Destination Wedding



By Destify — Experts in All-Inclusive Destination Weddings



The Ultimate Month-by-Month Destination Wedding Planning Guide

12+ Months





Planning Essentials

- Set your wedding budget + estimate guest count
- Decide on vibe: tropical, cultural, adult-only, family-friendly
- Book your intro call with a Destify specialist
- Choose your wedding party



Guest Communication

- Start building an email list of potential guests. The sooner you do, the sooner they can book rooms at the best prices!
- We start setting up your wedding website



- Think about bachelor/bachelorette trip timing and budget
- Make sure you and your guests have valid passports (do not expire 6 months after the date of travel
- If interested in a legal ceremony abroad, start researching requirements (many opt for symbolic to simplify)



11-10 Months





Planning Essentials

- Finalize destination, date, and resort with Destify
- Research welcome events or excursions



Guest Communication

- Send out Save the Dates (email or printed)
- Let close friends/family know about your destination plans
- Include info about passports and estimated costs



Beauty + Prep

- Book wedding dress shopping appointments
- Schedule hair consultations if changing color/ style
- Look for potential makeup artists (or ask if the resort includes one)



- Start thinking about bachelor/bachelorette location and invite list
- Research the marriage license process in your chosen destination (optional many couples do the legal ceremony at home!)



9-8 Months





Planning Essentials

- Use your Destify wedding website and dashboard to manage your guestlist, make sure guests who RSVP but have not booked go ahead and book
- Finalize and order your wedding outfit (give time for tailoring)
- Coordinate groomsmen attire (buy or rent give them a deadline)



Guest Communication

- Email all guests your Destify booking page
- Share FAQs: travel tips, what to pack, dress code, etc.
- Encourage guests to book early for better rates



Beauty + Prep

- Order your wedding dress and/or tux (this allows for delays + alterations)
- Schedule hair and makeup trials, book any haircuts
- Research nails, brows, and skincare providers



- Begin planning a bachelor's/bachelorette's party with help
- Review symbolic vs. legal ceremony options one more time and begin the paperwork if necessary. Most Destify couples choose to have a symbolic ceremony.



7-6 Months





Planning Essentials

- Make sure your airfare is booked
- Start working with your resort planner
- Begin working on your wedding theme, colors, and style
- Choose entertainment, food, flowers, and décor
- Begin planning any group events or excursions



Guest Communication

- Email update: travel tips, group excursions, send RSVP reminders
- Share the wedding website link again



Beauty + Prep

- First dress fitting
- Confirm the final makeup artist and nail looks
- Schedule monthly facials or skincare
- Touch up hair color as needed



- Decide who will be giving speeches
- Start thinking about the shot list for your photographer



5-4 Months





Planning Essentials

- Finalize group activities, welcome bags, and signage if you want.
- Confirm ceremony/reception layout + extras
- ♦ Book a honeymoon or an extended stay (optional)



Guest Communication

- RSVP deadline approaching send reminders!
- Share the resort map and schedule for guest activities
- Confirm airport transfers if arranged



Beauty + Prep

- Second dress fitting
- Trial nail shape/color
- Schedule hair color and trim
- Try lash extensions if desired



Other Tasks

- Share your must-have shot list with your photographer
- Choose music (ceremony, reception, first dance, etc.)
- Finalize bachelor/bachelorette trip details
- Write vows (if applicable)
- Choose a wedding gift for your partner
- Finalize any speeches or toasts

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3 Months





Planning Essentials

- Confirm guest list and room bookings
- Begin to finalize the timeline for the ceremony, reception, and events
- Finalize your wedding theme, colors, and style
- Confirm menu and décor with planner





- Final hair color appointment
- Confirm grooming plans and appointments, including barber appointments, skincare, and beard trimming.
- Organize travel documents, flight confirmations, and tip envelopes

- Print welcome signs, menus, table numbers, and ceremony programs
- Organize dress/suit accessories
- Order thank-you gifts for the wedding party







2 Months







- Confirm all vendors + send final headcounts
- Create a day-of emergency kit
- Make a copy of the marriage license documents and any other paperwork your resort may request



Guest Communication

- Final guest reminder: what to pack, local customs, itinerary
- Answer last-minute booking or travel questions



Beauty + Prep

- Brow shaping
- Book all pre-wedding beauty appointments (nails, wax, tan)
- Avoid introducing new skincare



- Write vows
- Prepare tips/envelopes for vendors
- Create music playlists for pre-wedding events



1 Month





Planning Essentials

- Final call with resort planner
- Double-check all travel documents + copies
- Assemble welcome bags



Guest Communication

- Share the packing list + weather forecast
- Email final schedule + contact info
- Confirm arrival times with the wedding party



Beauty + Prep

- Final haircut + hair color
- Final tan/lash/brow test
- ♦ Book nails 2-3 days before departure
 - Wax, facial, massage (not too close to the wedding day)



- Pack wedding attire + accessories in a carry-on
- Practice your vows and first dance
 - Confirm the photographer has the shot list and timeline



Wedding Week





Planning Essentials

- Arrive early + meet with planner
- Walk through the ceremony and reception spaces
- Welcome dinner or party
 - Rehearsal if needed



Guest Communication

- Check in with guests as they arrive
- Hand out welcome bags
- Enjoy the moment you're in paradise!



Beauty + Prep

- Nails (2-3 days before)
- Hair + makeup day-of
- Hydrate + relax
- Teeth whitening (about a month out)
- Skincare touchups (no new products right before)



Post-Wedding Checklist



Thank guests and the wedding party
Leave Destify a review on The Knot and WeddingWire
Change your name (if desired)
Preserve your wedding dress
Share your story + photos with Destify
Post sneak peeks and tag vendors
Back up photos + videos from quests











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