

# Your wedding abroad checklist

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Having your wedding abroad can be a wonderful, romantic and exciting way to start your married lives together – but there's no doubt that getting married overseas can mean a few extra things to think about too. With this in mind, it is a good option to let an ABTA travel company give a helping hand. They can advise on great locations, give you the lowdown on logistics and paperwork – and they can add extra touches to make your day, and your whole time abroad, truly unforgettable.



ABTA's weddings abroad checklist, to help you plan your big day.

### DETERMINE YOUR DREAM DESTINATION

Choosing your location will determine a lot of what you need to organise and what paperwork you need to provide. When picking your destination, go with your head and your heart, pick the country of your dreams but think about how you and your guests will get there and how easy it will be to get married.

- Once you've decided on your perfect spot – check the weather, remember seasons may be different to the UK – check this before you set a date
- Contact the foreign embassy or consulate of the country you're getting married in to confirm the legal and residency requirements and to check what paperwork you'll need
- Find out how long you need to be in the country before you get married and build this into your plans. Consider jet lag too
- Book your venues
- Send save the dates – this will give your guests the best choice and flexibility when booking flights and accommodation

### PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTATION

- Passports – remember most countries outside of the EU require you to have at least six months validity left on your passport after your departure date
- You'll need a certificate of no impediment (CNI) from the authorities in the UK to prove you're allowed to marry
- You'll also need proof of residence in the UK
- Check whether you need to get married in the UK first or how to record your marriage in the UK once you're back
- Don't forget to arrange translations of any documents you need

### THINK ABOUT LOGISTICS

- Buy wedding insurance to cover your expenses for the big event
- Choose a travel insurance policy – make sure it covers your wedding and honeymoon destinations
- Find out if you and your guests need visas and let them know how to apply for these and when by
- Do the same for vaccinations
- Let guests know about their flight and accommodation options
- Confirm how you'll transport things – such as your dress – from the UK
- Also talk to your travel company about bookings for your honeymoon, and start your married life in style!