

# ÉPICA

WEDDINGS & EVENTS

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## **Adrián Pavía**

Capítulo Sudamérica  
Director  
IADWP

With the arrival of the most beautiful months of the year, the wedding atmosphere is more vibrant than ever. The sun is shining brightly, the days are getting longer, and everything seems to be perfectly aligned to create unforgettable moments. It's the ideal time for lovers to say 'I do' in spectacular settings, from golden beaches to enchanting gardens. The magic of weddings is in the air.

This wouldn't be the same world without the tireless efforts of all the vendors and planners who, behind every celebration, dedicate their passion and talent to raise the standard of quality at every wedding. From florists and chefs, to photographers and event designers, you are all the heart that drives our industry. We deeply appreciate your creativity, commitment and the way you manage to exceed expectations, making us proud to be a part of this incredible community.

I would also like to dedicate a few words to the IADWP (International Association of Destination Wedding Professionals) community. It has been a successful year for all of our members, and it fills me with pride to see how this network has grown, driving the development of the destination wedding industry around the world. The bonds we have forged, the innovations we have shared and the collective growth are testament to the power of collaboration - congratulations to each and every member for their dedication and accomplishments!

When reflecting on what the wedding industry means, it is impossible not to mention the immense economic spillover this world generates. From tourism to hospitality, design to entertainment, weddings not only create moments of happiness, but also economic development opportunities for many communities. Our industry is an engine of growth, and every wedding is a piece of art that moves the world.

I send you all my warmest greetings, with love and gratitude for your dedication and passion. Let us continue to create moments that shine forever.

With love,

**Adrián Pavía**

Capítulo  
Sudamérica  
Director  
IADWP



*Real Wedding*

*A wedding with an  
international flair*

*Diana & Nanne in the Mexican Caribbean*



Ana Contreras, at the helm of Casa Riviera Weddings, has once again managed to capture the essence of a dream wedding, this time for Diana & Nanne, a couple living in Amsterdam. After a year of careful planning, this wedding managed to fuse the elegance and romance of the Mexican Caribbean with cultural details that perfectly reflected the roots of both bride and groom.

With 111 guests, the wedding was a day-long experience full of magic. One of the most exciting aspects of this wedding was the fusion of the cultures of Diana, a Mexican, and Nanne, originally from Amsterdam. Nanne, deeply rooted in his culture, wanted to include a representative symbol of his life in the Netherlands: a bicycle, which symbolizes not only his country, but also his lifestyle. Diana, on the other hand, wanted to keep the Mexican tradition alive with the joy of the mariachis, who would close the evening with a festive and emotional touch.

Nanne's role as musician added a unique dimension to the celebration. He personally dedicated himself to creating special musical arrangements, selecting each piece carefully to highlight the most significant moments of the ceremony. This customized approach not only reflected his talent and passion for music, but also made each instant sound authentic and memorable, sealing the union of two cultures in one harmonious melody.

One of the biggest challenges that Casa Riviera had during the wedding planning was managing the numerous children that attended the wedding. With a guest list that included little ones of varying ages, the bride and groom knew they wanted to create a memorable experience not only for the adults, but for the little ones as well. From the beginning, Diana and Nanne made it clear that they wanted the children to have a space designed especially for them, where they could have fun and enjoy the celebration in a safe and entertaining environment.

To achieve this, a dedicated play area was designed, equipped with interactive activities, creative games and specialized staff that took care and entertained the children throughout the night. This not only allowed the little ones to have fun and feel part of the celebration, but also provided peace of mind for the parents, who were able to enjoy the event, relax and dance until the wee hours of the morning, without worrying about their children's well-being.

The focus on a children's space not only demonstrated the bride and groom's dedication





to ensuring that all guests, regardless of age, had an enjoyable experience, but also underscored the commitment to creating a family-friendly, welcoming environment where everyone could enjoy themselves without limitations.

The chosen location, Blue Venado Sea Side, stands as a true paradise that perfectly captures the magical essence of the Mexican Caribbean. Located on a private beach, far from the hustle and bustle of tourism, this natural jewel provided the ideal setting for Diana and Nanne's wedding. The first thing that caught the eye was its majestic *palapa*, an imposing structure of rustic but elegant style, which not only served as the heart of the event, but also as a symbol of the union between nature and luxury. Under its palm roof, guests were able to enjoy an intimate celebration, surrounded by the sea breeze and the whisper of the waves.

The wooden bridges connecting the different areas of the venue added an enchanting touch to the space, inviting guests to explore every corner and immerse themselves in the natural beauty surrounding the celebration. These intertwining paths created a sense of adventure and discovery, where each step revealed a new view or cozy corner, perfect for capturing intimate and magical moments.

However, the true protagonist was the spectacular Caribbean Sea, whose vibrant blue hue stretched all the way to the horizon, providing an unparalleled backdrop for the ceremony and reception. During the sunset, the sky was painted in shades of gold and pink, reflecting on the water and creating a visual spectacle that took everyone's breath away. This setting not only enhanced the beauty of the event, but also underscored the romance and tranquility that only the Mexican Caribbean can offer.

Every detail of Blue Venado Sea Side was carefully integrated to fulfill Diana and Nanne's vision: a wedding that fused elegance, nature and culture in a setting that radiated serenity and charm. The enveloping atmosphere allowed guests to feel part of an intimate and special celebration, where nature was a witness and accomplice to an unforgettable day.

Vendor coordination was one of the most challenging and rewarding elements for Ana Contreras, wedding planner at Casa Riviera Weddings. Ana knew how to leverage her vast experience and organizational skills to orchestrate every detail, ensuring that all elements of the event flowed smoothly and met the bride and groom's expectations.



The planning began long before the big day, with careful selection of confidence vendors who not only shared the couple's vision, but who could execute every aspect of the wedding with the utmost precision. Ana maintained constant and fluid communication with Blue Venado Sea Side, the venue where the ceremony and reception would take place, ensuring that the space was perfectly prepared and that all services ran smoothly.



The Styleme team was chosen for the decor, and their work was essential to create the atmosphere Diana and Nanne dreamed of. Under Ana's direction, Styleme turned the majestic palapa and wooden bridges into a dream setting, where floral details and custom arrangements highlighted the natural beauty of the venue.



Photography and video played a crucial role in capturing the most emotional moments of the wedding. Ana worked closely with Ricardo Torres and David Flores, making sure that every moment was artistically immortalized and that the essence of the day was captured in images and videos, so that the couple could relive their special day over and over again.



Music was also a key aspect of the celebration, and Ana made sure everything ran smoothly. From the sound and lighting provided by Pythat to the live music by Arte y música, every detail was fine-tuned to perfection. One of the most anticipated moments was the appearance of the mariachis from Silver Music, who added the Mexican touch so desired by Diana.



Logistics, always one of the biggest challenges in destination weddings, was impeccably managed by Ana. From the transportation of the guests, coordinated by De boca en Boca, to the supervision of the timing and management of the entire team, Ana and her Casa Riviera Weddings team ensured that the event ran smoothly.



Ana Contreras' approach was to ensure that each vendor brought their best to the table, and that the entire team was aligned on Diana and Nanne's vision. This collaborative approach, coupled with her meticulous attention to detail, allowed the event to be a resounding success, exceeding the expectations of the bride, groom and guests.



## **Vendors:**

**.Wedding planner:** Ana Contreras @ana\_uriegas

**.Event company:** Casa Riviera Weddings  
@casarivieraweddings

**.Venue:** Blue Venado Sea Side @bluevenado.venues

**.Decoration:** Styleme @styleme.events

**.Photography:** Ricardo Torres @ricardotorresfoto

**.Video:** David Flores @davidfloresfilms

**.Audio and lighting:** Pythat @toñodj

**.Transport:** De boca en Boca @debocaenbocacancun

**.Live music:** Arte y música @arteymusicap

**.Mariachis:** Silver Music @silver.band.cancun

**.Bride Dress:** Posie by Made with Love

**.Groom's suit:** Atelier Munro en Ámsterdam

The destination chosen by the couple for the ease of connectivity for all guests remains the perfect setting for destination weddings. Its white sand beaches, turquoise waters and spectacular sunsets offer the ideal setting for a romantic and unique celebration. There is more than just spectacular scenery; it provides an atmosphere full of romance, adventure and exclusivity that makes it an incomparable wedding destination. The white sandy beaches, turquoise waters and vibrant sunsets create an idyllic setting for any celebration. In addition, the rich local culture, the hospitality of its people and the ability to customize every aspect of your wedding make this destination a true dream for any couple.

Getting married in the Mexican Caribbean also means an unforgettable experience for guests, who can enjoy unique activities and landscapes while sharing their special day with the bride and groom. The ease of finding high quality vendors, along with the unique venue options, ensure that each wedding is as personalized as it is extraordinary. Without a doubt, the Mexican Caribbean is more than a destination; it is the place where dreams come true, surrounded by natural beauty and a magical atmosphere that will remain engraved in the memory of all those present.

***Ilse Diamant***

*Luxury Romance Ambassador*





# *Ping-Pong*

Learn more about our Chapter Head Venezuela,  
Juan Salvador.

### ***Are there any urban myths or legends about weddings in your country?***

Yes of course! Perhaps one of the most popular is the one that says that when either or both of the bride and groom have ever eaten directly from the pot where the food is cooked, on their wedding day it will surely rain; and the truth is, I have not been told that, I have not read it in any story book, it is true! I had a country wedding on December 30th in the area of "El Rastro", Guárico State, in the Venezuelan plains. I myself recommended the bride and groom to put up back up awnings, the arrival of the bride and groom was at dusk and there would be no sun. However, I always advise to put an awning, at least back up areas. The bride said to me: rain at the Rastro on December 30? Impossible! An elderly aunt told her: "Dear, remember that you and your groom both ate out of a pot". Despite this, she wouldn't let me hire them because "she didn't want awnings in her landscape". And guess what... they went out dancing and a 5 minute torrential downpour of rain opened up and no one understood where the clouds had come from. So, if you are getting married and have eaten out of a pot, take your precautions.

### ***Would you rather live without internet or without wedding planning?***

Without internet! Weddings have been done in all times, they are part of humanity and will always be. Today we have the internet, artificial intelligence has arrived, surely in a few years we will have another advance, but weddings will always be there, and I will continue to plan experiences that tell stories, even without the internet.

### ***What is the worst seat on an airplane?***

Next to the bathroom, without a doubt. Say no more!

### ***What is the most annoying thing people can do at a wedding?***

Bringing another guest in addition to those indicated on their invitation card without



consulting with the bride and groom. Even asking is disrespectful, but not asking is even more disrespectful.

### ***Should there be children at a wedding?***

To children: sweet dreams. A child at an adult celebration is out of his or her environment, even exposed to adult situations and behaviors. This generates risks in their restless innocence that are difficult to control. A child does not have a good time, even if you hire entertainment and care for them; neither the parents nor the child will really enjoy the evening.

### ***Who is your dream guest at a wedding?***

The one who enjoys, laughs and celebrates heartily with his host, the one you see happy with happiness (worth the redundancy). To this kind of guest you can give a piece of stale bread with water or a glass of Champagne and lobster that they will enjoy with the same affection, because they are there to celebrate with their host, they value being part of that experience and then they will tell a nice story.

**What would you do tomorrow if you won a million euros today?**

I would have a coffee, have breakfast and then check if the million euros is still there.

**What would you fill your favorite sandwich with?**

Burrata or Gouda cheese, ham and sausage, rougula and dijon mustard.

**Are you more into wine or drinks?**

Undoubtedly, wine... wine is an excellent conductor of conversations and emotions, chats around a delicious dish or tapas that combine grape varieties and seasonings. Any time is a good time to enjoy a glass of wine and contemplate life.

**How do you feel about banning cell phones at a wedding?**

Where do I sign to make it law? No doubt technology has made our lives easier, but when you are coordinating the entrance of a bride through the center aisle of the church and 12 cell phones get in the way of the photographer's shot including one that streams live on IG and another on WhatsApp,



I really wish I could take away the cell phones of the guests, waiters and anyone with a phone that would ruin something so unique. Cell phones and social networks are the great pandemic of this century, I say this with all responsibility, even though I work and live with one of them in my hand.

**Is it dangerous to hang photos of clients in the office?**

Undoubtedly it is, not only dangerous but invasive to their privacy. It is very difficult to photograph our work as planners without having hosts, guests or elements of a vendor of the evening in that photo. In the case of clients it is more delicate to do so, even when we have their consent.

**What would your company be called if you had to open a new office in Jupiter?**

I would call it Shoemaker Levy-9, as a comet that fragmented and then impacted Jupiter in the 1990s was baptized. It certainly left its mark on that planet, becoming part of it forever.

**Is garlic and onion served at your weddings?**

Garlic and onion are extraordinary ingredients, companions and allies of gastronomy. I do not exclude them, I just avoid making them such protagonists that they overshadow the evening with extreme flavors and sensations.

**If your role in Titanic had been Rose, would you have given Jack room on the board?**

I really think that in my case I would have been given the role of Jack. How sad that Rose is so selfish with that board, I'm sure we could both fit.

**Have you ever considered changing to a religion other than the one you profess?**

Religion is within us, it reflects through the windows of our eyes, through the corridor of our words and the actions of our hands. True religion resides in your essence what you do with it and the world. However, I share and enjoy diverse friendships that profess and follow the Creator in different religions and they all have their common ground. Fanaticism in any of them is one I would never profess.



**What would you be willing to do for your company to receive Michelin stars?**

I would love to have a catering company so special that Michelin would turn to enjoy it and award it with a Michelin star, but I think their awards only go to chefs and restaurants.

**Remote or face-to-face work?**

Nowadays the dynamics leads you to work in both modalities; technology, distances and the client we serve today require both. A video call is effective, but humans are beings of contact, energy, connection; that happens with warmth, face to face.

**What do you like most about your country and what do you like least?**

What I like the most: Its natural beauty!  
What I like the least: The incredulity of our inhabitants.

**Which book or movie do you think is overrated or underrated?**

Overrated movie and underrated book: "Rich Dad, Poor Dad", by Robert Kiyosaki.

**Juan Salvador**

Chapter Head IADWP VENEZUELA  
Master Wedding & Event Planner.  
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# *The impact of Jewish weddings in Colombia*

**A boost for the economy and culture.**



Colombia, a country known for its cultural richness and lush landscapes, has become a destination of choice for destination weddings, especially for the Jewish community. Cities such as Cartagena, Santa Marta, and the Eje Cafetero region have emerged as ideal settings for these celebrations, generating a significant impact on the local economy and creating endless job opportunities. Each of these regions offers a unique combination of history, natural beauty and hospitality that makes them perfect for hosting Jewish weddings. Cartagena, with its cobblestone streets and colonial architecture, provides a romantic and culturally rich setting. Santa Marta, the jewel of the Caribbean coast and with the most beautiful bay in the Americas, combines paradisiacal beaches with vibrant city life, while the Eje Cafetero offers a green and mountainous setting, ideal for ceremonies seeking a natural environment.



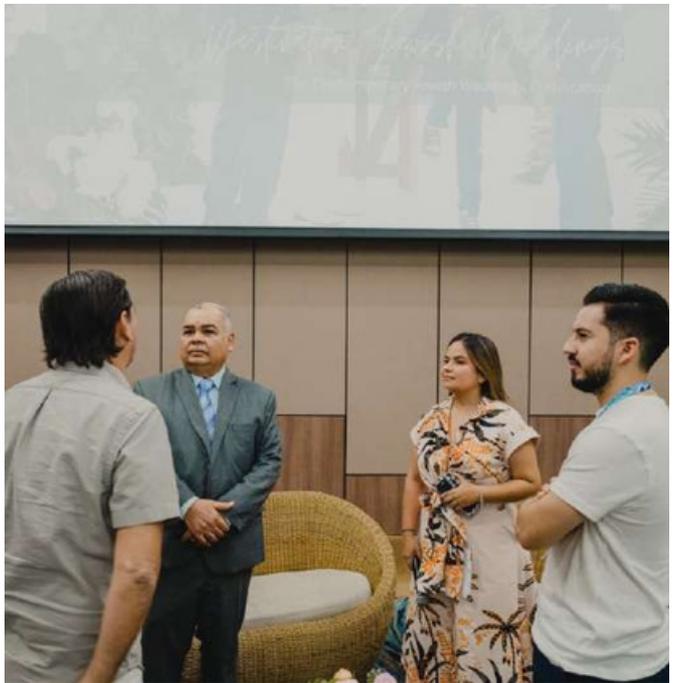
These events not only attract international visitors, but also boost the local economy. Vendors, from florists and photographers to caterers and accommodations, benefit from the influx of luxury tourism. In addition, the organization of weddings of this caliber requires the hiring of a large number of workers, from event planners to security personnel, generating employment and training in the sector.



For this reason, from the visionary approach that has always characterized Bridal Agency, I took the initiative to bring the first Jewish wedding certification “MAZEL-TOV” to the city of Santa Marta in view of all the potential that the city offers for this type of celebrations. Its first edition was in the year 2023, and thanks to the success and the reception it had, we decided to carry out in the month of August 2024 a second edition full of learning. We had the participation of great colleagues from different regions of the country and companies that are part of the industry and seek to learn more about all these traditions, which has been a catalyst for the professionalization of the Jewish wedding sector in Colombia.

The certification ensures that all vendors and services involved in these weddings meet the standards required by the Jewish community, guaranteeing an authentic and high quality experience. The importance of this certification cannot be underestimated. Not only does it put Colombia on the map as a premier Jewish wedding destination, but it also ensures that the celebrations are conducted with respect and adherence to traditions and customs, which is crucial to attracting more international couples.

In fact, one of the great achievements of this certification was that in August 2024 Bridal Agency organized the first Jewish wedding in the city of Santa Marta, which originated after the first edition of the “MAZEL-TOV” program in the previous year. Rachel and Norman were the couple who gave us their trust for us to organize the most important day of their lives, where we witnessed how they sealed their union, besides allowing us to live an enriching experience full of many learnings.



This makes clear the success of the certification and the growing interest in Colombia as a Jewish wedding destination and highlights the immense potential that this sector has to continue developing in our country. Moreover, it not only brings economic prosperity, but also promotes cultural diversity and strengthens the ties between Colombia and the international Jewish community. On the other hand, we are pleased to inform that, in 2025, the Eje Cafetero will host the third edition of the “MAZEL- TOV” certification, which promises to continue raising the standards and expanding the opportunities for this type of celebrations.

To finish this beautiful chapter on Jewish weddings in Colombia, I want to emphasize that when we work with determination and united for a purpose we can achieve great things for the industry, and that from Bridal Agency we will continue working to position our country and Latin America as a destination of great potential for destination weddings.

***Sonia Martínez Jurado***

Bridal Agency CEO  
Chapter Head Colombia  
[@bridalagency\\_](#)



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***THE black wedding dress  
that Sarah Jessica  
Parker failed to make  
fashionable.***

**An iconic wedding dress.**

When we think of weddings, the white wedding dress has been the traditional choice for centuries. However, for those brides looking to move away from the conventional look and express a bold personality, the black wedding dress is an alternative that cannot go unnoticed. This color, commonly associated with elegance and sophistication in fashion, can also be the perfect choice for a unique and memorable wedding. However, it has not always been easy for the black wedding dress to earn a place at the altars, as evidenced by Sarah Jessica Parker's iconic attempt.

In 1997, Sarah Jessica Parker, recognized for her role in *Sex and the City* and her influence as a fashion icon, decided to say "I do" in an unconventional way: with a black dress. Designed by the house of Morgane Le Fay, her choice broke all expectations of what was considered appropriate for a wedding. Instead of following tradition, Parker opted for a dress that reflected her avant-garde style and desire to be authentic. Although the wedding was a private event, her wedding dress caused a stir and generated debate in the fashion world. However, despite her daring and iconic status, the black dress failed to catch on as a bridal trend at the time.



What's interesting is that, years later, Sarah Jessica Parker confessed that, had she known the impact her choice would have, she probably would have opted for a traditional white dress. This statement is revealing, as it shows that, although the black dress can be a bold and personal choice, at that time society was not yet fully prepared to embrace such a radical change in bridal fashion.

Today, however, the black wedding dress has begun to resurface and gain popularity, especially among those brides who are looking for a gothic, dramatic aesthetic or simply want to break away from traditional norms. Haute couture firms such as Vera Wang have included black gowns in their bridal collections, proving that black can be just as romantic, elegant and significant as white.

Opting for a black wedding dress is a brave decision that reflects a strong and self-confident personality. Just like Sarah Jessica Parker, who despite not having created a massive trend, proved that bridal fashion does not have to follow strict rules. Her choice has been a source of inspiration for many modern brides who want to make their wedding a personal and unique expression.

So, if you're considering getting married in a black dress, don't hesitate. Although Parker didn't set the trend at the time, her legacy reminds us that the most important thing is to feel authentic on your wedding day, and that, in bridal fashion, there are no definitive rules, only the style and attitude of the wearer.

*Adrián Pavía*

*Director Capítulo Sudamérica  
IADWP*

# *Ecuador*

**4 worlds for a dream wedding.**

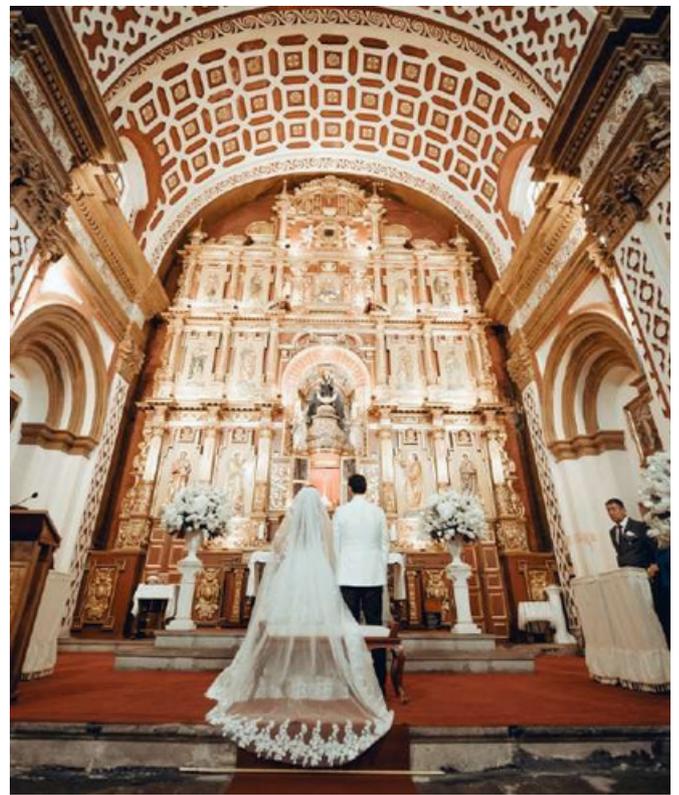


Ecuador, a country known as the “Middle of the World”, offers an incomparable magic for those seeking an exotic and unique destination wedding. It stands as a paradise that combines dazzling landscapes, a diverse gastronomic offer and a first class infrastructure, creating the perfect setting for an unforgettable destination wedding.

This small but vibrant South American country stands out for its breathtaking variety of landscapes. From the golden beaches of the coast to the majestic Andes mountains and lush Amazon jungles, every corner of Ecuador offers a unique natural backdrop for your ceremony. Imagine exchanging vows in front of the magnificence of Cotopaxi or on a paradisiacal beach in the Galapagos, with the turquoise sea as a backdrop.

Ecuadorian cuisine, rich and varied, is another great attraction. With an offer ranging from tasty coastal ceviches to traditional Andean *hornado* and *empanadas*, it offers a culinary experience that can be adapted and merged with the preferences of the bride and groom, creating a wedding menu that combines the best of both worlds.

Ecuadorian roses, internationally renowned for their beauty and quality, are true jewels of the country. Considered among the best in the world, these flowers become the protagonists of spectacular decorations, bringing elegance and romance to any celebration.



It is also a country with an excellent hotel infrastructure and an efficient transport network that makes it easy to get around. This ensures that both the bride and groom and their guests enjoy comfort and accessibility, allowing every aspect of the event to run smoothly. Couples from all over the world are attracted not only by the ceremonial act, but also by the tourist attractions that the country has to offer, such as visits to the colonial city of Quito, excursions to the Galapagos Islands or trips to the hot springs of Baños.

Ecuadorian handicrafts, rich in tradition and details, embellish every celebration with an authentic and local touch, reflecting the culture and art of the country in every corner.

Ecuador is not just a destination, it is a corner of the world where the perfect climate, the warmth of its people and the richness of its landscapes combine to create weddings and romantic experiences that will remain etched in the memory of all those present.

The “Land of Four Worlds” offers a myriad of wonders for those seeking a truly exceptional wedding destination. This South

American country is distinguished by its impressive geographic diversity, encompassing four unique regions: the Coast, the Sierra Region, the Eastern Region and the Island Region. Each of these regions offers a magical and distinctive backdrop, making Ecuador the perfect place to celebrate a dream wedding.

### **The Coast: Romance by the Sea**

Ecuador's coastal region, with its golden beaches and warm temperatures, is ideal for beachfront weddings. Imagine exchanging vows with the gentle murmur of the waves and a sunset that paints the sky in warm hues. From the vibrant city of Guayaquil to the paradisiacal corners of Esmeraldas and Manabí, the Ecuadorian coast offers an idyllic setting for an unforgettable ceremony and celebration.



perfect for a beachfront ceremony. From the golden sands of Puerto López to the serene beaches of Santa Marianita, San Clemente, and Canoa, every corner offers a unique atmosphere for you and your guests to enjoy a dream wedding. Imagine your ceremony with the sound of the waves as a backdrop and a sunset that paints the sky with warm tones, creating unforgettable memories.



### **Manabí: The Perfect and Unforgettable Destination**

Imagine a dream wedding in a place where the sea meets the land in a warm embrace, and the sun sets over the horizon creating a spectacle of colors that only nature can offer. That place is Manabí, a jewel located on the central coast of Ecuador, and the ideal destination to celebrate the most special day of your life.

With a warm climate and a vast coastline, Manabí stands out for its idyllic beaches,

But Manabí is not just beaches. This province has a diversity of landscapes ranging from majestic mountains to lush tropical forests, passing through picturesque fishing villages full of charm. Machalilla National Park, with its rich biodiversity and pristine beaches, and the Pacoche Forest, with its lush vegetation, offer unique settings for pre and post wedding photo shoots.

Manabí's gastronomy is another great attraction. Renowned for its richness and diversity, it offers delicacies such as fish ceviche, corviche, and the traditional *tonga*, which can elevate your celebration to a gourmet level. These unique flavors will not only delight your guests, but also allow them to enjoy an authentic culinary experience.

In addition, Manabí's vibrant culture and the warmth of its people provide an authentic and welcoming touch to any celebration. Every corner of this province has its own charm, ensuring that your wedding will be as special and unique as you always imagined.

In short, Manabí offers a perfect combination of natural beauty, exceptional cuisine and rich culture, positioning itself as the ideal destination for weddings in Ecuador. Let this enchanting province be the setting for your perfect day and create memories that will last a lifetime.

### **The Sierra: An Andean Charm**

In the heart of the Sierra, the majestic mountains and picturesque colonial towns create a romantic and sophisticated atmosphere. Quito, the capital, with its colonial architecture and charming old town, provides an elegant and culturally rich setting for your wedding. The cities of Cuenca and Baños, with their natural beauty and historic charm, also offer perfect settings for a wedding celebration that combines luxury and tradition, with locations for weddings, anniversaries, vow renewals, honeymoons and proposal weddings. Ecuador is positioned as the ideal destination for any celebration of love.



### **Pichincha: Colonial Destination**

The province of Pichincha, with Quito as its capital, is a privileged destination for weddings in Ecuador, offering a unique combination of history, culture and natural beauty. Quito, known for its rich colonial heritage, is noted for its impressive churches such as La Compañía de Jesús, the Metropolitan Cathedral and the Church of Guápulo, all highly coveted for wedding ceremonies. These architectural gems provide a majestic and romantic setting for weddings.



The city not only prides itself on its architecture, but also on its vibrant cultural and tourist life. The Ciudad Mitad del Mundo (Middle of the World City) is an icon that attracts visitors from all over the world, complementing Quito's cultural offerings. In terms of gastronomy, Quito's haute cuisine restaurants present a culinary offer based on typical dishes from the Sierra region, transforming traditional flavors into a gourmet experience ideal for events.





Traditional Quito sweets, a blend of indigenous and Spanish influences, are a delicious and unique option for wedding snacks. These sweets not only reflect the richness of Ecuadorian cuisine, but also bring a distinctive and authentic touch to celebrations, making every wedding in Quito a memorable and special experience.



### ***The Oriente Region: A Journey to the Heart of the Amazon***

The Oriente, or Amazon region, is a truly unique destination for weddings seeking an exotic and adventurous touch. Here, the lush jungle and rich biodiversity create a breathtaking landscape for a ceremony in the midst of nature. The tranquility and beauty

of the Amazon offers an intimate and magical experience, ideal for those who desire a wedding in a natural and remote setting.

### ***Orellana: Exotic and Diverse Destination***

The province of Orellana, in the Amazon region of Ecuador, offers a paradisiacal destination for those seeking a unique wedding in the midst of nature. Its majestic Napo River meanders through exotic and unspoiled landscapes, creating a breathtaking setting to celebrate a wedding. Orellana is the ideal place for adventurous couples and nature lovers who want an exotic ceremony in nature.



Coca, the province's main city, offers an unparalleled natural environment, with rushing rivers, lush vegetation and a vibrant energy that resonates with jungle life. In this unexplored corner of the world, couples can enjoy authentic natural décor, spectacular views and a serene atmosphere that only the Amazon can offer.





Orellana, with its untouched landscapes and rich biodiversity, promises an unforgettable wedding experience deeply connected to nature.

### **The Island Region: The Galapagos Islands**

The Galapagos Islands, located in the Island Region, are the dream destination for a truly special wedding. Famous for their unique wildlife and unparalleled scenery, the Galapagos offer a breathtaking and memorable backdrop for your celebration. Surrounded by giant tortoises, exotic birds and dreamy beaches, a wedding in the



Galapagos promises to be an exceptional experience for both the bride and groom and their guests.

### **A Destination for Everyone**

Ecuador not only offers a variety of breathtaking landscapes, but also a rich cultural, gastronomic and touristic offer that enriches any celebration. With highly trained professionals and dedicated vendors, every wedding in Ecuador becomes a personalized and unique experience.

From seaside romance to jungle adventure to island magic, Ecuador, the “Land of Four Worlds,” is the ideal destination for any celebration of love. Each region offers a unique experience, ensuring that your wedding will be as memorable as the surrounding landscape.

IADWP Capítulo Ecuador

***Lissner Ortiz***

Chapter Head Ecuador

***Liz Marcillo***

Junior Chapter | Manabí

***Grace Palma***

Junior Chapter | Pichincha

***Carmen Montenegro***

Junior Chapter | Orellana

Fotografía: Xavier Salazar  
| Orellana

# *IADWP's Vision for 2025*

**By Kitzia Morales, President of IADWP.**



Since its creation in 2008, IADWP has been recognized for its inclusive and innovative character. We have specialized in one particular field: destination weddings, a sector that encompasses a wide range of services such as travel, event planning, decoration, design, gastronomy, photography, video, production and content marketing. We have been with you learning and inspiring you to create memorable experiences for you and your guests.

In recent years, we have witnessed great changes. While we are a relatively young industry, the pandemic forced us to face unprecedented challenges, transforming the way we operate and grow at a pace we never imagined possible. These difficulties taught us to be resilient, to learn from times of scarcity and boom, and to forge a legacy that allows us to be better people, companies and employers. Now it is our turn as pioneers in this industry to leave a positive footprint on our community and the world, with an approach that inspires future generations.

In 2023, IADWP encouraged you to dream big. In 2024, we invite you to flourish to your fullest potential. Now, looking ahead to 2025, we challenge you to ignite your future and that of our wedding tourism industry, and embrace a broader concept: celebration tourism, as highlighted by Valentina Corro and Sait Villarreal in *The Wedding Book*.

We want together to design a sustainable future for destination weddings and celebratory travel. We know that this will not be easy, as our business brings together two sectors that, by their very nature, tend to generate significant environmental impact: travel and events. However, we are convinced that the future must focus on mitigating these effects, addressing issues such as waste management, the impact of guests at destinations, and the energy we consume during events.

It is essential that we put aside individual interests to create memorable events, not only for their spectacularity, but for the tangible and intangible benefits they generate. We seek weddings that will be remembered not only for their luxury, but for their responsibility to the environment and the community. This involves everything from creating healthy menus, to using decorations with recycled materials and promoting activities that connect the bride and groom and their guests with the local culture. Even something as simple as the dress code can encourage sustainability, suggesting that attendees opt for clothing that respects the environment and culture of the destination, avoiding unnecessary purchases.

Today, sustainable weddings are more of an aspiration than a reality. Although 70% of couples would like to have a sustainable wedding, only a small percentage know how to achieve it. But this is, without a doubt, a great opportunity. As industry professionals, we have a responsibility to educate and offer real, measurable solutions to our clients.

It is natural to ask whether IADWP will provide specific guidelines. The answer is no. Rather than imposing guidelines, IADWP will work closely with its members and use its own events as experimental laboratories to document and lay the groundwork for a more responsible industry. We know that the task is enormous and that we have only scratched the surface in terms of knowledge and experience. However, we are confident that if we work together, sharing our ideas and learnings, we will be unbeatable and an example for the events and tourism industry globally.

So get ready to ignite your future, and with it, the future of generations to come. The time to act is now.

***Kitzia Morales***

President of IADWP

# *Palpa weddings in Peru*

**Tradition and commitment.**



The Palpa weddings, characteristic of the central Andean region of Peru, are celebrations full of joy and commitment that stand out for their traditional structure and their focus on “EL AYNI”, a Quechua word that translates into reciprocity.

In Huancayo - Peru, these weddings have been maintained as a significant practice within the community, preserving the essence of the marriage bond within a framework of tradition and responsibility.

### ***The Typical Proposal from the Church: A Living Tradition***

Once the religious ceremony has concluded, the Palpa wedding begins with the reception of the bride and groom at the exit of the church to the rhythm of a typical orchestra whose music invites the community to accompany the couple in their celebration.



### ***The Role of the Godparents:***

A year before the wedding, the families of the bride and groom visit the future godparents with offerings such as live and benefited animals, raw and cooked, varieties of fruits, crates of beer and breads in different varieties. This act is called “Entrance to the Godparents”, a moment in which the godparents commit themselves to finance certain traditional aspects such as the typical orchestra, the wedding rings, the bride's dress and everything related to the religious celebration.

Their participation is so important that it is considered an honor and a commitment that reflects the couple's trust and respect for them. Thus, in gratitude, before the delivery of gifts, the families of the bride and groom this time accompanied by the community in a vigorous and joyful dance enter with offerings similar to those of the entrance, on this occasion called “compliance to the godparents”, this being an integral part of the tradition, fulfilling the attentions as a sign of respect and consideration towards them.

## The Presentation of Gifts

The godparents lead the parade followed by the parents and relatives of the bride and groom. To the rhythm of traditional music they hand out expensive gifts ranging from cash, real estate, vehicles, trips, dozens of crates of beer and appliances that will serve the new couple in the formation of their new home.

### Attention to Cultural Details:

It is important to respect and highlight the cultural details that make a palpa wedding unique. This can include from the agreement of the competition between the bride and groom's family for the delivery of gifts, to the days of the celebration; the central day of the wedding, the second day of "Opening Gifts" in which the winner of the competition is determined and the third day in charge of the godparents.

### Election of trusted secretaries:

Two or more registrars or secretaries should be selected, who will take note of each gift given to the bride and groom and make a balance at the end of La Palpa. Thus, on the second day they will proceed to open the gifts in the order they were given and will continue with the tradition of reciprocity, that is, the gifts given will be returned in due time at the same value.



As organizers, it is crucial to maintain clear and fluid communication with parents and godparents from the beginning of the process. Their role is vital, so it is essential to define their responsibilities. Maintaining a close relationship with them can ensure smooth planning.

Palpa Weddings in Huancayo - Peru are events full of meaning, where tradition and commitment are fundamental aspects. With proper planning and a deep respect for local customs, these weddings become unforgettable experiences that celebrate not only the union of two people, but also the community ties that sustain them. For a wedding planner, understanding and managing these aspects with care is essential to creating a celebration that honors both the bride and groom and their cultural heritage.

**Silvia Hernández Camborda**

Junior Chapter Junín  
@silviahernandezweddingplanner



# *Handcrafted souvenirs*

Ecuadorian treasures that celebrate the culture  
and strengthen the local economy.

When it comes to weddings, every detail counts to make the event truly memorable. At destination weddings, where guests travel to celebrate in an exotic and new location, the souvenirs are even more significant. In Ecuador, a country rich in tradition and culture, handcrafted souvenirs not only capture the essence of the place, but also pay tribute to the talent of local artisans, making them a unique and appreciated gift.

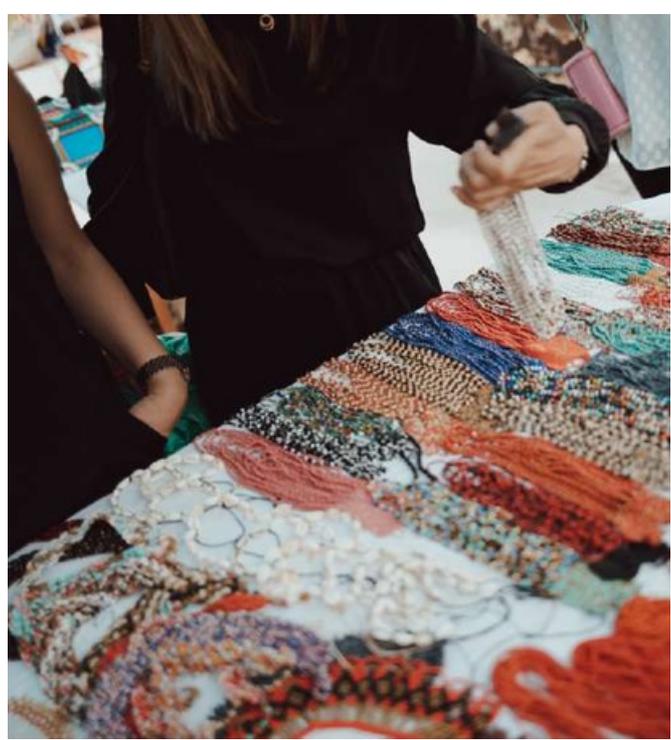
Ecuadorian handicrafts are a vibrant reflection of the country's cultural diversity. From the coast to the highlands to the Amazon, each region offers a range of unique products that tell a story through their traditional materials and techniques. This wealth of craftsmanship not only embellishes the event, but also educates guests about the destination's cultural heritage.

In the coastal region, handicrafts are distinguished by the use of natural materials such as shells, snails and balsa wood. These elements, which reflect the region's connection to the sea, are transformed into exquisite pieces that can range from delicate



jewelry to elegant ornaments for the home. These souvenirs not only capture the essence of the Ecuadorian coastline, but also carry with them a piece of the Pacific Ocean, creating a tangible link to the destination.

In the Sierra region, the textile tradition is the protagonist. The toquilla straw weavings, known for their quality and delicacy, are made into elegant hats and accessories that are ideal as wedding souvenirs. The skill of artisans in making tapestries, blankets and other textiles also highlights the local talent.





In addition, leather products and masapan figures, which showcase the manual skill and creativity of Serrano artisans, offer an authentic and distinctive touch to any celebration.

Meanwhile, in the Amazon region, clay and natural paints are the protagonists. Hand-painted ceramic pieces capture the essence of the jungle environment, and traditional painting techniques provide a unique beauty that is hard to find in other parts of the world. The Amazon souvenirs are not only visually stunning, but also represent the rich biodiversity and spiritual connection that the indigenous people have with their natural environment.

These handcrafted souvenirs not only serve as gifts, but also allow guests to take home a piece of the place they visited. Each piece tells a story and reflects the love and effort of the artisans who created it. By opting for these keepsakes, wedding couples not only celebrate their union, but also support the preservation of the traditions and livelihoods of local artisans.

For destination weddings, choosing handcrafted Ecuadorian souvenirs is a beautiful and meaningful way to make each guest feel special. Each keepsake, whether it is an elegant accessory, a piece of pottery, handmade fabric or costume jewelry, carries with it a part of the soul of Ecuador. By valuing and offering these products, guests are given a complete experience that goes beyond the celebration, allowing them to take with them a little piece of Ecuadorian magic.



Thus, choosing handcrafted souvenirs for a wedding in Ecuador not only embellishes the event, but also celebrates the cultural richness of the country, making each gift a true treasure.

The use of handcrafted souvenirs not only preserves the identity of the destination, but also acts as a cultural and economic ambassador. In addition, incorporating traditional sweets as part of the gifts offers a gastronomic experience that enriches the event, leaving guests with an authentic and memorable taste of Ecuador.

*Lissner Ortiz*

Wedding Planner  
@my\_sweetliss



Alejandra Zermeño

EVENT DESIGNER

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# *The art of bridal beauty.*

**An interview with Gaby Aguilar.**



In the world of weddings, makeup is more than just an accent; it is an art form that captures the essence of a bride's beauty, confidence, and individuality on her most special day. The evolving trends in bridal makeup reflect both personal style and the broader currents of fashion, offering endless possibilities for brides to express themselves

We sat down with Gaby Aguilar , a distinguished specialist in bridal makeup in Antigua, Guatemala, to delve into the latest trends and discover the inspiration behind the looks that make wedding days unforgettable. With a deep passion for enhancing natural beauty and a keen eye for trends, Gaby has become a sought-after name in the industry. Here's what she has to say:

**1. Can you tell us a little about yourself and your journey in the makeup industry? What led you to become a specialist in bridal makeup?**

Hi! I'm Gaby Aguilar, originally from El Salvador but I've been living in Guatemala for 23 years, currently in Antigua Guatemala,



one of the most beautiful wedding destinations. Since I was young, I've had a fascination with everything related to beauty, and in these 10 years as a professional makeup artist, I've evolved my style by specializing in bridal makeup and receiving updates from renowned makeup artists from around the world. I feel that by doing bridal makeup, I can not only unleash my full potential in my art but also create a connection with the brides to understand them and ensure they look exactly as they've always imagined on one of the most special days of their lives.

**2. What are the most popular makeup trends you've seen emerging in weddings this year?**

Many brides still opt for very natural and timeless looks, but something that's very trendy right now is foxy eyes to make the gaze sexier, a very natural but long-lasting glowy skin, lips that look big and juicy, and plenty of blush.





**3. How have bridal makeup trends evolved in recent years, and what do you predict will be big in the coming year?**

I believe every bride tries to keep her wedding makeup in a very personal style, but something we definitely see now are warmer tones on the eyes and skin, much more shine than before; previously, they opted for cooler tones with matte skin and lips.

**4. Are there any specific makeup looks or techniques that brides are requesting more frequently now?**

Most brides want radiant skin and glossy lips, regardless of the fact that the longevity may be shorter than if using matte products with longer-lasting formulas.

**5. What are the current trends in terms of bridal lip colors and finishes?**

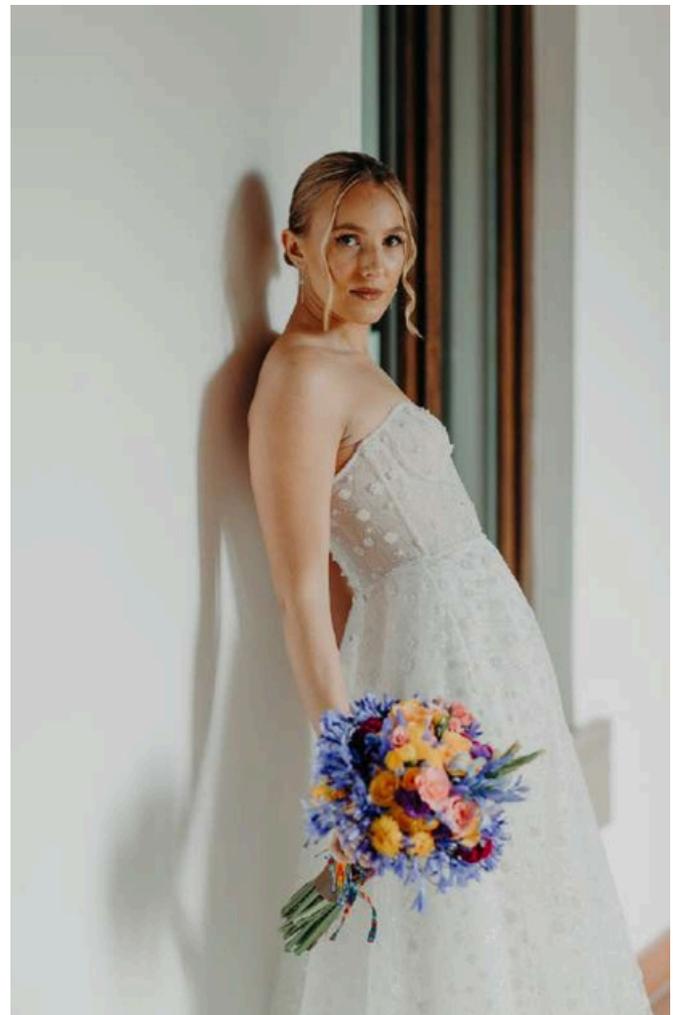
Lip liners that are a bit darker than the lipstick shade are definitely in vogue right now, and lipsticks with light pink undertones and gloss are very popular.

**6. How do you incorporate the latest makeup trends while ensuring a timeless look for wedding photos?**

I think staying with neutral tones helps the makeup look more natural. In the end, it's about enhancing each individual's features and respecting their wishes and personality, ensuring they still look like themselves. This way, in photos years later, they won't regret the makeup choice they made for their wedding day and will want to show those photos over the years, regardless of fashion trends.

**7. Are there any trends in makeup that you think brides should avoid for their wedding day?**

I definitely wouldn't recommend a black smoky eye, overly thick eyeliner, very large lashes, or overly light lips.

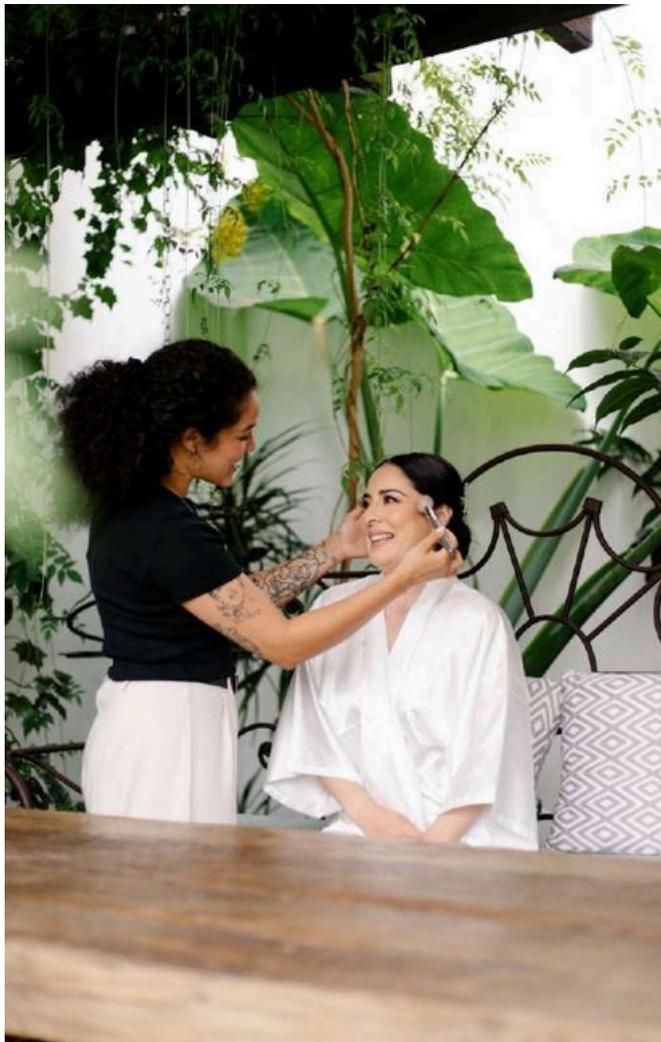


**8. How do you customize your approach to makeup for brides with different skin tones, textures, and preferences?**

Color theory and knowing what types of products suit each skin type are very important here, but what I love is combining different shades and textures so that the skin looks perfect both in person and in photos.

**9. What is your advice for brides who want to stay on-trend but also want to look like themselves on their wedding day?**

Bridal trials will definitely help a lot to ensure the bride is confident about what she wants on the big day, but I think starting with a more minimal approach and opting for subtle details that make a difference while still complementing her natural beauty is always best.



**10. What inspired you to specialize in bridal makeup, and how has your personal style influenced the way you approach makeup for weddings?**

I think being part of one of the most important days in someone's life is beautiful, and seeing my clients, sometimes nervous, stressed, or tired before starting the makeup process, and then seeing their reaction and how their mood changes once they're made up and ready to get married is one of the greatest rewards of my job. I'm a person with a very natural style when it comes to clothing and makeup, and I like to think that I share that with my brides. Through a good conversation and good vibes, I try to make the makeup experience not just a service but a true experience.

As we conclude this insightful discussion, it's clear that bridal makeup is not just about following trends but about creating a look that resonates with each bride's unique personality and vision for her wedding day. A special thank you to Gaby, for sharing their expertise and passion for this beautiful craft.

***Diana Sciarrillo***

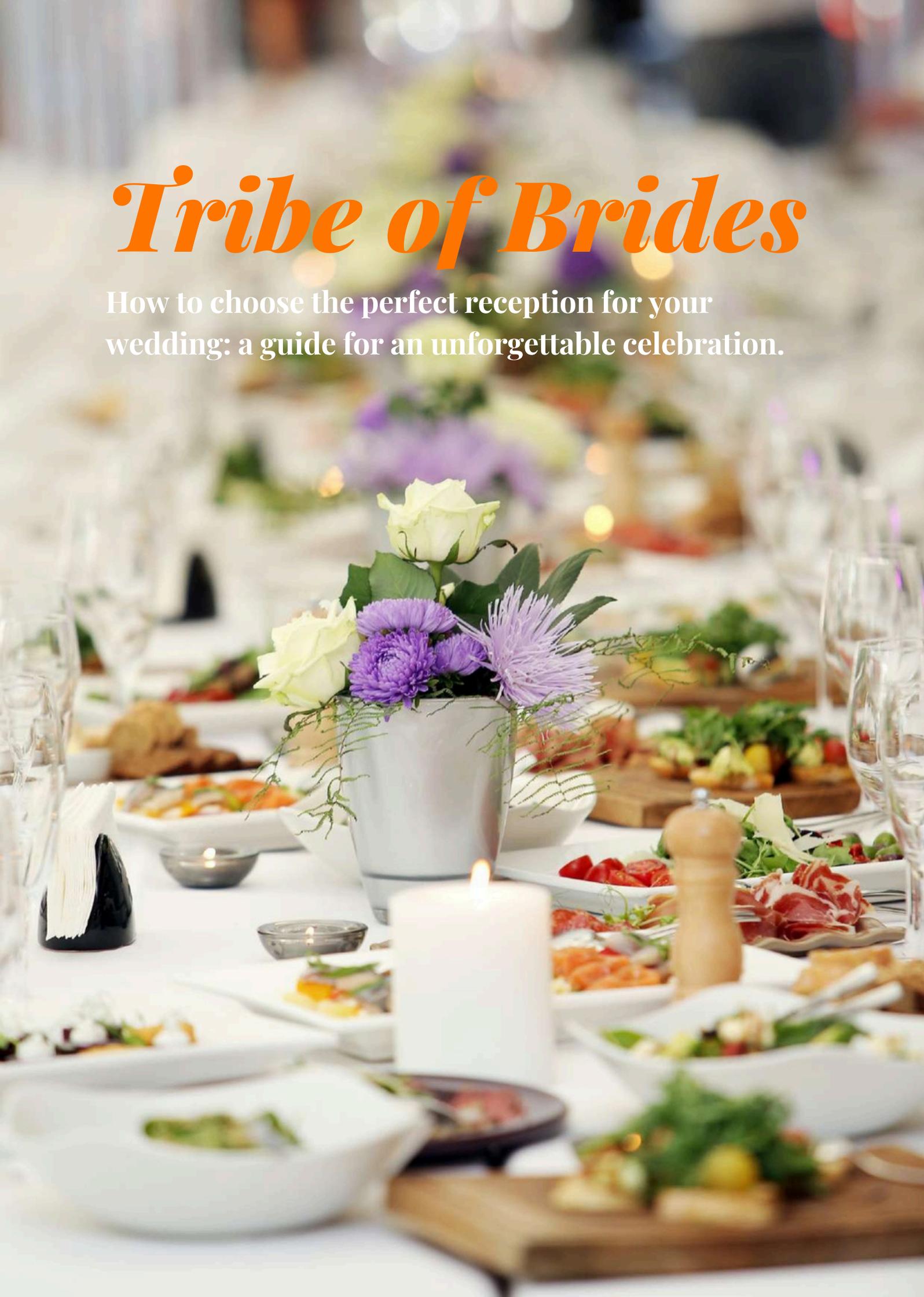
Chaptre Head Capítulo Guatemala  
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@Pinkslybeauty

# *Tribe of Brides*

How to choose the perfect reception for your wedding: a guide for an unforgettable celebration.



Hello dear Tribe of Brides! How are you?

Choosing your wedding reception is one of the most exciting and crucial decisions in planning your big day. The food and drink are key elements that can make the difference between a celebration that goes unnoticed and a memorable party. Here is a detailed guide to help you make the best decision and ensure your reception is everything you've dreamed of.

### **1. Define your budget**

Before you start exploring options, set a clear budget for the reception. This will be the starting point for all your decisions. Consider not only the cost per person, but also additional expenses such as utensil rental, decorations, and possible service charges. Be sure to include an allowance for incidentals to avoid unpleasant surprises.



### **2. Consider the style of your wedding**

The style of your wedding should be reflected in the reception. Will it be a formal wedding with an elegant three-course menu, or do you prefer a more relaxed celebration with a buffet dinner or an outdoor barbecue? Think about the atmosphere you want to create and how the food can complement the overall theme of your event.

### **3. Choose a catering company that fits your needs.**

Research different catering companies and make a short list of those that interest you. Schedule tastings to evaluate the quality of the food and service. During these tastings, be sure to ask about options for people with special dietary needs, such as vegetarians, vegans or those with food allergies.

### **4. Think about your guests' experience**

The wedding reception is not only about the food, but also about the experience your guests will have. Consider the layout of the tables, the ease of serving and the pace of service. A good caterer should be able to handle large amounts of food without keeping guests waiting too long.



### **5. Personalize the menu**

A personalized menu can make your wedding even more special. If you have favorite dishes or family recipes, talk to the caterer to see if they can incorporate them into the menu. You can also offer a variety of options for guests to choose from based on their preferences.

### **6. Consider service and presentation**

How the food is presented can be just as important as how it tastes. Choose a caterer that pays attention to detail and takes great care in presentation. The aesthetics of the dishes and the way they are served can elevate the dining experience and add a touch of elegance to your celebration.

### **7. Plan the reception logistics**

Reception logistics include coordinating the timing and space available. Make sure the caterer is aware of your wedding schedule and that the venue has adequate facilities to prepare and serve the food. Timing is key to avoid mishaps and ensure that everything runs smoothly.

### **8. Don't forget the drinks**

The bar is another essential component of the wedding reception. Decide if you will

offer a selection of wines, beers and cocktails, or if you will opt for an open bar service. Also consider non-alcoholic beverage options for non-alcoholic drinkers. The quality and variety of beverages can perfectly complement the food and keep your guests happy.

### **9. Keep sustainability in mind**

Today, many brides and grooms are opting for more sustainable options. If this is important to you, research caterers that offer local, organic products or implement waste reduction practices. Be sure to discuss these options during your meetings with vendors.

### **10. Read reviews and ask for references**

Finally, don't forget to read reviews and ask for references from previous clients. This will give you a clear idea of the reputation of the caterer and their ability to meet expectations.

Choosing the perfect reception for your wedding can seem overwhelming, but with careful planning and attention to detail, you can ensure that the meal will be a resounding success. Remember that the reception is an opportunity to celebrate with your loved ones and leave a lasting impression. Good luck with your planning and may your wedding be everything you have dreamed of!

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

# *Magic and Glamour in a Salvadoran Wedding*

Madison and George's Wedding.



## ***A destination for your wedding: El Salvador***

George's family is of Palestinian origin, and they lived for a while in El Salvador, then emigrated to Florida, but the connection with their childhood country and most of the cousins and uncles who remained in their native country, made them have the desire to have the wedding in San Salvador.

Many friends and family members supported them, and that's how we started to create a fairy tale together with them.



The celebration took place at the Ceiba de Guadalupe Parish, where the decorations left an unforgettable impression. The church, with its imposing colonial structure, was transformed into a display of flowers that radiated beauty. The perfect combination of elegance and personalized details transformed their wedding into a fairy tale.



The sextet of the National Symphony Orchestra accompanied the ceremony with classical melodies and religious music.

Then they headed to the reception in a classic sky blue convertible car, which closed the ceremony with great elegance.

The reception was no slouch with its candlelighting, rose and orchid arrangements that filled the room with a magical glow through its hanging crystals from the sky.

### ***Details that Make a Difference***

Madison, dazzled in her mermaid style gown, fulfilling the dream of being a princess. The design of the dress was a masterpiece in itself, with white, matching gloves and a tiara



that accentuated her beauty. Every detail of the dress spoke of exclusivity and perfection, making Madison feel very happy on her special day. George, the groom, complemented Madison with a designer bow tie, which gave a distinctive touch to her outfit. This elegant detail added to the groom's refined look, reflecting his own style and sophistication.

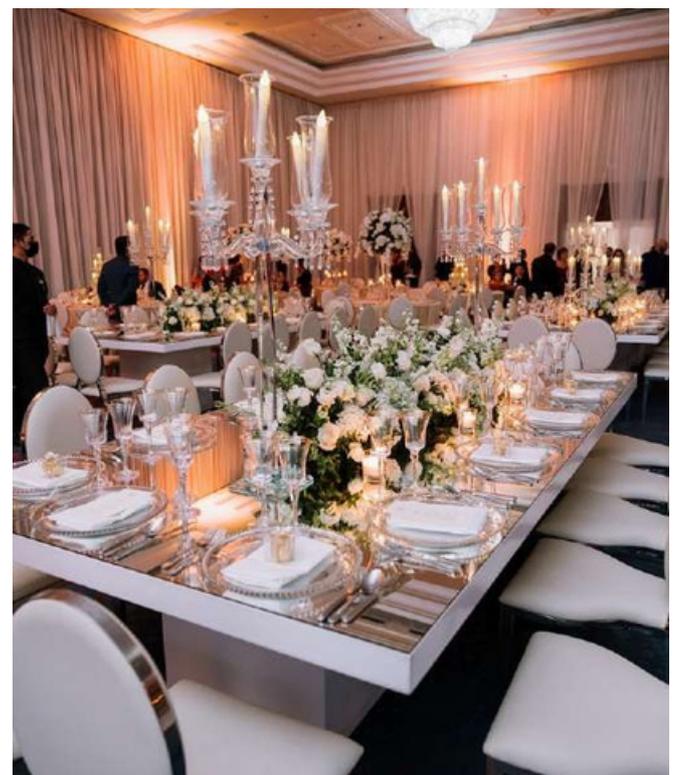
### ***A Dessert Table That Delighted Everyone***

One of the highlights of the celebration was the dessert table, a true work of art. The mirrored table featured an impressive display of sweets from a prestigious French chef and Arabic sweets as a tradition of the groom's culture. A meticulously decorated six-tier cake stood as the centerpiece, while Cherry Blossom trees added an extra touch of charm. This presentation was not only visually stunning, but also a feast for the guests' taste buds.



### ***An Impeccable and Elegant Ambience:***

The furniture chosen for the occasion reflected perfection and good taste. With a pure white color scheme and touches of mirror and gold, it blended in perfectly with the overall theme of the wedding. The chosen textures and design details added an extra dimension to the ambience, creating a visually dazzling experience.





### **Live Music Orchestra**

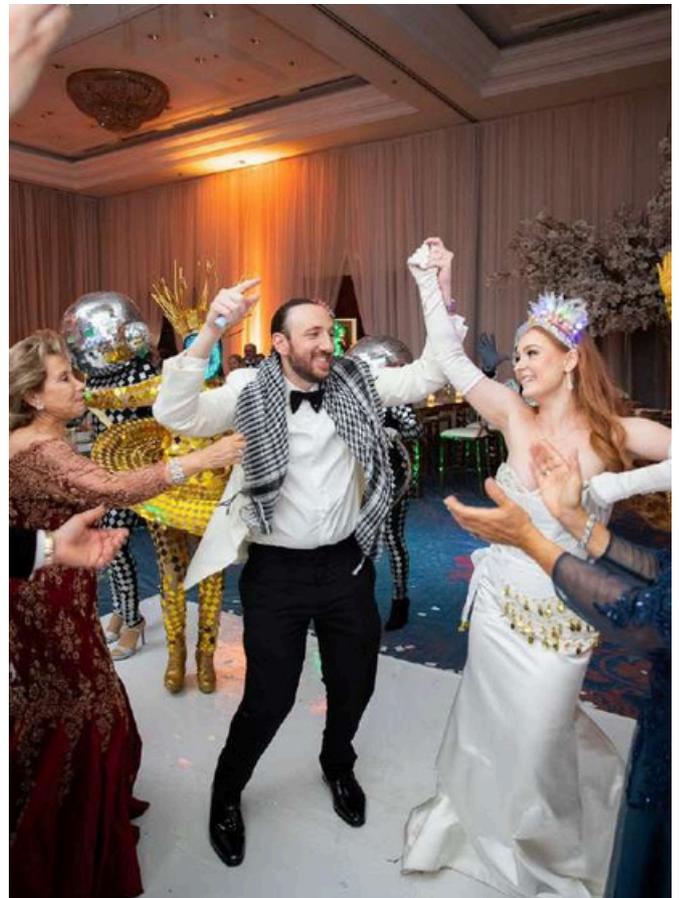
Live music was an essential element. The talented Guatemalan musical group “Merequetengue” traveled specially to offer a brilliant performance, which made each guest vibrate with every song. The music was complemented by a DJ's that added a dynamism to the celebration, creating a vibrant and lively atmosphere. And of course, the “Crazy Hour” with a Palestinian and fantasy theme, enlivened by characters, invited everyone to dance.

### **A Day of Dreams Come True**

Madison and George's wedding in El Salvador was much more than just a wedding celebration; it was an experience of luxury and refinement that exceeded all expectations. They were able to bring together family and friends from all over the world, and highlighted moments from their Palestinian traditions. Every element, from

the attire to the decorations, reflected a meticulous selection to detail and a commitment to the realization of their dream.

This wedding not only celebrated the love and union of two special people, but also left a lasting impression on everyone in attendance, highlighting the venue with its crystal chandelier style and French windows. Madison and George managed to live their wedding to the fullest, delivering memories that will remain in everyone's hearts forever.



### ***Maria Luisa Samayoa***

Wedding Planner Chapter Head El Salvador IADWP Director Fundador:  
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Fotografía: Diego Flores Keylight  
Wedding & Lifestyle  
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# *Why get married in southern Chile?*

*A destination out of a fairy tale.*





Ph: ©Braulio Lara

### Getting Married in Southern Chile

Southern Chile is a destination that seems like something out of a fairy tale, where untamed nature and local culture come together to create unforgettable wedding experiences. As an ambassador for IADWP in southern Chile and founder of Karla Yáñez Eco Wedding Planner in Puerto Varas, I have had the privilege of accompanying many couples on their journey to the big “I do” in this magical corner of the world. Weddings in southern Chile are celebrated under an unparalleled backdrop: imposing volcanoes, crystalline lakes, and ancient forests.

Couples can choose pre-wedding or TTD sessions in emblematic locations such as the oldest National Park in the country; Vicente Pérez Rosales Park or Llanquihue Lake in Puerto Varas are just some examples of natural settings that offer an incomparable setting for a dream wedding.



Ph: ©Caro Hepp

Each season of the year brings its own charm, from the vibrant colors of autumn in the Valdivian rainforest to the snowy landscapes of winter in the heart of the Andes Mountains.

### Authenticity and Tradition

Southern Chile is a territory with a rich cultural heritage that is reflected in every detail of weddings. From the local gastronomy, with its combination of traditional flavors such as *milcao* or lamb "al palo", to the customs and ceremonies that honor the land and local communities, getting married here is an experience deeply connected to the Chilean identity. Local vendors, such as florists who work with native species or chefs who prioritize seasonal products, ensure that each celebration has an authentic touch.



Ph: ©Caro Hepp

### Sustainability and Connection

In a world increasingly conscious of its environmental impact, southern Chile offers the opportunity to celebrate a marriage in harmony with nature.

Eco wedding options are on the rise, with vendors committed to sustainable practices that ensure that each event respects and preserves the environment.

From choosing locations that minimize the carbon footprint, to using recyclable or biodegradable decorations, a wedding in southern Chile can be as sustainable as it is beautiful.

### **An Adventure to Remember**

Southern Chile is a 4x4 destination: wild, adventurous and enchanting. Couples who choose to get married here are not only committing to each other, but also to adventure. They can explore everything from sailing across Lake Todos los Santos to Bariloche in Argentina, touring the Carretera Austral, or enjoying outdoor activities such as trekking or rafting.

The journey down the aisle becomes an experience that both the couple and their guests will remember forever.



Ph: ©Caro Hepp

### **Testimonials: Valentina & Felipe- Married since 2024.**

“We are grateful to have had the opportunity to have Karlita as our wedding planner. From the beginning she gave us all the tranquility and support to be able to organize the

wedding step by step.

Karlita was in charge of finding the best vendors according to our budget, coordinating meetings and reaching agreements in order to make the best choices. Without a doubt she was an essential person in the whole process and of course, on the day of the wedding, Karlita made sure that everything went perfectly without us having to worry about anything. I would definitely recommend Karla to anyone who wants to organize their wedding, and I assure you that you will not have to worry about anything but enjoy the experience of a destination wedding in the south.”

**Tips:** The weather in southern Chile can be unpredictable, so it is advisable to have a plan B for outdoor ceremonies.

**Best time:** Consider the months of October through March to take advantage of the milder weather and longer days.

**Logistics:** Make sure to hire a Wedding Planner if you choose a remote location. This way you will have support during the entire organization, both for you and your guests. They will help you with all the logistics, as some areas may require special transfers or more travel time. Getting married in southern Chile is much more than an event; it is a celebration of love in its purest form, surrounded by the majesty and authenticity of one of the most extraordinary places in the world.

Are you ready for the adventure?

***Karla Yáñez Q.***

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# *Rhythms of love*

The perfect soundtrack for a wedding in the  
Dominican Republic.

Imagine you are in the Dominican Republic, at one of those Caribbean weddings where the energy is in the air from the very first moment. From the moment you arrive, you know you are about to live a night that no one will forget. Here, on this tropical island, weddings are not just ceremonies; they are events full of music, dancing, and a vibe that doesn't stop until the sun comes up.

***It all starts with the rhythm of merengue.***

As soon as you enter the room, you feel like you're at the party. El Torito sounds on the speakers with “Me Voy” and everyone starts moving to the rhythm of the *tambora* and the *güira*. No one can stay still when the merengue starts to play. It's the king of the dance floor, and it shows. Manny Cruz with “Sabes Enamorarme” adds a modern touch, while the aunts and grandmothers chant classics by Los Hermanos Rosario such as “La Dueña del Swing”. If there's anyone who knows how to liven up a wedding, it's them.

In addition, the spirit of Johnny Ventura, the “Caballo Mayor”, lives on in these celebrations through his son, Jandy Ventura “El Legado”. With his charisma and respect for his father's legacy, Jandy brings back Johnny Ventura's greatest hits, such as “Patacón Pisao” and “Merengüero hasta la Tambora”, reliving those epic moments of Dominican weddings. Every time Jandy's song is played, it is as if the entire hall is transformed into a big village party, where everyone, young and old, surrender to the infectious rhythm of classic merengue.

But that's not all. When Ruddy Pérez plays, with his mix of romantic merengue and ballads, couples come up, grab their partner and let themselves go. And that's when you see the incredible: from the youngest to the oldest, everyone is in tune, laughing, singing and, of course, dancing like there's no tomorrow.



***But wait, there's still the good part: the perico ripiao.***

Suddenly, you feel the change of rhythm, and in comes that more traditional sound, the authentic *perico ripiao* with its accordion, *tambora* and *güira*. It is a direct trip to the Dominican roots. Now, the dance floor is filled with joy with that country sound that reminds you of the country days; the village parties. Everyone's feet move almost effortlessly, as if the rhythm is in the DNA. And that's when the party becomes more Dominican than ever. El Prodigio or Geovanny Polanco make their appearance on the playlist, and you know what's coming is pure fun.

***And then comes the explosive moment: “La hora loca”.***

This is where the wedding takes it up a notch. Just when you think the party can't get any louder, the dembow comes in. Boom! The room is transformed. In come the hats, the colored lights, the masks and, of course, El Alfa starts to play with “La Romana”. The

younger generations (and some older ones too) jump, scream and surrender to the controlled chaos. There are no rules here. Dembow is the sound that bridges the gap between old rhythms and modern urban energy. The bride and groom join the guests, and there is always someone climbing on a table, as if it were the last day of partying in the world.

Chimbala and Rochy RD are not far behind. Songs like “Maniqui” and “Ella no es tuya” are the perfect fuel to keep everyone dancing like there's no tomorrow. This is the time when the heels have flown, the ties are off, and the smiles don't stop. This is what you call real crazy hour!

### ***But, not everything is crazy.***

But, of course, it's not all a frenzy. After the gale of merengue, perico ripiao and dembow, comes the more sentimental part. The DJ lowers the revs and bachata comes in. Romeo Santos with “Propuesta Indecente” and Aventura with “Obsesión” are the perfect soundtrack for the bride and groom to look into each other's eyes, hold hands and share their first dance.



The guests, meanwhile, let themselves be carried away by the romanticism of bachata. The movements are smooth, the hugs tighter, and in the air you can feel that touch of love that makes every wedding unique.

### ***Of course there is salsa!***

No Dominican wedding would be complete without a good salsa set to spice it up. Marc Anthony with “Vivir Mi Vida” and Gilberto Santa Rosa with “Que Manera de Quererte” get everyone on their feet again. Salsa is the perfect balance between the craziness of dembow and the romance of bachata. The dance floor is filled with quick steps, spins and complicit smiles.

### ***Grand finale***

As the music begins to slow down and the lights flicker announcing the end, everyone is exhausted but happy. Goodbyes are filled with sweaty hugs, laughter and promises that it was “the best wedding ever.” And in the Dominican Republic, a wedding is not just a ceremony: it is a musical journey through the best of culture, traditions and trends. From the classic merengue, to the *perico ripiao*, to the explosion of energy of dembow and the romantic touch of bachata, music is the true protagonist of the night. At the end, you leave with the memory of having experienced something magical, and you know that every time you hear a *tambora* or a *güira*, you will relive those moments when the music made the night last forever.

## ***Braulio Segura***

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Republica Dominicana



*The charm of an  
elegant bridesmaid at  
the beach*

Beach weddings have become a popular trend among couples seeking a natural and romantic setting for their big day. The sound of the waves, the sea breeze and the soft sand create a magical and relaxed atmosphere. However, a beach wedding is not only about the location, but also about the special people involved. Among these people, the bridesmaid takes a prominent place, and her presence can further enhance the charm of the ceremony.

The bridesmaid has a very important role in any wedding, but in a beach ceremony, her elegance and style must harmonize with the surroundings. The key is to find a balance between sophistication and comfort; a light, flowing dress in pastel shades or neutral colors can be an ideal choice. Fabrics such as silk or linen allow you to maintain elegance without sacrificing the freshness needed for an outdoor event.

Accessories also play a crucial role. A wide-brimmed hat or a tiara of natural flowers can add a touch of glamour without being too



formal. Also, opting for understated yet elegant jewelry, such as pearl earrings or a delicate bracelet, can complement the look without overshadowing it.

The bridesmaid not only has to look elegant, but also has important responsibilities during the ceremony and reception. Her role includes supporting the bride in all aspects, from pre-arrangements to the day of the event. At a beach wedding, this may involve making sure that all logistical details, such as seating arrangements and the altar, are kept in order despite the outdoor conditions.



## **Conclusion**

The bridesmaid plays a vital role in any ceremony, and at a beach wedding, her elegance and style can further enhance the beauty of the setting. By combining sophistication and comfort, fulfilling her responsibilities with grace and enjoying the moment, the bridesmaid not only supports the bride, but also contributes to creating unforgettable memories for everyone present. An elegant bridesmaid on the beach is undoubtedly a reflection of the love and joy that is celebrated on this special day.

During the ceremony, the bridesmaid usually accompanies the bride and helps her with her dress and veil, especially in a setting such as the beach, where the wind can be a challenge.

A beach wedding offers a unique opportunity to enjoy the natural surroundings and relax in the company of friends and family. The bridesmaid, with her elegance and grace, can contribute to creating a welcoming and memorable atmosphere. Her positive attitude and ability to remain calm and humorous is contagious, helping to put both the couple and guests at ease.



***Mirta Sánchez***

Chapter Head  
República Dominicana

D+L

*Traditional  
weddings*



We dare say that it is well known worldwide that the family is very important in all cultures.

The tradition in weddings begins with the religious or civil ceremony, and although there are brides and grooms who prefer a civil wedding, there are many couples who look forward to a conservative religious wedding.

Today, unlike in the past, couples get married out of love, passion, because they hit it off, and because they feel like it! And although with the pandemic, mass weddings have been forgotten, family and close friends can not miss.

We usually celebrate weddings whose reception lasts several hours.

The groom is usually accompanied on the bridal procession down the aisle by his mother. She remains by his side until the



bride arrives and they both stand with the priest or ceremoniant at the altar. The most special moment is the arrival of the bride, who for her part goes on the arm of her father and in case of his absence, she can choose a relative to whom she feels very close or has strong ties of affection, which shows the importance of family. But, before living the most awaited moment, which is the arrival of the bride, her procession enters, formed by her godparents, bridesmaids, maid of honor, followed by the children's procession or pageboys.

The rings and *arras* (wedding tokens or coins) are exchanged during the wedding and at the end of the ceremony, it is common to throw rice, rose petals and in some cases, if the bride and groom are very cheerful, confetti.

During the celebration some bride and groom decide to sit separately and others decide to be accompanied by their parents.

Another tradition is the first dance of the bride and groom and a second dance with the parents of both on a dance floor, which is usually placed in the center of the party room, and which is set according to the theme chosen by the bride and groom for the party.



Another tradition is the souvenir. It consists of the bride and groom giving a keepsake related to their wedding.

The food is very important; regularly a menu is chosen according to the roots of the bride and groom and that is liked by the guests.

### ***Attire for the Bride and Groom.***

In these times the options of wedding dresses are innumerable, but the white color is still the favorite and the most used. It is still kindly forbidden for guests to wear this color.

Within the tradition there is also the veil, but personally I must say that the mantilla veils, although little used today, look beautiful on brides.

The groom's suit, much will depend on his tastes and other factors; if the wedding is indoors or outdoors, if it is a black tie



wedding or if it is a themed wedding. Traditionally the groom wears a dark suit and it is common for the best man to match the groom's suit.

### ***The Bouquet!***

One of the traditions that has survived the passage of time is, without a doubt, the bouquet of flowers that few brides renounce.

The reality is that nowadays the bouquet has a more aesthetic than spiritual meaning, but as every detail or symbol of a wedding, its origin comes from a time when it was practically essential to carry it. However, as with everything, the theories about the origin of this tradition are different in each place.

Undoubtedly, weddings nowadays are more global and there are many themes, but the TRADITIONAL wedding will always be very special.

***Naysi Pérez***

Event & Wedding Planner

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# *The Aftermath:*

**A Symphony of Emotion Following a Luxury Event**



As the final notes of the evening fade into memory and the last guest slips away into the night, an almost palpable stillness settles over the space that only hours before was alive with laughter, music, and the soft clink of crystal. The aftermath of a major luxury event is a unique blend of emotions—one that lingers, much like the lingering scent of roses in the air.

In those quiet moments, there's a profound sense of accomplishment. The months of meticulous planning, the tireless attention to detail, and the countless decisions made in pursuit of perfection culminate in something more than just a beautiful event. They give birth to an experience, a story written in the hearts of all who attended. The adrenaline that fueled every moment of the day begins to ebb, replaced by a gentle, satisfying exhaustion. It's the kind of tiredness that wraps around you like a soft blanket, signaling that you've given your all and that it was more than enough.

The rush of the event itself, with its whirlwind of emotions, becomes a blur of vivid memories—the radiant smile of a bride as she takes her first dance, the awe in a guest's eyes as they step into a transformed space that feels like a dream. There's a sweet poignancy in knowing that these moments, though fleeting, were captured in time, not just by photographers but by the very souls who experienced them.

The exhaustion that follows is not just physical but emotional. The endless days of planning, the late nights spent perfecting every detail, the weight of countless decisions—it all takes its toll. Yet, amid the fatigue, there's an undeniable sense of accomplishment. You sit back and realize that every challenge, every moment of doubt, has led to something extraordinary. The event you envisioned, designed, and

brought to life has been fulfilled in the most beautiful way. And in that realization, feelings of pride inevitably arise. It's a quiet pride, one that fills your heart as you reflect on the journey from concept to reality.

In the aftermath, there's a quiet joy in the simplicity of the now-emptied room. It's in the silence where the echoes of laughter still faintly linger. It's in the remnants of candlelight flickering gently as if bidding farewell to a night that will be cherished forever. There's a beauty in the aftermath that often goes unnoticed—the beauty of completion, of fulfillment, of dreams brought to life and then gently laid to rest.

But perhaps the most heartwarming part of the aftermath is the connections forged in those shared moments. The bonds that were strengthened, the friendships that blossomed, and the love that was celebrated—all of these live on long after the last champagne flute has been set down. In the end, it's not just about the luxury or the grandiosity; it's about the human experience—the joy, the love, the togetherness—that luxury events so beautifully encapsulate.

And as you finally exhale, you realize that the real magic of these events lies not just in their flawless execution but in the way they touch the hearts of all involved. The aftermath is a reminder that in the world of luxury events, it's the memories that matter most. They are the true legacy of every celebration, whispering stories of joy and triumph long after the lights have dimmed.

*Diana Sciarrillo*

Chapter Head Guatemala Chapter  
Idoguatemala



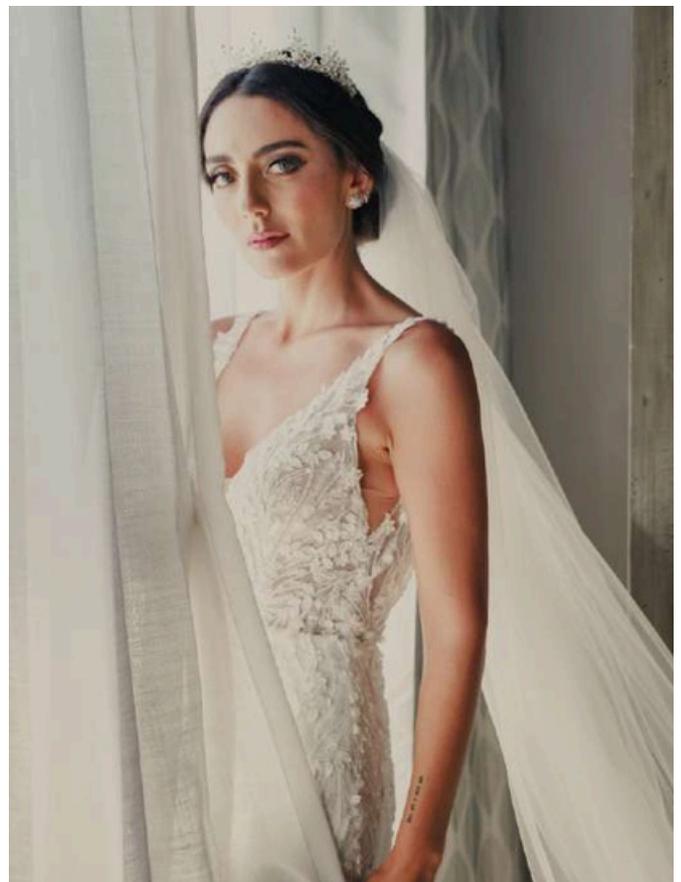
# *From wedding planner to bride*

By Carolina Chaux.

My name is María Carolina Chaux, founder and CEO of ChauxEventPlanners, I was born in Popayán, Colombia. I studied interior design as a base career to then direct my knowledge towards event design.

Planning luxury events requires a lot of additional knowledge, it is not only about having the gift and ability to plan them, so I subsequently decided to pursue a master's degree in Event Design and Production at New York University. Throughout my professional career, I have realized the importance of keeping myself updated, which is why I am a member of national and international eventplanners associations.

I let myself follow my dreams and in 2015 I embarked on this great project, my own event planning company. ChauxEventPlanners. We have done more than 180 events in 10 years of trajectory.



And it was on one of those trips to Mexico where I met Jose David, a family man, disciplined and hardworking, who captivated me. From that moment on, without thinking about it, I began to live my own love story.

Ten months into our relationship, in a hot air balloon in the pyramids of Teotihuacan, Jose proposed to me. Without hesitation I said yes and from that day on a beautiful road would begin, which so many times as a WeddingPlanner I helped build, but now I would be the one on the other side of the story, living one of the most important moments of my life.

We started the wedding preparations and the first thing we chose was the city; Cartagena was our first and only option, being this the number one tourist and romance city in Latin America. In this magical city I have organized more than 70 events, which have allowed me to create bonds of friendship with important vendors.



During my career as a WeddingPlanner I have always been characterized by capturing every detail according to the tastes of each couple and make unique and incomparable events. For this reason my wedding was thought in regard to everything that represented us as a couple.

In addition, we know that the success of a dream wedding is to work hand in hand with great vendors who come together with passion and commitment to create memorable events that last forever.

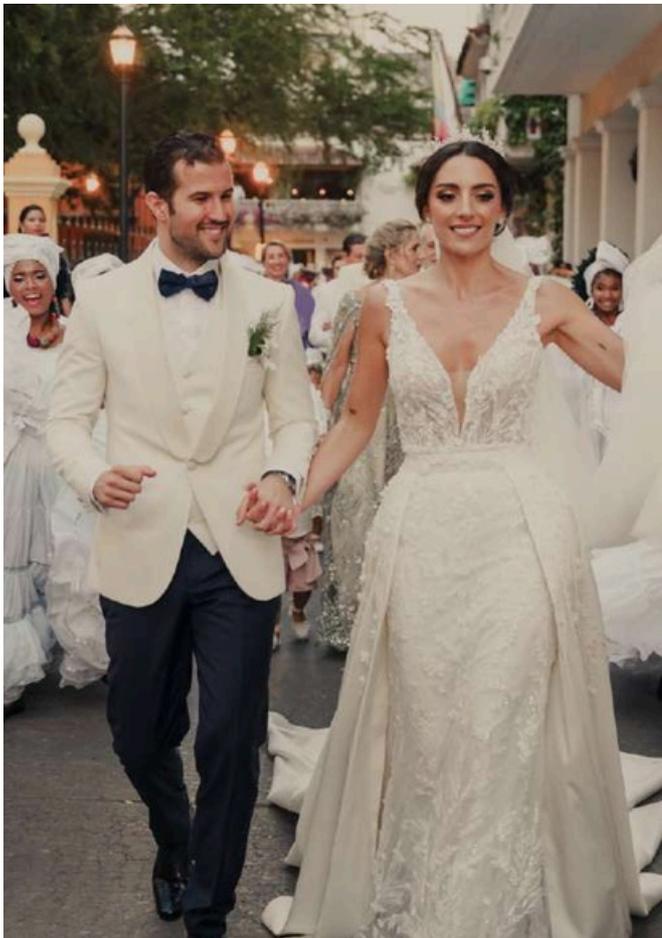
So, having in mind the city, the location of the ceremony and reception, more than 30 companies joined with the talents of my team of ChauxEventPlanners supported by CasaMar and Mary Cueter in the planning and design, which together with Boden Colombia transformed the spaces into an enchanted forest, with 1500 bouquets of Flores Colón.



The cocktail and reception were held at the Cartagena de Indias Convention Center. The state-of-the-art technology of Rhitmo Producciones, the musical explosion of Yesid Dj Beats and Ensamble Lirico Colombia combined with the HappyGospel hour show filled the night with energy and fun, and the lenses of Miguel Villasmil's photographic team immortalized the best moments to give Jose and me a dream wedding.

What I experienced completely exceeded my expectations, every detail was worked and thought out just as I dreamed it, and this is where the importance of choosing responsible companies that work with passion to provide excellent service lies.

Finally, I conclude this chapter as a bride full of happiness, gratitude and satisfaction. This is how we highlight the importance of delegating planning and choosing responsible, talented and high-level vendors, who will provide an impeccable service for the bride, groom and guests.



***Carolina Chaux***

Fundadora y CEO de ChauxEventPlanners  
@chauxeventplanner



*10 tips for  
courteous behavior  
at weddings*

**Etiquette and courtesy.**

## 1. Reply to the Invitation on Time

The “RSVP” (Reply Please) is very important. The bride and groom need to know how many people will be attending in order to organize the event properly. Don't leave the confirmation to the last minute or show up unannounced.

## 2. Follow the dress code.

If the invitation specifies a dress code, be sure to follow it. From formal weddings to more relaxed celebrations, proper attire demonstrates respect for the event and its organizers.

## 3. Be punctual

The ceremony is the most important moment for the bride and groom, so it is essential to arrive on time and attend. Being late can be disrespectful and cause distractions, even more so during the ceremony. Not attending the ceremony and arriving directly to the cocktail party is rude.



## 4. Don't Interrupt the Ceremony with Photos or Videos

Although it may be tempting to take photos or videos during the ceremony, it is best to leave this task to professional photographers. By being present and enjoying the moment rather than watching it on a screen, you contribute to a solemn and respectful atmosphere.

## 5. Avoid Inviting Others

If the invitation is addressed only to you, do not bring extra guests without first consulting with the bride and groom. The wedding has a limited number of guests, and you should not exceed it.



## **6. Avoid Wearing White (unless otherwise indicated).**

At most weddings, white is a color reserved for the bride. Wearing this color, unless the bride and groom have requested it, can be seen as disrespectful.

## **7. Drink moderately**

While many weddings include an open bar, it is important to remember that alcohol consumption should be in moderation. Avoid awkward situations or losing control by drinking too much.

## **8. Respect the Protocol during the Ceremony and reception.**

Follow the instructions of the organizers and respect the assigned place at the ceremony and reception. Do not change seats without asking and do not interrupt the established order.



## **9. Be Respectful of Photographers and Staff**

Let the photographers do their job. Don't get in the way of capturing important photos, and respect the event staff, who are there to make sure everything goes smoothly.

## **10. Participate in the Celebration, but watch your behavior.**

It is important to enjoy the celebration and participate in the party, but without overdoing it. Maintain a respectful behavior with the bride and groom and other guests.

## **Final Thoughts**

Attending a wedding is an act of affection and appreciation for the bride and groom, and complying with the rules of etiquette is not only a sign of respect, but also a way to contribute to making the event a beautiful memory for everyone. Every little gesture counts to make the day flow with harmony and joy. By being a guest who follows the rules of courtesy, you will be showing your appreciation for having been part of such a significant moment. Remember that the best gift is your presence, accompanied by respect and good manners!

*Adrián Pavía*

Prof. Etiqueta y Comportamiento Social



*The impact of social media on modern weddings*

In the age of technology and digital interconnection, social networks have become an essential tool for planning and sharing special moments, such as a wedding. Today's couples embark on the adventure of organizing their wedding with the support of virtual platforms that facilitate communication with vendors, inspiration for decoration and logistics, and the creation of an online community to share their happiness with friends and family.



### **Why is social media key to wedding planning?**

Social media gives couples the ability to discover the latest wedding trends, from wedding dress styles to room décor, through platforms like Pinterest and Instagram. They also allow them to create virtual boards with inspirational ideas, manage guest lists and RSVP for the event, among others.

Another important aspect is the ability to communicate effectively with guests and your wedding planner through applications such as WhatsApp, facilitating wedding logistics and avoiding misunderstandings. Couples can share the location of the event, confirm guest attendance, send reminders and coordinate transportation and lodging details efficiently.



### **3 tips to make the most of social media at your wedding:**

1. Create a unique hashtag: Design a custom hashtag for your wedding that allows your guests to tag their social media posts. This way, you can collect all the special moments in one place and relive them over and over again.
2. Share emotional moments live: Use Facebook and Instagram live streams so that those who cannot physically attend the wedding can be part of the celebration in real time.
3. Hire someone to be in charge of your phone to upload stories, reels, upload photos and even make videos of that important moment.

In short, social networks have become indispensable allies for couples who are planning their wedding. Making the most of these digital tools will not only facilitate the organization of the event, but will also allow you to create unforgettable memories and share the happiness of this special day with the whole world. Let the countdown to your digitally perfect wedding begin!

***MSc. Jeffrey Cervantes Calderón***

Costa Rica Wedding Planner & Chapter Head Costa Rica. Phone. +506 8665 0990  
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We are thrilled to announce that our chapters in South America continue to grow!  
 Meet our **IADWP Peru Chapter!**



**Jossy Quezada**

**CHAPTER HEAD PERU**

@jossyquezadawp

**CEO de Jossy Quezada Wedding & Event Planner.**

Degree in Translation and Interpretation and Marketing. Founder of Jossy Quezada Wedding & Event Planner, member of IADWP and Belief Wedding Creators, and winner of the Belief Awards. Recognized by Zankyou as one of the best wedding planners in Lima.

**JUNIOR CHAPTER HEADS**



**Karen Silva**

LIMA

@ohmyweddingperu

**Oh My Wedding**

Director of her personal brand Oh my Wedding Peru and with 8 years of experience in the wedding and romance tourism industry. Expert in event protocol and with extensive experience in tourism and commercial aviation. What she enjoys most when organizing an event is creating unforgettable experiences. She is passionate about fashion and her great passion is bridal styling.



**Kerly Heald**

CUSCO

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**Kerly Heald Destination Wedding Planner**

Kerly Heald and her team create unique and personalized weddings, inspired by the latest trends, and take care of every detail for a stress-free event.



**Nilda Solorzano**

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**NS Producciones**

I am a wedding planner with over 10 years of experience in destination weddings in northern Peru. I run a magazine and give advice to my colleagues.



**Rachel Lavi**

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**Rachel Lavi Wedding Planner**

Rachel Lavi Wedding & Event Planner in Trujillo creates personalized and memorable weddings that exceed the expectations of each and every couple.



**Silvia Hernández**

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**Silvia Hernández Bodas y Eventos**

Silvia Hernández, social communicator, is an expert in wedding planning. She takes care of every detail to ensure an unforgettable event.

# PLATINUM MEMBER

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**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:**



## Amanda Beaver

Glow Travel Inc.

Regional Chapter Head  
Ontario and East

 @glowtravelinc

Fearless leader and world traveler, Amanda started GLOW as a destination wedding and honeymoon specialist. Having grown up in the industry, her collective of travel agents now set their eyes on designing travel for discerning adventurers. Her specialty is tailor-made experiences ranging from one-week bucket list romps to month long trips across the globe.



## Rosemary Whitley

Allure Events Planning

 @christine.whitley.3572

Rosemarie is the owner and lead floral designer of Allure Events Planning – WPICC & CIFD. Her journey began with a passion for analyzing data, wedding planning and floral design, sparking a creative and entrepreneurial spirit that would guide her towards a fulfilling career in event coordination and botanical artistry. With a commitment to excellence, she further honed her skills by earning certifications as a Wedding Planner, Coordinator, and Consultant from the Wedding Planners Institute of Canada and as a Floral Designer at the Canadian Institute of Floral Design.



## Erik de Abreu

Erick de Abreu Events

 @erikdeabreuevents

He has over 22 years of experience in the events and destination events industry. For the past 3 years she has been dedicated to providing trainings, talks and courses related to the LGBTQ+ romance tourism industry, to educate the industry on issues concerning her community, as well as raise awareness about the importance of romance tourism.



## María L. Samayoa

Ambito eventos

Chapter Head El Salvador

 @ambitoeventos

Pioneer in the field of weddings in El Salvador, with over 15 years of experience in the field of coordination of corporate and social events, including contract management, negotiations, time management, and budget control. Additional pre and post wedding events, flight logistics and amenities.

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## Mirta Sánchez

MS Events by Mirta Sánchez  
Chapter Head Dominican Republic



Professional Wedding and Event Planner with over 30 years in the wedding and event industry. Founding President of MS Events by Mirta Sanchez 14 years ago, which is focused on wedding and event planning and romance tourism. Pioneer in promoting the professionalization of the wedding planner service in the Dominican Republic. For which I have been certified in 2014, by the hand of INIBEP. Founding member of the first Association of Weddings and Events of the Dominican Republic (ABERD) since 2016. Alpha Leader for the IADWP since 2018 and appointed in 2019 as ABC Regional Director, Dominican Republic Chapter.



## Tarran Grant

BBbyT Weddings, Travel & Events, LLC



Tarran M. Grant affectionately known "Tarri" is a Professional Bridal Consultant and Certified Travel Advisor. Her love for planning special events started back in her hometown of Baltimore, Maryland over 25 years ago. When Tarri moved to Atlanta, Georgia in 2006 she made a conscious decision that she wanted to become a specialist in planning luxury weddings. Tarri enrolled in a consulting program at Ashworth University receiving her Professional Bridal Consultant certification in March 2009, and she finished the program at the top of her class and receiving recognition by the Georgia Alpha Chapter of the Delta Epsilon Tau National Honor Society.



## Cynthia L. Roseman

Dreams 2 Reality LLC.



Hello! I'm Cynthia, also known as the "Reality Godmother." I spent over 20 years in the US Army, where I discovered a love for diverse cultures and cuisines. Even then, I was the "go-to" for planning unforgettable events. After retiring, I founded dreams 2 REALITY, LLC to transform dreams into reality. We started as a wedding planning company but adapted during the Covid-19 pandemic to focus on destination weddings and travel experiences, merging our passion for events with a love for travel. We cater to discerning professionals ready to live their best life.



## Faride Delgado

Escape with Style Travel

National Chapter Head USA



With a Bachelor in Hospitality and over 25 years in the travel industry, I established Escape with Style Travel, LLC in Atlanta, GA, in 2014. Three years later, I became a Destination Wedding Expert, helping couples from the USA, Spain, Dominican Republic, and Mexico. During the pandemic, I focused on education and expanded my business by welcoming three Independent agents. I'm proud to have survived in business and remain committed to helping couples and families create lifelong memories!

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## Happy Birthday

SEPTEMBER



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