

ÉPICA

BODAS Y EVENTOS

Number 7

July 2024

**Jeffrey
Cervantes
Calderón**

The face behind Costa Rica
Wedding Planner



The official Magazine of the IADWP

Index



- 3** *The Editor's Note*
Adrián Pavia.
- 4** *Jeffrey Cervantes Calderón*
The face behind Costa Rica Wedding Planner.
- 7** *Ping-Pong*
Learn more about our South America Chapter Head.
- 11** *An Incredible Destination!*
Dominican Republic. A wedding destination.
- 15** *Destination Wedding Training*
Cusco, Peru.
- 19** *Wedding Bakery*
By Angelo, owner of Bocatto Di Angeli.
- 22** *The Bride and Groom Dance*
Tradition and personality at the heart of the wedding.
- 26** *Outdoor Weddings*
By Kika Uribe.
- 29** *Rituals, Customs and Traditions*
The essence of the Jewish destination weddings
- 32** *Diversity All Year Long!*
Why it is not enough to celebrate only during Pride Month.
- 35** *The 8 Wedding Dresses of Elizabeth Taylor*
Iconic wedding dresses.
- 39** *Real Wedding*
Lauren and Tyler's Wedding. Magical mysticism in San Miguel de Allende.
- 44** *Tribe of Brides*
What if we plan a destination wedding?
- 47** *Safety in Weddings*
An accident in first person. By Norma Constanza Gomez.
- 50** *Tahiti Islands*
The most romantic honeymoon destination in the world.
- 53** *Capturing Love*
An interview with Manuel Aldana, wedding photographer.
- 58** *Protocol*
Sitting at the table.
- 61** *Majestic Romance*
Stunning weddings in an Orquideorama.
- 64** *The Universe of Ceremonies*
Unconventional ceremonies.
- 68** *Shake & Drink*
Cocktail supplier with a focus on sustainability in Ecuador.
- 72** *Fine Catering in Ecuador*
By Zero Lab.
- 75** *Bridal Headdresses*
The experience of being an IDILIA bride.
- 78** *Tips for a Pre-Wedding without Budget*
Por MSc. Jeffrey Cervantes Calderón.
- 80** *Exploring the senses*
Sensory photography at your wedding.
- 83** *El Salvador*
Explore El Salvador's most beautiful beaches for outdoor weddings and seaside receptions.
- 86** *Chile*
The best wedding destination behind The Andes.



Adrián Pavía

Capítulo Sudamérica
Director IADWP

It is a real pleasure to address you again in this edition of our magazine *Épica*, dedicated to the fascinating world of weddings and romance. I want to begin by expressing my deepest appreciation for the incredible growth we have experienced. Thanks to you, our loyal readers, we have seen an exponential growth that fills us with pride and motivates us to continue providing you with the highest quality content.

On this occasion, I want to share with you an event that has left an indelible mark on the sector: the "Destination Wedding Training Cusco". This event, which took place in the majestic city of Cusco, was an unforgettable experience for all attendees. I would like to especially congratulate Jossy Quesada, the director of this wonderful event, for her exceptional leadership and dedication. Her vision and effort have made this meeting a reference in the wedding industry.

I would also like to thank IADWP and especially its director, Kitzia Morales. Her tireless work permanently unites all of us who are part of this exciting industry. Thanks to her commitment and hard work, we have been able to establish

valuable connections and grow together as a community. Her support has been fundamental for *Épica* to continue being a reference platform in the world of weddings.

In the exciting world of weddings, putting egos aside among wedding planners, producers and other professionals is essential for the success of any event and even more so for the industry. A clear example of this is *Épica*, our magazine, which has been created by talented colleagues in the industry. Each month, these professionals dedicate their efforts and creativity to make each edition surpass the previous one. This collaboration not only enriches each issue of our magazine, but also strengthens our industry, allowing each member to contribute their creativity and expertise. By joining forces and working in harmony, we transform each celebration into a unique and unforgettable experience, where the true protagonists are the love and happiness of the couples who trust us.

Finally, I want to share with you some reflections on the evolution and future of weddings in the world. This business not only represents a significant source of revenue for the industry, but it also reflects trends and changes in our society. Weddings have evolved beyond traditional ceremonies, becoming unique and personalized experiences that reflect the essence of each couple. I am convinced that we will continue to see exciting innovations and greater diversity in celebrations, which will continue to enrich this wonderful industry.

Thank you for being part of this incredible adventure. Let's continue on this journey together, celebrating love and romance in every edition of *Épica*.

With love,

Adrián Pavía

Capítulo
Sudamérica
Director IADWP



Jeffrey Cervantes Calderón

*The face behind Costa Rica
Wedding Planner.*

Exploring the success of Jeffrey Cervantes, we dive into his remarkable trajectory that led him to stand out as one of the leading Wedding Planners in Costa Rica. From the beginning, Jeffrey demonstrated an innate passion for hospitality and business management during his studies in Tourism and Hospitality Business Administration. His dedication and love for customer service were cemented during a year-long internship in the United States, an experience he describes as transformative. In this world-class environment, he honed his sales and service skills, laying the foundation for his future career as a wedding planner.

Cervantes says that when he finished high school, he entered a career in Tourism Business Administration, and for a year, he did his graduation internship at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida. "It was one of the best experiences of my life, working at the world's leading tourism company. There I perfected my customer service skills and significantly improved my ability to sell services," comments Cervantes. This period not only broadened his practical knowledge, but also strengthened his understanding of the international travel industry and his commitment to service excellence.



After graduating, Cervantes worked for renowned hotel chains such as RIU Hotels, Westin and Intercontinental Hotel. It was at the latter where he had the opportunity to meet the main Wedding Planners and wedding and event suppliers in Costa Rica, who became a great source of inspiration to pursue his dreams as a Wedding Planner. Figures such as Susan La Reau, María Fernanda Castro, Silvia Leiderman, Adriana Solís, Carlos Gill, Gaby Gutiérrez, Marcela Martínez, among others, left a deep impression on him.

"The Intercontinental Hotel marked a turning point in my career. I was not a favorite for my bosses and then I was fired. This unpleasant experience filled me with determination, it marked a before and after. I decided to get my first certification as a Wedding Planner with Ana Laura Morales from INIBEP, and that's how it all began," recalls Jeffrey. From that moment on, with the invaluable support of outstanding Wedding Planners such as MFC and Susan La Reau Events, Jeffrey found the necessary drive to move forward without stopping.



In his first year as a Wedding Planner, Jeffrey sold 7 weddings and since then he has not stopped. He has continuously dedicated himself to study and prepare himself with the goal of becoming one of the best Wedding Planners in Costa Rica. Currently, he holds a Mastery in Wedding Management and Event Planning, as well as one of the most prestigious certifications in the wedding industry: the Wedding Tourism Specialist, which he recommends to all professionals who are in the romance business.

Jeffrey has also furthered his knowledge with studies in Bridal Assistant, Gay Wedding and Event Planner, Ceremonial Etiquette and Protocol, and has earned an International Certification in Wedding Image Consulting from the *Universidad Valle Continental* in Monterrey, Mexico. This constant focus on education and specialized training demonstrates his commitment to excellence and innovation in wedding and event planning.

Last year, Jeffrey joined the IADWP (International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals), which marked a turning point in his career by providing him with significant international opportunities. He has participated

in prominent wedding congresses such as the LAT Wedding & Spectacular Events Congress in the Riviera Maya, Mexico and the World Romance Travel Conference in Cartagena, Colombia, and he will soon be attending one in Leon, Guanajuato; the LAT Wedding & Spectacular Events Congress. Jeffrey highlights that he has had the opportunity to connect with great colleagues from all over the world, who have been a source of inspiration for his new projects in Costa Rica.

You can find Costa Rica Wedding Planner on all social platforms. Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, TikTok as *@CRWeddingPlanner* and you can listen to her amazing podcast on Spotify by searching for it as *CR Wedding Planner Historias*.

Jeffrey Cervantes Calderón has charted an exceptional career as a Wedding Planner in Costa Rica, driven by his passion for hospitality and business management since his early studies. After experiences at Walt Disney World and prestigious hotel chains, he overcame significant professional challenges and earned key certifications such as Wedding Tourism Specialist. His association with the IADWP has opened international doors for him, participating in prominent congresses and connecting with global colleagues who have inspired his projects in Costa Rica. Costa Rica Wedding Planner, under his leadership, stands out for offering quality services and a memorable experience, evidenced by his active presence on social media and his popular podcast on Spotify, *CR Wedding Planner Historias*.

Photographies: Erickson Suarez, Azul Fotográfico.
@azulfotografico

Adrián Pavía

Capítulo Sudamérica Director IADWP
apavia@iadwp.com @adrian_pavia



Ping-Pong



Learn more about our South America
Chapter Head.

What is your dream wedding?

My dream wedding would be an intimate ceremony in Positano, surrounded by flowers and lemons, with the company of family and close friends. We would be no more than 20 people.

What inspired you to get into the wedding industry?

I have always been a die-hard romantic and I love to see people celebrate love. The magic and joy surrounding weddings attracted me from the beginning. But to tell you the truth, being a hotelier and a restless person, I always loved working in the food and beverage department of hotels and it was there that I discovered the dynamism that went into a wedding celebration.

What has been the most memorable moment of your career so far?

Without a doubt, one of the most memorable moments was organizing the wedding of Soledad Pastorutti, an incredible singer from Argentina who chose me as her planner. It was a before and after in my career.



Do you have any rituals or routines before a big event?

On the day of the event, before I get out of bed and set foot on the floor, I like to start the day by commending myself to God. I am Catholic, apostolic, Roman, practicing. Salesian of Don Bosco. I start by repeating my favorite prayer 3 times! My favorite prayer is "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal deliver me today from all evil! That's just how I start!

What is your favorite destination for a destination wedding?

Without a doubt, my favorite destination is the Amalfi Coast, Italy. The combination of breathtaking scenery, delicious food and exquisite wines is simply perfect for a wedding.

What advice would you give to a couple just starting to plan their wedding?

I would advise them to enjoy every step of the process and not to stress over the small details. The most important thing is that the day reflects their love and personality. Oh, and to hire me!



What do you enjoy most about your job?

What I enjoy most is seeing the happiness on the couples' faces when everything goes as planned. Knowing that I have helped create unforgettable memories is incredibly rewarding - I work with happiness!

Do you have any mentors or inspirational figures in the industry?

Yes, I greatly admire Preston Bailey. His creativity and ability to transform any space into a dream setting is truly inspiring.

What is your favorite trend in weddings today?

I love the trend of sustainable weddings. It's wonderful to see how couples are concerned about the environment and looking for ways to reduce the ecological impact of their celebration.

What is the most challenging thing about working in the wedding industry?

The most challenging thing is managing clients' expectations and nerves. Each wedding is a unique and personal event, so it is crucial to make sure everything goes perfectly. And the vendors... the vendors! Topic for another ping-pong.

How do you handle stress during the planning of a large event?

I maintain good organization and delegate tasks when necessary. I also make sure to take moments to rest and remember the reason behind all the effort: to celebrate love.



How do you see the future of weddings in the coming years?

I see a future where weddings will be increasingly personalized and technological, with immersive experiences and innovative touches that reflect the individuality of each couple.

Adrián Pavía

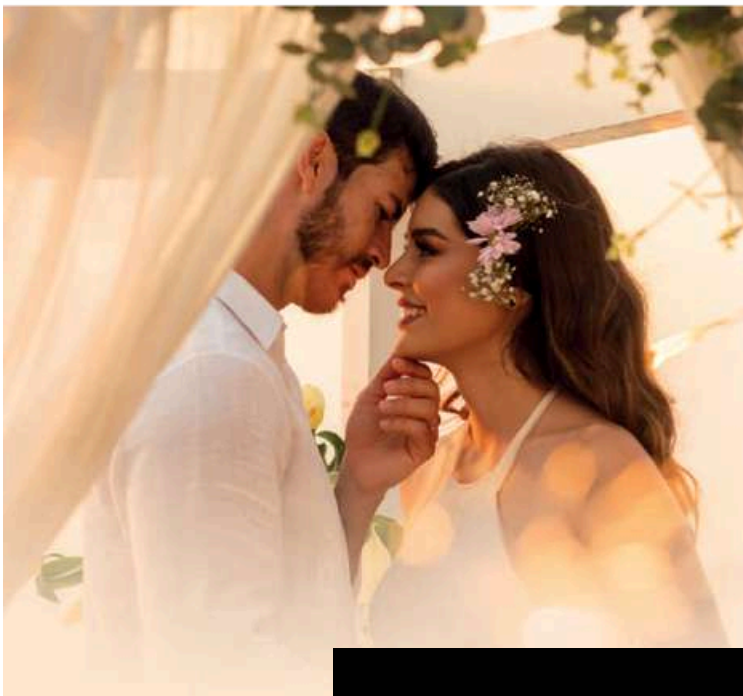
Director Capítulo Sudamérica IADWP
apavia@iadwp.com @adrian_pavia



Gema
Weddings

¡Tu boda de principio a fin!

 [gema_weddingsevents](https://www.instagram.com/gema_weddingsevents)



Santa Fe
grupo | hotelero

La boda que siempre imaginaste te espera en los Hoteles Krystal Grand Hotels & Resort, Krystal Hotels & Resort, Mahekal, Hyatt Regency Mexico City Insurgentes.

¡Tenemos el escenario ideal para una boda destino!



Samira Beltrán Director Corporativo Romance y Cuentas Clave

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange glow over the sky and the ocean. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, with white waves breaking on the sandy shore. In the foreground, a small, circular structure with a striped tower and a thatched roof stands on the beach. People are scattered across the sand, some sitting on lounge chairs under palm trees. The overall scene is idyllic and romantic.

An incredible destination!

Dominican Republic: A wedding destination

If you have ever dreamed of a destination wedding in a paradisiacal place, with exotic beaches, warm weather, great variety of landscapes, mountain ranges, crystal clear rivers, impressive waterfalls, lakes, and most importantly, the hospitality of its people, **Dominican Republic is your destination.**

When planning a destination wedding, choosing the right destination is very important and makes all the difference. There are many destinations to choose from and each one offers something different.



getting to any of the Dominican Republic's seven international airports is easier and more affordable than to other Caribbean destinations with direct flights from many major cities in the U.S., Canada, Latin America and Europe.

The Dominican Republic has the largest hotel infrastructure in the Caribbean, so it is easy to find accommodations ranging from all-inclusive resorts to small boutique hotels or even ecolodges in the middle of the rainforest.

The mixture of Spanish and African Taino culture, among others that arrived later, created the unique Dominican culture, which is characterized by its genuine hospitality.

Being the second largest country in the Caribbean, the Dominican Republic is large enough to have an impressive variety of landscapes, yet small enough to go from one tourist destination to another in a short time due to its great road connectivity. In a single trip you can find completely different experiences in each destination. This makes it possible to celebrate the wedding in one destination and the honeymoon in a completely different one, without the added cost of traveling to another country.

Due to its location in the center of the Caribbean, it has great connectivity. It receives commercial and charter flights from all over the world from major airlines, so





Punta Cana: With its stunning white sand beaches and crystal clear waters, all-inclusive resorts and elegant boutique hotels, it is one of the most popular wedding destinations in the Dominican Republic. Luxury resorts offer complete wedding packages and a wide range of services for the bride and groom and their guests.

Puerto Plata: This northern region of the Dominican Republic offers a combination of pristine beaches, lush mountains and charming colonial and Victorian architecture.

Resorts in Puerto Plata offer a variety of wedding options, from intimate beach ceremonies to elegant receptions in ballrooms overlooking the sea. Puerto Plata also boasts the highest cable car in the Caribbean, making it a must-see.

The DR is full of emblematic places in its cities and provinces, of which several beautiful and romantic places stand out.

Santo Domingo: The Dominican Capital: offers an enchanting historical backdrop for a unique wedding. Couples can get married in historic churches or in elegant locations within the Colonial City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

La Romana: With its luxury resorts and beautiful beaches. Altos de Chavón, a replica of a 16th century Mediterranean village perched on a cliff overlooking a river, is a popular destination for Catholic weddings and photo shoots. The bride and groom can enjoy an excursion to the famous Saona or Catalina islands.



Samaná: This beautiful peninsula on the northwest coast is known for its lush tropical landscapes and stunning natural beauty, combining mountain and beach. Samaná is ideal for couples looking for a quieter destination wedding away from the hustle and bustle of busy tourist destinations. Couples can get married on secluded beaches amidst lush rainforests or even at hidden waterfalls.

To add a special and memorable touch, it is important to make destination weddings in the Dominican Republic more attractive with unique experiences that the bride, groom and their guests will never forget.



During these months, the weather is warm and sunny, with less chance of rain, ensuring optimal conditions for an outdoor wedding.

2. **Low season:** The months of May and November are the low season in the country, with fewer tourists and lower prices for accommodations and services. If the bride and groom and their guests prefer to avoid the crowds and enjoy cheaper rates. This could be an option to consider.

3. **Special events:** Consider dates that coincide with special events or holidays, such as Carnival in February, Easter or Christmas festivities in December. It could add a unique cultural and festive dimension to the destination wedding.

The best date will depend on the personal preferences of the bride and groom and the availability of their guests.

The Dominican Republic is undoubtedly the perfect destination for your destination wedding - visiting this beautiful Caribbean country is the perfect choice!

Excursions to emblematic places of the country such as; the Colonial City of Santo Domingo, the National Park of the East, the waterfall of El Limón in Samaná, or Saona Island in La Romana. You can organize excursions and water activities to outstanding places (snorkeling, scuba diving, catamaran rides, sport fishing or even swimming with dolphins).

In addition, we have an incredible local gastronomy, where guests can learn and fall in love with the delicious Dominican food, with dishes such as *mofongo*, *sancocho*, *tostones* and fresh seafood.



The ideal dates for destination weddings in the Dominican Republic depend on several factors, such as the weather, the availability of the bride and groom and their guests, as well as the tourist season. However, some recommended times could be:

1. **Dry Season:** Which runs from December through April. It is usually the most popular time for destination weddings in the country.

Mirta Sanchez

Chapter Head República
Dominicana IADWP
@mseventsrdr

Destination Wedding Training



Cusco, Peru.





The imperial city of Cusco was the venue for the second edition of Destination Wedding Training conducted by the IADWP Peru Chapter team led by Jossy Quezada (Chapter Head of Peru), Karen Silva (Junior from Lima) and Kerly Heald (Junior from Cusco). This event was held on June 11 and 12 at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel. On June 13, a FamTrip was developed in the Sacred Valley of the Incas where scouting was done to the main hotels and event locations, it was a day to share and get to know all the magic and beauty of this city.

DWT Cusco counted with the participation and presentation of outstanding international speakers:

Adrián Pavía: Director of the Capítulo Sudamérica of IADWP who delighted all attendees with his masterful creativity and challenged them to maximize their talents to the fullest.

Paula Abreu: Top Mexican Wedding Planner and influencer of the Wedding and Event Industry. Our speaker who has a lot of spark and heart shared valuable information about personal finances and the true value of the work of a wedding professional.

Jacqueline Vázquez: CEO / Entrepreneur/ Coach & Best Selling Author. Jacky taught all participants about the importance and key of networking to achieve connections and transcend at a professional level.

Guadalupe Alvarez: Founder of PenziWeddings, one of the most important companies in the wedding industry in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Guadalupe shared her experiences in multicultural weddings and provided valuable tips for creating experiences.

And representing Cusco, Peru to the company Arrecife Servicios, Catering & Events in charge of Ms. Yony Chávez Founder & General Manager and Miss. Angela Murillo Lawyer & Event Designer both are the heart of this company with great trajectory in the imperial city.

We had the assistance of colleagues from the wedding industry from different cities of Peru such as Lima, Trujillo, Huancayo, Pucallpa and Cusco. They all arrived with great expectation and enthusiasm and ready to live three days of professional empowerment.

They were three days of learning, innovation and above all connection. We had the opportunity to live real experiences related to the destination; participate in an ancient Andean wedding; taste the exquisite local cuisine; and learned about the history, culture, and tradition of Cusco.

Cusco is one of the most visited destinations in Peru, since we have one of the wonders of the world "Machupicchu", Inca citadel located among the mountains of the jungle of the region.

The Capítulo Perú fulfilled the purpose of the DWT in Cusco, which is to provide a relevant immersion approach to the fascinating world of destination weddings with the experience and trajectory of the speakers, make valuable networking and learn how to build valuable connections to transcend in this industry.

Kerly Heald

Junior Cusco
Capítulo Perú

@kerlyheald_wp_cusco_peru





Wedding Bakery

By Angelo, owner of Bocatto Di Angeli

Angelo, passionate about art and special creations, has found his vocation as a chef specializing in wedding pastries. His experience of more than 14 years makes him an expert in the field. Wedding cakes are crucial elements in any wedding celebration, and today, there are a wide variety of options to choose from:

Minimalist: Minimalist cakes with simple layers, clean lines and subtle decorations are gaining popularity. These elegant designs are perfectly suited for modern weddings.

Hand-painted details: Cakes with hand-painted details are increasingly in demand and add a unique artistic touch to cakes.

Fondant effect: Fondant is in fashion. This style offers an elegant and modern look. Fondant allows exceptional creativity in cake decoration.



Interesting textures: such as imitation lace, watercolor effects or geometric patterns are trending in contemporary weddings. These textures add visual depth to the cake.

Themed Personalization: Personalized cakes that reflect the couple's interests or hobbies are gaining ground. From favorite movies to travel locations, these cakes highlight the personality and dreams of the bride and groom.

Naked cakes: Naked cakes are ideal for rustic weddings. These cakes, often decorated with natural elements such as fruits or flowers, offer a relaxed and authentic style.

Chantilly cream vs. Buttercream: In humid climates like Panama, Chantilly cream can melt quickly, which affects the appearance and texture of the cake. Therefore, buttercream is a better choice. It is similar in





While the cake should reflect the tastes of the bride and groom, it should also be appreciated by the majority of the guests.

Another aspect that is liked is Personalized Toppers. However, some couples prefer to omit the toppers to maintain a minimalist style.

Plan ahead. We know that finding and selecting the cake well in advance allows us to coordinate all the details and make adjustments if necessary. Working in coordination with decorators and wedding planners ensures a flawless presentation. This is why we recommend that the choice of the wedding cake should be made in advance, choosing the personal taste with the creativity of the pastry chef.

taste and texture, but more resistant to heat and humidity, for a climate like ours. Meringue is also a popular alternative for frosting cakes, especially if you are looking for a lighter, airier texture.

The size of the cake is very important and does not necessarily relate to the size of the cake. The important thing is to find a balance between the number of guests and aesthetics. Often, large cakes are used as impressive centerpieces at the reception. However, not all cake tiers need to be edible; some can be faux (cardboard) to achieve the desired height without wasting food. Decoration also influences the perception of size. A suitable base or table enhances the presence of the cake.

Tastings and preferences are essential for choosing flavors. Offering 3 to 4 options allows the bride and groom to make clearer decisions. At the same time, considering the guests' preferences is key.



Angelo

Propietario de Bocatto Di Angeli Amante
del Arte y Creaciones Especiales
@bocattodiangeli

The Bride and Groom Dance



Tradition and personality at the heart of the wedding.



The wedding dance, that magical moment that illuminates the dance floor at the wedding celebration, is that moment that transcends a tradition to become the "happening" where the couple embodies their essence and love. This moment symbolizes the beginning of a new chapter in the lives of the couples who join in marriage, through the dance celebrates the union, commitment and the promise of a shared future.

The roots of the bride and groom dance go back to ancient customs that honored the union of two families and communities. There is no single starting point, several historical influences can be identified that contribute to its development:

1. Community feasts and celebrations: in ancient cultures, weddings were community events that included dances and rituals to celebrate the union of the couple and strengthen social ties. These dances were usually group and festive, involving the entire community in "el bailongo", as we say in Mexico.

2. Court dances: In the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, European courts developed



elaborate dances as a form of entertainment and artistic expression. These dances were characterized by their elegance and formality, in the purest "Game of Thrones" style.

3. The Viennese waltz: At the end of the 18th century, the Viennese waltz became popular in Europe and became the ballroom dance par excellence. Its romantic rhythm and twirling movement (if you've seen "Bridgerton" you know what I'm talking about) made it ideal for expressing love and togetherness, and it was soon incorporated into wedding celebrations.

4. The tradition of opening the dance: In the 19th century, it became customary for the bride and groom to open the dance at weddings, symbolizing their first act as a married couple and marking the beginning of the great celebration.



4. Use elements that elevate the experience:

Using sparklers, confetti, costumes and props will help you take the performance to another level. Use these elements to your advantage to create a memorable moment.

The wedding dance is much more than a tradition, it is a ritual of love, a celebration as a couple and an artistic expression that will remain engraved in the hearts of the couple and their loved ones. With a touch of originality, emotion and a dose of love, this moment will become a memory that will last forever.

Those who know me know that dancing is one of my greatest passions, so when couples make an effort and want to surprise through dance, I have to accept it, I am the most excited.

Below, I share some keys to make this moment unforgettable:

1. Choose the right song: Music is the soul of the dance, so choosing a song that makes sense to you and excites you is key to create that WOW! moment.

2. Explore your creativity: Don't be afraid to go out of the box and design an original choreography that reflects your personality and style.

3. Rehearse and have fun: Practice makes perfect, but don't stress too much if there is a mistake, it's your day, and no one else knows the choreography, the important thing is not perfection, but to have a special moment and enjoy it.



Paula Abreu

AbreuMexicoDestinationWeddingPlanner
@paulaabreuevents
@paulaabreuco



EX-HACIENDA LA JOYA

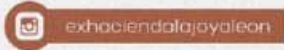
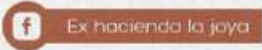
CASA DE EVENTOS
REVOLUCIÓN

EL ENCANTO DE LA HISTORIA PARA TUS EVENTOS EXCLUSIVOS

Con más de 414 años de historia, la **Ex Hacienda La Joya** se erige como el escenario perfecto para eventos sociales de alto prestigio. Situada dentro la ciudad de León, Gto. esta joya histórica ha sido transformada en un venue único para bodas, XV años y celebraciones de ensueño.

Cada rincón de la hacienda respira elegancia y tradición, ofreciendo espacios amplios y versátiles que se adaptan a las más altas exigencias. Desde sus majestuosos jardines hasta sus salones llenos de encanto.

Ex Hacienda La Joya garantiza una experiencia inolvidable para tus clientes



Bivd Aristóteles 1961, Ejido la Joya, CP 37176 León Guanajuato, México

Cásate aquí.
Dile sí
a lo increíble.



bodas xcaret

MÉXICO · RIVIERA MAYA

www.bodasxcaret.com



Outdoor Weddings

By Kika Uribe.



I'm going to tell you a story:

You are next to the love of your life, holding hands in a spectacular place where the sky is your roof and the grass or the sand of the sea is your carpet; where the birds singing or the sound of the sea waves accompany you in the **“I Do!”**

All the guests applaud while you enter the dance floor smiling along with that song that gives you goose bumps, the song you dreamed of. At that moment you forget everything and let yourself go.

It's definitely the perfect dream, right? And now that you will make it come true, your wedding will be a sensory experience that will connect you, your partner and your guests for life.

Organizing your wedding outdoors will take you a little beyond what is fashionable, it is not just a trend you are following; you are celebrating love in its purest and most natural form and the significance will transcend the ordinary, it will be an unforgettable day.



You have the great advantage of choosing among many scenarios that only with its natural charm will be the main attraction. With the same dream that I told you at the beginning of this article you can imagine romantic gardens, mountains, botanical parks, iconic places, public spaces, country fincas, paradisiacal beaches and many more; space is endless when it comes to enjoying nature.

In many cases this will serve as decoration, however, you can enhance this environment with flowers, natural objects, decorative elements and romantic lighting.

The sunset already offers you a warm and golden light, so I recommend you to take advantage of the daylight for your ceremony; imagine exchanging your vows while the sun sets on the horizon and little by little as the hours go by you will notice that magical



change of scenery that the lighting achieves turning the space and the night into a place full of lights, smiles and good music, it can't be more perfect!

When you are outdoors you feel the same way, FREE! It makes you want to dance, smile, cool off and eat delicious food, so the decor, music, drinks and food should complement the ambiance in a way that is consistent with the place you choose.

Obviously you are going to ask me, what if it rains?

The weather is an important factor that we must take into account and this goes hand in hand with the time of year and the destination or location you choose for your wedding. But although it is possible to achieve this match, when having your wedding outdoors we must always have a contingency plan, this is something that is not negotiable, it is the famous plan B that we use in case Mother Nature decides to invite herself to the wedding.



Umbrellas, fans, tents, blankets, sandals; all these elements can keep guests comfortable and ensure that the weather will not be an impediment for your wedding to be perfect, although they say that love is messy, we cannot leave it to chance.



As your wedding planner I have a much bigger challenge now; it's not only about making your dream come true but also about achieving a perfect mesh between your wedding venue, suppliers and spectacular logistics. Every little detail will be considered to make it a truly wonderful event, so you can relax! You have made the ideal decision, now let's start planning your wedding.

Kika Uribe

DestinationWeddingPlanner
Chapter Jr. Guayas - Capitulo Ecuador
Instagram @kikaweddingplanner
Email: wp@kikaweddingplanner.com
www.kikaweddingplanner.com



Rituals, Customs and Traditions

The essence of the Jewish
destination weddings

To speak of Jewish Weddings is to speak with knowledge and understanding of the history that surrounds an evolving civilization full of rituals, customs and traditions that will allow us to create unique celebrations.

The magic of Jewish destination weddings lies in the life history of our couples; in the "background" that each family will share and will allow us to "materialize" in events that will create unforgettable memories.

Let's go by parts, first we must understand the difference between a ritual, a custom and a tradition:

A **RITUAL** is the action or series of actions that are repeated, often in a religious or social environment. Rituals are practices that have accompanied people throughout their existence and remain in the present time (with modifications or adaptations) as is the case in political, social, sports, funeral/mourning and recreational practices.



On the other hand, a **CUSTOM**, is or are the actions and activities that are habitually carried out with the family, for example, celebrating a birthday, celebrating a commemorative date, going out to eat with a relative on Sundays, going for a walk or eating grapes on New Year's Day, etc.

A **TRADITION** is a belief or behavior that is passed from generation to generation in a family, culture, or religion.

That is why Jewish weddings are a mixture of rituals, customs and traditions that each family has adopted from generation to generation and that by carrying them out in a destination, will allow them to impregnate a life experience with an adventurous touch.

It is not our duty to know what each couple wants, but it is our duty to ask, that is where the importance of understanding the



significance and the essence that it entails is born. In this way, the information we receive will allow us to "mold" the experience that our clients/our couple wishes to transmit to their family and friends.

It is worth mentioning that in many occasions it will be the parents who will be more involved in the planning and design of this experience. Although it may seem strange to you, for the couple it is normal for their parents to be involved and in many occasions they are the ones who make the decisions. For you, the important thing is to understand the role of each one and who will be the "decision makers" or who pays for what events.

Beyond having understood these concepts, you must also know to which community and to which stream your clients belong because the rituals you will have to consider will depend on it.

**For us as planners, every ritual could be or become an event.*

With more than 10 years of experience in this niche, I have experienced a natural evolution of the Jewish civilization. Today we have multicultural Jewish destination weddings that are my personal favorites,

because beyond the intrinsic value, they represent a professional growth that demands learning and specialization.

And I'm sure you're wondering, what is a multicultural Jewish destination wedding?

It is the union of two people who belong to different Jewish communities and have decided to unite their lives respecting the rituals, customs and traditions that their families from generation to generation have decided to preserve.

The essence of the multicultural Jewish destination wedding lies in a rich combination of rituals, customs and traditions, with touches of adventure and daring, because if we add to all this the number of guests that you will have, the celebration will be a great event...

If you liked my article and are interested in knowing more, follow us on Instagram at ÉPICA and leave me a comment on my post to make a second part and continue sharing with you more information about these wonderful celebrations!



Ary Iturralde

@AryIturralde Destination Jewish Weddings Master
@BodasJudíasDestino
MAZELTOV | The Contemporary Jewish
Weddings Certification
Email: bodasjudíasdestino@gmail.com

Diversity All Year Long!

Why it is not enough to celebrate only during Pride Month.



Did you know that love doesn't have just one shape or one color? In the romance travel industry, and especially in weddings, it's time we celebrate diversity all year long, not just in June during Pride Month. Let's remember that our industry is a reflection of the society we live in.

Seeing yourself reflected matters. If couples don't see their reality in social media campaigns, wedding services and the stories we tell, they feel invisible. This is vital for the LGBTQ+ (QUEER) community, but also for all ethnic, cultural and religious minorities. Inclusion is for everyone and everything! We have in our hands a wonderful power of change that we must explore.

Diversity is not only inclusive, it's innovative! Different cultures and experiences bring new ideas, trends and ways of celebrating that can make our weddings even more spectacular. By opening our minds and the doors of our businesses to diversity, we open up a world of creative possibilities.

At Proudly Academy, we believe that to be truly inclusive, we must continually educate ourselves about the different communities we serve. This means getting to know their traditions, values and specific needs. A wedding that authentically reflects the



culture and identities of the couples will undoubtedly be more significant and memorable.

In addition, visibility is key. Our platforms, from Instagram to wedding magazines, must showcase the variety of couples and celebrations that actually exist. This not only challenges stereotypes, but also normalizes diversity in love and everyday life. As we say at Proudly: Inclusion isn't an annual event, it's a daily priority!

Supporting diversity from our businesses also means supporting diverse suppliers. Working with photographers, florists, planners and other professionals from diverse backgrounds not only enriches our industry, but also helps these businesses thrive. Have you ever wondered how inclusive your business is?

The importance of listening and the willingness to learn will be key in the process of crossing the other side of the rainbow: Ask, research and pay attention to the needs of your customers to offer an inclusive and respectful service.

5 Proudly Tips to Encourage Diversity All Year Long:

1. Curious Mind: Participate in workshops and seminars on inclusion and diversity to stay up to date. Never stop learning!

2. Visibility and Representation: Don't be afraid to showcase the world's diversity in your social media. Make sure your marketing material reflects the real society we live in.

3. Diverse Suppliers: Hire diverse talent. Collaborate with a variety of suppliers to ensure that all cultures and perspectives are represented in everything you do.



4. Ongoing Commitment: Make inclusion a year-round priority in your business, not just during the month of June.

5. Don't be afraid of being fabulous: Incorporate unique and personalized elements that celebrate diversity and love in all its forms, creating an unforgettable experience for your customers.

Remember: Showcasing, talking about, representing and integrating diversity into our industry is not only ethical, it's the right thing to do! It allows us to create richer, significant and beautiful events for everyone. By celebrating love in all its forms, we enrich our own lives and the lives of those we serve.

See you on the other side of the rainbow -
HAPPY PRIDE MONTH TO ALL!

Juanita Suzunaga
(Ella/She/Her)

Head Wedding Planner – PROUDLY GROUP INC
WE CAME OUT FOR YOU

TikTok: @ProudlyAcademy
Instagram: @proudlyweds @proudlyacademy
Web: proudlyweds.com
Correo: juanita@proudlyweds.com
Academy: academy.proudlyweds.com



*The 8 Wedding
Dresses of
Elizabeth Taylor*



Iconic wedding dresses.

Elizabeth Taylor was one of Hollywood's most iconic actresses, but she was also known for her love life, her eccentric taste in jewelry and her multiple marriages. Yes, just like I said, multiple marriages! But luckily they weren't all at once!

She was married eight times to seven different men, and at each wedding she wore her own style according to the moment; a unique dress for each wedding. Here I tell you about each of the wedding dresses she wore.



1. Conrad "Nicky" Hilton Jr. (1950)

For her first marriage to hotel heir Conrad Hilton Jr, Elizabeth Taylor wore a white satin gown with pearl detailing, designed by Helen Rose, an MGM Studios designer. The dress had a fitted bodice, long sleeves and a

wide tulle skirt, reflecting the classic style of 1950s brides.

2. Michael Wilding (1952)

At her wedding to British actor Michael Wilding, Taylor opted for a simpler, more understated style. She wore a two-piece wool suit, with a jacket and a long skirt, along with a chiffon hat and veil.



3. Mike Todd (1957)

For her marriage to film producer Mike Todd, Taylor chose a unique dark green wedding dress. The dress was satin with a wide skirt and a V-neckline, complemented with a shawl of the same color and a bouquet of lilies.



5. Richard Burton (1964)

For her first wedding to Richard Burton, Taylor wore a yellow chiffon gown designed by Irene Sharaff, a costume designer. The dress had a plunging neckline, long sleeves and a ribbon at the waist, with flowers in her hair instead of a veil.



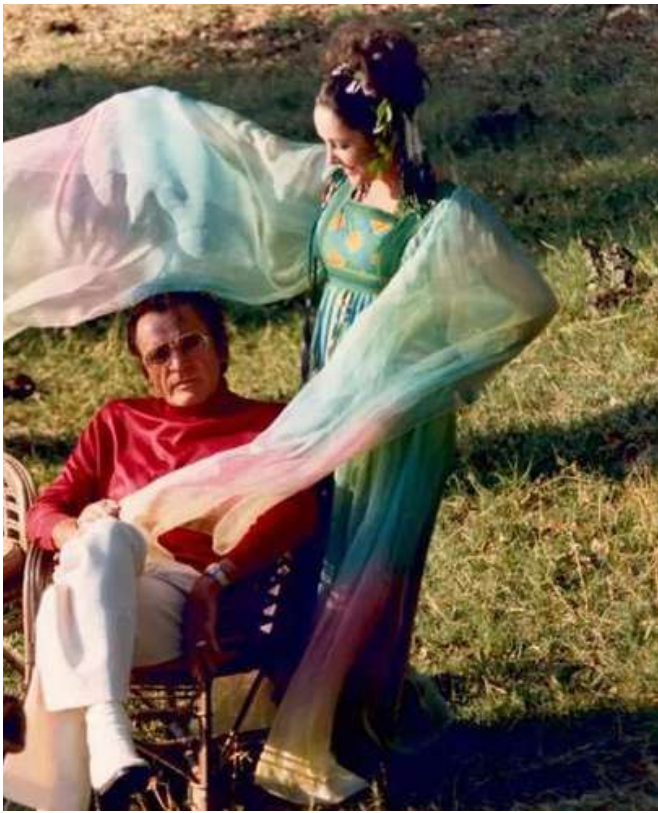
4. Eddie Fisher (1959)

At her wedding to singer Eddie Fisher, Elizabeth Taylor wore a dry green silk gown designed by Helen Rose. The dress had a fitted silhouette with long sleeves and floral details, and was accessorized with a floral headpiece and a short veil.



6. Richard Burton (1975)

At her second wedding to Richard Burton, which took place in Botswana, Taylor opted for a bohemian style with a short, colorful dress with floral details and a headscarf. This look reflected the more casual and relaxed atmosphere of the ceremony.



8. Larry Fortensky (1991)

For her last marriage to construction worker Larry Fortensky, Taylor wore a pale yellow Valentino gown. The dress had a wide skirt and bodice adorned with floral details, and Taylor complemented the look with a long veil and dazzling jewelry.



7. John Warner (1976)

At her wedding to politician John Warner, Taylor wore a traditional white wedding dress with lace and a long veil. The wedding was more conservative and the dress reflected a more classic style.



Elizabeth Taylor's wedding dresses not only reflect her personal style and love of fashion, but also the different eras and contexts of each of her marriages. From Hollywood opulence to more relaxed, bohemian styles, each dress tells a part of the story of her love life and her evolution as a style icon.

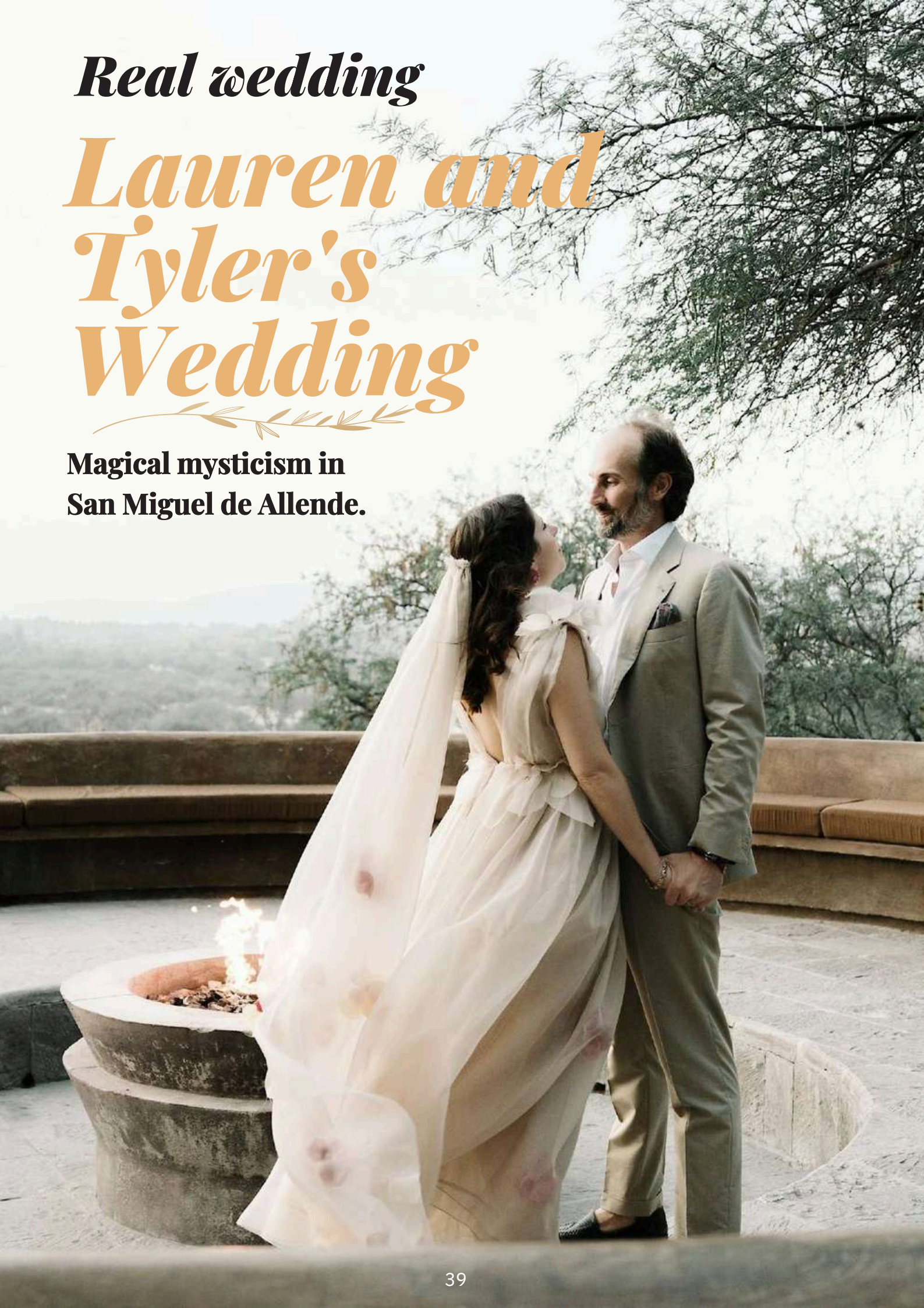
And of all these dresses, which one is your favorite?

Adrián Pavía

Chapter Head Sudamerica
IADWP

Real wedding
Lauren and Tyler's
Wedding

**Magical mysticism in
San Miguel de Allende.**





Originally from New Orleans, this couple sought to break away from typical wedding conventions, choosing a weekend that reflected their passion for health, wellness and mindfulness, while remaining elegant and tasteful.

Lauren and Tyler's wedding was an event that challenged traditional norms, presenting a unique celebration in San Miguel de Allende.

It is not for nothing that San Miguel de Allende this year 2024 was named the "Best Wedding Destination in Mexico", consolidating its position as the place of choice for couples looking for unforgettable romantic experiences. These bride and groom decided to leave behind common wedding traditions: no wedding cake, no first dance, no bridesmaids and groomsmen. Instead, they opted for a disruptive and personalized approach. For the planners at Penzi Weddings, the challenge was to incorporate the couple's priorities into a weekend that exuded wellness and authenticity.

The Perfect Place: Our Habitas San Miguel

Our Habitas San Miguel is located in the countryside of San Miguel de Allende, surrounded by panoramic views of endemic trees, stunning cacti and colorful wildflowers. With a focus on sustainable hospitality and innovative design, it was precisely this environment that celebrates the creative human spirit that was chosen for this very special event. This venue, known for its emphasis on breath, yoga, sound baths and quality food, aligned perfectly with Lauren and Tyler's vision. The choice of Habitas not only offered a setting of natural beauty, but also a space where every detail was designed to foster a mystical atmosphere charged with the sacred energy of San Miguel de Allende.

Mystical Details and Spiritual Connection

The day began with a yoga class shared by the couple and their guests, establishing a relaxed and meditative atmosphere that lasted throughout the wedding and reception. Giant bowls of copal burned in the ceremony, using traditional incense to connect the divine and mystical, cleanse negative energy and provide protection. This magical and spiritual touch permeated every moment of the day, creating a truly unforgettable experience for all present.





The Accomplices of an Unforgettable Weekend

The realization of this event would not have been possible without the collaboration of a talented team of professionals:

Photographer: Ildelfonso Gutiérrez

Location: Our Habitas San Miguel, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico

Event Design and Planning: Penzi Weddings

Floral: Florklor

Bride's Ring and Groom's Ring: Judi Powers Jewelry

Groom's Attire: Harper + Jones

Videographer: Ricardo Media

Stationery: Coco Schramel

Music: DJ Dani Ossa

Merchant: Ben Paneccasio

Wine: Xoler Wine Bar and Octagono Ancestral Wine

Ceremony Music: Gray Pumpelly

Yoga: Amplified Yoga

Rehearsal Dinner: Atrio

The Impact of Destination Weddings in San Miguel de Allende

Destination weddings are fundamental to San Miguel de Allende, not only because of the economic boost they represent, but also because they allow guests to take with them a piece of the colonial magic that characterizes this Mexican paradise. Each wedding becomes a complete and transformative experience, leaving a lasting impression in the hearts of all those present.

The Penzi Weddings Team achieved a celebration that was not only a reflection of their clients' love and commitment, but also an experience that connected everyone to the mystical essence of San Miguel de Allende. In a setting where history and spirituality meet, their wedding will be remembered as an event that truly celebrated life in its purest and most significant form.

Article curated by By Ilse Diamant.

Ilse Diamant

Luxury Romance Ambassador



Tribe of Brides



What if we plan a destination wedding?



Hello Dear Tribe of Brides! How are you? If this idea or question has crossed your mind it's not as crazy as it seems! It can be a great idea to celebrate your love through an experience that will last more than just a few hours like a local wedding!

Having a destination wedding involves staying overnight in a different location than where you as a couple and your guests live or reside. How far you want to go for your destination wedding, well that's up to you, as it can be within the same country as well as a destination a few hours' drive away or something so international that it involves flying! What they definitely have in common is that by involving a trip, the experience is extended, as it at least involves a weekend where it even lends itself to have other events included:

ICE BREAKER, which is a relaxed event where all the guests can get to know each other and is the perfect welcome so that, as the name says, the ice breaks among them and they can start to get to know each other, which will ensure that by the time of the wedding reception they will already have anecdotes or stories in common that were born the night before.

THE WEDDING, of course this is the main day of the celebration, where your ceremony and reception will take place, with all the protocols and special moments that a



wedding per se includes and carries, with the great reward of having your guests set and enjoying from at least one day before, living together and having the experience of having traveled.

TORNABODA, is a post-wedding celebration to get together again and close the weekend celebration on a high note, in which a brunch and recovery drinks are usually served. Of course, the central topic of conversation is everything that happened at the wedding the day before!

You can also include some sightseeing or cultural tours of the destination you are traveling to in order to enhance your wedding!

The most important thing is that this celebration is extended as a "mini-vacation" as it allows your guests to take on a different mood with the excitement of traveling, packing their bags and probably getting to know a different place.



Now, these are my recommendations for you to have a GREAT DESTINATION WEDDING:

1. Hire a Destination Wedding Planner, since the logistics involved in planning a wedding of this type goes beyond just planning the wedding, because many times you have to consider options such as lodging, transportation, tours or itineraries and have connections or suppliers in other destinations. Relax! This does not imply more work for you as a couple.

2. Choose a destination that has good connectivity with your place of residence, either by flight, land or even sea, a place that is easily accessible for both you and your guests.

3. Check the weather according to the season of the year in which you want to get married, that way you will make sure that it is pleasant and does not jeopardize the plans of the type of wedding you want to have.

4. Budget: NO, A DESTINATION WEDDING IS NOT MORE EXPENSIVE. Believe it or not, it will not cost you more than a local

wedding, since most of what changes are the inclusions or characteristics of the type of elements for the wedding.

5. The guest list automatically shrinks, since not everyone can always join you on a trip! But it is a great way to rule out guests without you being the one to leave someone out, of course. Consider if there is someone on your guest list that you would like to accompany you on your big day and it is not possible for them to take a plane. Check the possibility of them arriving by some other means and being able to accompany you or if this would be a reason not to have a wedding of this type.

6. Local vendors: in addition to becoming sustainable, by hiring local vendors you can obtain two main benefits: avoid paying travel expenses for bringing vendors from other locations (or as few as possible) and supporting the local economy of the destination you are visiting.

I hope these recommendations will help you solve your doubts about whether or not a Destination Wedding is for you.

But if you have any comments or questions between now and the next edition, I will be happy to read them in DM.

See you soon!

Sandra Alas

Professional Event Planner
@sandraalawp
Mexico #YoSoyLiderAlfa



Safety in Weddings



**An accident in first person.
By Norma Constanza Gomez**

Safety should never be sacrificed for the sake of aesthetics, celebration or economy. It is a vital reminder that, in the wedding and event industry, every detail counts, especially when it comes to protecting the lives and well-being of everyone involved.

I am Norma Gómez and on September 29th, 2022 I saw my second skin being born. After a totally successful year in which there was no time to rest, that Friday we were in an event which was going normally, according to the logistics and what had been planned for months to have a successful event. My eagerness for maximum control led me to go to the kitchen (here the first mistake), I wanted to collaborate and this led me to manipulate the burner of a samovar, and due to a bad practice of one of the kitchen assistants there was an explosion with industrial alcohol. I took the worst part; burns of grade 2 and 3 in 35% of my body, from there 18 reconstructive surgeries, almost 70 days in a clinic away from my Pereira, my family and my home, feeling the hardest pains that a human being can live, taking into account that the skin is the largest organ of the body and that a burn is the worst aggression that can be suffered.



Thanks to God, the love of my family, my friends, my industry partners, my strength and incredible resilience I have been overcoming this bad moment in my life and which has led me today through my experience to carry the message of safety at events.

Preventing tragedies in the world of weddings and events: a lesson in survival.

Amidst the beauty and joy of a social event, life can change in an instant. This was the case for me. This tragic incident not only transformed my life, but also propelled me on a mission: to alert the wedding and event industry to the importance of safety.

I share my story as a warning and a call to action. From electrical safety to fire safety measures, advocating for strict standards and safe practices that could save lives.



My testimony not only inspires reflection, but also highlights the urgent need for education and preparation in event planning. Through my courageous fight and commitment, I dream that no other celebratory event will be marred by preventable tragedies.

Let's talk about prevention:

Preventing tragedies in the world of weddings and events requires a comprehensive and proactive approach to safety. Here are some key points:

1. Facility inspection and maintenance: Prior to the event, it is crucial to verify that all electrical installations, kitchen equipment, and emergency systems are in good condition and comply with safety regulations.

2. Emergency planning: Having a detailed plan for emergency situations, including evacuation of guests and handling of possible fires or accidents, is essential. All organizers and staff should be trained and familiar with this plan.



3. Food safety: Ensuring that food and beverages are prepared, handled and served in a safe manner to avoid food poisoning or other health problems.

4. Crowd control: Ensure that there are sufficient, clear and accessible emergency exits, as well as measures to effectively control the number of people on site.

5. Decoration safety: Use materials and decorative elements that are safe and fire resistant. Avoid the use of open candles or other objects that may pose a fire risk.

6. Personnel training: All personnel involved in the organization and execution of the event should receive adequate training in safety and first aid.

7. Clear communication: Maintain clear and open communication with all suppliers, clients and attendees about the safety measures being implemented and the actions to be taken in case of an emergency.

8. Liability insurance: Consider taking out liability insurance to cover possible incidents during the event.

Implementing these measures can help prevent tragedies and ensure that all events run safely and successfully.

Thank you for your interest in this topic and for being part of the solution.

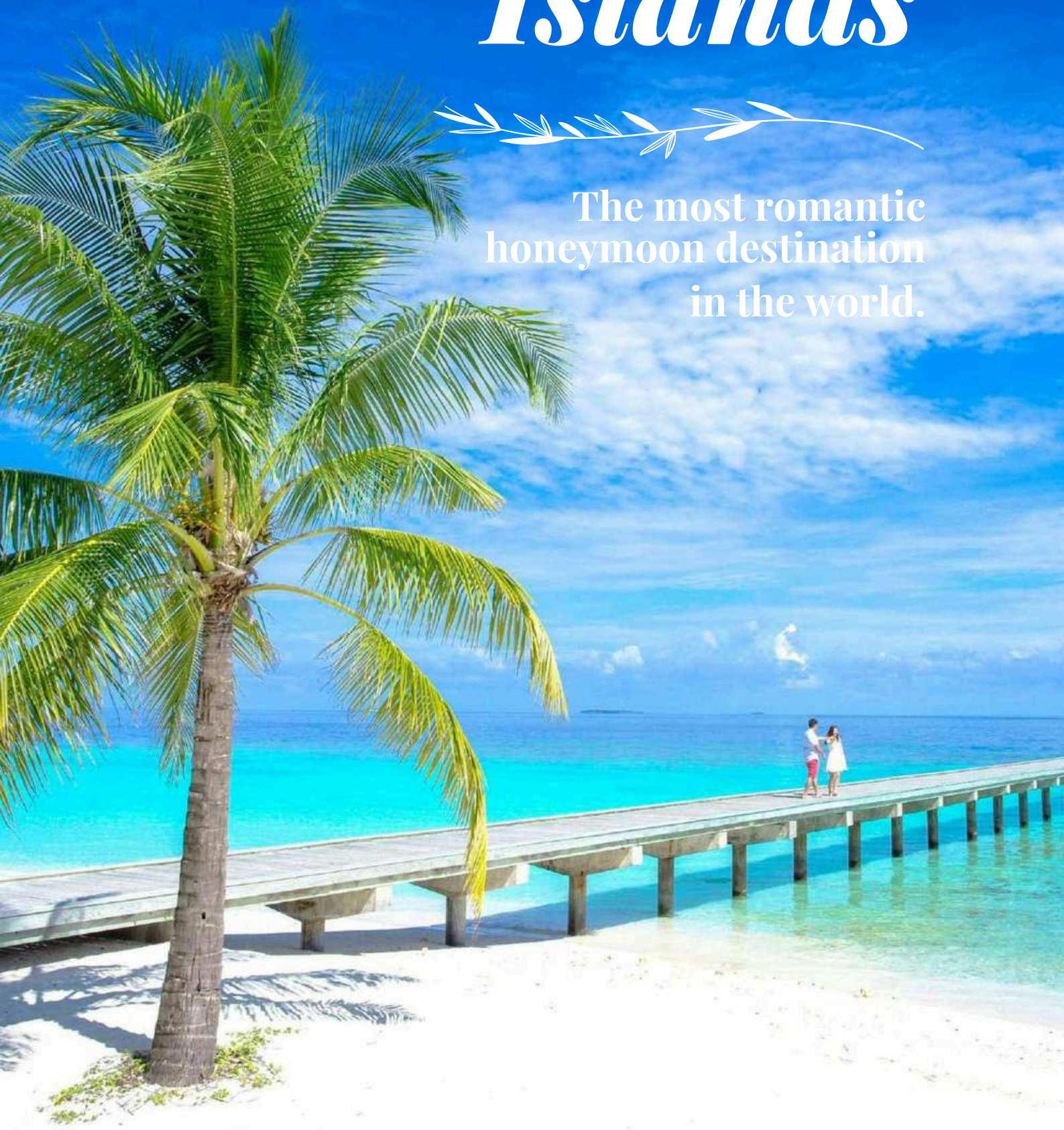
Norma Constanza Gómez

Junior Chapter Risaralda
Head Colombia
IG: @eventos_con_love
eventosconlove@gmail.com
www.eventosconlove.com

Tahiti Islands



The most romantic
honeymoon destination
in the world.



Imagine a paradise where the rhythm of island life slows your pace and the warmth of Polynesian hospitality envelops you like a gentle embrace. Welcome to the Islands of Tahiti, a collection of 118 unspoiled islands spread across five breathtaking archipelagos. Here, every visitor feels like a beloved guest, greeted with genuine smiles and willing to share the magic of this enchanting destination.



Tahiti - the heartbeat of French Polynesia

Tahiti, the crown jewel of the Society Islands, is where your dream trip begins. This largest island of French Polynesia captivates with its majestic mountains and verdant landscapes, offering an enticing combination of the bustling city life of Papeete and serene, scenic tours of the peninsula. Adventure lovers can climb towering peaks, while sun worshippers can relax on pristine black and white sand beaches. With museums, local and international cuisine and year-round festivities, Tahiti sets the perfect tone for your romantic getaway.

Bora Bora - The Pearl of the Pacific

A short flight from Tahiti, Bora Bora beckons with its legendary beauty. Known as the "Pearl of the Pacific", this island paradise is synonymous with romance and luxury.



Its turquoise lagoon, surrounded by small palm-covered *motu* (islets), is a scene out of a dream. Overwater bungalows, the epitome of Polynesian elegance, offer private decks for plunging into the crystal-clear waters, ideal for swimming, snorkeling and jet skiing. Embrace romance as you dine on a private *motu*, swim with manta rays or watch mesmerizing sunsets from a catamaran.

Moorea - Cathedral of Nature

Surrounded by a magnificent coral reef, Moorea is a nature lover's paradise. Its imposing mountains, reminiscent of a majestic cathedral, and lush hiking trails offer breathtaking viewpoints. Moorea's small size allows for a leisurely tour of the island, where you can explore pineapple plantations and savor sweet local fruits.



Dining tours reveal a unique combination of Tahitian, Chinese and French cuisine, while the island's bays are perfect for kayaking, paddle boarding and discovering the vibrant marine life.

Tetiaroa - A Sanctuary of Serenity

Tetiaroa, a quick flight from Papeete, is an isolated coral island rich in natural beauty and history. Once a royal retreat, Tetiaroa became Marlon Brando's private paradise. Today it is home to The Brando, a 5-star eco-friendly luxury resort perfectly integrated into its pristine surroundings. Tranquility reigns here, with opportunities to relax on the soft white sand beaches, explore crystal



clear waters and contribute to environmental conservation efforts. There are 39 villas perfectly integrated into the natural surroundings making it one of the most exclusive luxury resorts in all of French Polynesia and a perfect place for honeymooners. Tetiaroa will always have a special place in the heart of anyone who visits.

A vertical banner for 'THE ISLANDS of TAHITI'. The top part features the text 'THE ISLANDS of TAHITI' in a serif font, with 'TAHITI' being larger and more prominent. Below the text is a photograph of a tropical island with palm trees and a clear blue ocean. In the middle of the banner, the text 'Let Us Plan Your Escape to Paradise' is written in a cursive font. At the bottom, there is a dark blue section with the 'Dream Vacations' logo, the text 'Luxury Travel Associates', and a photo of Lori Foster. Below the photo, there is contact information: 'Lori Foster (949) 391-9294', 'www.LuxuryTravelAssociates.com', 'LFoster@DreamVacations.com', 'Instagram@TravelsWithLori', and 'Facebook.com/LuxuryTravelAssociates'.

Beyond the famous - hidden gems await you.

French Polynesia's charm extends beyond these famous islands. Huahine, Raiatea and Taha'a offer unique experiences waiting to be discovered. To truly capture the essence of this paradise, you can hire the expertise of a Tahiti specialist. At Luxury Travel Associates, we create customized honeymoons tailored to your desires, ensuring that every moment is unforgettable.

Ready to begin your journey?

Contact us today and let us turn your honeymoon dreams into reality. With our in-depth knowledge and personalized service, you'll be counting down the days to your own piece of paradise.

Lori Foster

Proprietario, asesor de viajes de lujo
Asociados de viajes de lujo
www.LuxuryTravelAssociates.com
LFoster@dreamvacations.com
949-391-9294
Instagram @ViajesConLori
Facebook.com/LuxuryTravelAssociates

Capturing Love



**An interview with Manuel Aldana,
wedding photographer.**



In the enchanting world of wedding photography, few names resonate as deeply as that of Manuel Aldana. Manuel's unique ability to blend genuine emotions with the picturesque landscapes of Guatemala has made his work deeply impactful. In this interview, Manuel shares his insights, experiences and the heartfelt connections that fuel his passion for wedding photography. From his personal journey to his love for Guatemala and its vibrant culture, Manuel's story is as captivating as the moments he captures with his camera lens. Join us as we delve into the life and art of Manuel Aldana and discover the magic behind his extraordinary wedding photography.



As I honed my skills in various genres of photography—modeling, landscape, street—I found unparalleled satisfaction in wedding photography. Weddings are full of raw emotions and intimate moments, marking the beginning of beautiful journeys. The challenge of capturing a couple's love story requires creativity, emotional intelligence and technical skill, which makes each wedding a unique narrative.

1. Manuel, your trajectory as a wedding photographer is truly inspiring. Can you tell us about the moment you knew that photography was your vocation and why you decided to focus on weddings in particular?

Thank you for your kind words! My passion for photography awakened during my first job out of school as a mission coordinator for a non-profit organization. Capturing spontaneous moments and the joy shared among children revealed to me the power of a photograph to freeze time and evoke strong emotions.



2. Who is Manuel Aldana outside of photography? What do you enjoy doing in your free time and how do these activities influence your work?

Outside of photography, I find joy and inspiration in various activities:

- Family time: spending quality time with my daughters brings me comfort and inspires me to capture spontaneous moments at weddings.
- Coffee: My passion for coffee and exploring different brewing methods brings comfort and creativity to my daily routine.
- Travel and exploration: Discovering new places and cultures enriches my life experiences and provides new perspectives for my photography.
- Music and arts: Exploring various genres and art forms influences the mood, composition, and color palettes in my work.



Doing these activities keeps my creativity flowing, allowing me to draw on rich experiences when approaching new events. Understanding diverse backgrounds helps me to respect and incorporate cultural elements into my photography.

3. Guatemala has a special place in your heart. What personal experiences or connections fuel your passion for capturing weddings in this beautiful country?

Guatemala's rich cultural tapestry and breathtaking landscapes deeply influence my work. Growing up among vibrant traditions, colorful textiles and diverse festivities instilled in me an appreciation for the unique beauty of our customs.

From the serene shores of Lake Atitlan to the historic ruins of Antigua, Guatemala there are breathtaking backdrops for wedding photography. My personal connection to these landscapes allows me to use them creatively, enhancing the emotional depth of the wedding moments.

Many of my childhood memories are tied to this land, making each wedding I photograph feel personal and significant. Capturing weddings here allows me to give back to my community and showcase the beauty of Guatemala to the world.

4. Your photos beautifully combine emotion with the landscapes of Guatemala. How do you personally connect with each couple to ensure that their love story is authentically represented in your work?

Connecting personally with each couple is crucial to an authentic representation. I begin by spending time getting to know them, discussing their love story, significant milestones and vision for their wedding. This helps me understand their personalities and the dynamics of their relationship.

A pre-wedding photo shoot helps the couple feel comfortable in front of the camera and allows me to observe their natural interactions. Building confidence and maintaining a friendly and professional demeanor creates a relaxed environment to capture genuine emotions.

On the wedding day, I blend in with the surroundings, allowing the couple and guests to behave naturally. I focus on capturing small intimate details that tell the bigger story of their relationship, ensuring that their love story shines through in my work.



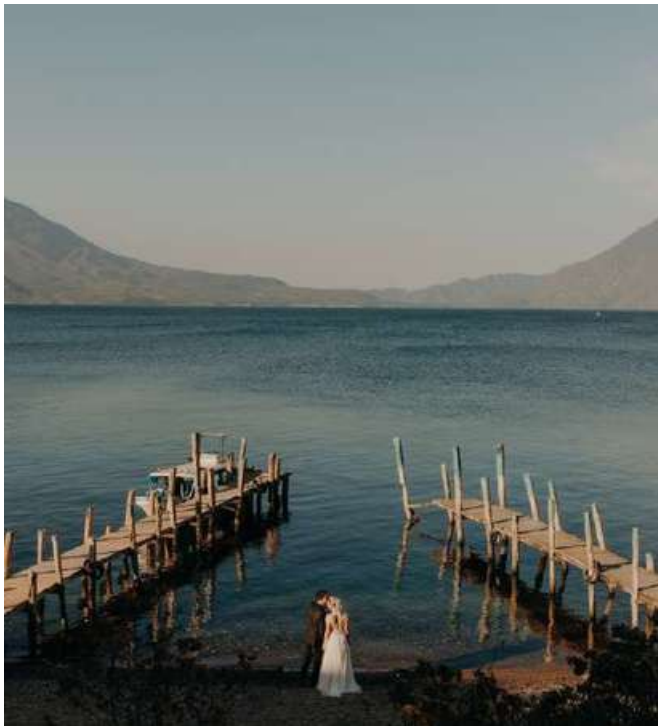
5. Reflecting on your career, is there a wedding in Guatemala that stands out for you as especially memorable or touching? What made it so unique?

Jamie and Sammy's wedding at Casa de la Ruina y Real de Santiago in Antigua stands out as especially memorable. The exceptional

planning by Diana and her team at "I Do, Guatemala" ensured perfect coordination, allowing me to focus on capturing the essence of the moment.

The rustic charm of Casa de la Ruina and the grandeur of Real de Santiago provided stunning backdrops. Jamie and Sammy's warm and humble personalities created a joyful atmosphere, and their genuine affection made each photo a testament to their deep connection.

Their professional vision as photographers defied me to elevate my creativity and technical skills. The incorporation of Guatemalan cultural elements added depth and richness to the wedding, making it a deeply enriching experience both personally and professionally.



6. You work closely with local vendors and artisans - can you share a personal story of collaboration that highlights how you integrate Guatemalan culture into your wedding photography?

A memorable collaboration that beautifully integrates Guatemalan culture is Christian and Billy's elopement on Lake Atitlan. Their desire for an intimate experience led them to exchange vows on a boat amidst the serene beauty of the lake.

Capturing their genuine emotions against the backdrop of majestic volcanoes and calm waters created deeply significant images. Exploring the lake villages and interacting with local artisans added another layer of narrative to their wedding story, honoring and connecting with the place and its people.

This elopement showed how integrating local culture can deepen the significance of a wedding, creating a rich and personal experience for all involved.



7. Each couple is unique, how do you highlight their individuality and create a personalized photographic experience that reflects their love and the essence of Guatemala?

Creating a personalized experience involves understanding the individuality of each couple and incorporating the cultural and natural beauty of Guatemala. I tailor my approach according to your preferences, using spontaneous or posed styles as desired.

I capture intimate moments and personal objects that tell their story, using editing techniques that enhance the natural beauty of the location. Sharing previous images ensures alignment with their vision, creating a stunning visual narrative that celebrates their unique love story in the heart of Guatemala.

8. Guatemala is full of stunning locations. Can you reveal your three favorite places for wedding ceremonies or photo shoots and why they are so special to you?

1. Santa Clara Ruins: The rustic charm and historical elements of these ruins in Antigua provide a stunning and timeless backdrop for wedding photography.
2. Lake Atitlan: Surrounded by majestic volcanoes, this serene lake offers breathtaking scenery that enhances the emotional depth of the wedding moments.
3. Antigua: The colonial architecture and vibrant streets of this historic city create a unique and picturesque setting for capturing love stories.

These locations have a personal and professional significance, allowing me to combine the cultural richness of Guatemala with the couple's unique love story, creating unforgettable memories through my lens.

9. For couples who are undecided about choosing Guatemala for their wedding, what personal stories or final words of encouragement can you share to help them see the beauty and magic of celebrating their love here?

Absolutely! Choosing Guatemala as your wedding destination can be a truly magical and unforgettable experience. Guatemalan vendors can make your dream wedding a reality.

Compared to many other popular wedding destinations, Guatemala offers affordable luxury. You can enjoy high quality services, stunning venues and top-notch



accommodation at a fraction of the cost, providing great value without compromising beauty or experiences.

The country has a growing wedding industry with planners, photographers, caterers and other professional vendors dedicated to making your day as special and seamless as possible.

Choosing Guatemala for your wedding is an invitation to immerse yourself and your guests in a world of natural beauty, cultural richness and sincere hospitality. The enchanting landscapes, romantic locations and unique experiences promise not only an unforgettable wedding day, but also the creation of cherished memories that will last a lifetime. Say "I do" in Guatemala, and let the magic of this extraordinary destination turn your dream wedding into reality.

It has been an absolute pleasure to meet the person behind the camera, Manuel Aldana. His passion for capturing stories of love, his deep connection to Guatemala and his commitment to his craft are truly inspiring. Through our conversation, I have come to appreciate not only his remarkable talent, but also his genuine warmth and dedication to creating unforgettable memories for couples. Manuel's unique blend of artistic vision and cultural appreciation brings an extraordinary touch to every wedding he photographs. I hope this interview has given you a glimpse into the heart and soul of a photographer who turns moments into timeless treasures.

Diana Sciarrillo

Chapter Head Guatemala
I Do, Guatemala by Diana Sciarrillo
Ig: @Idoguatemala

Manuel Aldana

@camanuelaldana



Protocol

Sitting at the table.

Hello everyone! Here I am back with my protocol madness, etiquette and good manners! If you've ever felt like a fish out of water during a formal dinner, worry no more! Today we're going to become experts in table etiquette, with some basic tips that will make you look like a true gentleman or lady of high society. Get ready to laugh and learn at the same time, let's get started!



As we sit at the table first, let's grab the napkin. That square piece of cloth is not a magic carpet or a superhero cape. Place it delicately on your lap, and if you drop it, don't play peek-a-boo with it under the table! You don't want your dinner companions to think you've mysteriously disappeared while you're trying to retrieve your napkin like a detective on a secret mission. Pick it up discreetly and put it back in your lap. And remember, you shouldn't use it as a handkerchief to blow your nose, unless you want to cause a small riot at the table.

Let's talk about cutlery. If you see a dozen forks and spoons, don't panic thinking you've walked into a cutlery showroom. The rule for using them is simple: start from the outside in. Imagine you're an archaeologist unearthing an ancient treasure, one utensil at a time. And remember, don't try to use them all at once like a hungry octopus! One piece of cutlery at a time, my dear Watson.

Sitting up straight is key, but not as straight as a soldier on parade. Avoiding looking like a reclining banana is also part of this learning curve. Straight but relaxed posture is key, as if you're waiting for someone to ask you to tango, but without getting out of your chair. If you lean too far forward, you could look like a private detective trying to listen in on secrets, and that's not exactly elegant.



When it comes to speaking, don't sound like a concert speaker. Use your "inside voice," the one you use when talking to your favorite plant. Also, avoid talking with your mouth full, unless you want to give a practical class on how to juggle food. Picture the scene: bits of salad flying through the air as you try to explain your latest vacation trip. Not the best way to impress!

When it's time for the toast, don't clink your glasses as if you were rehearsing for the church band. A soft tap and a "Cheers!" will do. And of course, look the person you're toasting in the eye, unless you want to look like a socially awkward ninja who avoids eye contact at all costs.

Bread is not a rugby ball. Cut it into small pieces, and don't use your teeth as if you were competing in a bread-biting contest. Imagine the look on your tablemates' faces as they watch you wrestle with a piece of bread as if it were an endurance test.

No phones at the table. Unless your grandfather is calling to tell you he's struck gold in the garden, the cell phone should stay put away. No one wants to see your lightning-fast texting skills while eating dinner. Besides, trying to hide your cell phone under the table and typing blindly is more obvious than you think, and you could end up sending an incomprehensible message.



Finally, when the meal is over, don't run away as if the tablecloth is on fire. Thank your hosts, and if you can, offer to help clear the table. Being a good guest will ensure an invitation to the next celebration...and maybe even an extra helping of dessert. Imagine your hosts' surprise when they see you running out the door as if you were participating in a sprint race, without even saying goodbye.



And there you have it, dear reader, a quick and fun guide to avoid looking like an alien at the table. With these simple tips, you'll be ready to conquer any dinner, from the most casual to the most elegant. Now go out and show off your etiquette skills! Bon appétit and don't forget your napkin in your lap!

Prof. Adrián Pavía

Etiqueta
y Comportamiento Social

Majestic Romance



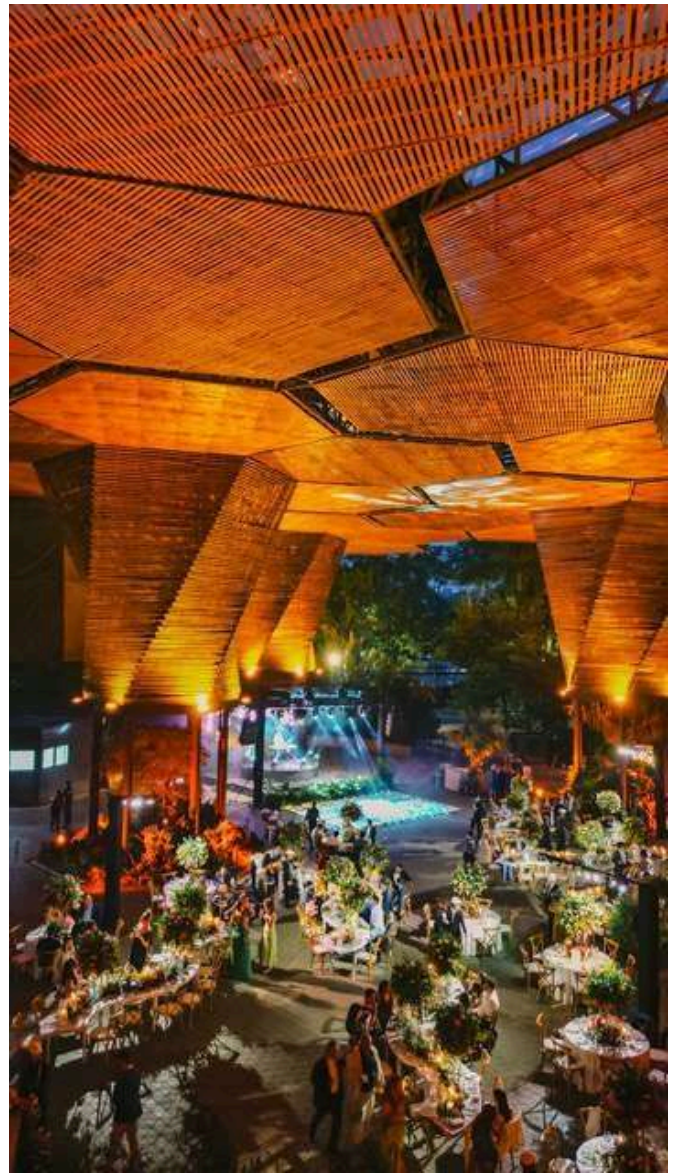
Stunning weddings in an Orquideorama



Why saying "Yes, I do" in Medellín, the city of eternal spring, is to see magic come true.

Welcome to the land of enchantment, where the magical realism that our books have told us so much about is inspired in every architectural and cultural piece to flourish. When a couple decides to find their location, they are choosing more than just a physical space; they are looking for the setting for their love and that changes everything. Like Ryan and Vivi, who in the midst of their life in Manhattan with a vibrant New York in the background, imagine getting married amidst flowers, lots of greenery but at the same time with very imposing architecture, not only honoring their place of residence but their love, which unites his tranquility and freshness with her beauty and elegance.

The photo of the Orquideorama, a treasure located inside the botanical garden in the heart of Medellín, makes you feel an immediate gravitation towards its great wooden proposal that, like a magnet, attracts all eyes. Here, again, it is united with the personality of each couple, each bride and each dream that is projected in the spaces.



Several major cities in Latin America have botanical gardens that offer lively spaces for weddings. Among the best known are Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Costa Rica, but the three most famous are Colombia, specifically Medellín in the first place, followed by Costa Rica and Brazil. This Orchid Garden is not only famous for the great variety of orchids and their magnificent species; what makes it majestic, as the title of this article suggests, is its wooden architecture on monumental scales. When we think of a wedding in this place, the word "simple" should be left out, and that allows us to speak the truth because the grandeur of its spaces projects the number of guests, settings and, above all, the size of the celebration of love that we are going to accompany.

In these times where minimalism condemns us to say that less is more, because the concept has been distorted almost as an open judgement, we must remember that it does not apply to all events or styles. To be able to fearlessly shout love in front of three or four hundred comfortable guests, or more than a thousand spectators who can circulate from the external barriers, makes us feel free, powerful and great. Thanks to being a wedding planner I have been to very intimate celebrations, such as Ryan and Viviana's ceremony which, although it was accompanied by over two hundred hearts, the fibers of the soul were touched in such a sacred way by Kate, their officiant, and the union of two cultures in love made it even closer. We must not condemn intimacy to the 'elopement' or to a specific number; we must not take anything for granted, for if there is one thing I have learned in this work it is that the surprises and lessons are endless, and that as anything can happen, opening ourselves to explore from each partner is the best narrative we can bring.



To be majestic, imposing and abundant is nothing more than a bet of self-confidence and love for each other. Tables in spirals of more than eight meters, big, tall, colorful floral arrangements; falls, candles and more mixes was a challenge overcome thanks to the commitment of a great decoration team; just like the dance floor filled all night long by the great work of the DJ, or the shows that surprised even more all our illustrious visitors from abroad. It would not have been possible without our greatest source of inspiration: the love of two wonderful people who dreamed big, celebrated long hours and were the best hosts to share the wedding of the year with their people, or as I say it, "pipol".

That's why getting married in the Medellín Orchid Garden transcends to live the charm of Colombia through a unique space in the continent, the richness of its people and the best of love in its maximum expression, the verb made eternity, the eternal love built in the best memory forever...

Paola Andrea Medina

@paolamedinaplanner
Junior chapter Bogotá
dmercadeo@eventoscasamedina.com





The Universe of Weddings



Unconventional weddings.

In the dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy (RAE), the word "CONVENTIONAL" is defined as something "that brings together the characteristics of what is habitual, traditional or mostly accepted; that is subject to a formula or custom and lacks spontaneity, originality or expressiveness".

In the universe of wedding ceremonies, we could say that both religious and civil ceremonies fall within this qualification of conventional ceremonies. On the one hand, religious ceremonies are subject to traditions and formulas that are repeated over and over again, so we could say that if they lack anything it is originality and spontaneity. On the other hand, civil ceremonies or ceremonies with legal content are also governed by the laws of the respective countries and, with honorable exceptions, we could conclude that they are not characterised by their expressiveness either, but rather that they are all rather formal.

In this context, a few decades ago, a new type of wedding ceremony appeared that tries to break with the aforementioned conventions, to talk about what traditional ceremonies usually do not talk about, and what couples most demand when they start to imagine the most dreamed day of their lives: a ceremony that talks about them and, fundamentally, about their love story.



The first unconventional ceremonies appeared among divorced couples who could not remarry, either legally (in those countries that did not recognize divorce) or because religion did not allow it (as in the case of the Catholic tradition).

This huge universe of couples, who were prevented from having their wedding ceremony, had to resort to symbolic ceremonies to complement the civil union and to have a ceremony more in line with their taste or preferences.

At the same time, many couples began to perceive the inconvenience of having the ceremony on the same day of the event but in a different location, forcing all the wedding attendees to move from one place to another (with the consequent discomfort of getting in and out of vehicles with dresses, heels and all the fittings) and so this custom that seemed to be strongly rooted began to be questioned.

Thus, in some Latin American countries, unconventional ceremonies began to proliferate, giving rise to new companies and professionals who exploit this niche within the wedding market.

Types of ceremonies

We could classify these ceremonies fundamentally by their content and, in this sense, secular ceremonies, ceremonies with religious content and ceremonies with legal content stand out.

Secular ceremonies, as they have no religious or legal content, are the most personalized of all and have become the "vedette" in recent years. Thousands of couples began to choose this type of ceremony, which combines warmth, a relaxed style and the exact tone that each couple wants to give to their celebration. They are based on the theme of love, the couple and their history, that is to say, they delve into the reasons that led these two people to fall in love, choose each other and choose to celebrate their love with their guests.

The boom in this type of ceremonies really exploded in some countries, such as Argentina, where new companies, vendors and professionals dedicated exclusively to these celebrations have proliferated. Today we can find masters of ceremonies, officiants, musicians and singers, air fresheners and vendors of all kinds that offer their products and services to complement these ceremonies and make them have the unique touch that each couple wants to give them.

The ceremonies of delivery of booklet are the alternative for those couples who want to have on the day of the event a ceremony with legal content, similar to those of the Civil Registry. That is to say, they speak of the institution of marriage, based on the legal regulations of each country, but they have no legal value because they are not officiated by public officials but by independent professionals (lawyers, masters of ceremony, etc.).

Their distinctive feature is that, despite being a "civil" type of ceremony, their development also includes an area of personalization about the couple's history, so they are no longer merely formal and impersonal.

Finally, although many couples are still unaware of it, there are ceremonies that have religious content but are still unconventional. In the case of Catholic ceremonies, when priests are not allowed to consecrate marriages outside the church and, in other cases, the bride and groom are not allowed to take the sacrament of marriage, there are the Ring Blessings, which are ceremonies similar to the traditional ones but symbolic, i.e. without a sacrament. Not in all countries (or cities) it is easy to find priests or deacons to officiate at these ceremonies, but it is often possible to replace them with other types of officiants, such as pastors, deacons or retired priests.



The other religious traditions (Protestant Christians, Jews and Muslims) do allow for valid wedding ceremonies in non-religious spaces (such as event halls). In these cases, departing from 'conventionality' may mean choosing a special or unique location for the couple, different from those usually used, such as a beach.

Another type of ceremony with religious content that, although they have been performed for more than two decades, have grown impressively in recent years, are the Shared Ceremonies, wrongly called "mixed". These are ceremonies in which two religious officiants take part, representing the faith of each of the contracting parties (for example, a priest with a rabbi, an imām with a pastor, etc.). These beautiful ceremonies are performed virtually everywhere in the free world (read: where there is no persecution for religious reasons) and capture the curiosity and praise of those who attend them. They are symbolic ceremonies, replete with blessings and rituals that are shared by both partners in a framework of absolute parity and respect.



Finally, there is also a type of ceremonies, less known than the rest, which are the "true" Mixed Ceremonies. These ceremonies are chosen by interfaith couples who opt for a ceremony with religious content but do not want the intervention of a religious officiant (priest, rabbi, etc.), so they are officiated by masters of ceremony without identification with any particular religion. In them, characteristic texts and rituals are incorporated, but no blessings are pronounced.

In conclusion, the next time we have the opportunity to advise a couple who are thinking about their wedding ceremony, I would ask them: "Why have the same old ceremony when you can have the ceremony of your dreams?"



Javier Gerenschtein

Tu Ceremonia Founder and Director
contacto@tuceremonia.com
Social Net: @tuceremonia



Shake & Drink



Cocktail supplier with a focus on sustainability in Ecuador.

A look at objective, real and high impact sustainable practices.

Ecuador is on its way to becoming the most important destination wedding venue in South America. Quito, its capital city, has a market of vendors offering different specialised services, such as food and beverage experiences made with local products, decoration with premium or export quality roses, dream locations and much more. All this from the hand of great professionals in event organisation. However, for the market to grow in a sustainable way, it is important to analyse the environmental, social and economic impact of these activities.

To learn a little more about examples of good practices that enable the above, we interviewed Juan Carlos Rodríguez, CEO of the Ecuadorian cocktail brand Shake And Drink, which is innovating in its two business lines (Mobile Bars and Cocktail Mixes) and implements a solid Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy.

Juan Carlos tells us that after six years of effort and dedication, the brand has managed to carry out actions that allow them to grow, working in harmony with nature, promoting responsible consumption and thus improving the cocktail culture in Ecuador.



Juan Carlos, how can we minimise environmental impact and generate economic growth?

Shake And Drink has managed to put CSR at the centre of its actions. To do this, we have not invested large economic resources, but we have put a lot of commitment, convinced that these actions have a final impact on our reputation and therefore on the achievement of our objectives. On the environmental side we seek to reduce our carbon footprint, to achieve this we have established sustainable practices in the production processes of the cocktail mixes and in the execution of the events. To take care of water, for example, we have designed a sophisticated portable equipment for washing glasses with steam; and for recycling we have opted for returnable containers. We have set up an alliance with a circular economy approach, delivering clean, classified, single-use and reusable material to the Renarec Association, made up of mostly elderly women who make a living from this activity. We also promote fair trade with the wholesale purchase of fruit, herbs, juices and inputs from small producers and traders in the area where our factory is located.

You sell a cocktail service, so how do you promote responsible consumption?

From day one of our service as Shake And Drink Mobile Bars we have emphasised that the open bar is not synonymous with excess or lack of control, quite the opposite, we promote drinking rich rather than a lot, for this we use high quality inputs that end up in macerations, in funds, in syrups and honeys, perfect companions of good cocktails.

Through the service we control the consumption of the guests at a party and offer innovative non-alcoholic options. We do not sell the cocktail bar itself, that is implicit, we sell quality service, elegance and sophistication. We don't post pictures on social media of liquor brands or people drinking, but rather living a cocktail experience, mostly personalised. In addition, we have an initiative that provides a payment break for designated drivers (on average 1 per 10 guests). This initiative, however, needs to be embraced and managed by the event organisers and the customers themselves.

In these six years, how have you managed to build customer loyalty through these initiatives?

We communicate to our customers what is behind our service and our product usually during previous meetings and face-to-face negotiations; this has turned out to be a



great added value and allows us to humanise our brand. At the same time, we work very closely with our staff, they are our internal customers, thus avoiding absence and labour turnover, something that is often seen in this market. Our team is made up of at least 60% women, we promote their economic empowerment and the prevention of gender-based violence in their lives.

How do you think this type of initiative can be replicated in Ecuador or elsewhere in Latin America?

Sometimes we think that these practices are only applicable to huge companies. However, this events market is built by all of us, and everyone has a fundamental role to play in positioning ourselves in a coherent and responsible way. It is important to map where we can improve our practices and implement small actions that can have a big impact, not only for the business, but also on others. Finally, we believe that the events market has the opportunity to contribute a lot to the development of our country, today more than ever we must work and learn as a network.

Lissner Ortiz

Chapter Head IADWP Ecuador

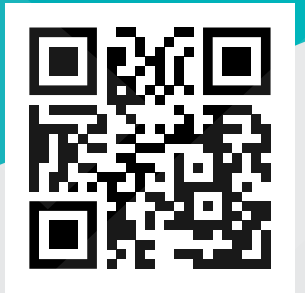
Juan Carlos Rodríguez

CEO Shake And Drink Barras Móviles



V I S I O N L E A D

DISEÑO GRÁFICO
DISEÑO WEB
E-COMMERCE
MEDIA KIT
COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT
MARKETING DIGITAL 360
IMAGEN CORPORATIVA



¿Eres Wedding Planner?

Diseñamos tu web
o la actualizamos.
¡Contáctanos!





Fine Catering in Ecuador



By Zero Lab.

Innovation in gastronomy addresses concerns related to food sustainability and health. The introduction of local and seasonal ingredients, as well as the development of healthier cooking techniques, can contribute to a more sustainable and healthier approach to food. The purpose of this research is to describe the creation process of the "ZeroLab" laboratory as an example of innovation in the gastronomic area and a vehicle for the promotion of Ecuadorian products. The work presents the laboratory's innovative experiences, which include smoking, distillation processes, the creation of alcoholic beverages made from grape, cocoa and roses, among other culinary innovations.



In Ecuador, gastronomy is one of the main tourist attractions, with travellers often looking for authentic and unique culinary experiences when visiting new places. A region's gastronomic reputation can attract tourists and generate significant revenues for the local economy.



Fine catering focuses on small details that make big memories, and at ZEROLAB we pride ourselves on providing you with the most elegant, sober and delicate experiences in the country; we bring you modern, precision catering.

We have been hosting corporate and social events for over 25 years, earning a national reputation for exceptional creative food and outstanding quality service, led by Ecuador's top chef, Carlos Gallardo de la Puente, who has an award-winning record of 2000 successful events nationally and in over 20 countries internationally.

Carlos Gallardo, Ecuadorian, father of Ecuadorian cuisine, researcher and author of more than 15 works on gastronomy, culture and tradition, which earned him the World Cook Award in Beijing, China in 2015.

Gastronomy is more than just eating; it is a fundamental aspect of global cultural identity, tourism, economy and health. It is an expression of the culture of a place, with each region having its own unique cuisine, influenced by its history, climate, available resources and traditions. Food is a way for people to connect with their cultural heritage and transmit their values across generations.



In his culinary adventures, events and banquets, he has had the honour of serving more than 15 presidents, secretaries general of the United Nations and OAS, the Emir of Qatar, royalty, artists such as Vigo Mortensen and celebrities such as Shakira.

His legacy has transcended his family, and so his son, Chef Juan Sebastián, a passionate cook, who has been between pots, pans and cookers since the age of 12, has spent 14 years obediently learning from his father's hand, in a strict academic training, in different schools such as UDLA, USFQ and UNIANDES and international specializations where he has served as head chef of the prestigious restaurant Sabor Latino.

At the age of 26, he has created a new culinary technique called smoke-wrapping, a technique which, when serving a banquet, allows the taste of the old and the modernity of the responsible future to shine through.

Juan José Gallardo, Carlos' brother, is also part of this great team. Specialist in the art of good taste and service, his meticulous and strict knowledge of etiquette and protocol, added to the good taste of luxury set-ups, has led him to be awarded by the most finest diners in more than 1000 events attended inside and outside Ecuador, including the prestigious EmbassyChallenge in NYC twice.

At Zero we know that creating a value proposition for a wedding menu is an interesting challenge in fine catering. We focus on giving it the Ecuadorian flavor through the products of our destination which are carefully selected and processed in our laboratory, where we make our own spices and sauces.

For this we understand the flavors of our future bride and groom: we ask a little of their history, how they met, maybe their first date, what they ate, what their daily tastes are, and based on that we can create a menu that often leads them to live an experience of feeling again the flavors of their childhood. The Ecuadorian product is diverse and it allows us to direct our objective, which is to adapt it to international culinary techniques that help us to promote our gastronomy.



The success of a wedding menu in Ecuador is in capturing the feelings of the bride and groom and their preferences. This combined with the creativity that characterizes us, using Ecuadorian products, unique experiences activating your senses and elevating our traditional dishes of the destination to a culinary level of impact, makes the experience unforgettable.

Chef Juan Sebastián Gallardo

<http://www.zerolabrestaurante.com/>

@zerolab.eventos

@zerolab.rest

Bridal Headdresses



The experience of being an IDILIA bride.



My name is Diana Espinosa, I am a designer of the headdress and accessories brand "Idilia Novias" in Lima, Peru, and for the past nine years I have had the privilege of helping more than 1000 brides choose the perfect accessories for their big day.

Idilia was born out of my marriage, as I immersed myself in the whole wonderful process of being a bride. I realized how valuable it is for a bride to participate in the creative process of what she will wear on one of the most important days of her life, so I created a space where each bride feels confident to choose every detail for her bridal accessories and can communicate who she is through them. It is a piece that many will treasure and inherit as well, so much of her energy and essence has to be there.

In Idilia we specialize in headdresses, tiaras, crowns and earrings, designed thinking in the different styles that every bride has and wants to reflect in her wedding.



Discovering your style

Every bride who comes to Idilia has a unique vision for her wedding. Some look for a classic and sophisticated style, opting for tiaras that add a touch of elegance to their look. Others prefer a more bohemian style, where floral headpieces become a "must" to accompany the look.

There are the classic brides, who love pearls and want to reflect purity and elegance in their headdress with them. But there are also brides who need a deeper orientation to be able to define their style, and that's where the magic also flows.

My goal is to fully understand each vision and work with each bride to bring it to life in the form of accessories that reflect her personal style.





Another important factor is the hairstyle you want to wear for your special day! Whether it's a low up-do, half up-do, or a side part, having at least an idea of how you want to style your hair will help a lot in defining the shape of the headpiece or tiara.

Every bride is unique and wants to project different facets of herself.

My main recommendation is to be true to what you really like, to who you are. That is a key point when you start designing each headdress because that is how you can reflect your style.

Every Idilia bride I have attended has left me with the satisfaction of knowing that, when she gets to the altar, that extra light reflected in her accessories will make her shine even brighter.

Every detail matters

When a bride comes to Idilia, we start with a consultation. We talk about her personal style, her dress and the details in it, the ambiance of the wedding and how she wants to feel on that special day.

I consider factors such as her face shape and hair type to ensure that each accessory not only complements her look, but also perfectly suits her unique features.

Recommendations when choosing the accessories:

Something that I consider very important when choosing the accessories for your wedding is that you have already defined the dress you will wear, because the tones of the headdress will depend on it, what style of rhinestones and/or flowers we should consider for it, what light we should give it, etc.



Diana Espinosa

Idilia Novias Creator
@idilianovias

A man in a black t-shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a clear glass bottle with both hands. He is looking upwards and to the right. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage and a wooden railing. In the foreground, there are some flowers and greenery.

Tips for a pre-wedding without a budget

By MSc. Jeffrey Cervantes Calderón

Pre-wedding planning can be one of the most exciting and emotional moments in life, but it can also become a source of considerable financial stress. I give you some tips to celebrate love without breaking the bank. Here I share with you some tips based on our experience as a Wedding Planner:

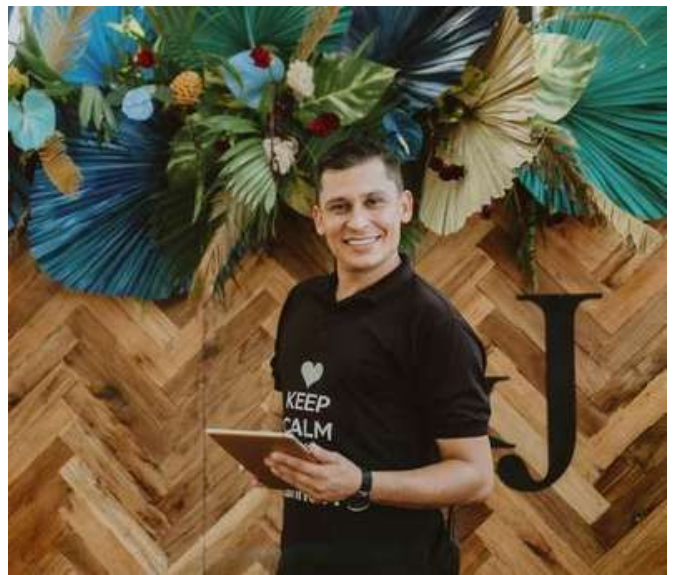
1. Early planning and prioritization: From the beginning, establish your priorities. Decide which aspects are most important and budget accordingly. For some, food might be crucial; for others, music. Identifying these key elements will allow you to allocate resources effectively.

2. Alternative and free locations: Instead of renting an expensive venue, opt for a free or low-cost location, such as public gardens, beaches, or a friend or family member's home. These locations are not only beautiful but also often have a special significance.

3. Digital invitations: Instead of investing in printed invitations, you can design digital invitations or use free online platforms. This not only saves you money, but also time.

4. Recycled decorations: Decorations can add up quickly. You can opt for handmade and recycled decorations, such as glass containers decorated with wildflowers, recycled paper garlands or reused Christmas lights. It's amazing to see how small details can transform the environment.

5. A Simple catering: Instead of a formal catering service, you can organize a buffet-style meal where friends and family can contribute home-cooked dishes. This will not only reduce costs but also create a more intimate and cozy atmosphere.



6. Affordable music and entertainment: Instead of hiring a DJ or band, create playlists with music for the occasion and play it through a rented or borrowed sound system.

7. Dress or suit: Look for wedding dresses at thrift stores or sample sales, you can also rent a suit instead of buying it.

8. Candid photography and memories: Instead of hiring a professional photographer, you can ask friends and family to capture special moments with their cameras. The photos can be authentic and full of genuine emotions.

In the end, your wedding will be more than a celebration; it will be a testament to how love, creativity and the support of all your loved ones can transform even the most modest events into unforgettable moments. Through careful planning and a willingness to think outside the box, you will find a way to have a wedding that reflects your history and values without compromising your financial stability.

MSc. Je rey Cervantes Calderón

CEO de Costa Rica Wedding Planner
& Chapter Head Costa Rica.
Tel. +506 8665 0990
director@crweddingplanner.com
@CRWeddingPlanner



Exploring the senses



Sensory photography at your wedding.

In the last decade, wedding photography has transcended beyond typical posed shots, becoming a deep exploration of the senses that captures moments full of emotions. Every detail, sound and taste plays a crucial role in your wedding narrative. Below, I want to share 5 essential elements that we at Gaber Studio explore in a sensory way every weekend through our lens, documenting a wedding that is not only seen, but also felt, heard and tasted.

Textures and Details: Imagine being able to feel the softness of the tulle of your wedding dress just by looking at a photograph. Capturing the tactile details, such as the texture of the fabrics, flowers, and decor, adds a tangible dimension to your memories. These images are a testament to the delicacy and care put into each choice for your special day.



Views and Landscapes: In our photography, the backdrops and views become another character in the story. An image of the bride and groom with a spectacular panorama in the background is not only visually stunning, but also contextualizes and frames the day within a setting or destination. We capture the overall mood of the wedding in this way, providing those viewing the photos with an immediate sense of the location and ambiance of the event.

Aromas and Flavors: A photograph of the dessert table or guests enjoying cocktails can evoke memories of aromas and flavors. Guest reactions, captured at the exact moment, can reflect the delight and pleasure of shared culinary experiences.





Sounds and Music: Music and sounds are essential elements in any celebration. They create an atmosphere full of emotion and joy. One of our photographic secrets is to accompany every moment with music, from the meeting of the bride and groom to the photo shoot. Capturing these moments with music is essential to encapsulate the essence of the day. Don't be surprised to see the Gaber Studio team on a horn all day while photographing a wedding. We look for our images to go beyond capturing just people and places, but also the emotional vibe that music brings. Another of our secrets is to deliver the final result of the photos in a slideshow with music to the bride and groom as a perfect way to complement this sense.

Emotions and Connections: Hugs and gestures of affection capture the human connection and warmth shared between loved ones, while pure emotions - joy, surprise, tenderness, tears of happiness - are at the heart of wedding photography. These moments, captured with sincerity, are direct windows into the feelings experienced during the wedding.

Sensory wedding photography is a tribute to the senses, a commemoration of love and emotion. At Gaber Studio, we ensure that you receive not only beautiful photographs, but also a vibrant, sensory narrative of your special day. Every step you take through your image gallery, you'll find yourself reliving those precious moments, rediscovering the smells, tastes, music and emotions that made your wedding an unforgettable event. So, the next time you talk to your photographer to plan your big day, I invite you to consider our sensory photography proposal. Because your wedding is not only about how everything looked, but how it made you feel.



Pipe Gaber

Artist
Award Winner Photographer
www.pipegaber.com

El Salvador



Explore El Salvador's most beautiful beaches for outdoor weddings and seaside receptions.



El Salvador, with its approximately 300-kilometer coastline, has become an increasingly popular destination for dream weddings. Its paradisiacal beaches offer unique settings for outdoor ceremonies and unforgettable receptions by the sea. Below, we explore some of the country's best-known beaches to celebrate the most important day of your life.

El Tunco beach is, without a doubt, one of the most iconic beaches in El Salvador. Famous for its vibrant and youthful atmosphere, it is ideal for couples looking for a dynamic and lively place. This destination is not only a surfer's paradise, but also offers rock formations and spectacular sunsets that create a romantic and unique setting for outdoor ceremonies. Nearby bars and restaurants make it easy to host a lively and festive reception. It is located 30 minutes from the capital of San Salvador.



Costa del Sol, on the other hand, is synonymous with luxury and exclusivity. Its wide white sandy beaches and high-end resorts make this location a perfect choice for those looking for an elegant wedding by the sea. High-quality services and breathtaking ocean views guarantee a memorable experience for the bride and groom and their guests. In addition, the proximity to the capital, San Salvador, facilitates the logistics and transportation of guests. It has a canal with mangrove forest, where you can navigate and explore the natural fauna that inhabits it.

The beach **Los Cóbanos** offers a unique combination of natural beauty and history. With its golden beaches and proximity to archaeological sites, it is perfect for couples who desire a wedding with a cultural touch. The nearby ruins and history of the site add an enriching element to the celebration, providing a special and significant ambiance. The hotel infrastructure and services available ensure a smooth planning. It also has a wonderful opportunity to dive in its reefs.



Finally, we cannot fail to mention **El Cuco** beach. Known for its calm waters and cozy atmosphere, it is ideal for family weddings and events that seek a more relaxed and homey touch. The small hotels and cabins nearby provide cozy accommodations for guests, allowing them to fully enjoy the surroundings and the celebration. The serenity of El Cuco offers a perfect setting for an intimate ceremony and a quiet reception by the sea.

El Salvador, with its many well-known beaches, offers numerous options to celebrate a dream wedding by the sea. Each beach, with its unique beauty and special characteristics, guarantees an unforgettable experience for the bride and groom and their guests. Whether you are looking for luxury and exclusivity, history and culture, or a vibrant and youthful atmosphere, the beaches of El Salvador have something special to offer for the most important day of your life.

Another beach that stands out for its popularity is **El Sunzal**. Famous for its breathtaking sunsets, holding a wedding here ensures an unforgettable setting as the sun dips into the ocean, painting the sky with vibrant colors. El Sunzal is also a popular destination for surfers, adding a touch of adventure and excitement to the setting. Lodging and dining options in the area make for a comfortable and enjoyable wedding and reception.

La Libertad beach is known for combining tradition and modernity. This destination offers a mix of beautiful beaches and a well-developed infrastructure, ideal for weddings that want the best of both worlds. The nearby restaurant and hotel options make it easy to plan a perfect, well-organized wedding. La Libertad is also famous for its pier and seafood market, offering a unique culinary experience for guests.



María Luisa Samayoa

Wedding Planner Chapter Head El Salvador
IADWP

Director Fundador: AMBITO EVENTOS
@ambitoeventos

Collaboration
Fernanda Moran AMBITO EVENTOS

Photography
UNGER ROMERO @uxenstudio
ADRIANA RIVERA @AdrianaRiveraPhotography



Chile



**The best wedding destination behind
The Andes.**

Ph: Daniel Esquivel

Chile, a country of great poets, with its vast diversity of landscapes and rich cultural heritage, has firmly established itself as the most prominent wedding destination behind the imposing Andes Mountains. This recognition, backed by the prestigious award for Best Romance Destination by the World Travel Awards, is no fluke. Below, we explore the geographic, cultural and seasonal characteristics that make Chile the perfect setting for an unforgettable wedding.



Geographic Characteristics

Chile is a country of impressive geographic contrasts, from the driest desert in the world in the north to the lush forests and glaciers in the south to Patagonia and southern ice fields. This diversity offers multiple natural settings ideal for weddings:

Atacama Desert: With its lunar landscape and clear skies, the Atacama Desert is perfect for sunset ceremonies under a starry sky. Ideal for couples looking for a unique wedding in a mystical and spectacular setting.



Vineyards of the Colchagua Valley and Casablanca: Couples can get married among vineyards that produce some of the best wines in the world, with mountains and sunsets as a backdrop. These valleys offer not only enchanting scenery, but also an unforgettable culinary and winemaking experience.

Andes Mountains: Ski resorts and mountain lodges provide a romantic and adventurous setting, especially in winter. Ceremonies surrounded by snow and the majesty of the Andes, followed by receptions in cozy mountain cabins, create memorable experiences.

Lakes and Volcanoes of Los Lagos Region: Idyllic settings for a wedding surrounded by crystal clear water and majestic volcanoes. Puerto Varas and Pucón combine the tranquility of the lake with the imposing nearby volcanoes and natural waterfalls creating a magical and serene atmosphere.





Southern Forests: National parks such as Torres del Paine offer dramatic landscapes with rugged peaks and turquoise lakes. Perfect for adventurous couples who want a wedding in a wild and spectacular natural setting.

Agrotourism in Valleys and Vineyards: Agrotourism in Chile allows couples to celebrate their wedding in the middle of vineyards, participating in the grape harvest and enjoying rural life. It offers a unique opportunity to integrate the Chilean wine culture into the celebration, providing an authentic and relaxed atmosphere.

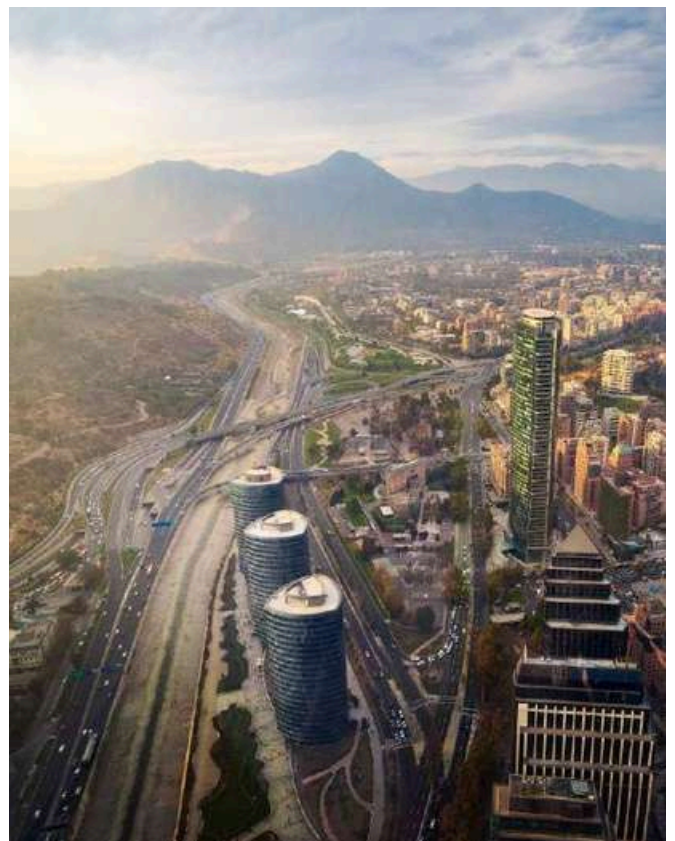
Astrotourism in the Desert and Los Lagos Region: Astrotourism in Chile is exceptional thanks to its clear skies conducive to astronomical observation. In both the Atacama Desert and Los Lagos Region, couples can enjoy a special night under the stars as part of their wedding celebration.

Security and Hospitality: In addition to its natural and cultural beauty, Chile stands out as one of the safest countries in the region, providing additional peace of mind for couples and their guests. Chilean hospitality ensures that everyone feels welcome and cared for, adding extra value to the experience.

Culture and Traditions: Chile's rich cultural heritage adds a special touch to any wedding. Local traditions, such as folkloric music, typical dances and native gastronomy, can be integrated into the celebration to give it a unique and authentic character.

Cueca: The National Dance: The cueca, Chile's national dance, is a folkloric expression that symbolizes flirting and falling in love. Integrating a cueca performance into the wedding not only adds a cultural touch, but also offers a vibrant and festive spectacle for guests.

Heritage and Tourism Development: Chile, in addition to being a popular tourist destination, is focused on promoting local culture and heritage. The ancestral connection of native peoples with the land is reflected in its national parks with ancient trees and in the preservation of traditions. The Chilean state's tourism objectives are designed to not only attract visitors, but also to benefit local communities by providing opportunities to thrive in their places of origin.





Ph: Daniel Esquivel

Seasons and Climate: Chile offers different climate options throughout the year, allowing you to choose the season that best suits your wedding style:

Spring (September–November): Ideal for outdoor weddings in the vineyards or on the coast.

Summer (December–February): Perfect for ceremonies in the south, in the region of lakes and volcanoes.

Autumn (March–May): The vineyards are filled with golden and red colors, creating a romantic atmosphere.

Winter (June–August): Weddings at ski resorts or mountain lodges are magical with snow as a backdrop.



Get ready to say "I do" in one of the most spectacular destinations in the world! Chile, where every wedding becomes an unforgettable chapter of extraordinary experience.

Prof. Carla Valdebenito

Wedding and event Planner
 Head Chapter Chile
 @carlavaldebenitoweddingplanner
 @rhonda_eventos

Gastronomic Development:

Chile is a gastronomic paradise that stands out for the freshness and quality of its local products. Wedding banquets can be a true delight with typical dishes and Chilean products:

Typical Dishes and Local Products:

Empanadas: A classic of Chilean cuisine, perfect to serve as a starter.

Asado: The traditional Chilean asado with grilled meats, ideal for a rustic and authentic reception.

Seafood and Fish: Thanks to its extensive coastline, Chile offers an incredible variety of fresh seafood and fish.

Cazuela: A traditional stew that combines meat, vegetables and spices, perfect for a cold season wedding.

Chilean Corn Pie: A corn and meat pie that is a true delight for the palate.

Wines and Pisco: Chile is world renowned for its high quality wines. The valleys of Colchagua and Casablanca produce some of the best wines in the world, ideal for pairing with the wedding dinner. In addition, pisco, a grape distillate native to the Coquimbo region, is perfect for unique and refreshing cocktails.

LOVE INDIA

Jaipur, New Delhi, Agra



USD 2,970

Single

USD 3,940

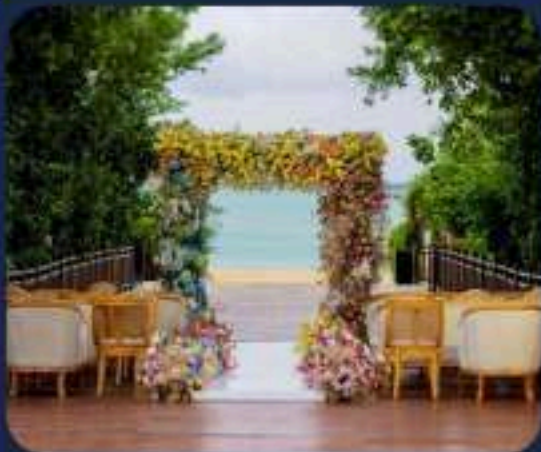
Double (USD 1,970 per person)

Ask about our installment options

Contact us for more information at:

buyers@iadwp.com

Rates valid until July 31st



WORLD
ROMANCE
TRAVEL
CONFERENCE

LOVE MEXICO

PARADISUS LA PERLA
PLAYA DEL CARMEN, MEXICO
OCTOBER 28TH TO 31ST

USD 587

IADWP MEMBERS

USD 687

GENERAL

Rates are valid until August 31st.

SIGN UP NOW!

Contact us for more information at:

buyers@iadwp.com

IADWP

International Association of
Destination Wedding Professionals

ECUADOR CHAPTER



We are thrilled to announce that our chapters in South America continue to grow!
Meet our **IADWP Ecuador Chapter!**



Lissner Ortíz

CHAPTER HEAD ECUADOR

@my-sweetliss

Destination Wedding Planner & Founder of Romance Tourism Training

Woman, wife, mother, and CEO of Lissner Wedding Planner & The Sweetliss, with 14 years of highlighting artisanal work and continuous education. Certified as a Destination Wedding Planner, she is the first in Ecuador with the WTS seal since 2022. Founder of Romance Tourism Training, she emphasizes the potential of Ecuador. She has participated in World Romance Travel and other events.

JUNIOR CHAPTER HEADS



Kika Uribe

GUAYAS

@kikaweddingplanner

Kika Destination Wedding Specialist

Wedding and Event Designer with 15 years of experience, director of Guayas for IADWP Ecuador. International speaker alongside prominent figures. Founder of Eventistas, with 8 years training future planners. Advertiser and designer with a career in social and corporate events.



Cris Espinosa

LOJA

@crisespinozaplanner

Cris Espinosa Wedding Planner

Passionate about themed weddings and memorable experiences, with national and international certifications. Director of Loja for IADWP Ecuador. Since 2009, she has combined planning with "INVITABELA," creating invitations and event stationery that tell love stories.



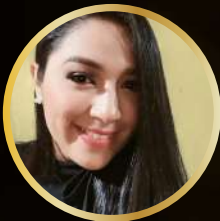
Grace Palma

PICHINCHA

@crystaleventos

Crystal Eventos

Business Administrator and Event Designer since 2014, promoter of service and quality in events. Director of Pichincha for IADWP Ecuador, focused on educating suppliers. Specialist in Destination Weddings, trained in event design, Romance Tourism Training, and Destination Wedding Specialist.



Carmen Montenegro

ORELLANA

@carmenmontenegro.ec

Carmen Montenegro Corporate Logistic

Creative designer with 8 years in weddings and events, founder of CM Detalles & Eventos. National and international workshops and certifications support her quality work in Christian weddings. Director of Orellana for IADWP Ecuador, promoting the Oriente as an exotic wedding destination.



Liz Marcillo

MANABÍ

@lizmarcilloplannermanta

Liz Marcillo Wedding Planner

Passionate about empowering and educating Destination Wedding and Tourism professionals. She leads an innovative platform for business opportunities and education. Collaborates in programs like Hosted Buyers. Director of Manabí for IADWP Ecuador, promotes Manta as a unique wedding destination, highlighting its natural and cultural charm.



Belén Astudillo

AZUAY

@belenastudillo

Adara Eventos

Wedding & Event Planner with 15 years of experience, co-owner of Adara Eventos and Psychologist. Passionate about the potential of Cuenca for Destination Weddings. With national and international certifications, as Director of Azuay for IADWP Ecuador, she seeks to attract couples by leveraging the beauty and cultural richness of her region.

PLATINUM MEMBER

2024



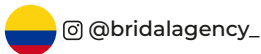
Welcome to the exclusive Platinum section of IADWP! We are pleased to introduce our most distinguished members, who represent excellence in the destination wedding industry:



Sonia Martínez

Bridal Agency

Chapter Head Colombia



Certified professional in event planning and organization, with solid skills in leadership and team management, as well as in experience marketing. I possess an outstanding facility to establish solid and trustworthy interpersonal relationships, along with a continuous commitment to self-learning. I stand out for my creativity, versatility and entrepreneurial spirit, which allows me to adapt to any challenge and find innovative solutions to ensure the success of every event I organize.



Tammi Lynn Ruffini

Envision Travel

Regional Chapter Head
Nova Scotia



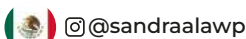
When I started in the travel industry almost 10 years ago I didn't know what I was getting myself into. It didn't take long and I realized I wanted to specialize in Destination Weddings. Basically... I fell in love with the idea of love in a tropical destination! Since then, I have been trying to learn everything I can to better serve my couples and will continue to do so in this ever changing industry.



Sandra Alas

Sandra Alas Wedding
Planner

Líder Alfa



I'm Sandra Alas, Wedding Planner with more than 10 years of experience, my business is Estilo Elite, since 8 years ago we are dedicated to all kind of events, but our specialty is Weddings, Expert in Destination weddings. I have a community on instagram called Tribu de Novias that helps future brides to organize their wedding.



Sarah Barlow

Weddings by Design Our
Travel



I began my career in the travel industry in 2018 as an independent contractor specializing in honeymoons and adult all-inclusive travel. Our lead agency, Design Our Travel®, was created in late 2020, and now has a team of independent agents specializing in family and adult vacations. In 2023, we launched Weddings by Design Our Travel as an independent division. I am currently vice president of the ASTA Young Professionals Society and a member of Travel ALLIES.

BECOME A PLATINUM MEMBER

Contact us at members@iadwp.com

PLATINUM MEMBER

2024



Aviva Samuels

Kiss the planner



@kisstheplanner

I am Aviva Samuels, the proud founder of Kiss the Planner, premier event planner and designer. I take great pride in providing the highest level of service and quality, dedicated to ensuring my clients' happiness through sincere concern. I embrace new challenges and am deeply committed to my clients, giving them the time and attention they deserve, I make sure they are so happy they kiss the planner!



Mary Pily López

Event studio

Líder Alfa



@marypilyeventstudio

Event planner & designer; Founder of Event studio company dedicated to the design of social, sporting and institutional events, wedding planner; President of the Association of weddings and events of the Dominican Republic (ABE-RD); Member of the IADWP (International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals); Member of ABC (Association of Bridal Consultants); Co - creator of the security protocol for the value chain in the events industry; Producer of the first digital event for the events industry in the Dominican Republic (The wedding Event).



Nydia Alegría

Nydia Alegría Weddings

Jr. Chapter Head Santo Domingo



@nydiaalegria.corp

I am cheerful, dynamic and energetic! I like natural beauty and life full of its charms. I love to travel, learn new things and live unforgettable experiences, I like to meet people, have fun with everything I do. I am also passionate and dedicated. I am compassionate and I like to help others, justice and sincerity, I am positive and able to fulfill what I say and do. I like to learn every day and to pass on what I know. I love nature, flowers and plants, I like culinary art, collecting succulents, giving my inner joy and being a wife as well as being a mom! I have two children, a lovely husband of 32 years of marriage, I love children and dogs.



Marío M López

Destination Weddings Expert, LLC

Regional Chapter Head Florida



@destinationweddingsexpert

Mario is not just a Destination Weddings Expert; he is also a true advocate for spreading joy and love throughout the world. He believes in the power of destination weddings to create moments of pure happiness and unforgettable memories for couples and their families. His love for organization and his genuine passion for helping others shine through in his meticulous attention to detail and his knack for transforming couples' visions into reality. A self-proclaimed "nerd" when it comes to processes and organization, he leverages his skills to create weddings that are not only beautiful but also flawlessly executed, leaving couples free to focus on the joy and love that brought them together in the first place.

From idyllic venues to meticulous details, each of these professionals has demonstrated an **unwavering** commitment to creating truly memorable wedding experiences. Join us as we celebrate **creativity, innovation** and the art of making wedding **dreams come true** in destinations around the world.

BECOME A PLATINUM MEMBER

Contact us at members@iadwp.com

CORPORATE MEMBER



We are thrilled to present two distinguished **corporate members** of the International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals (IADWP):



Furniture

Minimal 4.0 is a Mexican company with over 10 years of experience, specializing in custom furniture manufacturing, furniture rental for weddings and events, event decoration, and production services. We operate in Campeche, Yucatán, and Quintana Roo.



Fernando Antuñano

Sales Director / Co-founder
+52 999 129 7607
fantunano@gmail.com

minimalcuatrocero.com

[@minimal4.0](https://www.instagram.com/minimal4.0)



Weddings BY MELIÁ

Hotel

Our Romance specialists will make every celebration special at Meliá. Enjoy the spacious wedding suite, top-class spa services, and an unparalleled culinary experience. Wedding guests of all ages will enjoy a multitude of enriching experiences throughout their stay, so all you have to do is say "Yes, I do!"

weddingsbymelia.com

[@weddingsbymelia](https://www.instagram.com/weddingsbymelia)

Yajahira Puc

Romance Sales Manager - The Americas

+52 998 161 0521

yajahira.puc@melia.com



BECOME A CORPORATE MEMBER

Contact us at members@iadwp.com

IADWP®

WISHES YOU A

Happy Birthday

JULY



Mariana Pollak
@@puntoceleste_oficial
JULY 7TH



Rosemarie Whitley
@@christine.whitley.3572
JULY 11TH



Myrna Castro
@@myrnadechoza
JULY 13TH



Miroslava Bautista
@@miroslavabautista
JULY 13TH



Manuel Álvarez
@@master.eventosyproducciones
JULY 14TH



Adriana Ballester
@@royaleventoscr
JULY 17TH



Adriana Ancona
@@mielo.beautyroom
JULY 19TH



Ámbar Molina
@@ambar.molina.wedd
JULY 19TH



María D. Rodríguez
@@loli.colunga
JULY 21ST



Brenda Gómez
@@gabriela.gomez.wep
JULY 21ST



Mario Delgadillo
@@mariodelgadillowp
JULY 22ND



Karla Hernández
@@ari_weddingplanner
JULY 23RD



IADWP®
WISHES YOU A
Happy Birthday
JULY



Ricardo Polanco
@_ricardopolanco
JULY 24TH



Judith Martín
@judmars
JULY 24TH



Darlean McClure
@ohappytravel
JULY 25TH



Maribel Saldaña
@rosae_wedding
JULY 25TH



María Rivas
@mariarivaseventplanner
JULY 25TH



Sarah Barlow
@idoinparadise
JULY 25TH



Linda Pérez
@casabride.wp
JULY 26TH



Nilda Solorzano
@nildasolorzano.weddingplanner
JULY 28TH



Kenia Pérez
@kplanner.weddings
JULY 28TH



Saminta Williams
@saminta7
JULY 28TH



Alejandra Villaseñor
@alejandrasiacepto
JULY 31ST



Director & General Editor: Adrián Pavía
Editorial Coordinator: Jossy Quezada
Content Coordinator: Lissner Ortiz
Translations: Diana Sciarrillo
Design: Vision Lead | www.visionlead.com.ar

Argentina

Adrián Pavía
+5493415012940 apavia@iadwp.com

Chile

Carla Valdebenito Jalaf
+569 97334778
carla@rhonda.cl

Colombia

Sonia Martinez Jurado
+573154430925
weddingmanager@bridalagency.co

Costa Rica

Jeffrey Cervantes Calderon
+506 8665 0990
director@crweddingplanner.com

Ecuador

Lissner Ortiz
+593984678280
gerencia@lissnerweddingplanner.com

El Salvador

Ma Luisa Samayoa
+50378865877
malusamayoa@gmail.com@ambitoeventos

Guatemala

Diana Sciarrillo
+502 57782271
dianas@weddingsinguatemala.com

Panama

Julie Franco
+50769495544 Info@expobodapanama.com

Peru

Jossy Quezada Sánchez
+51 999050677
jquezada@jossyquezadawp.com

Dominican Republic

Mirta Sánchez
+809-756-0554
mirtasanchez@msevents.com.do

Venezuela

Juan Salvador Rangel
+58 4144949074
Juan@juansalvadoreventos.com