



The Official
Magazine
of the IADWP

ÉPICA

Number 27
March 2026

WEDDINGS & EVENTS



COLOMBIA EPIC SPLENDOR

Wedding Planner Maria Rivas
Regional Chapter Eje Cafetero | Colombia
Photo : @Erickguzmanci

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Editor's note

March, the month of love

March 2026 | By Adrián Pavía
Director ÉPICA | Director IADWP Latin America
and Spanish-speaking Caribbean Islands Chapter

March always has a different energy. It is the month where love is celebrated without excuses, without protocols, and without imposed calendars. And perhaps for that reason, it is also the perfect month to stop for a moment, look back, and take stock of everything we have built together.

ÉPICA was born as an idea, as an almost intuitive impulse to give a voice to an industry that deserved it. Today, that idea is a living reality, in motion, growing at a speed that continues to surprise even me. In this recent time, the magazine has experienced exponential growth. Not only in the number of readers, but in depth, in scope, and in relevance. Each edition reaches further, to new countries, to new professionals, to new perspectives. We have begun to receive editorial proposals from Europe, from the United States, from Asia, and from destinations that until recently seemed distant, but today are part of our daily conversation.

And that is no coincidence. It is the result of sustained work, a clear identity, and a community that believes in the power of sharing knowledge and raising standards. The arrival of allies in different parts of the world marks a turning point. Because ÉPICA is no longer just a Latin American magazine: it is an international platform that represents the sensitivity, the aesthetics, and the vision of our region to the world. Each partner, each collaborator, each new link confirms that the chosen path was the correct one. And most importantly: it confirms that when an industry works together, growth stops being individual and becomes collective.

In parallel, expectations grow regarding our next great encounter: the LAT Wedding Congress in Antigua Guatemala. There is something deeply symbolic about meeting again in a city with so much history, with so much identity, and with a beauty that seems frozen in time. These congresses are not just training spaces; they are spaces of belonging. They are the place where ideas transform into projects, where colleagues become friends, and where the industry remembers who it is and where it wants to go. Antigua will undoubtedly be the perfect setting to look each other in the eye again and confirm that we continue moving forward.

Today, the IADWP occupies a central place in the global destination wedding ecosystem. We see it in the quality of its members, in the influence of its meetings, and in the economic impact it generates in each destination where it is present. Each wedding planner, each designer, each photographer, each venue that is part of this community is a real economic engine. Because behind every destination wedding there are flights, hotels, gastronomy, transport, production, employment, and development. The IADWP does not only connect professionals: it activates economies, positions destinations, and builds the future.

But beyond the figures, the congresses, and the achievements, what truly defines this community is its spirit. That silent conviction that what we do matters. That designing a wedding is designing an eternal memory. That producing an event is building an emotion that someone is going to keep forever. And that telling these stories—from ÉPICA—is our way of honoring that work.

Personally, I feel that we are living through one of the most significant moments since we began this journey. Seeing how the Latin American Chapters grow, strengthen, and find their own voice is, perhaps, one of the greatest prides of this stage. Because each chapter is an open door, a new opportunity, a bridge toward development.

For this reason, in this month of love, I want to give thanks. To those who write, to those who read, to those who dream, to those who work tirelessly behind the scenes. To those who believe in ÉPICA as a platform and to those who believe in the IADWP as a home.

This is not a closing.

It is a confirmation.

We are part of something bigger than a magazine.

We are part of a community.

We are part of an industry that does not stop growing.

And the best... is still to come.

Adrián Pavía

Director ÉPICA | Director IADWP Latin America
and Spanish-speaking Caribbean Islands Chapter
Founder and Editorial Director - ÉPICA Magazine

From dream to reality

Top providers in Costa Rica



Costa Rica is not just a destination; it is a sensory experience. This was demonstrated in the recent edition of the **World Romance Travel Conference**, where the local chapter of the **IADWP** accepted an ambitious challenge: organizing the emblematic **Members' Party**. What began as a logistical challenge was transformed into an ode to biodiversity, gastronomy, and the "Pura Vida" elevated to the highest level of luxury.

An immersion under the Guanacaste sky

The night came to life at the prestigious **Hotel Westin Reserva Conchal**, specifically in its iconic venue **El Palenque**. Under imposing structures from **Events 4 You** and **Tol 2 Creativa**, attendees were greeted by a tunnel of minilights that emulated a stellar walk over the sand, guiding them toward a beachfront runway.

The theme was a tribute to our marine fauna. Thanks to the furniture and giant sculptures of **Realce Rentals**, the space was filled with life with whales, turtles, and monumental seahorses that suspended reality.





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Rhythm, flavor, and **Alchemy**

The palate was the protagonist thanks to the **Westin's** gastronomic proposal, paired perfectly with **Alchemy's** signature cocktails. Their mixes, based on native fruits and local ingredients, demonstrated why Costa Rican mixology is at its best moment.

The entertainment was a journey of emotions:

Brena Lages captivated with the sweet notes of her ukulele.

Baktun Circus ignited the night with interactive shows, belly dance, fire shows, and aerial silk acrobatics.

The Caribbean rhythm arrived by the hand of **Calypson**, while **DJ Ciro** from Music 4 You Events kept the energy at maximum with exclusive mixes that left no one seated.



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The guardians of the memory

To immortalize every detail, we had an elite documentation team. The renowned **Riviera Maya** photographer Freddy Ku joined forces with local talents **Pablo Beita and Tobias**, together with the creative minds of **Tuned** and **La Boda Más Linda** in the generation of digital content. Additionally, **Ars Nova** contributed the technological touch with state-of-the-art photobooths, allowing each guest to take a physical souvenir and even personalized keychains.

The minds behind the magic

An event of this magnitude requires surgical precision. The floral design, organic and vibrant, was a collaboration between **Yorleny Herrera** and **Casyste**. But the true engine was the planners who orchestrated

this symphony of providers: **Josué Guido** and **Guillermo** from **Luxury Weddings by Casyste**, **Stacy Webb** from **Capilla Amos**, **Andrea Isabel** from **Wedding Fairy**, and **Jeffrey Cervantes** from **Costa Rica Wedding Planner**.



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Costa Rica: The destination for your next event

This party was not just a celebration; it was the proof that in Costa Rica we have the infrastructure, the creativity, and the human talent to execute world-class events. If you dream of a destination wedding or event that breaks schemes, this group of professionals is your best ally.

We leave you their Instagrams so you can contact them:

- @crweddingplanner
- @LuxuryweddingsbyCasyste
- @capilla.amos
- @weddingfairyandreaaisabell
- @westinreservaconchal
- @realce_rentals
- @alquimiacocteleria_
- @music4you_events
- @tol2creativacr
- @brenalages
- @baktun_circus_and_fire
- @calipso_decostarica
- @kustudio_mx
- @deco.yorlenyherrera
- @labodamaslinda
- @pablo_beita_photography
- @tobiasphg
- @tumedcr
- @worldromancetravelconference
- @iadwp



With Affection,

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Emotional architecture and ancestral rituals



Arnold van Gennep, in *Les Rites de Passage* (1909), described that every significant transition in human life unfolds in three phases: separation, liminality, and incorporation. Victor Turner later deepened the concept of the "liminal state" as that ambiguous and transformative space where a

A wedding is, structurally, exactly that. It is not simply a sophisticated social event. It is not only a high-level aesthetic production; it is a rite of passage. Regardless of culture, creed, or the contemporary narrative surrounding it, each couple that marries is crossing a symbolic threshold: they cease to be a private dyadic system to become a unit publicly recognized by a community. That act carries psychological, systemic, and transgenerational implications.

Are we truly conscious of what we are designing?

From Family Systems Theory (Bowen), we understand that each union reactivates invisible loyalties, mandates, expectations, and family mythologies. From Attachment Theory (Bowlby), we recognize that the conjugal bond reorganizes internal matrices of security and belonging. From Interpersonal Neurobiology (Siegel), we know that intense relational experiences are encoded in implicit memory and shape identity.

A wedding is not simply the celebration of love. It is a psychic and social reorganization. When we design the temporal sequence of an event, we are structuring a liminal experience.

When we define the order of speeches, we are modulating symbolic hierarchies. When we decide who enters first and who blesses the union, we are configuring recognition and legitimacy. Every choice communicates power. Every omission communicates exclusion. Every gesture can integrate, or fracture. Coordinating providers is barely the surface of the process.

The uncomfortable question is this: Are we operating as logistical producers or as conscious architects of the ritual? The global wedding planning industry has reached extraordinary levels of aesthetic sophistication.

However, the challenge of the next decade will not be visual; it will be conceptual and ethical.

True luxury will not be opulence. It will be symbolic depth. In a hyper-aestheticized world saturated with images, differentiation no longer resides in imported flowers or remote locations.

It resides in the ability to understand the ritual as a founding act of identity and lineage.



Because yes: each couple, upon marrying, honors their lineage consciously or unconsciously. They inscribe their story in an ancestral chain of unions that sustain cultural continuity.

Even in the most disruptive or contemporary formats, the archetype endures. The ritual organizes chaos. It gives shape to the intangible. It offers a framework for transformation.

Our task, then, is not minor. It is profoundly ethical. I invite you to expand your knowledge. To study anthropology, relational psychology, systemic theory. To ask yourself with rigor: what type of liminal experience am I facilitating?

Planning a wedding is a technical competence. Safeguarding an ancestral rite is a human responsibility. If we fully understand the magnitude of that role, the industry changes. And we change with it.

Valeria Rodríguez

Licensed in Psychology
Event Strategy & Concept Design
Argentina



Beyond wedding photography

A cinematic look at love



Photography, for me, has never been only about capturing what happens in front of the camera.

It has always been about interpreting what is not seen. Since I began documenting weddings, I understood that love does not occur in perfect poses nor in repeated structures. It occurs in spontaneous gestures, in glances that last an instant longer than expected, in the invisible energy that exists between two people who decided to share their lives.

My work is born precisely from here: from deeply observing couples and translating their essence into images.







I do not reject traditional wedding photography. I am interested in staging emotions, building atmospheres, and creating images that feel like fragments of a movie stopped in time. Each session represents a different narrative, because each love story possesses its own identity.

My creative process begins long before pressing the shutter. I listen, observe, and connect. I try to understand who those two people really are when no one is looking at them. From that connection, the visual proposal is born: light, movement, environment, and emotion become tools to tell something authentic.

The final piece is born, naturally, from what happens between the couple—from their chemistry, their story, and their truth—but it is also deeply influenced by my personal vision. My way of thinking, my sensitivity, my creative daring, and the energy I carry with me form an essential part of the result. Each image is an encounter between two worlds: that of those who love each other and mine as the visual interpreter of that bond.









Many times my work implies daring. Daring to break schemes, to step out of the safe pose, to transform everyday spaces into cinematic settings or allow imperfection to be part of the beauty.

Because real love is not perfect, and precisely therein resides its aesthetic strength.

Every wedding I document is an opportunity to create something unrepeatable. I do not seek only to deliver memories; I seek to build visual pieces that, with the passage of time, continue to provoke emotion. Images that not only show how that day looked, but how it felt to live it.

My photography is born from my way of seeing the world: emotional, intuitive, and deeply human. More than photographing weddings, I feel that I accompany stories in one of the most honest moments of life. In the end, my intention is always the same: that each couple can look at themselves in their images and recognize something true. Something of theirs. Something alive. Because when a photograph achieves that, it ceases to be an image... and becomes memory.

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Where will your celebration be?

The place is everything in your wedding





After the formal engagement, the ring, and the initial excitement, you begin to think about details and the million-dollar question arrives: Where?. Although it may seem like just one more decision on the list of pending tasks, choosing the venue is not simply renting a beautiful hall or a dream garden; it is, in essence, defining the soul of your celebration; it has to be a place that corresponds with the type of wedding you wish to have.

Every couple has a story to tell; their tastes and their life experiences will make them decide what type of wedding they want to do and, above all, how they are going to celebrate their union. Here I explain why the location is one of the pillars upon which the most important day of your life is built.

1. The Setting of your beautiful Story and your Photos.

The location dictates the visual aesthetic of the entire event. It is not the same to say "I do" in front of the deep blue of the Caribbean as it is in a colonial hacienda with centuries of history or in a modern-style hall in the heart of the city. The environment will be the frame for your photographs and the first visual impact your guests will receive.

2. Logistics: give great importance to Comfort.

A good place is not only beautiful; it is functional and offers you advantages. By choosing, you are deciding critical aspects such as:



- **Accessibility:** How easy is it to get there for your family members or friends coming from away? It is important that everyone can arrive without setbacks.

- **The flow of the event:** Are there differentiated spaces for the cocktail, the ceremony, and the banquet? Depending on how you are planning the celebration, it is very important that you evaluate the spaces offered at said location. Here it is key that you already have a defined number of guests, because the capacity is something you cannot lose sight of.

- **The "Plan B":** A responsible venue always offers an elegant alternative in case the weather decides not to cooperate. If it is an outdoor space, the ideal is that they also offer you the option of using a tent if the weather is not as desired for that day.



3. The Atmosphere and the Guest Experience

The architecture and the environment directly influence the state of mind. An open garden invites relaxation and carefree dancing, while a hall with high ceilings and chandeliers evokes a more formal and sophisticated etiquette. The place gently indicates to your guests how they should feel.

Aspects to consider before signing the contract with the location, evaluate these key points:

1. Do not choose a place just because it is a trend on Instagram. Choose it because, upon closing your eyes, you can see yourself enjoying it together with your loved ones in that space. The emotional connection with the place is what will make your wedding feel authentic and ensure that everyone later has a beautiful memory of your wedding day.

2. Take into account that the place is the starting point.

Ultimately, the location is the canvas. Once you have it, the rest of the pieces (the flowers, the dress, the menu) fit in naturally. Take your time, visit the options, and remember

3. Perform the visit to the selected place together with your Wedding Planner;

surely he will ask the pertinent questions to decide if the venue complies with all safety standards, comfort, and adaptability to what you are devising for your wedding.





4. Review all contractual aspects, payment methods, suspension and reprogramming clauses, included services, and possible extra services you might require that are not offered in the proposal they have made to you. It is important to always see the fine print and not leave details to assumption; ask the questions you consider and ask for everything in writing; it is the best way to have the tools and a clear visual of your hiring.

Avoid selecting the location without taking the time to dream and visualize your desired celebration in that place; when we connect and live it in our minds, it can be revealing and decisive for you. Take it calmly, dream, and let your heart also fall in love with that special place.

Thank you for having made it this far in your reading. At the foot of the note are our contact coordinates; let us know what you thought of the content and what topic you would like us to develop for you in a future edition.

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Illustrations:
Gemini IA

From a suitcase full of dreams to representing Latino talent in Italy





I arrived in Italy from Peru at 22 years old, with a suitcase full of dreams and a heart full of desires.

I brought no certainties, but I did have a silent vision: to build something of my own, something authentic, something that spoke of me.

Before discovering my professional mission, I initiated an even more important path: the path toward myself.

I began by getting to know myself deeply, recognizing my passions, discovering my talents, and understanding what truly made me vibrate. It was a process of personal growth, of awareness, of courage.

When I understood that my talent was in creating emotional beauty and human connection, I decided to train with the best Italian professionals.

I studied with great references in the wedding sector, participated in advanced training courses, attended international fairs, exclusive events, fashion shows, and top-level experiences.

I wanted to prepare with excellence.
I wanted to do it well.
I wanted to be ready.





I began working for other wedding planners in Italy.

I learned from the inside, observed, absorbed every detail, and one day I understood something clearly: I was ready. I could do it alone, and thus my agency was born.

I started organizing weddings for Italian couples.

Everything was growing, step by step. But along the way, South American couples who dreamed of getting married in Italy began to contact me, and something changed. With them, the connection was different.

Deeper.
More spiritual.
More immediate.

We understood each other without long explanations.

I understood their language, their culture, their fears, their expectations, their emotions. I knew exactly what they needed and how to guide them.

Every wedding was a success, not only because of the organization, but because of the way I accompanied them: with empathy, with cultural sensitivity, with real understanding.







It was then when I had a clear revelation:
my mission was to serve Latino couples who wish to
marry in Italy without losing their identity. I understood
that I could be that bridge.

That support.
That guide that allows them to feel at home, even far from
their land.

In Italy, there does not exist a specialized figure who truly
welcomes Latino couples from their culture and their
emotional sensitivity.

And I decided to occupy that space with responsibility,
professionalism, and heart.

When I understood this mission, life put Adrián Pavia in my
path.

Our meeting was not casual; it was confirmation.

Adrián believed in my vision and offered me his support to
become a point of reference in Italy for Latino couples.

His confidence strengthened my purpose even more.



Ph: Francesco Frippa



Recently I decided to enter the talent competition organized by Let's Planner, in the categories Wedding Emotional Experience and Inclusivity & Diversity.

I did it because I deeply believe in the value of authentic talent, in the strength of emotions, and in the importance of representing our roots with pride.

Winning in the category Wedding Emotional Experience was a powerful confirmation.

I visualized that moment, I dreamed it, I worked for it, and it became reality. Today I feel proud to represent Latino talent in Italy.

Proud to demonstrate that we have vision, heart, and professional excellence.

That our talent can shine at an international level.

This achievement is not only mine. It is a message for our entire community: the world must know that Latino talent has strength, identity, and a voice of its own. I deeply thank having found Adrián on this path and being able to, together, open new opportunities for Latino couples in Italy, accompanying them with passion, sensitivity, and professionalism.

My story is not only the story of a wedding planner. It is the story of a woman who crossed an ocean to discover her purpose.

And this is only the beginning.



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Industry Recognition:
**Love Caribbean
highlighted
in TravelPulse**

Image courtesy of Princess Hotels & Resorts



We are proud to share that **Love Caribbean Jamaica Edition 2026** has been reviewed by **TravelPulse**, one of the most respected global media outlets in the tourism sector. This recognition highlights the growing importance of the Caribbean as a leading destination for weddings, romance travel, and celebration tourism. Below, we present an extract of the article published by TravelPulse:

The "Love Caribbean" Destination Wedding Conference Scheduled for May

The International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals (IADWP) will hold Love Caribbean - Jamaica Edition from May 11 to 14, 2026, at the Princess Grand and Princess Senses: The Mangrove resorts. The event brings together the best travel advisors, wedding planners, and hospitality providers to generate business development opportunities.

During the conference, participants from six different countries will immerse themselves in authentic cultural experiences of Jamaica, combined with direct connections with resorts, tourism boards, and key providers in the romance travel segment. The wedding and romance travel segment has become a determining factor for Jamaica's tourism industry, generating demand throughout the year and attracting high-purchasing-power travelers.

Globally, the wedding industry exceeds \$300 billion, according to the IADWP, and destination weddings generate more than \$90 billion per year.

On average, a single destination wedding represents an estimated benefit of \$98,000 for the host locality. This includes \$38,000 in event production costs (banquets, decoration, coordination, local providers) and \$60,000 in accommodation, gastronomy, and experiential travel.



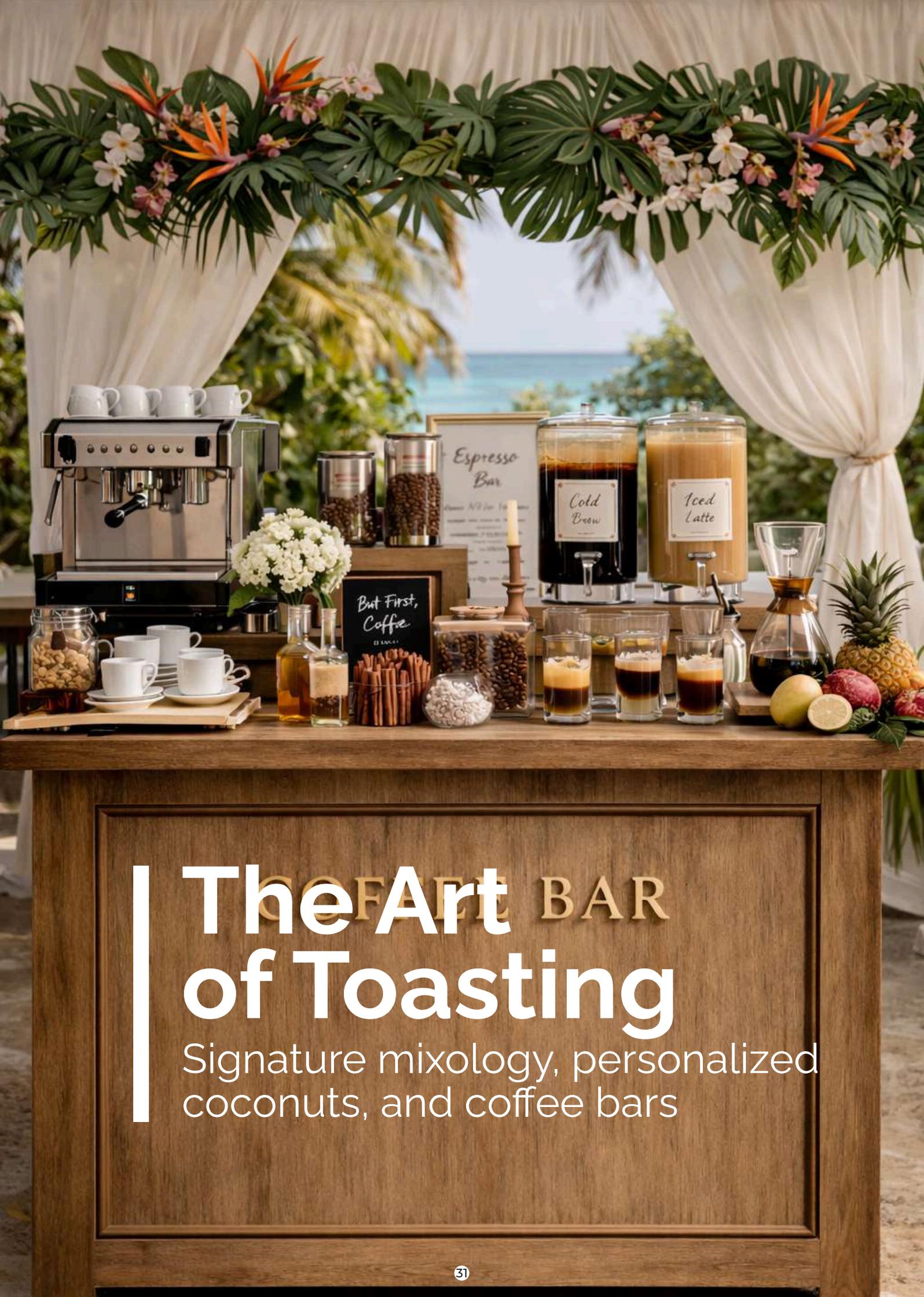
Image courtesy of Princess Hotels & Resorts

By bringing international buyers, partners, and travel advisors directly to Jamaica, the IADWP is activating business, strengthening supply chains, and ensuring that the island's rich culture translates into sustainable economic growth for the region.

Qualified travel advisors and partners can request complimentary accommodation through the IADWP's Hosted Lodging Program, which provides selected attendees with lodging and ground transportation during the official event dates.

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The Art of Toasting

Signature mixology, personalized coconuts, and coffee bars



The new luxury in 2026 weddings in the Dominican Republic

Republic In contemporary weddings, true luxury is no longer measured by abundance, but by the intention behind every detail. The way of toasting has evolved toward carefully designed experiences that awaken the senses and build memories.

For 2026, signature mixology, personalized coconuts, specialty coffee bars, and spritz stations are positioned as the silent protagonists of celebrations that seek authenticity, sophistication, and connection with the destination. And in the Dominican Republic, this trend acquires an identity of its own: tropical, vibrant, and deeply creative.





Signature Mixology: liquid with identity

The new generations of couples desire more than an impeccable bar; they seek a narrative. Mixology transforms into a creative language capable of translating personal stories into memorable flavors, aromas, and presentations.

Cocktails inspired by shared travels, local botanical ingredients, and minimalist executions turn each drink into a design piece. The bartender ceases to be only an executor to become a host and artist. Delicate glassware, sculpted ice, and organic garnishes contribute an editorial character that dialogues with the general aesthetic of the event.

In Caribbean destinations like ours, tropical fruits, Dominican cocoa, and artisanal spirits provide a sophisticated freshness that balances tradition and avant-garde.

In this segment, **Coctel Delivery** stands out, founded in 2007 as the first expert company in molecular mixology in the country. Its focus has been to become a reference for modern cocktail making at a national level,

providing memorable experiences in private and corporate events, backed by strategic alliances with large national and international brands. @cocktaildelivery

Likewise, **Festamundi**, with more than 12 years of history in the world of mixology and events, has consolidated itself as a company specialized in the design and production of memorable experiences. From its headquarters in Santo Domingo, it transforms social and corporate celebrations into proposals where flavor, aesthetics, and entertainment integrate in a harmonious way.





Furthermore, they integrate complementary proposals such as coffee stands with art coffee, hot chocolate stands, buffet or snacks, cotton candy, Korean ice cream, sale of alcohol and spirits. Festamundi also offers integral event production, rental of spaces and equipment, as well as specialized personnel: waiters, promoters, and casting service.



Its portfolio covers a wide range of services:

- Rental of bars and professional bartenders
- Personalization of mixology and cocktails
- Creation of mocktails
- Spirit tastings and cocktail tastings
- Mixology workshops

@festamundi

For its part, **Flipeard** has expanded the traditional concept of the bar, offering everything from molecular mixology to stations for "frío frío" (snow cones), shaved ice, and mimosa bars. Born initially in the world of photography, its evolution toward sensory experiences demonstrates how the events industry in the Dominican Republic continues to reinvent itself with creativity and vision.

@flipea



Spritz & Italian classics: the sunset ritual

Among the most requested proposals of the moment, specialized bars for iconic mixes such as the Aperol Spritz, the Limoncello Spritz, and the eternal Negroni stand out.

These stations evoke a relaxed European aesthetic, where the amber color, fresh citrus, and light bubbles create an elegant and contemporary environment. They work especially well during the welcome or at sundown, when the Caribbean sunset becomes the best natural setting.

More than a passing trend, spritz bars contribute visual rhythm to the setup: perfectly aligned balloon glasses, minimalist bars, and stations integrated in an organic way to the architecture of the event.



Molecular mixology: science, art, and spectacle



Aromatic foams, liquid spheres, cold smoke, and unexpected textures transform the bar into an almost theatrical experience. However, the 2026 trend bets on an elegant and refined version: impeccable technique, balanced flavors, and a sophisticated staging.

Innovation is no longer about surprising through exaggeration, but through precision. It is a choreography of technique and aesthetics where every element has intention.



Personalized coconuts: the relaxed luxury of the tropics

Elegant engravings, minimalist typographies, and natural finishes transform this tropical symbol into a design object.

Served cold upon the guests' arrival or during the cocktail hour, personalized coconuts provide a genuine sense of welcome. Their presence connects with the essence of the landscape and offers a refreshing alternative that combines authenticity and style.



In this segment, **CocoTai** stands out, a company born in 2016 with the mission of transforming the coconut into an authentic, natural, and memorable experience.

Its artisanal ice creams prepared with coconut milk, tropical drinks, and creations inspired by Caribbean mixology are designed to transmit local pride and a unique experience to the visitor.

They represent not only a product, but a symbol of Dominican essence and hospitality. Its vision is clear: to become a gastronomic ambassador for the Dominican Republic, taking a little piece of culture to each tourist through flavor, warm service, and a carefully designed staging.

Among its services, the following stand out:

- Gelatos
- Cocktails in gelatos
- Natural coconut water
- Desserts and affogatos
- Cocktails based on coconut water
- Granitas based on coconut water
- Coconut Boosters
- Coconut MilkShake
- Coconut water ice

@cocotai

Coffee Bars: culture, energy, and sophistication

Specialty coffee has become one of the most refined gestures within the gastronomic journey of a wedding. Beyond the traditional closing, coffee bars appear as living stations that accompany different moments of the celebration.





Clean designs, noble materials, and warm lighting create intimate atmospheres where the aroma of coffee integrates into the environment. From a classic espresso to personalized cappuccinos, cold brew, cortados, and versions with liqueur, coffee transforms into a sensory experience. In the Dominican Republic, a trend-setting brand is **Poesía Colada**, which not only serves coffee but designs an integral experience.

Innovators in the personalization of drinks and with a presence throughout the national geography, they elevate the service to an aesthetic and sensory level that dialogues with the general concept of each event.

@poesiacolada

Trends that will mark 2026

. Aesthetic personalization aligned with the color palette and visual concept of the event.

- Conscious minimalism: less excess, more intention, and use of sustainable materials.
- Immersive experiences designed to interact and share.
- Bars conceived as architectural pieces within the general setup.

In a luxury wedding, every gesture counts. Today, the toast transforms into a curated experience where design, flavor, and emotion converge naturally.

The Dominican Republic is not only a dream destination to celebrate love, it is also a setting where the art of toasting is reinvented with creativity, local talent, and international vision.

Toasting, in 2026, will be much more than raising a glass. It will be designing a moment that remains forever in the memory.

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Photos courtesy:
@festamundi
@cocotai
@cocktaildelivery

Time to Tie the Knot

A destination wedding by the sea



At Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort, the Sea of Cortez sets the stage for an unforgettable destination wedding. *Time to Tie the Knot* is a limited-time wedding promotion designed to simplify planning while enhancing the wedding weekend with thoughtful experiences for couples and their guests.

From the welcome celebration to the final sunset overlooking the ocean, each moment is supported by an experienced wedding team dedicated to creating seamless and personalized events. This curated promotion allows couples and the planners guiding them to focus on creativity, meaningful details, and the moments that matter most.

The *Time to Tie the Knot* promotion includes a collection of exclusive enhancements designed to elevate the celebration:

- \$200 USD air credit to begin the journey
- Guaranteed suite upgrade for the wedding couple
- Wedding attire steaming service
- One-hour welcome cocktail with Margaritas and Mariachi
- 50% savings on reception string lights
- One-minute fireworks celebration enhancement
- Two-night anniversary stay at Hilton Los Cabos or Conrad Punta de Mita

With spectacular oceanfront venues, award-winning service, and a dedicated destination wedding team, Hilton Los Cabos offers couples and planners a refined setting to bring wedding visions to life.

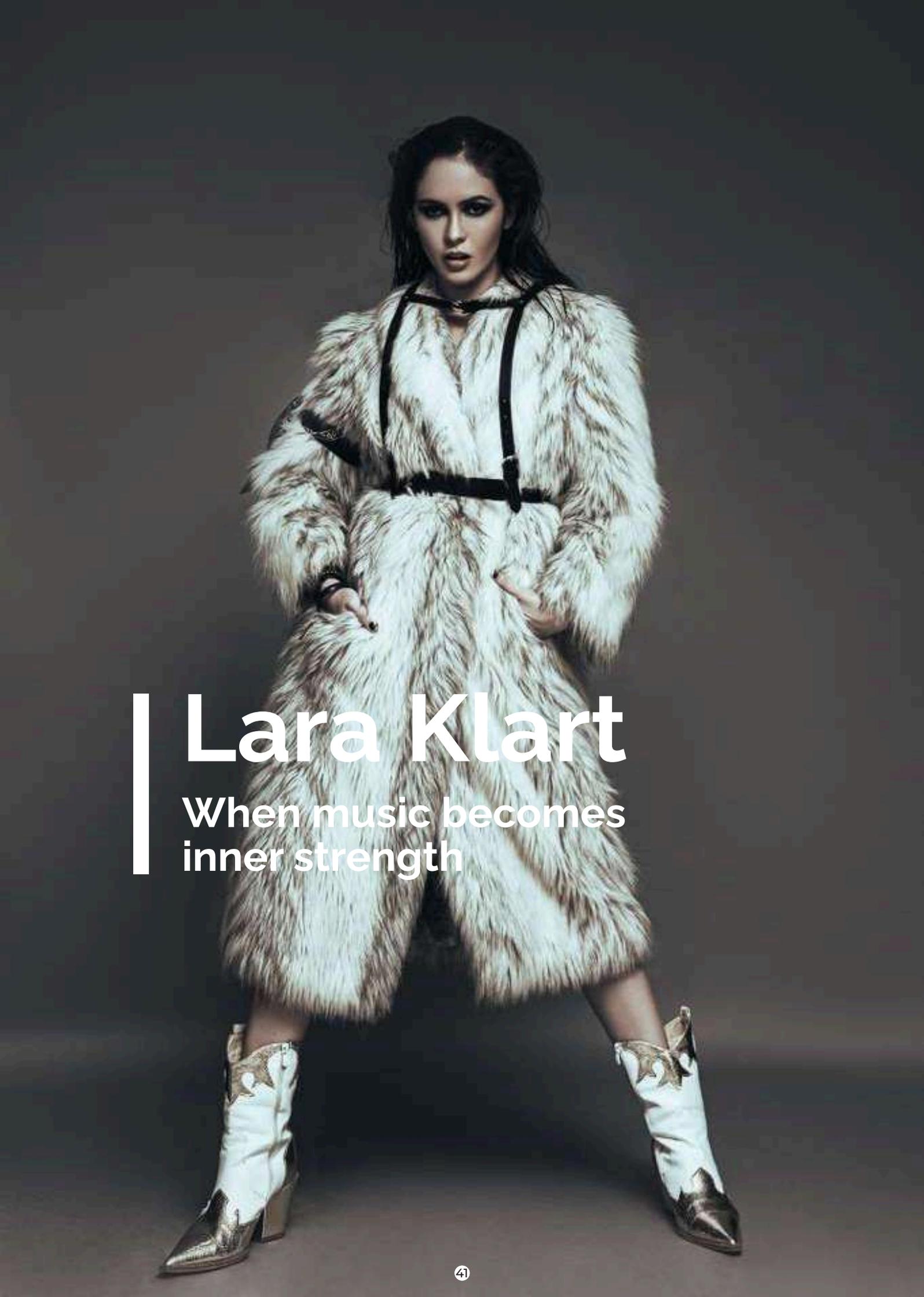
*Discover available dates and
begin planning a celebration by the sea.*

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Lara Klart

When music becomes
inner strength



Her career was not formed in Ecuador, but outside the country. Mexico was the setting where she dared to begin. Far from her family and her environment, she faced fear, insecurity, and uncertainty. Her first major performance was at a festival before more than twenty thousand people. She trembled, cried, and felt panic, but she did not get off the stage. That moment marked the real beginning of her path as a DJ.

Lara defines her evolution with a single word: transformation. Not only professional, but emotional. Over time, she stopped competing with others to compete with herself. In her beginnings, she was motivated by proving she could achieve it; today, her engine is self-love and the conviction that she is enough. She recognizes that fear was present, but she learned to act even with fear.

For **Lara Klart**, being behind the console is not just a technical act, it is a transformation. She describes herself as someone who, upon going up on stage, stops being the everyday person to become another version of herself: stronger, less vulnerable, more conscious of her power.

To speak of Lara Klart is to speak of an Ecuadorian woman classified as the best DJ in Ecuador who decided to build her path far from comfort and close to her truth. Her story does not start behind a console, but on a different stage: that of beauty pageants and television. She was Miss World Ecuador, a stage that today she recognizes as part of her personal and emotional learning. For a time, talking about it generated conflict for her; today she embraces it as one more piece of her journey, understanding that each stage prepared her for what would come later.

Since she was a girl, Lara dreamed of music. Her longing was not to be a DJ, but a rock singer, to play electric guitar and be part of a band. Electronic music arrived later, almost like an unexpected twist of fate. After handing over the crown and exploring acting in Mexico, life gradually brought her closer to that sonic universe that would end up becoming her profession.





Music changes her from the inside; it is her catharsis, her refuge, and her source of empowerment. She does not live it from the ego, but from healing: playing makes her feel capable, it reconstructs her emotionally. In that space of lights and sound, Lara not only mixes songs, but emotions, turning each presentation into an experience where she releases herself, strengthens herself, and connects deeply with her essence.

Her musical identity is not based on following trends. She built her own sound, a mix of hard techno, rock influences, and creative visual proposals. She does not observe what other artists do; she concentrates on imagining what she wants to transmit. That creative freedom has led her to be a reference and, many times, an inspiration for others. Her second album represents exactly that risk: proposing a new sound without knowing if it will be accepted, but faithful to her essence.





Beyond the stage, Lara breaks industry stereotypes. She does not identify with excess or the disordered life that many associate with the world of electronic music. She does not consume drugs, does not live for partying, and deeply values the tranquility of her home, exercise, reading, and documentaries. She affirms that music has brought her closer to God and her inner self, not to the void. For her, playing is a form of healing, a catharsis that makes her feel strong and less vulnerable.

She recognizes the sacrifice that her career implies: sleepless nights, continuous flights, living on tour, depending on bookings, sustaining herself alone for years. She was her own manager, her own communication team, and her own producer. She also recognizes that no one gets far completely alone. The people who have arrived in her life—friends, colleagues, and allies—have been fundamental for taking better decisions and staying firm on her path.





Lara understands success in a different way. She does not measure it in fame or money, but in peace. She believes that the true purpose is to love: to love what she does, to love her family, to love those who listen to her music. She does not seek to be superior to anyone or present herself as a perfect example; she seeks to leave a legacy of love and consciousness through what she creates.

As an Ecuadorian, she carries her identity with pride. She always says where she comes from and dreams of returning permanently to her country in the future, to have her house, her own business, and a more stable life when the touring stage ends. She loves Ecuadorian gastronomy and maintains a deep link with her land, even when her career develops on international stages.

For women who dream of opening a path in difficult industries, her message is clear: do not listen to external noise and trust your intuition. She believes that the greatest block is mental and that resilience is not taught, it is built from within. She herself grew up hearing that it was not possible, that there was no industry, that there were no opportunities. Even so, she decided to try.

The story of Lara Klart is not only that of a recognized DJ. It is the story of a sensitive, empathetic, and



conscious woman who chose a difficult path to be faithful to her purpose. An artist who not only seeks to make people dance, but also to awaken, inspire, and remind that success is not getting far, but being at peace with who you are.

And in that balance between music, discipline, and humanity, Lara Klart today represents one of the most solid faces of Ecuadorian talent on stages of high international impact.

Lara Klart

Ecuadorian DJ
@laraklart
@janusrekordz

Lissner Ortiz

Destination Wedding Planner
www.lissnerweddingplanner.com
@my_sweetliss



| Roots of the Soul



at Ingenio Espectáculos we believe that art must dialogue with the city, with its people, and with those who visit us. We assume a clear objective: not only to entertain, but to contribute actively to this urban renovation from identity and emotion. Our bet is to turn a meeting, a lunch, a dinner, or a night in the Historic Center into an experience that embraces history, tradition, and contemporaneity.

Visiting the Historic Center of Lima, Peru, has changed in a significant way in recent years at a cultural, tourist, and community level. This transformation is the result of concrete actions promoted by PROLIMA, the institution in charge of recovering and highlighting architectural heritage, and restoring and revitalizing public spaces with the objective of encouraging the permanence of visitors and citizens in the heart of the Lima city.

To this process is added a growing interest from the private sector that bets on the Historic Center as a strategic space for investment. Gastronomic proposals such as La Tapada and new culinary spaces are integrated into this dynamic of renovation; likewise, hotel projects such as the upcoming opening of a boutique hotel of the Melia Hotels International chain will strengthen the tourist offer in the heritage zone.

All this evolution responds to a clear vision: thinking of Lima not only as historical heritage, but as a living stage for cultural experiences. In this context,





This is how Raíces del Alma (Roots of the Soul) was born, a buffet dinner show proposal with a Peruvian theme created in alliance with the Sheraton Lima Historic Center. This experience celebrates the deepest part of our culture through typical dances, live music, high-quality gastronomy, and a top-level stage production, designed to move people and generate an authentic connection with Peruvian identity.

With the sole purpose that each attendee—whether Peruvian or a foreign visitor—leaves with a renewed feeling of pride: pride for our roots, for our cultural diversity, and for having chosen Peru not only as a destination, but as a living experience.

"Raíces del Alma" is a tribute to our celebrations and, at the same time, a synthesis of more than fifteen years of history of Ingenio Espectáculos accompanying weddings, birthdays, and corporate events. Throughout this journey we have confirmed something essential in Peru: a party is not only a social act; it is a reunion. It is the moment when families return to their place of origin, where generations unite to celebrate through color, music, and dance, in the same way that happens in the traditional festivals of the country, where no one is a spectator and everyone is part of the collective act of celebrating.





Celebrating in Peru transcends the social. Our festivities are born from the encounter between faith, memory, and daily life. Processions, devotions, and popular rituals strengthen the sense of belonging of our communities. In the same way, gastronomy represents in each dish a territory, its history, and its heritage, as the memory of a region that is transmitted from generation to generation.

In Raíces del Alma, music and dance dialogue with the best of Peruvian cuisine gathered at a single table, integrating flavors from the coast, the mountains, and the jungle in an experience that reflects the cultural diversity of the country. Sharing food is not only a culinary act: it is a gesture of encounter, of celebrating the richness of the roots of the Peruvian soul.

Today Lima is going through a transformation in which culture and identity consolidate as axes of urban, social, and economic development. At Ingenio Espectáculos we believe that experiences like Raíces del Alma form an active part of that process: they not only entertain, but they generate connection, awaken pride, and project Peru to the world from its most authentic essence.



Because when a city renews itself, the way in which it celebrates its identity also renews itself. And in each encounter we seek for that celebration to transcend and remain in the memory.

Gonzalo Castillo

Director of Ingenio Espectáculo
and Producer of Raíces del Alma
[@ingenioespectaculos2](#)
[@raicesdelalma.pe](#)

Thistle & Thorne

Offers new rituals
for contemporary couples





Rethinking the structure of the classic ceremony

From the tradition of "giving away the bride" to the bouquet toss, many of the wedding customs in Canada are no longer relevant to modern-life couples. Nowadays, an engaged couple may choose to fuse elements from various religious or cultural traditions. Those with a more creative spirit can even create their own rites and ceremonies to celebrate their love story in a truly authentic and personal way.

"As couples continue to redefine love under their own terms, they have more freedom to create a wedding celebration that reflects their real identities and their life experiences," states Jodie Garneau, founder and lead planner of Thistle & Thorne. "Instead of repeating millenary practices rooted in past conceptions about gender and sexuality, the modern couple has the opportunity to design their own ceremony with their own and unique rituals".

Meaningful planning for sexual and gender diversity weddings

Weddings are no longer subject to rigid scripts or inherited expectations. Throughout Canada and beyond, couples are reimagining what it means to celebrate commitment. Modern wedding ceremonies are evolving, moving away from the traditional "bride and groom" gender convention, to open space for new rituals rooted in authenticity, intention, and inclusion.

For **Thistle & Thorne Weddings**, a boutique planning firm known for its human-first approach, this change is especially visible in the weddings of people with sexual and gender diversity.





Language that reflects real relationships

Traditional vows and scripts have often been based on heteronormative assumptions that no longer resonate with many couples. The language of the wedding ceremony has been evolving for decades; couples went from promising to "love, honor and obey" to "love, honor and cherish".

Nowadays, couples prefer inclusive and intentional language that goes beyond gender equality; now, they write their own scripts to honor their unique identities, their values, and their shared experiences. For example, couples can write their vows together, speak simultaneously, or replace "husband" and "wife" with more affirmative and broad language. Pronouns are clarified, expectations are expressed openly, and commitment is manifested without hierarchies.





The transformation of roles in the wedding party

Just as the cultural understanding of gender and sexuality is evolving, so is the couple's relationship with family and the community. As family systems evolve, modern couples have more freedom to decide who will participate in their special day. Your witnesses do not have to be a "best man" and a "bridesmaid". From the person who officiates to those who accompany you, you choose.

It is not always easy to communicate your wishes to family and friends. Experienced wedding coordination sensitive to your unique needs can help you navigate these decisions and communicate them to your loved ones with tact and elegance.

Say yes to the dress, or the tuxedo, or... You decide

As couples redefine ceremonies, traditions, and roles that make the wedding day meaningful and memorable, they are also rewriting the rules around attire. It is no longer about whether the bride wears a white dress. Now, the possibilities are as infinite as the colors of the rainbow.

And it is not only about colors. Couples can choose for one of the members—or both—to wear the classic wedding dress. They can choose to wear matching tuxedos. However, beyond these two usual styles, the options are limitless. From formal jumpsuits to convertible dresses or hybrids between tuxedo and dress, couples have the freedom to choose among an entire spectrum of gender-neutral attire options.





A deeply human approach to modern weddings

With more than 15 years of experience and more than 400 planned weddings, **Thistle & Thorne** brings sensitivity, fluidity, and care to these celebrations in constant evolution. The role of the team is not to impose a structure, but to listen, adapt, and create a space for ceremonies that feel safe, affirmative, and authentic.

Regardless of where on the gender and sexuality spectrums you and your partner find yourselves, **Thistle & Thorne** has the knowledge and experience to make your wedding a meaningful expression of your unique personalities and values.

Are you ready to plan your wedding?

Visit [thistleandthorneweddings.com](https://www.thistleandthorneweddings.com) today.

***Thistle & Thorne** is a family-owned boutique wedding planning firm based in Vancouver, led by its founder and lead planner, Jodie Garneau. With more than 15 years of experience in the hospitality sector and more than 400 weddings executed to perfection, Jodie brings heart, creativity, and professionalism to each celebration.*

*Her very united and close team specializes in retreat-type weddings and multi-day immersive experiences, standing out for their warmth, reliability, and meticulous attention to detail. At **Thistle & Thorne**, people always come first; everything else is a beautiful result of that.*

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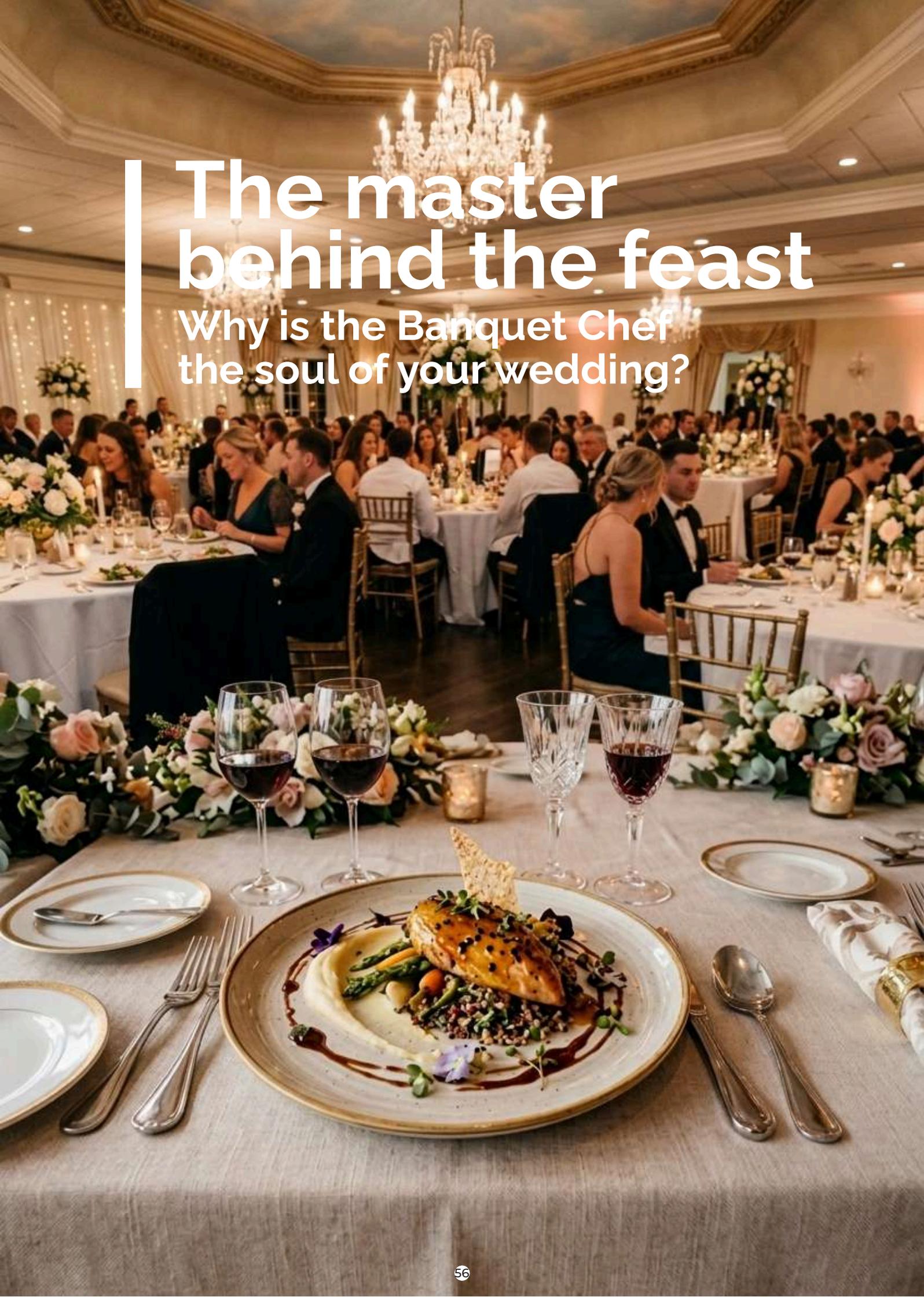
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The master behind the feast

Why is the Banquet Chef the soul of your wedding?





More than a menu, a sensory experience

It is very common to hear that guests will forget the color of the napkins or the type of flowers on the altar, but there is something they will remember for decades: The food. In the ecosystem of a wedding, if the Wedding Planner is the orchestra director, the Banquet Chef is the composer of the melody that everyone will hum the next day. Gastronomy is undoubtedly a super important angle in celebrations; do not forget that this is one of the best ways to pamper and flatter your family and friends.

Hiring a top-level banquet chef is not only about choosing between chicken or beef. It is about designing a narrative. A good chef understands that the wedding banquet is the climax of the celebration and uses ingredients, textures, and presentations to tell the story of the couple. That is why it is so important that you meet, talk, and thus have from the Chef the initial proposal of what the catering for that very important day will be.

Personalization to the extreme: The chef is the one who translates your trips, your roots, and your shared tastes into a dish that speaks of you. It is very important that all the food is to your liking and that of your guests; it is about enjoying each bite with familiar flavors while taking preferences into account.

The logistics of perfection: It is not the same to cook for two as it is for two hundred. The true magic of the banquet chef lies in ensuring that dish number 150 and 200 come out with the same temperature and aesthetics as the first. For this, it is necessary to have an adequate number of assistants and that the waiters are also experts in service.





The 3 virtues of a stellar wedding Chef

1. Adaptability:

Masterfully handles allergies and dietary restrictions without sacrificing flavor. Knows how to respect preferences and adapts dishes according to what is being requested. Undoubtedly this is an art, and if the Chef achieves it, that speaks of his great experience. His responsibility will be that your guests feel flattered with each bite and enjoy a unique experience with the gastronomy selected for your wedding.

2. Aesthetic Vision:

Turns each dish into a visual work of art worthy of a photo to immortalize the moment. The presentation of each dish is super important to delight the sight first, which they will then appreciate with smell and taste.

3. Time Management:

Synchronizes the departure of the dishes with the party protocol (toast, dance, etc.). The timing of each dish must be fulfilled strictly according to the moments established in the celebration. Everything has an order and a sequence that the couple must know previously and that the Wedding Planner will ensure is fulfilled.





The "Wow Effect": The importance of technique

Behind that perfectly seared steak or that signature dessert, there is a complex infrastructure. The banquet chef supervises from the cold chain to the last-minute plating. His importance resides in the peace of mind he gives you: knowing that, while you enjoy your first dance, in the kitchen there is a professional making sure that each dish is a resounding success and everyone will enjoy it to the fullest.

"The kitchen of a wedding is not only food; it is the fuel of joy. A well-fed guest is a guest who dances until dawn".

Each appetizer and each main dish will be served in the established times with the presence that you define, but above all they will carry the message of how much the couple appreciates the guests of their wedding.

Recommendation for the couple

Before closing the contract, request a menu test. Not only evaluate the flavor, but the chef's willingness to listen to your ideas. A great banquet chef is, above all, a great collaborator. It is fundamental to find in him empathy with your dream celebration, and although some professional chefs may seem like divas or kitchen rock stars, even if they are, you must feel that connection with their work, feel trust, and also provide trust. In the end, that winning connection is what will establish an evening full of unforgettable delicacies.

Review the hiring, request in writing the detail of the catering, service schedules, plating, quantities, etc. While it is necessary to trust their work and talent, it is also necessary to have everything clear, review it, and make adjustments at the time of hiring. That is fundamental to avoid misunderstandings and frustrations; do not leave anything to assumption, everything written in a route that you can understand by the hand of your planner.

Thank you for joining us in this note, at the foot you will find our contact coordinates, we will gladly read you and bring new contents for your enjoyment, you can suggest them and thus you help us generate the content you are looking for.

We will read each other in the next note.

Juan Salvador y Erinna Reyna

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Where the Pacific becomes the perfect beginning

Hilton Los Cabos & Conrad Punta de Mita:
Two Forbes 4-Star Icons
for Destination Weddings



Elevated Luxury, Without Limits.

Under a luxury concept in European Plan, both properties provide a sophisticated experience where every detail is designed with intention. Here rigid formats do not exist: every menu, every setup, and every moment is created to the measure of the couple.

From ceremonies in front of the sea with the sound of the Pacific as a witness, to receptions in majestic halls illuminated by elegant chandeliers, the possibilities are infinite. Gardens with an ocean view, panoramic terraces, and spectacular beaches allow every love story to find the perfect setting.

And because true luxury is exclusivity, each resort hosts only one wedding per day, guaranteeing absolute privacy, total attention, and a truly personalized experience.

Along the dazzling coast of the Mexican Pacific—where the golden desert melts with sapphire-colored waters and tropical beaches shine in intense turquoise tones—there exist two destinations that transform weddings into extraordinary experiences: **Hilton Los Cabos** and **Conrad Punta de Mita**.

Recognized with the prestigious Forbes 4-Star distinction, these resorts do not only offer spectacular settings, but a clear vision: to turn every wedding into an unforgettable, deeply personalized, and perfectly executed celebration.





A gastronomic experience that awakens the senses

In both resorts, award-winning Executive Chefs Mauricio López and Germán Ghelfi lead a culinary team that transforms every celebration into a sensory journey. Flavors are adapted to cultural traditions, family recipes, and contemporary innovations, creating gastronomic proposals that surprise and excite.

Signature cocktails, carefully selected pairings, and interactive culinary stations elevate every event, turning the wedding into an experience that is savored and remembered.

Collaboration without limits

Great weddings are born from great alliances. For this reason, both properties maintain solid relationships with the best wedding planners and providers of the destination, facilitating access to the most prominent creative talent in design, production, and entertainment.





Celebrations as unique as every love story

Hilton Los Cabos and Conrad Punta de Mita are recognized for their expertise in multicultural weddings. Their teams have a wide trajectory in the organization of:

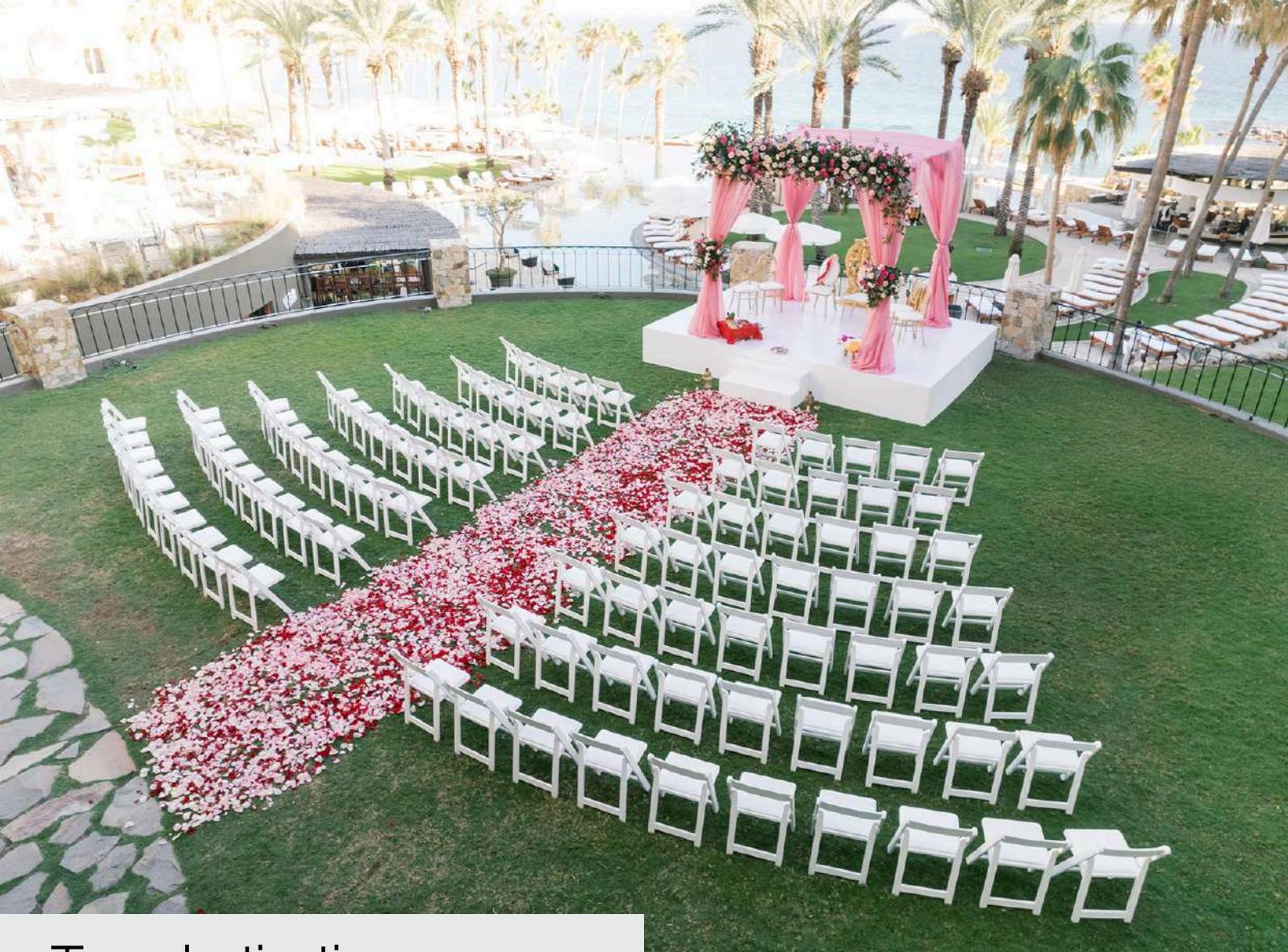
- Symbolic ceremonies
- Jewish weddings
- Persian celebrations
- Multi-day South Asian events
- LGBTQ+ weddings
- And other culturally significant traditions

This cultural fluidity, combined with service standards recognized by Forbes, guarantees that every ritual and custom is honored with precision and respect.

Their open provider policy allows planners to work with total freedom, without additional charges. Additionally, each resort has a dedicated internal Wedding Coordinator, ensuring that every detail flows with precision and harmony.

As proud members of the **International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals**, Hilton Los Cabos and Conrad Punta de Mita form an active part of the global destination wedding community.





Two destinations, one same promise of unique moments

Wedding weekends are designed to go much further than the ceremony.

Couples can elevate their celebration with exclusive private pool parties, a vibrant and sophisticated way to gather family and friends while enjoying ocean views and carefully curated hospitality. Whether as a welcome event under the sun or as a post-celebration full of music and artisanal cocktails, these experiences add an unforgettable dimension to the wedding journey.

Both resorts also understand that, for many couples, pets form part of the family. As dog-friendly properties, they welcome small four-legged companions to participate in one of life's most significant moments. It is a thoughtful detail that transforms a beautiful wedding into a deeply personal celebration.





The art of converting a long weekend into a "Forever"

For those who dream of more than just a single day, Hilton Los Cabos and Conrad Punta de Mita invite you to transform a long weekend into an extraordinary wedding experience.

Designed for special dates and extended stays, this exclusive proposal allows you to enjoy a multi-day celebration where every encounter—from the welcome reception to the farewell brunch—forms part of an unforgettable narrative.





With personalized concessions and tailor-made experiences, the celebration becomes something more than an event: it transforms into a destination getaway framed by ocean views and refined hospitality.

For more information about this exclusive wedding experience, couples and planners can consult the official sites of Hilton Los Cabos and Conrad Punta de Mita.

<https://www.hiltonloscabos.com/weddings/>
<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/pvrpmci-conrad-punta-de-mita/events/weddings/>

As part of this special promotion, couples can enjoy:

- A complimentary welcome reception for one hour.
- Up to 15% discount on food and beverages for the event.
- Complimentary menu tasting for up to six guests.
- A complimentary 3-night / 4-day anniversary stay to return and relive the magic.



Ambar Molina

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El Salvador

Where the show
becomes experience



Circus Contemporaneum, Let Yourself Be Surprised!

In the last few years, El Salvador has begun to occupy a distinct place in the conversation about weddings and events in Latin America. It is no longer just an emerging destination; it is a country that is understanding how to transform talent into a proposal, creativity into industry, and art into experience.

In this edition dedicated to top providers of our destinations, I want to present to you a company that, from my perspective as a planner, represents that artistic and business evolution that today positions the country at another level: **Circus Contemporaneum**.

Because when we talk about entertainment in destination weddings, we do not talk about hiring a show. We talk about designing emotion.





Today, their aspiration is clear: to become the Latin American reference for high-quality contemporary artistic productions.

From the theater stage to destination weddings

Faithful believers in the performing arts in Central America, Circus understood that art should not be limited to theaters. They migrated toward less conventional spaces like weddings and corporate events, carrying with them a clear vision: every show had to be an aesthetic and emotional experience.

Their differentiator lies in conceptualization. Every costume is designed and produced by the brand, every character is interpreted by professional performing artists, and every intervention responds to a clear identity. They do not buy prefabricated concepts: they create them.

With more than 50 costume concepts developed, their catalog is a living gallery of creativity.

A dream that refused to disappear

18 years ago, four young people passionate about theater, dance, and circus arts coincided at the right moment. With the desire to create and multiply artistic proposals, they decided to unify their knowledge and build a brand with its own identity.

Their motto, "**Let yourself be surprised!**", is not a commercial phrase; it is a declaration of principles.

The path was not simple. There were challenges that seemed to cut the initial dream from the root, difficult decisions, and moments of reinvention. However, determination kept the spark alive. The brand evolved and structured its services into three large lines: Circus Commercial, Circus Theater, and Circus Workshops.

They do not only produce shows; they train artists, develop technique, professionalize the trade, and strengthen the Salvadoran creative industry.







And this connects directly with a reality that we see today with force in destination weddings: the incorporation of artists who accompany the guests at every moment of the celebration is no longer a complement, it is an essential part of experience design. From conceptual characters who receive with cocktails at the welcome, aerial interventions that burst in as a surprise factor, artists who elevate the "hora loca" or who accompany the dinner with a carefully thought-out scenic presence, artistic talent has become an emotional common thread.

Artists no longer appear only at a specific moment: they form an integral part of the wedding rhythm, dialogue with the aesthetics, sustain the energy, and amplify the event's intention. And when that integration is done with identity, technique, and creativity, the result is not a show... it is an experience that transforms the complete celebration.

They do not make carnivals. They create experiences.

In the world of events, many can try to replicate visual dynamics. But creating a memorable experience requires scenic technique, emotional reading, and artistic coherence.

Circus understands it.

There are interventions that can be repeated—limbo, single file line, follow class—but what is never the same is the energy of the audience. Their artists are trained to receive that emotion and transform it into something bigger, more intense, more memorable.





If they had to define themselves in three words they would be: **Authenticity. Talent. Responsibility.**

And that coherence has been key to remaining at the top of the Salvadoran market for 18 years.

Surpassing themselves: the true challenge

They have produced social setups of high complexity with minimum execution times, developing new characters, aerial interventions, and complete experiences in a matter of weeks, even when the company was still in the consolidation process.

In the corporate field, one of their greatest challenges has been reinventing traditional large-format productions year after year, understanding that remaining in leadership implies not repeating oneself, but constantly surpassing oneself.

They say it themselves: They are their own best and worst competition.

And that mentality is what positions a company at another level.



El Salvador as a creative platform

The growth of the artistic sector in the last decade has been decisive. Circus recognizes the pioneers who opened the path and highlights the openness of the Salvadoran public, which today seeks excellence and quality for its celebrations.

That combination has allowed the company to transcend borders. They have represented El Salvador in Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Mexico, and they maintain artistic connections in Spain, Argentina, and Colombia through their Nomadic Festival, which in 2026 will celebrate its tenth edition.

Only in 2025 did they execute events consistently in Honduras and Guatemala, consolidating their regional presence and contributing actively to the positioning of the country as a provider of high-level artistic experiences.

El Salvador does not only export talent. It exports experience.



An invitation to Latin America

To the planners of the region who feel they have already seen it all, I share something with you from my experience designing destination weddings: El Salvador is ready. Here celebrations are lived with intensity, identity, and real emotion.

Here the show is not a complement: it is part of the strategic design of the experience.

And as **Circus Contemporaneum** well expresses it: "I know you think you have seen everything in weddings around the world, but in El Salvador the celebrations are another level.

Let yourself be surprised!, and come visit us." Pechán Osorio, CEO Circus Contemporaneum.

And I agree.

IG: @circuscontemporaneum
FB / YOUTUBE / TIKTOK: Circus Contemporaneum
www.circusc.com

Photographs thanks to Roberto Cañas Wedding Photo

Rebeca Jerez

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The new rules of destination weddings in the Caribbean

Luxury | Destination Strategy
Industry Vision



Rule No. 2: The allocation of resources is the new extravagance

Indiscriminate spending has been replaced by strategic allocation. High-level planning in the Caribbean requires an intentional investment in:

- **Hospitality for the guests.**
- **Seamless transportation logistics.**
- **Production infrastructure.**
- **Climate contingency plans.**

Smart couples understand that allocating resources to experience design and operational support offers a greater value in the long term than superficial decorative improvements.

The Caribbean has always been the dream setting for destination weddings: turquoise waters, warm breezes, and an enveloping hospitality. However, today's couples are no longer looking for "postcard" ceremonies; they are designing experiences. And that change has rewritten the rules of the game.

Rule No. 1: The experience over the aesthetic

The modern Caribbean wedding is not defined only by the budget for flowers, but by the immersion of the guests. Couples are prioritizing celebrations of several days (welcome cocktails, cultural excursions, rehearsal dinners, farewell brunches) designed to create shared memories.

The ceremony is no longer the only focal point; it is just a chapter within a curated narrative.



Rule No. 3: Relationships drive results

Destination weddings in the Caribbean operate within dynamic hotel ecosystems. Solid alliances with hospitality teams, tourism authorities, and local providers are no longer optional: they are essential.

Organizers who maintain active relationships with entities like the Jamaica Tourist Board and collaborate with established hotel brands, such as Princess Hotels & Resorts, are capable of anticipating challenges, negotiating strategically, and elevating execution standards.

Access generates advantage.



Rule No. 4: Cultural integration is a requirement

Current couples seek authenticity. Weddings in the Caribbean are evolving beyond the generic setup on the beach to include:

- Local culinary elements.
- Indigenous or regional music and art.
- Specific narratives of the destination.

Cultural fluidity transforms a wedding from being an "imported" event to a celebration with roots.



Rule No. 5: Preparation defines luxury

Weather systems, travel variables, and international logistics require proactive planning. The new standard of luxury is serene adaptability. Having backup venues, flexible schedules, and solid communication networks on the island are critical components for high-level execution.

Luxury is not about perfection; it is about preparation.

The Caribbean remains one of the most influential regions in the world for destination weddings. But this new era of celebrations demands strategy, alliances, and intention.

Anita Craine

CEO | Creative Director
Weddings, Destination Weddings
& Travel Advisor
Social media: @amarieeventsanddesignllc

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Love Caribbean **is a professional training experience created for wedding planners and travel advisors who want to move beyond inspiration and truly understand how to sell** the Caribbean for destination weddings and group celebration travel.

This event goes deeper than venues and visuals. **It prepares you to operate confidently in a complex, high-demand destination market** where logistics, pricing, culture, risk management, and guest experience truly matter.

What makes this event different:

- **Learn** how to design and sell multi-day destination weddings with confidence
- **Understand Caribbean culture** and regional differences beyond the brochure
- **Develop smart pricing strategies** that elevate perceived value
- **Gain tools** to manage risk, safety, and crisis scenarios
- **Apply innovation**, technology, and AI to scale your business
- **Build real connections** with Caribbean partners that lead to long-term opportunities

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Deep Luxury, multicultural mastery,
and global positioning

Congreso de Bodas LAT *is IADWP's flagship Latin American congress, designed for professionals ready to elevate their business*, mindset, and international presence.

This is not basic education. *It is a strategic business congress* focused on how the wedding industry is evolving toward Deep Luxury, multicultural celebrations, and global clients with higher expectations.

What you gain at this Congress:

- **A deep understanding** of Deep Luxury: authenticity, intention, and meaningful design
- **Tools** to design and manage multicultural and interfaith weddings
- **Strategies** to charge higher fees and attract international clients
- **Education** on global trends and professional positioning
- **Practical knowledge on AI**, marketing, content, and systems
- **High-value networking** with professionals shaping the Latin American market

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Mérida, Yucatán | October 19–22, 2026 |
Program in **English**



Culture, innovation, and the future
of destination weddings

Love Mexico is a **specialized training event designed for professionals who want to sell Yucatán with cultural depth**, accuracy, and innovation.

This event blends education, and **future-ready business tools to help you design and sell meaningful, tech-enhanced destination weddings.**

What you gain at Love Mexico:

- **Cultural intelligence** through the local storytelling
- **Clear understanding of Yucatán** as a destination market
- **Skills to design emotionally powerful, tech-enhanced experiences**
- **Training in AI-driven planning**, automation, CRM, and digital tools
- **Smarter revenue models** for destination weddings
- **Premium networking** with Mexican and international professionals

This event is for professionals who want to stay relevant, innovative, and future-ready.

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An exclusive journey designed to connect you, inspire you, and grow your business

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- ✓ Educational sessions led by international and local experts
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- ✓ Gourmet dining and masterclasses showcasing Italy's finest
- ✓ Domestic flights & ground transfers throughout the program
- ✓ Immersive cultural experiences across Tuscany and Puglia

SINGLE USD 6,050 | DOUBLE USD 4,950 PP

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- Bocelli's world & Forte dei Marmi.

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POST-FAM | PUGLIA, NOV 11th - 13th



- Reflect, connect & celebrate.

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We are delighted to feature some of our exceptional Platinum members of the International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals:



Marcela Blanca Pinto

AQUA BODAS

Aqua Bodas is a wedding and event planning agency specializing in organizing, planning, advising, coordinating, and producing personalized weddings. With over 11 years of experience, they have planned more than 320 weddings and events throughout the Colombian Caribbean coast, Bogotá, and other cities.

 @aquabodas



María Alejandra Rivas Galván

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Passion for transforming special settings for every occasion.

Multifaceted wedding planner who studied interior design, as well as etiquette and haute cuisine. Her passion is making her clients happy.

 bodasmarevento.com



Eva Luz Ramírez Cuadras

EVA LUZ RAMÍREZ WP

They are a wedding planning company in Ixtapa Zihuatanejo, with more than 15 years of experience in the romance industry. They specialize in planning unforgettable weddings, taking care of every detail so that couples can enjoy their day to the fullest.

 @evaluzramirezwp



Suzanne Haire

TRAVELAGENTSUZ, LLC

Specializing in destination weddings, honeymoons, and romantic getaways, Suzanne stands out for her firsthand knowledge of resorts in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Hawaii, ensuring the highest quality for her clients. Her attention to detail, inherited from her previous training in event planning, allows travelers to enjoy impeccable, stress-free logistics. Under the motto "Escape today, create memories for tomorrow."

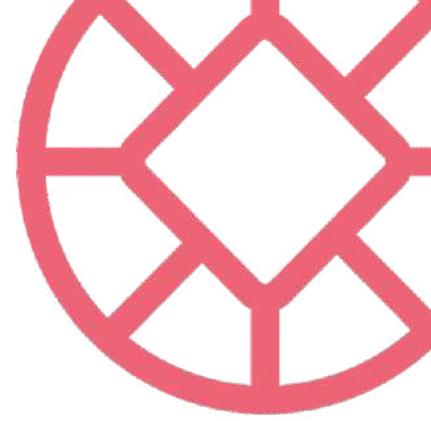
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We are thrilled to present two distinguished **Corporate members** of the International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals:



@dmeventosrd

DM EVENTOS



Founded in 2007 in Santo Domingo by Donaida Marín, it is a leading creative studio in the production, design, and staging of high-impact events. Internationally acclaimed, the company stands out for its excellence in temporary scenography and comprehensive logistics, transforming spaces into memorable experiences that enhance brand identity with innovation and technical precision.



Donaida Marín Mata

CEO Diseño & Producción

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Carmen Martínez

SUBGERENTE DE BODAS

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IADWP® wishes you a
Happy Birthday
March



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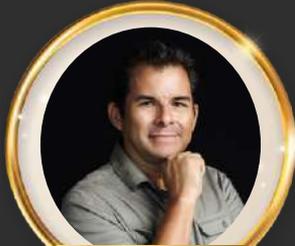
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2026

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Design:

Velvet Hell Estudio

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