

A romantic beach scene at sunset. In the foreground, two glasses of champagne and a bouquet of pink flowers are placed on the sand. In the background, the legs and feet of a couple are visible, standing on the beach. The ocean waves are breaking in the distance under a warm, golden light.

Secrets for a Successful Destination Wedding

Experience Romantic Hawai'i at Starwood Hotels & Resorts in Hawaii

From the best places to kiss, to breathtaking and isolated overlooks, the Hawaiian Islands are the leader in weddings and honeymoons. In addition to our sun, surf, shopping and nightlife, opportunities abound for romance.

Increasingly couples are choosing to hold destination weddings in Hawaii. According to Mark Young, senior manager of meetings and events at **The St. Regis Princeville Resort**, they see it as an opportunity to maximize their wedding experience by combining the wedding with a vacation, a honeymoon or a family reunion.

Each of **Starwood Hotels & Resorts'** 12 hotels in Hawaii offers outstanding, authentic wedding, honeymoon and vow renewal experiences that capture the spirit of that special day. Starwood's romance packages are as varied as the Islands themselves – combining the finest rooms and suites with popular amenities like breakfast, golf, massage, champagne and sunset sailing adventures. The stunningly beautiful venues and unforgettable experiences include poolside and beachside ceremonies, grand celebrations and intimate dinners by candlelight.

Planning to get married in paradise? Read some tips from the pros!



1

Hire a wedding planner

Find a person who knows the destination and shares your vision. This person can source reliable vendors for your special day and attend to all of the details and responsibilities once wedding week begins. You will need one!”

- Stuart Kotake, *The Royal Hawaiian, a Luxury Collection Resort*

2

Stay off the sand

“When people think of destination weddings, beach venues are usually high on their list. But most beaches cannot be reserved and sand can be messy. Consider holding the ceremony at a private spot just footsteps away from the beach with a great view.”

- Beata Vanderzee, *The Westin Ka’anapali Ocean Resort Villas*

3

Keep it tropical

Use local florals for your bouquets and arrangements. Not only do they add to the overall ambiance, they can be less expensive than florals that aren’t readily available.

-Andrea Frick, *Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa*

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Look at volume pricing

Consider group contracting for air tickets, transportation from the airport, activities and of course hotel room blocks. Your travel professional or the hotel sales department can assist you.

-Laurie Ihara, *Sheraton Princess Kaiulani*



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Treat your sweetheart

Plan some activities to experience as a couple. The Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort & Spa has the only oceanfront spa in Waikiki. For the ultimate couple’s renewal, the spa has private oceanfront suites with whirlpool tubs and breathtaking views, where the couple can relax together.

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Take it outdoors

Pre-arrange group activities and let your attendees know what to pack. The Big Island offers many natural wonders, so if you are planning to zipline, bike down a crater, snorkel with the manta rays or hike the birding trail, your guests will want to be prepared.

-Tammie Carpenter,
Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay





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Make reservations

Are you on a budget? The resort weddings team can customize a restaurant dinner menu. This is ideal for smaller wedding parties and can be less costly than a similar banquet menu.

-Chelsea Schroeder, Sheraton Kauai Resort

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Capture every moment

Photography is a crucial component of the experience. Hire a professional photographer or videographer for some of the pre- and post-wedding activities with family and friends.

-Brittany McIntyre Enos, The Westin Maui Resort & Spa

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Use the web

Family and friends can help pay for your wedding or honeymoon at any Starwood resort in Hawaii. Create a personalized honeymoon registry and a free wedding website for convenient registry purchases and an enchanting Hawaii experience:

<https://starwoodhi.honeymoonwishes.com>

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Fire it up

For additional cost savings, a luau dinner show can be an attractive and option for large groups of all ages. The group can be seated together and can celebrate with a lavish dinner buffet and authentic entertainment. The Westin Maui's Waialele Luau provides photo opportunities for the bridal party and can arrange for recognition during the performance.



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Be inclusive

The Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay's "A New Current" wedding package blends luxury with all-inclusive convenience. It includes a 3,000-orchid flower sprinkle at the wedding site, assistance with marriage license details, an officiant for the ceremony, a musician to play during the ceremony, fresh floral bridal bouquet, boutonniere, specialty lei, wedding cake, champagne, photography, and more.



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Remember the romance

Maui's ultimate private dining experience -- the Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa's Dinner Under the Stars was named "Most Romantic Dinner" by Maui No Ka Oi magazine. It offers an intimate setting for couples to savor an elegant multi-course dinner with local ingredients paired with a tropically inspired cocktail and wine menu. At The St. Regis Princeville Resort, Couples can indulge in a Romantic Dinner in a private outdoor setting drenched in candlelight and flickering Hawaiian torches.

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Provide a tip sheet

"You will need some 'alone time,' so create a Top 10 List of places to eat, attractions to visit or things to do. It will give your guests ideas on what to do when they aren't at the wedding."

-Stuart Kotake,

The Royal Hawaiian, a Luxury Collection Resort

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Protect your look

Hawaii's weather can be humid and slightly unpredictable. A professional, Hawaii-based makeup artist and/or hair stylist can ensure that your look will last, no matter what the weather.

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Splurge on splendor

The Royal Hawaiian, a Luxury Collection Resort offers many options to say "I do." The "Only at The Royal" exclusive and custom wedding series allows couples to select from six new signature experiences including Classic Royal, Pretty in Pink, Boho Chic, Vintage 1927, Papparazzi, and Pearly Shells.

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Celebrate and relax

"Enjoy your special day and accept that everything cannot be controlled. There is rain in the morning? In Hawaii that is considered a blessing. Imagine the beautiful rainbow in the background of your wedding pictures, not too many people are going to be that lucky. Nene geese or Monk seal photo bombing the wedding? These endangered species cannot be found anywhere else in the world. At the end of the day, it is about your love and the way you two look at each other. No other factor will matter."

-Serena Pinatelli, The Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEDDINGS-IN-HAWAII.COM.