of sunshine per year sound? Barbados boasts generally warm and sunny weather all year round with an average daytime high of 30°C / 86°F.
- Marriage made easy! There is no need for advance notice and no minimum stay requirement. Your ceremony can take place as soon as you obtain your marriage license.
- From the beautiful azure waters of the Caribbean sea to the lush, tropical gardens that abound on this island paradise, you'll have no limit of breathtaking venue choices for your big day.
- There's no end to the exciting activities and attractions in Barbados! Swim with turtles, enjoy a sun-soaked sail along the Platinum West Coast, explore one of Barbados' greatest wonders, Harrison's Cave, view the spectacular sea life from 130 feet beneath the sea on a submarine and so much more - the opportunities for adventure are endless.
- Come for the wedding, stay for the honeymoon. Your honeymoon begins as soon you say 'I Do'. No flights to catch means no additional travel days. You are here!



A bride and groom are shown in a tropical garden setting, kissing. The groom is wearing a light-colored suit and a pink shirt, while the bride is wearing a white lace wedding dress and holding a bouquet of flowers. The background is filled with lush greenery and tropical plants.

elegant

Tips for Pre-Wedding Preparation

When you've travelled thousands of miles to paradise, your dress may get wrinkled along the way.

Elegant Top Tip - Simply hand over your dress upon arrival and our team can have it steamed to perfection.*

Getting married is no small thing and it's alright to experience some pre-wedding jitters.

Elegant Top Tip - Our team can book you pampering spa treatments that are guaranteed to calm any nerves.

Hair and makeup trial: Avoid a bridal beauty faux pas by booking a beauty trial.

Elegant Top Tip - Our hotels offer on-site spa and beauty services, or we can simply schedule your beauty trial in the comfort of your room.

Our beaches are ideal for getting that sun-kissed look.

Elegant Top Tip - To achieve a natural tanned look and luminous glow, make sure to use plenty of sun cream and choose your swimsuit carefully.

Tips for a Small Wedding

CREATE A PLAYLIST | For a touch of traditionalism, a personalised playlist can really make your intimate wedding feel extra special.

Elegant Top Tip - Walk down the aisle to the beautiful sound of a live steel pan playing “your song”. We can help you book the best steel pannist in the business.

CAPTURE THE MOMENTS | Memories may fade but photos last forever. Be sure to book a professional photographer to capture those irreplaceable moments.

Elegant Top Tip - We work with a number of talented and reputable professional photographers and we'd be happy to provide recommendations based on your needs.



Love



Tips for a Big Wedding

HOST A GROUP OUTING | An off-property group excursion is a great way to spend time together pre or post wedding celebration and it provides your guests with an opportunity to really explore and experience the destination they've travelled to!

Elegant Top Tip - Our hotels offer a varied selection of authentically Bajan off-site excursions that would be great for large wedding parties.

HOST A COCKTAIL RECEPTION | A cocktail reception is a great way to keep your guests entertained while the wedding party has their photos taken.

Elegant Top Tip - Our team can help you select canapés, cocktails and entertainment options to complement your theme and style.

CREATE A WEDDING ITINERARY | A fun, destination wedding themed itinerary is a great way to provide guests with all of the scheduled events and details for the trip and hotel.

Elegant Top Tip - Our wedding coordinators can host a group wedding briefing so that everyone is kept in the loop, and will leave the bride and groom to relax.



Things to do After the Wedding

Our top-notch team of wedding coordinators aren't just experts on getting married in Barbados. They're experts on Barbados! Whether you're looking for an out of the box after wedding experience, or perhaps something more traditional, we think their recommendations will provide ideas that are perfectly suited to you.

OISTINS FISH FRY

Ditch the wedding garb and go 'lime' with the locals at Oistins Fish Fry, undoubtedly the most popular hangout for locals and tourists alike. Freshly grilled fish and Bajan delicacies, copious amounts of spirits, infectious beats and extremely friendly people make for an all round awesome night out that you won't forget anytime soon.

TRASH THE DRESS!

Trash the dress - or rock the frock - is trendy, fun and definitely memorable! If you're having a big wedding party, have everyone get in on the fun!

Elegant Top Tip - We can arrange for you to take a sail on our complimentary west coast water taxi where you can trash the dress on the calm waters of the Platinum coast.

PRIVATE BEACH DINNER

Romantic candlelight dining on the beach is an intimate and unforgettable way to celebrate post-wedding. What could be better than dining with the sand beneath your toes, the sound of the waves gently crashing on the shore and your very own dedicated waiter providing the epitome of personalised service? It's the perfect end to a perfect day.

Wedding Photography Trends & Tips

We spoke to some of the top photographers on island to get the scoop on the hottest photography trends, as well as some definite do's and don'ts of wedding photography and this is what they had to say.

SOCIAL SNAPS

Incorporate social media into your destination wedding by creating a hashtag that's unique to the celebration! (e.g. #Kate&Willtietheknot) Wedding guests or the wedding couple will share this hashtag when posting to social media sites. It's a great way for family and friends who may not be at the wedding to share in the celebrations, and also an easy way for the couple to capture a lot of candid, memorable moments.

PHOTOBOOTHS AND SELFIE STATIONS

Photobooths and Selfie Stations add a fun and festive element to your wedding. Personalised photo strips are a wonderful keepsake for your guests. Or how about a Selfie Station: a pretty photo backdrop where guests can snap selfies of the great time they're having at your celebration? Either option you choose, don't forget the props; mustaches, speech bubbles, oversized shades, feather boas. Your guests won't be able to get enough!

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Perhaps you've looked up in the sky and seen a drone flying around? No it's not a UFO, but it's a really great way to capture the beautiful scenery of your ceremony from overhead. Aerial photography is an especially good choice for large wedding parties and receptions.





Elegant Top Tips

- If you're planning to travel with a group, be sure to take advantage of our group perks. Wedding couples who book a minimum of ten rooms receive a free Simply Elegant wedding.**
- We offer four distinct wedding packages, all designed to offer a variety of wedding options to suit your style and to help you craft the day of your dreams.
- One of the best benefits for couples staying seven nights or more with us? They receive a Simply Elegant wedding free! **
- Weddings in Barbados must take place by sunset. We plan your ceremony to get as close as possible to that magical hour to enjoy the most stunning West Coast sunsets. It lends the perfect background for beautiful wedding photos.
- When packing your two-piece swimsuits and floppy sun hats, ensure not to pack any camouflage items as it is against the law to wear camouflage clothing and to carry items made out of camouflage material.

** Restrictions may apply.



Wedding Checklist

So you've booked your Elegant wedding package and the excitement is settling in. Here's a handy checklist of items to keep you organized for your wedding and holiday of a lifetime.

BEFORE ARRIVAL

- Ensure that you have packed all relevant documentation required to obtain your marriage license e.g. passports, birth certificate, etc.
- Review and confirm all agreed upon details with your Elegant Hotels' wedding coordinator (photographer/florists/spa appointments/island excursions, etc.)
- Confirm flight and hotel bookings
- Write your vows
- Pack your rings
- Create a gift registry and wedding website using our complimentary honeymoon registry service

ARRIVAL

- Attend a wedding briefing with your Elegant Hotels wedding coordinator
- Apply for a marriage license
- Do a walk-through of ceremony and/or reception sites
- Have your dress steamed to smooth out any wrinkles encountered while travelling
- Have a hair and makeup beauty trial to select your wedding day look

WEDDING DAY

- It's your day. Try not to worry about the small things and enjoy every single moment!

enjoy

What Makes Each Property Special?

*C*elebrating your wedding with Elegant Hotels is sure to be a magical experience and our team of wedding experts share how we can make it even more special for you.

COLONY CLUB

We know most couples venture to the Caribbean for a beach wedding, but Colony Club is especially known for its lush tropical gardens, which lends to an intimate locale for your wedding and absolutely stunning scenery for your wedding photos!

TAMARIND

If you've always pictured yourself saying 'I Do' with the sand beneath your toes and the picturesque azure waters of the Caribbean Sea as your backdrop, then Tamarind's 750ft of white sand beach and beautiful ocean vistas will not disappoint.

THE HOUSE

With only 34 rooms in this adult's only haven, the intimate, romantic atmosphere of The House can be felt from the moment you arrive, setting the scene for the wedding and holiday experience of a lifetime.

CRYSTAL COVE

From birthday wishes to proposals to wedding announcements, our guests love the unique message rock pool at Crystal Cove. It's a great way to surprise your significant other with a lovely sentiment upon arrival or after the wedding ceremony.

TURTLE BEACH

Location, location, location! From our 1,500 feet of powdery white sand beach to our four on-site ceremony locations, nine reception locations and our close proximity to popular Barbados nightspots such as St. Lawrence Gap and Oistins, Turtle Beach is the ideal place to host your wedding celebrations.

WAVES HOTEL & SPA

Waves Hotel & Spa offers a pampering spa retreat for your big day with gorgeous venues, whether you choose to get married with a backdrop of the breathtaking sunset over the Caribbean Sea or prefer to say 'I Do' in a more private setting of the beautiful serenity garden.

celebrate

Legal Requirements to Getting Married in Barbados

Getting married in Barbados is a breeze, which is only made easier by the assistance of our experienced team of wedding coordinators. Laws in Barbados eliminate advance notice requirements, so a marriage ceremony can take place as soon as a license is obtained. Here's what you need and what you need to know about saying "I Do" in Barbados.

PRE-ARRIVAL

- Passport, valid for minimum 6 months or the original certified copies of the applicant's birth certificate. (Both short and long certificates are acceptable) and an additional form of Government issued Photo Identification for each of you
- Full address of Country of Residence, and details of occupation of both you and your partner.
- If either you or your partner is divorced: Proof of the Decree Absolute or Final Judgement is required. Decree Nisi will not be accepted.
- If either you or your partner is widowed: The former marriage certificate and death certificate of the spouse is required.
- If either you or your partner has changed your name by deed poll: Proof is required that the procedure was followed and completed.
- If either you or your partner have been adopted: Adoption papers need to be produced.

ON ISLAND

- Application for a marriage license must be made by both parties in person at the Ministry of Home Affairs Office from Monday to Friday – 8:30am – 3:00pm. All of the above mentioned documents are required.
- Application, license and Certificate costs may vary but are approximately \$130-140 USD (approx £84 - 90) and payable upon application submission. The registry only accepts Barbadian dollars.
- All relevant documentation which is in any language other than English must be accompanied by a translation certified by a Notary Public (certification by a Justice of the Peace is not accepted.)
- Same sex marriage is currently not recognized in Barbados.

For couples wishing to have a non-religious ceremony, there are two options:

- 1) Blessing – the wedding can be conducted by a non-denominational priest who will customize the ceremony to suit your needs.
 - 2) Civil Ceremony – this will be conducted by a Magistrate and will incur additional costs.
- For couples identifying with a particular religion or faith, our wedding coordinators would be happy to advise on any specific guidelines or requirements that you may need to get married in Barbados.

Reservations | US 1.888.996.9948 | UK 0800.917.3534
Reservations@elegant-hotels.com

Elegant Hotels Group, Barbados, West Indies
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