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AND ROMANTIC TRAVEL

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WISE BRIDE TIPS

Destination weddings allow you to combine your wedding and vacation into one. “Rather than trying to fit it all into one day, we had a whole weekend with our loved ones.”

– Catherine, San José del Cabo, Mexico bride (full story on pg. 122)

“It’s so important to trust the team you hire. Giving them the freedom to create is when their best ideas come. But, at the same time, it’s important to speak up when things matter to you. You get one shot at this, so you don’t want to have regrets. Don’t be shy if something is important to you.”

– Harmony, Maui, Hawaii bride (full story on pg. 110)

“Right after the ceremony, when all was said and done, our photographer, Dana Cabbage, unexpectedly turned around and triumphantly declared, ‘And THAT’S how you get married!’ We were overjoyed and that confirmed that we did the right thing.”

– Claire, North Carolina elopement bride (images on pg. 92)



tips FROM A PRO



Michelle Durpetti of Michelle Durpetti Events has over a decade of wedding planning under her belt. With a penchant for all things Italian, this talented destination expert is weighing in on some of her top tips for couples planning their own destination events.

Tricky Transportation:

Consider your family and friends if all of them are making the journey with you. Are there direct flights to your destination? If not, how many stops? Upon arrival, will there be additional travel? If a journey is long, complicated and expensive, it may discourage guests from coming.

Find a “Fluent” Planner:

When you’re getting married in a country where English isn’t the primary language, hire a bilingual planner who can facilitate the entire process. My team is fluent in Spanish and Italian, and this comes in handy when we work in countries where these languages are spoken.

Scout it Out:

Check out the destination before you commit (especially with your planner!). A scouting trip is so valuable because you get to experience how your guests will travel to your wedding and see the spaces in person. This is also an ideal time to meet with vendors. This way, you get to make informed decisions that include more insight than just photos you see online.

Embrace the Destination:

Tap in to the local culture for activities for your guests while they are in town for your event. Getting married in Italy? Host a cooking class. Maybe you are off to Hawaii and a lei making class would be a fun option. While you may not have the budget to host everyone for something like this, you can still include information on your wedding website or your welcome letter, providing some tips and suggestions for the destination.

Photos courtesy of (top to bottom): Dana Cabbage Weddings and Collin Pierson Photography

