

Destination Wedding Checklist

Checklist · 42 items · 10 sections

Plan a seamless destination wedding abroad, paperwork, guest travel, and local logistics covered.

Open the editable, AI-powered version online:

<https://genechecklist.com/checklist/destination-wedding-checklist>

12+ MONTHS BEFORE

- Choose destination country and city
HIGH
- Research legal marriage requirements in destination country
HIGH
- Hire a local destination wedding planner
HIGH
- Book destination venue
HIGH
- Research wedding insurance for destination events
- Confirm passport validity for all family members
HIGH
- Send save-the-dates to guests (12+ months ahead)
HIGH

9-12 MONTHS BEFORE

- Negotiate group hotel room block for guests
HIGH
- Research and book local photographer and videographer
HIGH
- Book local florist and decorator
HIGH
- Book local catering company or confirm venue catering
HIGH
- Book local entertainment (band, DJ, live music)
- Research visa requirements for destination country
HIGH

- Set up wedding website with travel and accommodation info

HIGH

- Collect required legal documents (birth certificate, single status letter)

HIGH

6-9 MONTHS BEFORE

- Get documents apostilled or notarized as required

HIGH

- Arrange group flights or share flight options with guests

- Send formal invitations with travel guide and hotel info

HIGH

- Plan welcome dinner for traveling guests the night before

- Create guest itinerary with local sightseeing activities

- Research local hair and makeup artists at destination

HIGH

4-6 MONTHS BEFORE

- Arrange airport transfers for guests

- Plan rehearsal at destination venue

- Arrange translation services if language barrier exists

- Research local laws and obtain marriage license at destination

HIGH

- Ship or safely pack wedding attire for travel

HIGH

- Plan weather contingency (backup indoor space)

2-4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Confirm local vendors and share timeline

HIGH

- Finalize guest RSVP and travel confirmations

HIGH

- Arrange welcome bags for guests at hotel check-in

- Book spa treatments and pre-wedding activities at destination

- Confirm honeymoon hotel or resort booking

HIGH

1-2 MONTHS BEFORE

- Purchase travel insurance for couple and family

HIGH

- Confirm all local vendor payments and contracts

HIGH

1 MONTH BEFORE

- Pack emergency kit (extra dress, sewing kit, first aid)

WEEK OF

- Arrive at destination 2-3 days early for venue walkthrough

HIGH

- Confirm all guests have arrived and settled

- Attend venue walkthrough with coordinator

HIGH

DAY BEFORE

- Host welcome dinner or cocktail gathering for guests

AFTER WEDDING

- Confirm legal marriage registration at local registry office

HIGH

- Obtain certified copies of marriage certificate

HIGH

- Get marriage certificate translated and apostilled for home country

HIGH