



ALTOUR INSIDER TRENDS & TIPS VOLUME 3

In This Issue: 2009 – Weddings Season

Even in the current economy, brides are not giving up on their dream wedding. According to ALTOUR Travel Agent and destination wedding specialist Marnee Revri, bookings for destination weddings and honeymoons remain strong. However, there is some red-tape brides should be aware of before they can walk down the aisle in that white dress. Here are Revri's tips for getting started on planning your dream wedding:

- **Know the requirements for marriage at each destination.** Many locations require couples to stay in the country for a determined period of time before the wedding, set language requirements for the actual ceremony or even require health screenings or tests. Before finalizing any plans, Revri recommends that couples make sure they know what is required in order to say "I do."
- **Know your budget.** Costs add up and ultimately, not every bride can afford the dream wedding. That said, there is a dream destination wedding for every budget, brides-to-be just need to know what's possible within their realm. Speaking with a travel agent can help assess the best locale for the big day.
- **Hire a travel agent.** All seems a bit daunting? Travel agents make it possible for brides to not "sweat the small stuff," so they can focus on other wedding details. "It's our job to take care of the details so you don't have to," says Revri. "The bride has a vision of the dream wedding, and we know the right people and places to make it a reality."

Cost and personality are the biggest determining factors in where a couple chooses to wed or honeymoon. For those on a budget, Revri suggests all-inclusive resorts, as they offer great value-adds and can house every facet of the wedding experience. Current destination hot spots for all proportions include:

- **Low budget:** Mexico, Bahamas, Jamaica
- **Mid budget:** Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, St. Lucia
- **Large budget:** Hawaii, Tahiti, Maldives

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