PLANNING CHECKLIST

The wedding planning checklist has not been structured in the traditional timeline manner as we know that everyone works to different timescales. Instead, we have tried to group like items together and include prompts which we hope will make planning your wedding abroad a little easier.

S	ELECT WEDDING DESTINATION	NOTES
6	Select your wedding abroad destination. For more information: https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-destinations- abroad.html TIP: To help, we suggest using the Destination & Location Comparison Spreadsheet found in the Destination/Location Section of the Wedding Abroad Complete Planning Tools Kit	
V	EDDING NON NEGOTIABLES / VISION	
	Determine the vision for your day, i.e. how do you imagine the look, feel and tone of your day – intimate and luxurious, all day beach BBQ etc.	
	Determine your non-negotiables, e.g., what is most important to you as a couple, what areas are you not willing to make compromises.	
	Prioritise the different components of your wedding. For example, is it more important to have a great photographer than a string quartet?	
6	TIP : To help, we suggest you complete a).the Pre Wedding Worksheet & b).the Vision & Priorities Worksheet found in the Pre Wedding Planning Section of the <u>Wedding Abroad</u> <u>Complete Planning Tools Kit</u>	
S	ET WEDDING BUDGET	
	Set your wedding budget, determine how much you are comfortable spending on your wedding.	
	Decide if your wedding budget includes wedding attire and pre / post wedding activities.	
	Set aside 10 to 15% of the total wedding budget as a contingency / buffet against last minute or hidden costs.	
6	Set up a wedding budget spreadsheet / tracker. TIP: We suggest you use either the Simple Budget Spreadsheet or Detailed Budget Spreadsheet & Payment Tracker, specifically designed for a wedding abroad found in the Budget Section of the <u>Wedding Abroad Complete Planning Tool Kit</u>	

CONFIRM LEGAL & RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS		
Contact the Foreign Embassy or Consulate to confirm the legal & residency requirements to get married in the country of your choice.		
Understand the timeframe & the steps that must be completed to ensure your marriage can take place.		
For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-abroad-</u> <u>documentation.html</u>		
SELECT WEDDING DATE		
Decide what time of year you would like to get married & select a preferred date.		
For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/get-married-abroad.html</u>		
COMPILE GUEST LIST		
Think about who you would like to spend your wedding day with & compile a guest list.		
Speak to guests as early as possible in order to estimate the numbers that may attend. This will help when speaking to Wedding Planners, Tour Operators, Suppliers and choosing your wedding venues.		
For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-guest-list.html</u>		
DECIDE HOW TO PLAN YOUR WEDDING		
Determine the style of wedding you would like to have & how much involvement you would like to have in its planning.		
Decide if you would like to use a Wedding Planner, a Tour Operator or plan your wedding yourself.		
For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/organise-a-wedding-abroad.html</u>		

DECIDE IF YOU WILL WANT TO HAVE EXTRA CELEBRATIONS

0	When getting married abroad most couples hold extra activities and celebrations. <i>For more information:</i> <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/extra-celebrations.html</u>	
	Decide if you will have a rehearsal or pre- wedding day dinner.	
	Decide if you will have a post wedding day breakfast or lunch.	
	If you are holding extra celebrations investigate & book appropriate venues.	
	Decide if you will organise group sightseeing activities. Investigate possible activities.	
	Decide if you will organise group sightseeing activities. Investigate possible activities.	
	Decide if you will have a party upon your return home. If yes, add this to your budget, compile a guest list & investigate and book venue.	

SELECT WEDDING SUPPLIERS

Wedding Planner or Tour Operator	Wedding Invitation Designer
Ceremony Venue	Stationery Supplier / Printer
Celebrant / Priest	Airlines
Reception Venue	Bridal Shop
Caterer	Bridal Shoe Shop
Florist	Lingerie Shop
Wedding Cake Supplier	Hairdresser
Photographer	Make-Up Artist
Videographer	Beauty Therapist
Musicians for ceremony	Suit Hire or Suit Shop
Band or DJ for reception	Jewellers
Gift List Registry	Translator

SELECT WEDDING SUPPLIERS Cont.

Foreign Embassy or Consulate	Hotels / Accommodation
Wedding party transportation for wedding day	Wedding Insurance
Guest transportation for wedding day	Travel Insurance
Babysitter for wedding day or evening reception	Venues for extra celebrations & activities
Rental Equipment Companies - Marquee, Furniture, Lighting, Sound System etc.	Currency Exchange Service Image: TIP: We have partnered with WISE
Party & Wedding Supply Shop	Other (list here)
For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-abroad-</u> <u>suppliers.html</u>	
PLAN WEDDING CEREMONY	
Determine what type of ceremony you would like to have Civil, Religious, or blessing.	
Determine if it is possible to have this type of ceremony at your chosen wedding destination.	
Determine where you would like to hold your ceremony & if this is possible. E.g., beach, reception venue, garden.	
Determine what customs & traditions you would like to incorporate into your wedding ceremony.	
Choose the music for your ceremony.	
Choose readings for your ceremony.	
Choose or write your vows.	
Choose & ask guest(s) to do reading(s).	
For more information: Civil Ceremony: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/civil-</u> wedding-abroad.html	
Choosing Ceremony Venue: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-abroad-</u> venue.html	

PLAN WEDDING RECEPTION	
Determine what type of reception you would like to have. Formal, casual, outdoor etc.	
Think of the type of reception venue that would best compliment the style of wedding you have chosen.	
Decide what time of day you would like to have your reception. Daytime or evening?	
Decide if you would like to have music at your reception. Determine what type of music you would like and when this should be played.	
Decide what type of wedding meal you would like. Formal sit down, buffet or cocktail reception.	
Determine if you would like to have hors d'oeuvres before the main meal.	
Determine how many courses would you like to have. Note : this may vary according to the cultural traditions of the country you are getting married in.	
Will you have speeches? Who will give the speeches? When will they take place?	
For more information: Choosing a Reception Venue: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-abroad-</u> venue.html	

SELECT WEDDING ATTIRE

	Wedding Dress	Bridesmaids
	Bridal Shoes	Ushers
	Bridal Accessories	Flowergirl
	Bridal Underwear	Pageboy
	Grooms Attire	Mother of the bride
6	For more information: Choosing Wedding Attire for Abroad - Bride: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-dress-for-abroad.html</u> Choosing Wedding Attire for Abroad - Groom: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/grooms-attire-for-a-beach-wedding.html</u>	

SELECT STATIONERY

OLLEON ON MICHAEL		
Save the Date Cards For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/save-the-date-destination-weddings.html</u>		
Wedding Invitations - Wedding day & if you are having a party upon your return.		
Guest Information Pack For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/guest-information-checklist.html</u>		
Wedding Website For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/personal-wedding-website.html</u>		
Wedding Ceremony Program		
Guest Welcome Letters For more information: <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-welcome-letter.html</u>		
Place Name Cards		
Seating Plan		
Thankyou Cards		
TIP: Wedding Abroad Invitations <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-abroad-invitations.html</u>		
INVESTIGATE ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS FOR GUESTS		

Investigate and select a range of suitable accommodation for your guests. Ensure you find accommodation that caters for all budgets.	
Ask hotels if they will offer a special rate for your guests.	
Confirm what date your guests must book by to secure accommodation.	
Determine if a deposit must be paid. Will this deposit be refundable if a guest does not use the accommodation?	
Determine if a hotel will be willing to put information in your guests' rooms e.g., welcome letters & gifts.	

INVESTIGATE ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS FOR GUESTS cont.

	Decide if you will book accommodation on your guests' behalf or ask your guests to book their own accommodation.	
	If your guests are going to book their own accommodation, compile a list of recommended hotels to go in their information pack. Be sure to mention any special rates and booking reference codes.	
	Ask the hotel if they provide airport transfers. Provide your guests with this information in their information pack.	
0	Determine where you guests are staying & when they arrive and depart. TIP: To help, we suggest you use the Guest List & RSVP Tracker which can be found in the Guest Section of the <u>Wedding Abroad</u> <u>Complete Planning Tool Kit</u>	
С	OMPILE GUEST INFORMATION	
6	Compile information pack or set up a wedding website. This information should be given to guests with their invitations. <i>For more information:</i> <u>https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/guest-information- checklist.html</u>	
6	Write a wedding welcome letter to put in your guests' hotel rooms. This is a nice surprise for your guests and a good way of re-iterating the itinerary for your celebrations. For more information: https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-welcome- letter.html	
0	Create seating plan. TIP: To help, we suggest you use the Guest Seating Plan which can be found in the Guest Section of the <u>Wedding Abroad</u> <u>Complete Planning Tool Kit</u>	
	Write guest place names for your wedding reception.	
т	RANSPORTATION TO YOUR WEDDING DES	TINATION
	Investigate what airlines fly to your wedding destination.	

TIP: skyscanner.com is a useful tool for this

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Ask airlines if they offer discounts for group bookings.

TRANSPORTATION TO YOUR WEDDING DESTINATION cont.

	Book flights	
	Ask chosen airline if you can bring your bridal gown on as hand luggage.	
	Determine what your luggage limit is.	
A	Note down when your guests will arrive & depart your wedding destination. TIP: To help, we suggest you use the Guest List & RSVP Tracker which can be found in the Guest Section of the <u>Wedding Abroad</u>	

Complete Planning Tool Kit

TRANSPORTATION AT YOUR WEDDING DESTINATION

Book transfers to &from airport.	
Book transportation for bridal party to & from wedding ceremony.	
Book transportation for bridal party to & from wedding reception.	
Determine if you will need to book transportation for any extra activities & celebrations for you and your guests.	
Determine if you will need to book guest transportation on your wedding day.	

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE WITH YOU

Passports	Plane Tickets
Documentation required to obtain marriage license e.g. birth certificates	Wedding Abroad Insurance Details
Travel Insurance Details	Gifts for wedding party
Guest book	Place name cards
Table number cards	Note cards for speeches
Wedding Attire	Favors
Welcome letter or gifts for guests room	Pictures of hairstyles for hairdresser
Wedding Ceremony Programs	Wedding rings
Music, if needed for ceremony, first dance etc.	SEE PACKING CHECKLIST FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS
Nice pen for signing wedding registry	

PLAN WEDDING DAY ITINERARY			
	Plan the order of your wedding day.		
	It is really important that you have a timetable for your wedding day. You & your guests will need to know what should happen when. If you are not using a Wedding Planner or Tour Operator, it is an idea to hand over the responsibility to a guest - this way they can ensure everything happens when & how it should as you don't want to be worrying about this on your wedding day.		
6	TIP: To help, we suggest you use the Wedding Day Run Sheet which can be found in the Planning Fundamentals Section of the <u>Wedding Abroad Complete Planning Tool Kit</u>		
A	AFTER YOUR WEDDING		
	Return all rental equipment.		
	Return hired suits.		
	Write thank you notes.		
	Record your marriage in your home country, if desired.		
	If changing your name, change all necessary documentation.		
	Clean & preserve wedding dress.		
6	Tell weddings abroad guide all about your day. Submit Here: https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/submissions.html		