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Top Wedding
Trends for
2017
dresses &
DÉCOR!

Interview with a
PRO

*Learn how to take care of your
skin before travel*

*REAL & styled
&
weddings*

Makeup for
*your summer
wedding*

Find your
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in Greece

Mood
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*International
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Photographer, Nikos Paliopoulos
Model, Hazel Alcantara
Dress design, La Cocotte
Shoes, The Workshop
Yacht, Nomicos Yachts

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The bride that inspired us on page 131

Meet this Greek artist with style on page 86



From us to you

We are so happy you are here!

We started ellwed.com because we felt there is a need for all wedding related information about Greece to be in one spot. This is our attempt to build a community and assist future couples in their quest for the perfect wedding in Greece!

In this first issue of Ellwed, you will find our pick of vendors who provide professional advice, interviews, tips, ideas and reviews. Because we believe that there is a right vendor, venue or professional for every bride, we welcome everyone to be a part of our community. Brides and Pros alike!

Our days are filled with thoughts and research of the most interesting and unique weddings, vendors and venues in Greece. We are constantly thinking about your wedding and how to make your experience in Greece even better. In turn, we welcome you to ask us any questions you might have, about your upcoming event in Greece, in our ellwed bridal community group on Facebook.

We have just started and this is our first issue of which we are so proud of. Ellwed will be issued four times a year and we believe that every issue to come will have even more interesting information for future brides, as well as professionals in the wedding industry. Therefore, we say, let's grow together!



Table that attracts us on page 137



Our best moments

Photographers: Anna Raoussos, Dimitis Giavris

Photographers: Ninos Palapoulos, Vanessa Ilvadar

As the instigating force behind Ellwed, I can only hope this issue will inspire you in some way, and you will learn something new and interesting from our articles on beauty on pages 19-40, trends (page 56) and maybe find a perfect vendor for you. We had lots of fun (and hard work) to put this issue together in such a short time. You can see our behind the scenes moments of this summer cover shoot on page 14. For the full story of a gorgeous trip with your closest bridesmaids around beautiful Greek islands, head over to page 109.

Are you planning a wedding in Greece? Well, in this case, my selection of mood boards on page 99 is a must see. I also can't get enough of those picturesque wedding stories we published in this issue. Don't miss any of the real or styled weddings starting on page 121 and make sure to enjoy this summer issue.

A huge thanks from the whole Ellwed team to all contributors and collaborators in this first issue. You made this magazine possible! A special thanks to everyone working on our cover story shoot, in and behind the scenes!



With lots of love,

SANYAPERDIC, EDITOR

Collaborators & contributors

meet



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Want to be a part
of our next issue?

Do you want to share your wedding story from Greece with other brides to be? Send us an email to submit@ellwed.com

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Behind the scenes of our cover shoot



For this cover story we imagined a private cruise with your closest friends partying each night on a different island. A private party on a lavish boat from Nomicos Yachts, where you are completely alone surrounded by blue waters and islands in close vicinity. Free to party or just relax and do as you please. This will be the wedding and/or honeymoon you won't forget! Our beautiful bride wore a handmade lace wedding dress by La Cocotte, a vintage inspired brand by designer Viveta Stratigou and handmade shoes from The Workshop, a brand by a family of Greek shoe designers.

Our first issue was created with the intention to help all the brides out there! No matter where in the world you are, we want Ellwed magazine to be your guide for your wedding or event in Greece. Discover your perfect location, meet your vendors, read tips from specialists in their field and get inspired with beautiful, real and styled weddings from all over Greece!

On the day of the photo-shoot, we worked hard and later partied hard. Well not that hard, 'cos we were so tired from all the work.



Big thanks to our team, the models, collaborators and Daphne Passisi-Kokot for organizing the event. You can see the full list of credits on page 13. Also, make sure you don't miss the final photos on page 109.





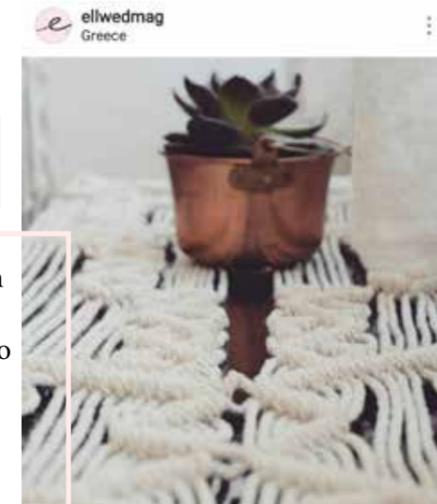
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Social Scene

For daily ideas and inspiration from Greece, follow ellwedmag on social media.



To get daily inspiration from Greece and find the right vendors for you, head over to our **Instagram** @ellwedmag



Boards Pins

ellwed tips
1 month ago



Repin from our useful and inspirational boards with ideas from all over the world, from

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ellwed



Make sure you like our

Facebook page

were we share useful videos, our blog post of tips, inspirations and weddings from Greece.
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To find vendors, get answers to your questions, join our community on

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Coming soon on our site, **Vendor Treasury** for the whole Greece and all destination vendors working in Greece.

ellwed.com/treasury/



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Interview with a PRO

Cosmetologist Maria, explains how to keep
your skin glowing!



*Mariya Onopriienko is a professional
cosmetologist, MA in Microbiology. She loves
making women beautiful and thinks that
beauty can save the world.*



BACK TO NATURE



Wow, that sounds interesting!
(here I put a note in my planner to go get a serum for myself)

You mentioned that we should use our favorite face mask but what should you do if you don't have any of your face care stuff with you? Is it possible to improve your skin with products you can find at every home?

Of course! Affordable, natural and always there for you. You can make your own fruit mask, using mashed banana or strawberry. Fruits are full of vitamins so if you need a moisturizer, that would do. Vegetable masks will help calm down your skin in case you irritated it with some product before and as a result it shows redness. While masks with herbs are perfect for giving you some glow and reduce that dull look of the skin. Would you like me to share my favorite home-made mask recipes with you?

The first problem a woman faces while traveling somewhere is dull skin after the flight. What are the care tips that every lady must know about?

First of all, let me explain why we experience such things with our skin. Unfortunately the altitude makes the humidity level higher by two or even three times than what we are used to. Therefore our metabolism slows down resulting in lymphatic congestion. Which is why you feel so swollen after a flight. So, the main tip is to start with just enough water before and during your trip, and by water I mean only water, try to completely cut the consumption of coffee and alcohol, since they tend to drain your body (even though you might not feel it). However, if it's too late for number one (or you just couldn't deny some great wine on board, we get it, you are getting ready for the celebration), do the next steps when you arrive at the hotel.

Grab your favorite moisturizing mask and afterwards do the three-time-a-day routine with your face cream. Also a quick-working solution here is to use serums with hyaluronic acid, if you still don't own one, I suggest going to the nearest pharmacy, they are not expensive but work very well.



I am sure we would all be glad to learn about them!

Great. Here are the top 3 that I personally make from time to time.

Okay, I'll start with the powerful moisturizer. This 21st century lifestyle we are all going through, unfortunately involves a lot of everyday stress which can deeply affect our skin. The worst thing is that women usually notice this when it's too late and cannot fix it with masks. This mask is good to use regularly as a precaution to protect your skin.

You will need: 1tbsp of olive oil, 1 egg yolk, 2 drops of orange juice. Mix, keep on for 10-15 minutes, then rinse off with warm water.

The second one is for a fresher look (when you feel like you haven't had proper sleep in days chasing a deadline but you don't want other people to notice this).

You need to: peel a cucumber, grate or mash it and put on your face for 15-20 minutes, then rinse off with warm water.

Last one is a deep cleanser, don't make it more often than once every 10 days.

You need: 2 tbsp of oatmeal, grind it up in a coffee grinder, add 1 tbsp of warm milk (not hot, not cold!) put on your face for 15 minutes, then rinse off with warm water.



MAKE IT AT HOME

“ You will need: 1tbsp of olive oil, 1 egg yolk, 2 drops of orange juice. Mix, keep on for 10-15 minutes, then rinse off with warm water. ”

I can't believe there are so many natural ways to take care of your skin! I have one more important question to ask you; how do we get rid of swelling below the eyes or dark circles without makeup? Let's say, we take concealer out of the game. I am sure every woman has faced this problem at least once.

Oh yes, I was expecting something like this. Usually, under-eye fillers are the second popular procedure I am asked to do. But to those who aren't ready for that yet or just prefer to omit needles I have a very good solution. Of course, there are tons of different eye creams, serums, gels but the best way to give your face that fresh glow and hide dark circles is to use eye patches. There are many kinds of patches so let me explain which ones would specifically fix your problem.

Let's see it according to the ingredients:

1. Patches with glycerin and hyaluronic acid are great moisturizers
2. Collagen, antioxidants and elastin are for smoothing the skin
3. Peptides, aloe and green tea extracts eliminate periorbital puffiness. But if you experience this quite often, you should visit your doctor.
4. Caffeine and wine acid fight dark circles, for better result put them in the fridge for 15 minutes before using.
5. Panthenol and peppermint essential oil work against face fatigue

There are two types of eye patches: hydrogel and sheet eye masks. Hydrogel eye patches have jello-like texture which melts due to the body temperature, resulting in moisturizing and anti-wrinkle effect. Sheet eye masks are made of pure cotton which reduces the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles when gets dry.



5 easy tips:

1. Avoid using patches on blemishes, pimples, irritated or sunburned skin
2. Make sure to clean your face before usage
3. Do not remove the remaining liquid when you take off the patches, slowly massage it into your skin
4. For better results use eye patches 1-2 times per week
5. Even though the results might be visible after the 1st usage, don't expect the miracle to happen and if you already have deep wrinkles, you better go to a cosmetologist, let a professional take care of it.



Great! We have spoken about wrinkles, dark circles, but I have in mind something that can literally cripple a girl on any special day. Yes, I am talking about that random pimple that suddenly appears a night before the Big day. Usually, somewhere in the middle of the face. So, is there any way to make it less visible not speaking of totally getting rid of it?

Well, all the pimples that appear on the face are the result of inflammation, therefore it's not possible even in theory to make it totally disappear in one day. But of course, I have a solution. The situation can be fixed by the reduction of pimple swelling and redness, hence it will be easier to conceal with makeup. A very quick and easy method is to first apply zinc ointment (redness combat) and then, after cleaning your face, to use some aloe vera gel from the plant (if you have one at home) or an essential oil to diminish the size of the pimple. Please consult your cosmetologist before using any medicine on your face.

Thank you very much for your professional advice, I am sure it will come in very useful. And don't forget, ladies, our beauty comes from inside, so let that smile rock your day!



This interview was conducted for Ellwed in Russian language and was translated for the broader public by Natasha Naumenko.

Natasha, everyday fashion and beauty expert, studied English & International Business at WSZOP Katowice and Business English at International House Newcastle.

@natasha0065



Foundation for your summer wedding day

by Julia Popova

Is your wedding happening in the summer and are you worried about your makeup surviving the hot weather? Here are some tips from professional makeup artist and wedding stylist Julia Popova. Julia graduated from Pansik scuola di moda (<http://makeupgreece.com/>) and she shared with us some tips on foundations you can rely on for the hot summer days to come. As we all know - the right foundation is the base of every makeup. <http://makeupgreece.com/>



1. ESTÉE LAUDER Double Wear Stay-in-Place (39.50\$)

- Coverage: Medium. Although you can "build" on it and it can be applied twice on problem areas for full coverage.
- Lasting: Long lasting. Honestly, it stays in place for more than 12 hours.
- Result: Natural healthy skin.
- My opinion: I use this makeup for my brides, because I am 100% sure that it will stay all day long in any environmental condition. It has a nice texture and lovely smell. On the plus side, it looks perfect on photos. I love this foundation.

2. URBAN DECAY ALL NIGHTER
Liquid Foundation (40\$)

- Coverage: Full
- Lasting: Really long lasting
- Result: Matte clear skin
- My opinion: As this foundation is quite heavy, it is better to use it in the evening/night (That's why it was named "All Nighter"). This product is definitely not suitable for those who usually don't wear foundation, as one might feel it quite heavy on their skin. It covers everything and you don't even need to use concealer. If your wedding is in the evening, this is the best choice for you.



4. MAKE UP FOREVER
WATER BLEND (43\$)

- Coverage: Light/Medium
- Lasting: Long lasting and waterproof
- Result: Luminous healthy skin
- My opinion: This foundation is suitable for everyday use, as it's very lightweight, sheer and comfortable. It hydrates the skin and gives a dewy glow. For oily and mixed skin the powder is necessary! If you have a beach wedding ceremony this is the best option for you because of its waterproof formula.



3. MAC Pro Longwear
Foundation (34\$)

- Coverage: Medium/ Full
- Lasting: More than 10 hours
- Result: Natural matte skin
- My opinion: This foundation is not only long wearing and transfer-resistant it also controls the oil in your skin. It's perfect for bridal make up and everyday use if you want good coverage. You don't even need to use a powder to fix it.



5. MAYBELLINE NEW YORK
Super Stay Better Skin (11.99\$)

- Coverage: Light/Medium. Buildable.
- Lasting: Long lasting enough
- Result: Natural flawless skin
- My opinion: This foundation is perfect for every day. It's so lightweight and breathable, you don't feel it at all when you apply it. I wouldn't recommend it using for bridal make up, but if you are a guest this is the perfect foundation for you.



The world of



LASHES

by Natasha Naumenko
and Monika Varga

"Eyes are the windows to the soul" has to be one of the most popular sayings in the world for a reason and we couldn't agree more with this. If you ever catch yourself thinking about getting lash extensions or trying false lashes but are not sure how to start and what to choose, leave everything aside and keep reading the article!

The first and most-widely used by all makeup artists are false strip lashes. There are dozens of lash varieties, so you should choose according to the look you wish to achieve. Who said it's not possible to use false eyelashes and still look natural? Getting that stunning red carpet look, can happen just by adding the right type of lashes.



To start with, you should know that the right choice of glue plays a huge role in how your makeup is going to end up. For beginners, we would suggest going for black glue, which is easier to blend with the rest of makeup. For the application, you can use tweezers or fingers, just try and see what's best for you. There is also a lash applicator but if you are not planning to wear false eyelashes every day, maybe you can hold off the investment. So, once you have all of your tools together (eyelashes, glue, tweezers and small scissors) you can start the application.

- Gently pull the lash from the box and place it on your eyelid
- Measure, and if it is too big, cut it to the right size (it's okay, don't worry)
- Apply glue on the eyelash and let it dry for 30 seconds
- Place the false eyelash on your eyelid as close as possible to the real lash line
- Let it dry for a minute or so
- Apply mascara to blend your natural lashes with false ones

To remove the lashes, just put the cotton bud in oil-free makeup remover and gently rub the lash line. Also, if you choose this method, you can re-use your lashes later on. To clean them, just put hot water and washing-up liquid in a bowl and softly clean your eyelashes.

Are you a fan of the "natural look"? We have a solution for that too. You can either cut the strip eyelashes in half and place them in the outer corner of your eyes, or you can use individual eyelashes (lash clusters). The application technique is the same, the difference is that you don't have to cut them since they are already cut in small pieces, therefore you can choose how many you want to put on yourself. Start from the middle of your eyes building up the volume towards the outer corner.

The members of the Ellwed team have personally tried both cheap and expensive eyelashes and we can assure you that on the first day the results were the same, of course provided that the right technique was used. Although cheap eyelashes have more varieties and are more suitable for reuse.

Both strip and individual lashes can be worn for 2-3 days, until they start losing their original look.



If you are looking for some long-lasting solution, we suggest doing semi-permanent lash extension. It is the technique where the professional attaches the extension to each lash individually (be ready to spend at least 2 hours at the salon), offering the most natural or dramatic look, whatever you choose. Touch-ups should be done every 3-4 weeks, the procedure usually takes about 1,5 hours.

Monika Varga, lash stylist from Voula says that semi permanent eyelash extensions can perform much better during emotional events than mascara. Therefore they can be a perfect solution to boost your self-confidence on your wedding day.

Monika also gave Ellwed, 4 simple tips to follow to maximize the longevity of your beautiful lashes. From Monika:

"Follow these rules and you will be the happiest "lasher" ever!

1. Do not bring your lashes in contact with any liquid. After the application, be careful not to go for a sauna or steam for the first 24 hours.
2. Make sure not to pick, pull or rub them at all times.
3. Use only oil-free make up removers, cleansers or creams.
4. Try to keep them clean by washing them regularly. Once you have them, be beautiful all day, every day! "

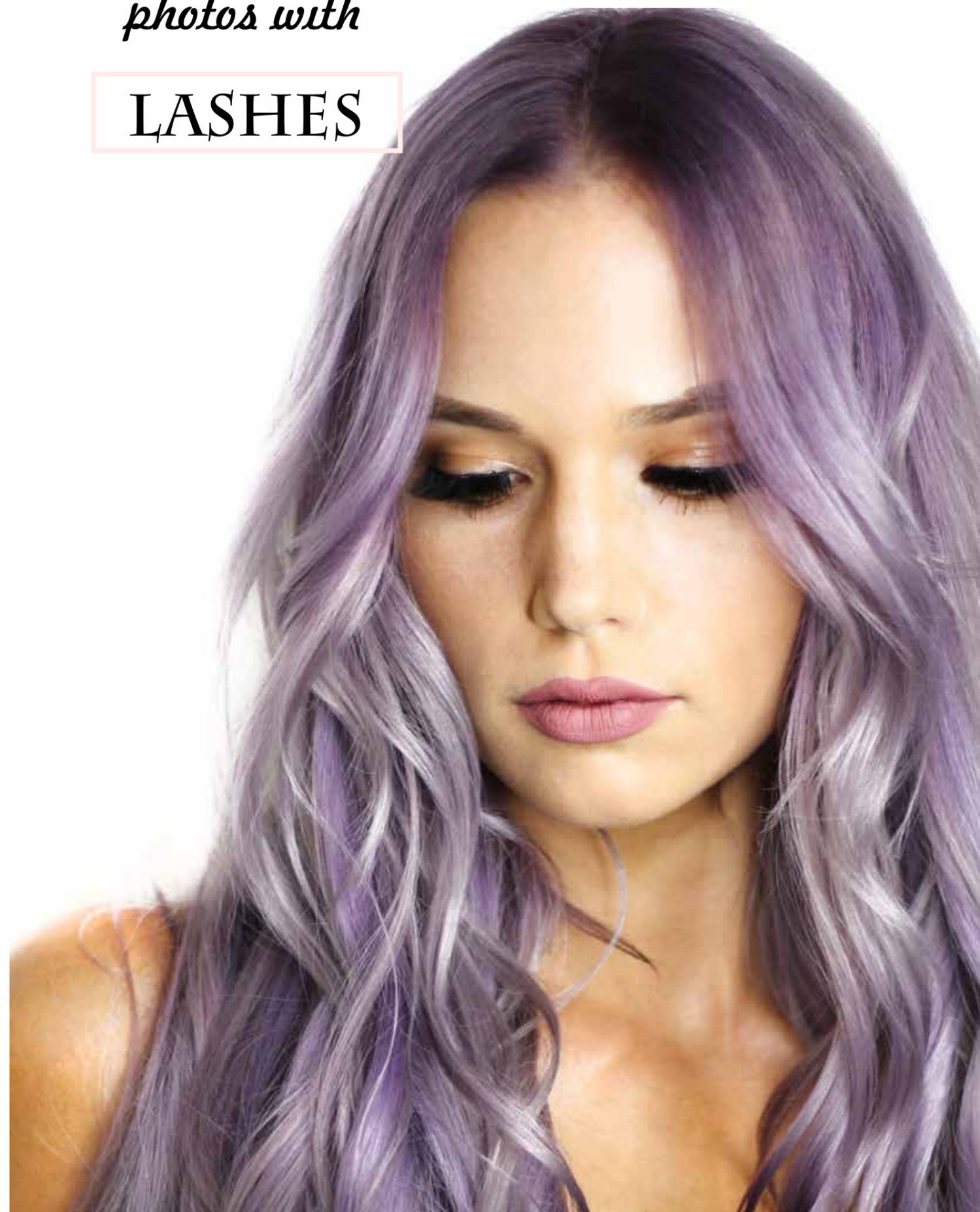
Contrary to natural lashes, lash extensions look more intense, which means that you do not need to apply the same amount of make up as before. Less is more in this case ladies!



Right and bottom photo and eyelash extensions on this page, from lash stylist Monika Varga

give more drama to your photos with

LASHES



*Natural looking
brows for 2017*



Eyebrows of every shape

by Natasha Naumenko

Keeping up with 2017 trends, we could not avoid the eyebrows topic. Eyebrows can magically frame your face and bring out your best features. Thus, it is vital to find a shape that fits you best according to your face type and still be trendy. If you are lucky enough to have an oval face, the best option is to create soft, naturally angled eyebrows, in order not to ruin the face proportions. For long shaped faces, you might want to opt for straight horizontal eyebrows, while a round shaped face benefits from high arched eyebrows, making the face look longer. The solution for square and diamond face shapes is to start with a curved eyebrow shape. The wider the jaw line on a square face, the higher the peak of the brow. But hey, don't get too much into the game, we still aim to make our eyebrows seem as natural possible!



Long story short, the biggest trend of 2017 are natural thick eyebrows. In all the 2014-2016 glory, where everyone opted for the so-called Instagram brows (aka brows on fleek), which were thick, things were lost because it was obvious that too much of an effort was put into creating a masterpiece of a brow. In late 2016 and 2017 the main players are classic thick natural eyebrows. In all honesty though, not everyone is as lucky as Cara Delevingne with her gorgeous naturally thick brows, that is why we are here to give you tips on how to get them!

Nowadays, the variety of options to reach that perfect "natural" brow are incredible. The market is literally blooming with this type of products, so here are some you can choose from, and get those magnificent eyebrows.





Good old brow pencil

Pros: Can change the shape. Sharp pencil is also good for small strokes, which imitates hair

Cons: Has to be done every day, can easily look fake, if the color is a mismatch or the technique is wrong

Brow powder

Pros: In 99% gives natural look, easy in use

Cons: Has to be done every day, works mostly for already well-shaped eyebrows, that need more shade or volume

Brow pomade. The top tool for Instagram brows

Pros: Can change shape, result similar to pencil, is put on with small brush

Cons: Has to be done every day, barely looks natural, messy application

Brow gel. With or without color (depends on the expected result)

Pros: Easy to use, adds volume naturally, coloring small or light hair you never noticed. Long-staying

Cons: Actually requires eyebrow, since it works on hair

Brow tinting

Pros: Stays for 2-3 weeks, natural result

Cons: Not easy to do at home, requires hair

Brow dye

Pros: Stays for 2-3 weeks, natural result, unlimited amount of shades, can change the shape, can be done with the small amount of hair

Cons: During the period between your sessions, you are probably going to be asked to not pluck your hair and it can make you feel like a hairy monster

Henna dye

Pros: Stays for a month, natural look, can change the shape, works on thin eyebrows

Cons: First week after the dye, the color may seem too bright (then it washes out), not easy to remove (in case you failed with shape)

Microblading (semi-permanent brow makeup, where the master, using a special blade pen, creates each stroke individually)

Pros: Lasts for 1-2 years, natural look, shape changer, shade can be created personally

Cons: Cost, small pain during the procedure, possible touch-ups after a month

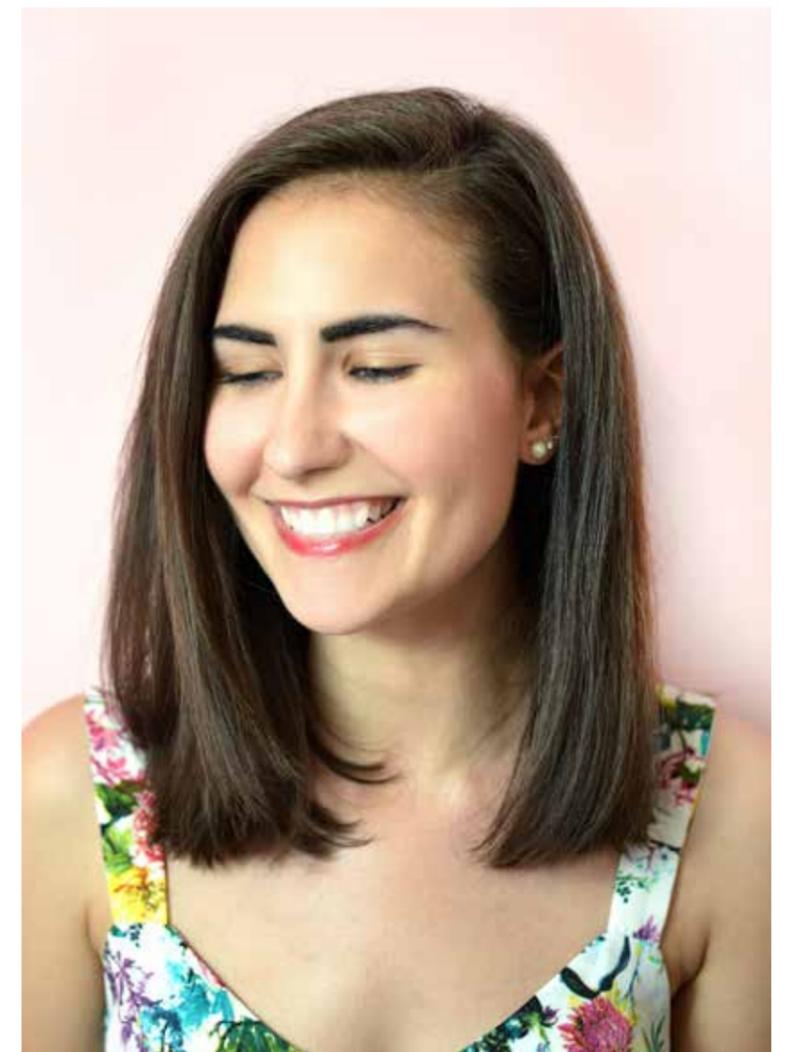
Permanent brow makeup (done by machine, can be combined with microblading technique)

Pros: Lasts for up to 3 years, shape changer, personal shade

Cons: Pain during procedure, cost, difficult to achieve natural look, touch-ups

If you are still looking for a favorite product, pay a visit to Mac, Benefit, Anastasia Beverly Hills, Urban Decay or Bobbi Brown stores who are the top players in brow industry.

And girls, don't forget that eyebrows are sisters, not twins!





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Summer 2017 Wedding Dress Trends

by Julianna Khudoliei

Finding your perfect dress for your special day is almost as hard as finding your perfect man. Well, ok perhaps that is a bit of an overreach, but there is huge pressure on brides when it come to choosing THE DRESS! For decades, brides opted for the "white, big and puffy" fairytale wedding dress, and as trends change, we have reached a point where the market is filled with a gazillion options in form, colours, fabrics and styles. We scoured the internet to bring you some relief and guide you through Summer 2017 trends for that perfect wedding dress we all dream about.



The Blushing Bride

These summer blush pink wedding dresses were made to match a bride's blushing cheeks! Can't get any closer to your childhood princess wedding dream, than this. My favorites are:

1

Th&Th suggestion for Summer 2017, is to stay light and bright for your wedding day. We can't think of a better way to go this Summer, especially when you can share it with your squad.



Jinjer dress by Eva Lendel ticks all the 'princess wedding' boxes - baby pink and champagne colours are mixed in this beautiful dress.

2



Photo: Eva Lendel

3

Lose yourself in a fantasy of all shades of pink with Christian Siriano majestic dress.

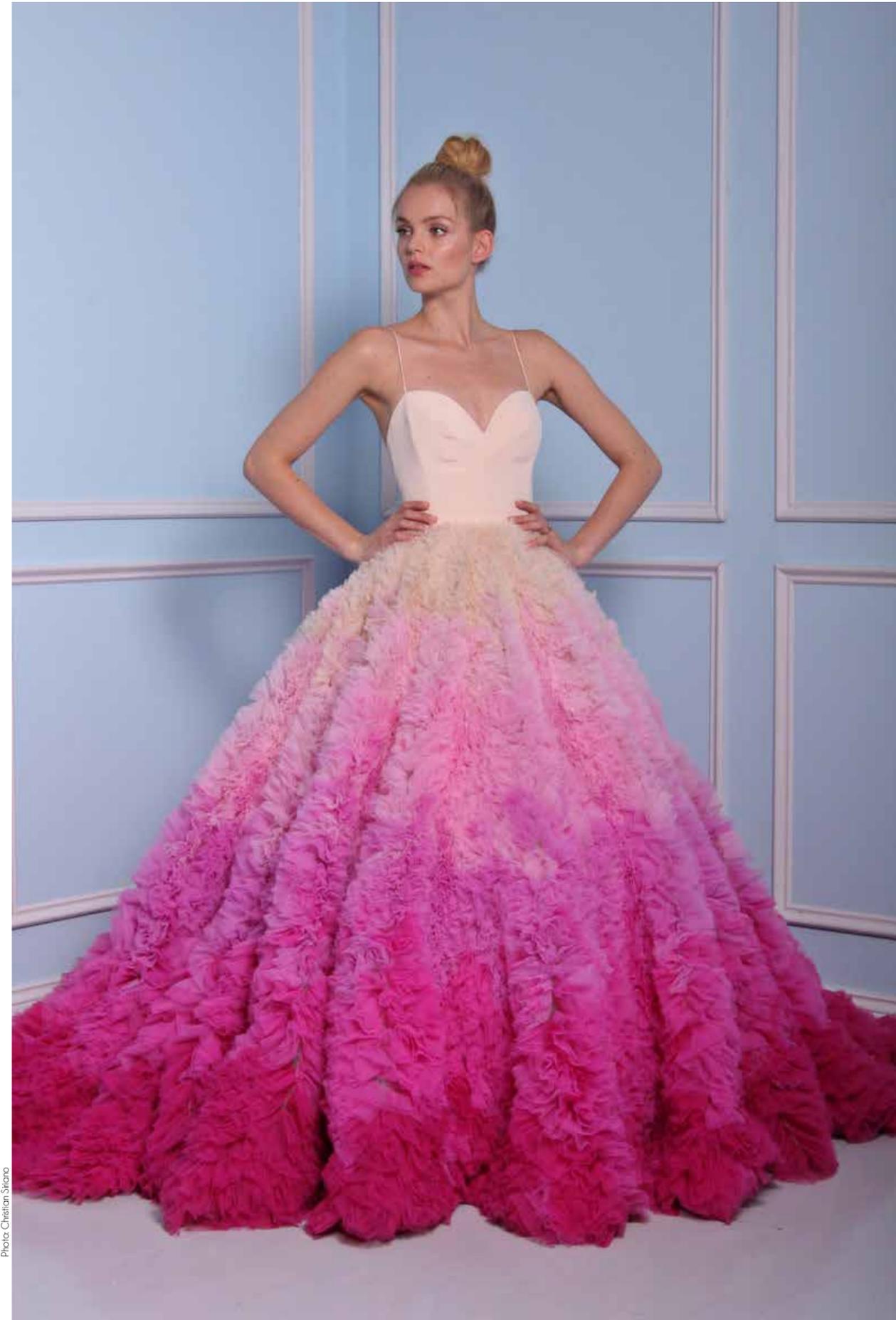


Photo: Christian Siriano



Photo: Elie Saab via Vogue

The Flower Power

You can never have too many flowers on a wedding day! Even though, looks like the groom has gotten the prettiest one.

4

3D floral appliqués by Elie Saab will leave everyone speechless.



Photo: Mira Zwillinger

6

Tease everyone wearing a Mira Zwillinger dress! To comfort the shy brides out there - we bet your grandchildren will in no way blush looking at your wedding pictures. Be the cool one!

Lela Rose warm off-white wedding dress for that tender flower who is getting married.

5



Photo: Lela Rose

The Naughty Innocence

Summers can be hot - and that is what you reply if someone asks you why your dress is see-through. But the true answer is, because it is Amazing! Designers played with sheer fabrics, from romantic playfulness to a very naughty bride - what will you chose?

7

Zuhair Murad is here to make you feel like a true mermaid - beautiful and playful.



Photo: Zuhair Murad via Vogue

The Lace and Capes

This trend was very much expected for the past couple of seasons and here it is. Capes. Beautiful and graceful, romantic and slightly playful. Capes will fit brides of all shapes and sizes adding that gentle feminine touch.

8

Marchesa's amazing cover up in tender cream lace will make you feel like a beautiful bird on your wedding day.



Photo: Marchesa via Vogue



Photo: Romona Keveza

Add a cape to the classics, as did Romona Keveza, and you get the perfect wedding dress - timeless and trendy at the same time. See, it IS possible!

9

The Modern Girl

Not a fan of all those bridal classics? Luckily, the biggest issue will be to explain this to your grandma. Designers took care of the rest!



Photo: Oscar de la Renta

10

Oscar de la Renta's simple and graceful classics.



Photo: Elie Saab via Vogue

11

Elie Saab shows that not all wedding dresses are... dresses. And we love it!

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About the Author

Julianna is the author of www.juliejuliet.com, and aims to embrace health and beauty through her website, freelance writing and Instagram www.instagram.com/julie.juliet



Top Wedding Trends for 2017

By Kylie Carlson, *International Academy of Wedding & Event Planning*

According to the *International Wedding Trends Report, 2017* has proven to be an exciting year for the wedding industry. Pop culture and millennials have cemented their status as the largest groups of wedding influencers, shaping new traditions and bringing unique trends into the mainstream. Let's take a look at what we have to look forward to:



About the Author

Kylie Carlson is the owner of the *International Academy of Wedding and Event Planning*. With six locations globally, the academy boasts an internationally recognized accreditation program that brings professional training to wedding planners, designers and stylists. <https://www.aawep.com.au/>



Technology at your wedding.

Don't miss any moment of your day, gear up your bridesmaids and groomsmen with selfie sticks and Go Pros.

Create your own unique #, keep all the photos on one place.

Technology and Wedding Design

The millennial generation are those born in the 80's and 90's, and are well-versed and heavily influenced by technology. Many of them are urban dwellers that are eco-friendly and budget conscious, and are looking for the easiest experience possible when it comes to their wedding. Joanne Jiang of LadyMarry shares, "Millennials are all about instant gratification, so they want their wedding planning right at their fingertips at any given moment."

Their comfort with technology will not only effect how they plan their wedding, but also what they want on their wedding day. "High tech options from digital mapping, to drone photography, to special effects such as fog machine and lasers are becoming more and more prevalent in wedding event design," explains David Merrell of AOO Events.

Use drone photography and experience your event from another angle.



Culture and Tradition

While weddings are looking more and more to the future, millennials are also giving a nod to their family roots and connection to the past. Couples want to celebrate their heritage in all sorts of ways, from the food to décor and even the clothes. "Infusing your location, your culture, your family and honoring that heritage will continue to rise in 2017," says Harmony Walton of Bridal Bar. "Especially with the recent US elections which have sparked an even deeper root in family."

Industrial Chic and a Love for Art

An industrial chic wedding is nothing new to most wedding professionals, and we will continue to see this trend grow over the next year. It allows couples to use unique venues like urban warehouses that were once abandoned and turn them into showstoppers perfectly personalized to their taste. Hanging décor, elaborate florals and greenery, and an abundance of candles are just a few of the popular choices couples are making.

A love for fine art among millennials has ignited a new vintage trend, according to Louise Beukes of B.Loved Blog. "From calligraphy to British-grown florals, indulgent menu's and the finest materials, this trend is all about keeping things simple and elegant, by having less but curating the most beautiful, artisanal items at every step."

We have a lot to look forward to when it comes to millennial couples, and can't wait to see what the rest of 2017 holds and beyond!

Oceanids Estate, tomato
canning factory turned venue in
Santorini



photo by Andreas Markakis

Traditions, cosy and hanging décor.
Calligraphy on menus with flowers - Upper right
photo by Andreas Markakis see full wedding
inspiration on page 141



Oceanids Estate Photography by Anastasia Katsiari



Choose décor that suits your style.
Romantic abundance of candles are all
the rage.



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4 critical questions answered on destination weddings in Greece



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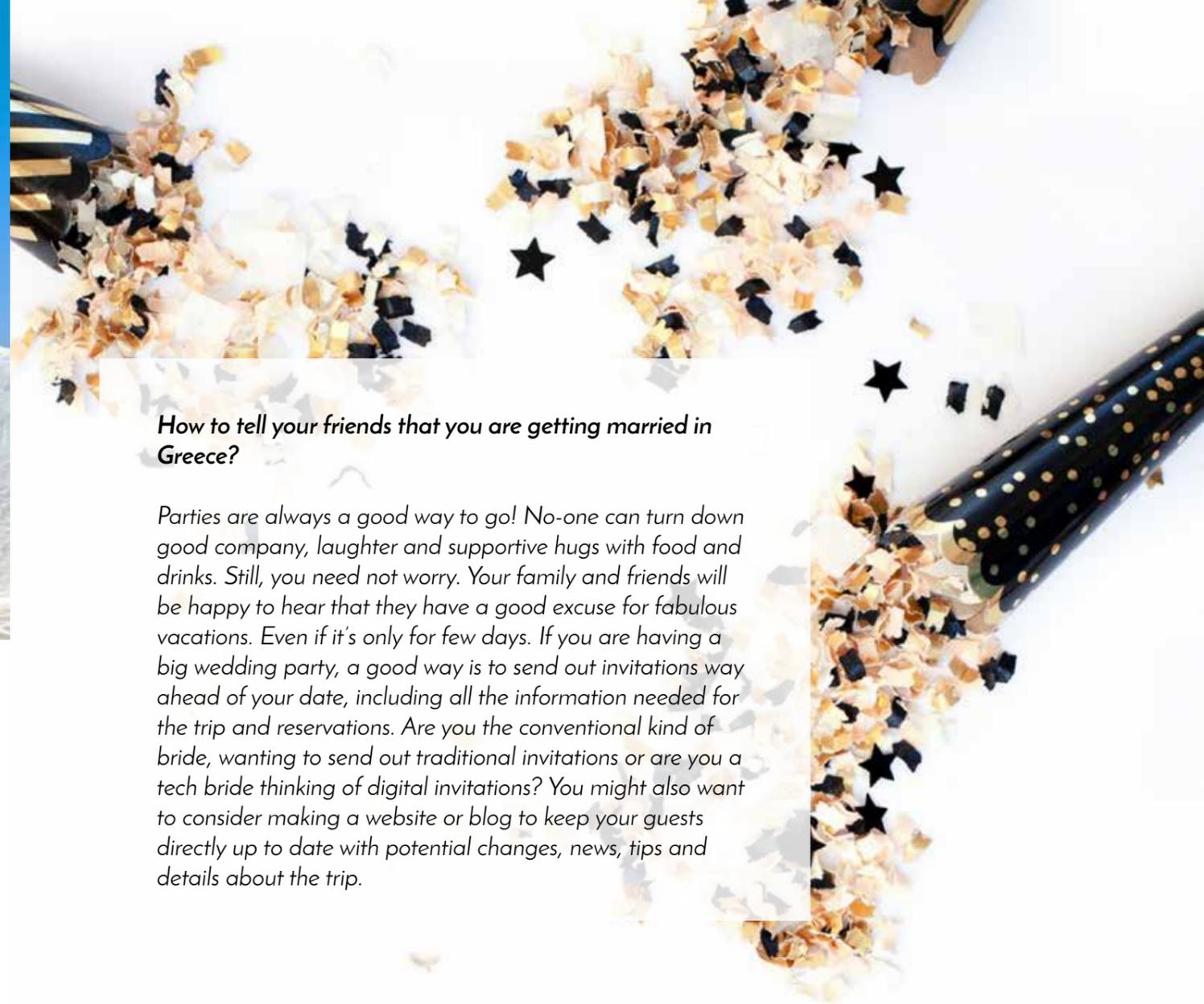


You just got engaged and are not sure if a destination wedding in Greece is the right option for you. Perhaps you don't even know if Greece is a suitable destination. One thing is certain: More and more couples are deciding on destination weddings in Greece. There are numerous reasons that have led to this, the main being the warm Greek climate and unique nature with crystal blue, refreshing waters.



How to decide if Greece is the right destination for you?

It is simple. Put down all the things you like about Greece then correlate these things with what you want for your wedding. Does the style of our Greek islands sound appealing? Are you looking for a relaxed and laid-back wedding? If Greece checks all the boxes, then you know this is your wedding destination. Make sure you do not focus solely on islands and the whole white and blue theme. Do your research beforehand. Greece is versatile and can cater to many different styles and themes. It all depends on what you really want for your wedding. You can read more about different wedding styles on our blog ellwed.com/blog



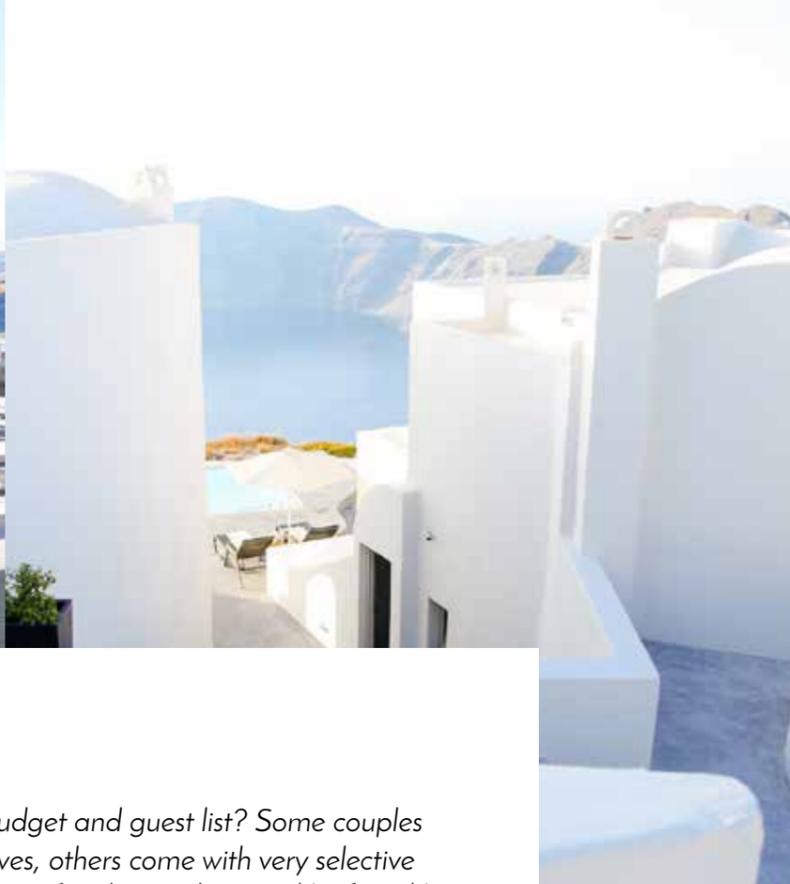
How to tell your friends that you are getting married in Greece?

Parties are always a good way to go! No-one can turn down good company, laughter and supportive hugs with food and drinks. Still, you need not worry. Your family and friends will be happy to hear that they have a good excuse for fabulous vacations. Even if it's only for few days. If you are having a big wedding party, a good way is to send out invitations way ahead of your date, including all the information needed for the trip and reservations. Are you the conventional kind of bride, wanting to send out traditional invitations or are you a tech bride thinking of digital invitations? You might also want to consider making a website or blog to keep your guests directly up to date with potential changes, news, tips and details about the trip.



Stationery for traditional brides by Just Invite by Art & Vision. Photo, Dimitris Giouvriss. See full credits on ellwed.com/blog





Who's invited?

Have you decided on your budget and guest list? Some couples "elope" to Greece by themselves, others come with very selective groups of people (just the closest family members and/or friends) and some decide to make a big party with 50 or more of their friends and family. Once you know your budget and what you wish and/or can cover financially for your guests, then you can start making your guest list. Think of people you really want to spend time with. Remember, destination weddings are a good excuse for not having to invite that third cousin of your cousin who you met once or twice in your life! If you still feel like you need to wine and dine your friends or coworkers, which can't make it to your destination wedding, you can always host an event upon your return home. Check real life advice from Natalie Wingrove on page 94.



Should you get a wedding planner?

Yes. Even if you know more about Greece than other brides, you should really consider hiring outside help. Don't push all the work and responsibilities on your friends and family, who have traveled far to be with you on that special day. Do not underestimate the importance of planning your event, which will take a lot of time and energy. Always do your research and speak to a few planners before you decide. Make sure this is the person for you, understands your vision and what type of a couple you are. Once you have made your final selection, try to express your ideas as clearly as possible. Share your Pinterest boards and ideas with your planner and use examples you like from their portfolio and past weddings. Read our International Wedding Planner Interview with Matthew Oliver on the next page, and see if Matthew is the right planner for you.

International Wedding Planner Interview

with Matthew Oliver



*Matthew Oliver from Matthew Oliver Weddings
www.matthewoliver.co.uk*

*Photographer credits:
Greece Wedding,
Hayley Savage Photography
Shop & Team Photos,
Hayley Savage Photography
Photo Shoot photos,
Paula Broome Photography & Ever
Photography*



Hayley Savage Photography

Hi Matthew, we're really excited to have this opportunity to get to know you and your business. We simply love your weddings and the cheerful vibes we get from your brand and work. You're based in Bradford-on-Avon in England, but that doesn't stop you from organizing weddings all over the world. I'm sure you had weddings in many different countries, however, for this interview we would like to hear more about your experiences from Greece.

Can you describe with some detail, what your business can do for couples wanting to get married abroad?

We've all read those articles which say planning a wedding can be one of the most stressful things you can do in your life, add in that it is a destination wedding, well it makes it just that little bit more challenging. But here at Matthew Oliver Weddings we just don't agree with that, we love planning weddings, especially those abroad! Our main aim is to make sure our couples also enjoy the wedding planning process for their international wedding. We do that by getting to know them, becoming their friend, using our knowledge, contacts and creativity to make the entire process seamless and a positive, fun experience they won't ever forget.

Your team is very versatile to ensure top quality experience for your clients. Still, one of your team members stands out the most. We see that you have a very special boss, who is also a head of your company and representative of your brand. Can you tell us more about Winston?

Ah the boss himself! I would be lying if I didn't say the company is driven by a strict routine of petting, cuddles and play breaks, you know for purely professional morale reasons! ;) In all seriousness there is just something relaxing about having him in the studio with us, which helps get us through

maybe some of the more challenging moments. He's also great for inspiration, so much so we made him our brand!



We read on his profile page that sometimes, he likes to take meetings with you, to ensure the utmost quality. Has he ever visited any destinations with you?

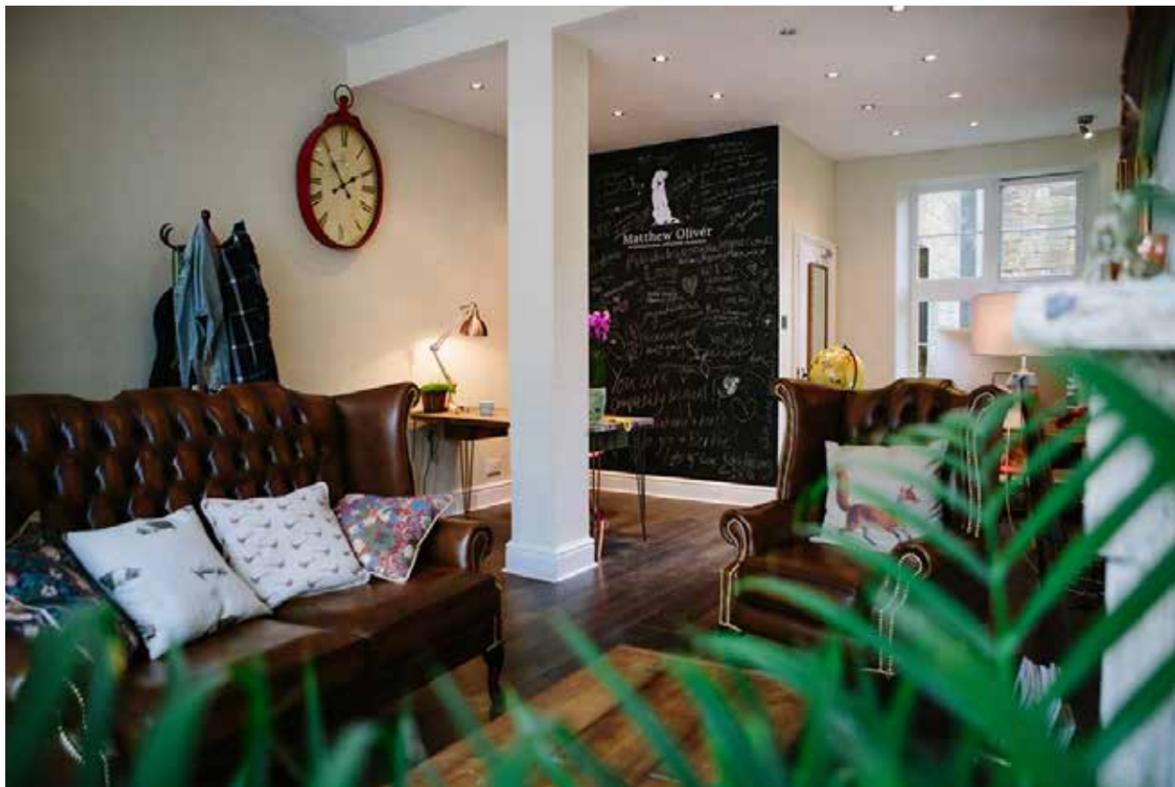
Not as of yet, which we just know he is a bit grumpy about! Though he has been to many site visits for some of our UK based weddings and our couples just love him!

When you are organizing destination weddings, do you usually take the rest of your team with you or do you outsource to locals and why so?

On the planning and running the event side of things, I always will have my team with me. They have been involved with the entire planning process and so can definitely be relied on to know what is going on when, and to use their initiative when needs be! On the supplier side, we do have a number of suppliers which we often bring with us is we can't find anyone suitable locally, photographers, videographers and even on occasion florists!

When you come to an unknown location, you most probably also work with some local vendors and professionals. How do you find the right people to work with for each couple, without knowing the market in that location?

We do try to also work with local suppliers ideally, where possible. Our couples have chosen that specific location for a reason and local suppliers makes infusing the local culture into the event that much easier. In terms of finding these suppliers we find it is all about asking for recommendations, within the wedding industry, wherever you are in the world, suppliers have other suppliers they have worked with and enjoyed working with. If they are willing to give a recommendation, it's a good sign who they've recommended is going to be good! We start by asking the venue and then it sort of daisy chains out from there. Other ways to find good suppliers is from local tourist boards and of course the internet!



Hayley Savage Photography

What qualities are you looking for, from a professional or a vendor, to choose the right one for each wedding?

We love to work with suppliers who have that ideal mix of being fun and communicative but also have a truly great product or service. That way we are working with people we want to work with, but also end up having really spectacular result of a beautiful wedding.

One necessary aspect of each wedding is photography. From all those destination weddings, you had over the time, how many couples choose to travel with their photographer and how many choose to hire locals?

For us the majority of our couples fly photographers in, not necessarily bringing the photographer from their home town/country, but just flying in who they really want, in their preferred style from anywhere in the world. Photography is a massive deal, you've put so much effort into creating this event where you get to tell and show the person you love more than anyone else in the world how much they mean to you. You want to have the best, most perfect photographer to capture it all. Same goes for videographers!

From your experience, what is the main reason for couples to choose a destination wedding over the wedding at home?

The main reason would have to be for the uniqueness of it, generally our couples family and friends weddings would all have been in the local area in the same style, following all the same norms. Our couples want to push the boundaries and break the norms and have us create them something truly unique and personal for them.



Many destination weddings in Greece are very private. Usually is just a couple with their family. But then again, each year the number of guests is growing. How do you see this number changing and who is usually invited?

Generally we find that destination weddings have fewer guests than those of weddings in couples home countries. The main two reasons for this are the guests ability to attend an International weddings and the second being the couple just invite fewer people, using the fact that it is an International wedding as an excuse not to invite people they may feel obliged to invite if it were a local wedding. Which therefore means only those guests really close to the couple, who are really wanted there are invited, not your Dad's work colleague sister, who you only have a vague recollection of!

Since everyone wants to be invited to a destination wedding, it is a bit unclear of who pays for the travel and the accommodation. From your experience, how many couples decide to cover these expenses, for how many days and for which guests, if not all?

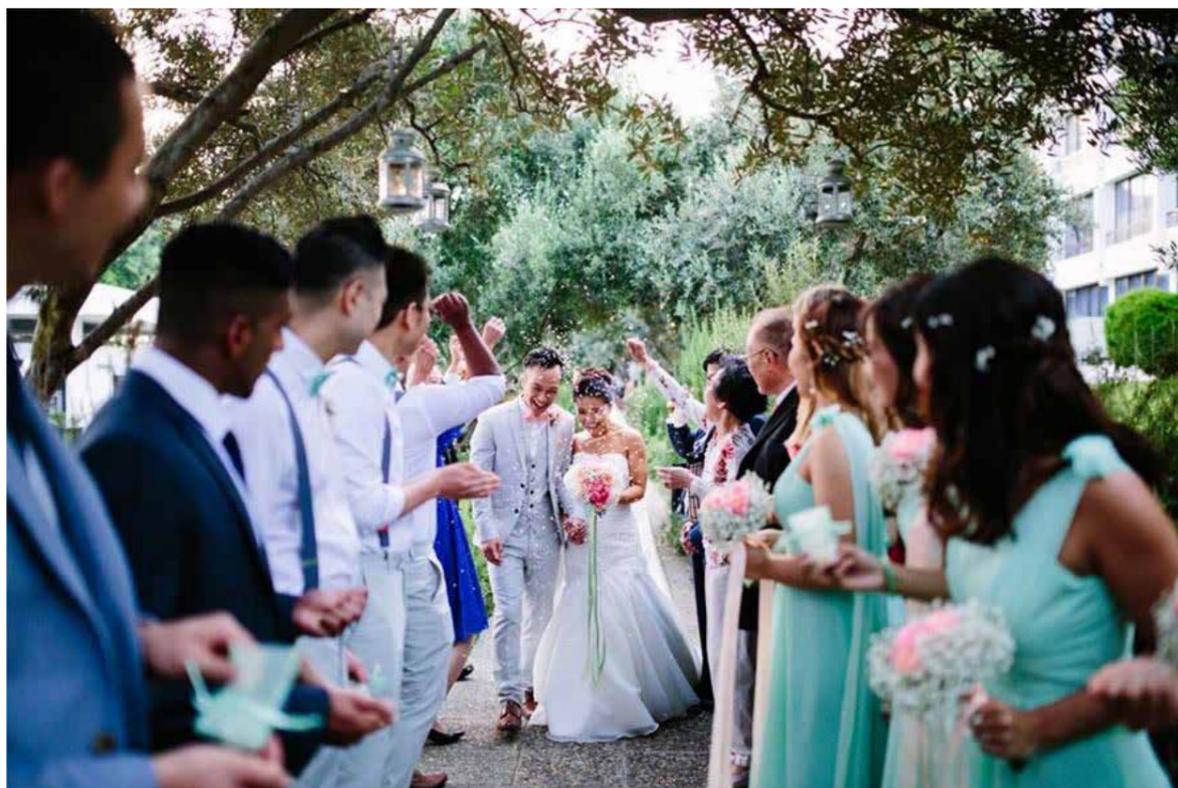
This can vary a lot, and it all depends on the means of the couple. If they can afford within the wedding budget to accommodate and fly out their guests, they do, and some of our couples have. More common for our couples is for them to provide accommodation for the duration of the wedding events, we tend to look for venues which have accommodation on site, to make things easier. However it is also very common for guests to pay for their own flights and accommodation, effectively treating the wedding as a holiday, with a couple offering free events whilst they're there! If there are guests who can't afford it however, and the couple know this and really want them there, they will usually always be willing to help out to make sure the right people attend their special day.

How do those couples that decide or are unable to cover these expenses, present this to their guests? And if it's known to you, how do the guests usually accept this arrangement?

Our couples, like anyone, can pretty much guess how certain people will respond to the invite, they are their friends and family after all! Therefore they just ensure to give as much notice as possible and be as accommodating as they can, within their abilities. This is often in the form of offering a number of hotels/villas with a wide spectrum of price, meaning that guests with a restricted budget can choose the cheaper option. Also the couple will not ask for a gift, as the guests presence is their gift. And finally trying to cover a number of the costs out there, including transport to/from the wedding events, food and if possible drink for the wedding events. It can all add up to a fairly cheap holiday for some guests, which they graciously are accepting of if they want to be part of the wedding.

When planning a destination wedding most couples don't get to live preview their venue for the wedding reception. How do they deal with that?

We always ensure we see the venue before hand, whether we detour from another trip (to keep the costs down) or go in the couples place, which is fairly common as it may be a cheaper flight for us rather than the country they would fly from. This means we can build the supplier contacts, do a full detailed report and send it over the couple, who can trust in our experience and taste. This has happened on a number of occasions and if anything our couples have found it worked out perfectly, because the first memory they will have of the destination/venue will be with their family and friends for their wedding. A magical trip untarnished and perfectly planned.



Hayley Savage Photography

What are most common problems with any destination wedding and how do you resolve them?

Travel can be sort of a two pronged issue, the first is organising travel companies to get from one location to another, maybe their hotel to the wedding or from wedding to reception (or both!). Finding suitable, reliable companies generally tends to be a problem as they can be very unreliable, which means we need to stay in constant communication with them to ensure they will be in the right place at the right time. The other travel problem is for guests arriving and possible delays, there are always a few guests who for whatever reason book their flight to arrive on the wedding day (no idea why!), and inevitably there are delays and then a mad scramble to get them there on time. Though through experience we know how to deal with both issues to ensure smooth sailing!



Mykonos, Crete and Santorini are getting all the craze these years. Nonetheless, which location (island or mainland) in Greece would you recommend to couples as their wedding destination?

Difficult question as every island as well as the mainland is stunning and can be the perfect backdrop for a wedding. Though twisting my arm I would have to say Mykonos or Athens, Mykonos for smaller more intimate weddings which want the glamour and beauty of Greece at a very luxurious level, bringing with it the beauty of a Greek island with the vibrant atmosphere as perfect setting for a fun wedding. Athens for weddings with a higher number of guests is just perfect, the scale of the city and the historic buildings within it are stunning for opulent weddings, immersing Greek history and culture into a wedding through the architecture and numerous suppliers available. Athens is perfect for a wedding perhaps not so clichè, but still incredibly beautiful and Greek!



What do you like most about Greece? More specifically, what do you like when you plan and organize a wedding in Greece?

It's got to be the food! And with it the hospitality, Greek's ability to create a wonderful atmosphere through the food served and the way it is served, a very relaxed, sharing family style. We try to incorporate this into one of the wedding events, as we want our couples to appreciate this as well. For us when organising it, speaking with the caterers and seeing their passion for the dishes they create is truly great!

Now, would you reveal to us, what is that one thing that really gets to you or that you dislike, when you have to organize a wedding in Greece? If there is anything, of course.

Nothing that we have come across as of yet (touch wood!).

Your clients are fairly international. Did you ever have an opportunity to plan a Greek wedding and if no, would you like to have such experience in organizing a "big Greek fat wedding"?

Not as of yet, but it is certainly an experience we would love the opportunity to be a part of. The people, customs and traditions all show a love of family and friends, which is such a welcoming idea and plays such a large part in Greek weddings. It is that we would like the opportunity to be a part of, working with a lovely Greek couple to ensure they have just what they want, not only for them but for their family too.

You are a well-established wedding planner, even a trendsetter we could say. Where do you get your inspirations from for each of your weddings?

In all honesty, it is our couples. We get to know them as well as we can, become their friends and learn what they love. This inspires us to take their thoughts on what they want, incorporate their loves and passions and then elevate it to something truly perfect and cohesive for their wedding. Trendsetter? I'm not so sure! But we do always try to be innovative for our couples to ensure their wedding is truly unique to them, and if possible has a little something no one has seen before.

When you plan weddings for clients, it's vital to remember that this is their day, their vision and not yours. Do styled wedding shoots help your creativity and to express your true artistic nature?

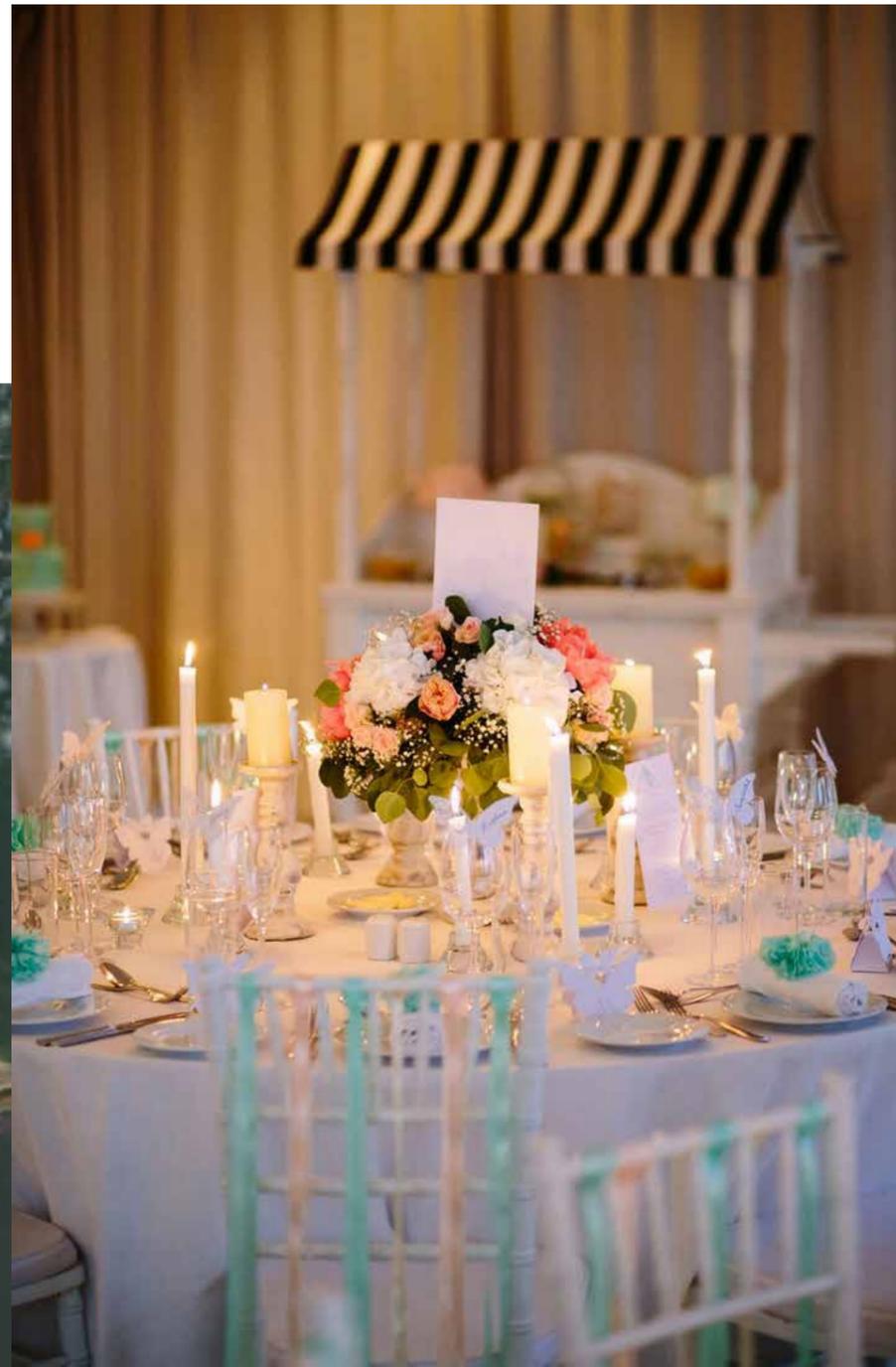
Styled shoots do allow us to show the 'true us' in a sense, as we do not have to take into account the considerations of the couple, but instead create what we want to see in a current, inspiring wedding shoot. We never push an agenda on our couples, but instead work through giving them various options on what could be achieved, so it is nice to have something just for us and our suppliers every so often!



Where do most of your clients find you and why do you think they decide to work with you?

Our couples find us through varying methods, whether it be our site, social media, Google or the few directories we are part of. When they do find us however I have to assume they choose us because they like the idea of working with us as people, supported by our experience, knowledge and Winston of course! Whatever the reason, we are very happy and honoured that they do choose us!

And finally, what would your advice be to all couple that are looking to get married in Greece?



Look at Greece with a very open mind, it is so diverse in what amazing experiences it has to offer, from the mainland to the many different islands. From something historical and local to modern and grand. If you look at Greece with a set idea you may miss something even more perfect and right for you and your partner. Greece is a very immersive culture, which really needs to be experienced first hand to really fall in love with it, so a visit is well worth it before deciding what stunning element of the country you want your guests to experience with you, so they can fall in love with it to.

Thank you for taking your time and being a part of our first issue.



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Find your party favors in Greece

5 Greek companies that will inspire you

Many brides face the issue of what party favors to get for their guests and even more so, those that are planning a destination wedding. If you only search the words "wedding favors" you will get overwhelming results! In Greek tradition, guests usually get a small box or bag filled with sugar coated almonds or "koufeta", which of course have a symbolic meaning. But what should you choose? Well we advise you to listen to your gut. Choose something that has a special meaning for you and is somewhat related to your wedding theme. For instance, if you are getting married in Greece, you can follow the Greek tradition and give candy or sweets, or maybe something more imaginative that has been produced here. Think of Greek flavors, designs, accessories, products. Sun care and party hard remedies for the day after. Thoughtful gifts, which your guests can enjoy, use or cherish for years to come.

We scoured Instagram for you, to find artists, designers and makers from Greece to find you the perfect wedding favors for your guests, unique gifts for your family and best mates. Check out their feed to find the gifts, favors and thank you treats for your wedding in Greece.



Carpo delicious Greek flavors for everyone! Choose gorgeous gift boxes and try the samples of nut chocolates and more at one of their many stores, also in the UK! You can find small gifts for the guests and special flavors for your closest family, bridesmaids and groomsmen.
carpoworld.com
 @carpoworld



Surprise your girls with Greek handmade necklaces or bracelets from Lilo Accessories. If you're in Athens, check out one of their stores to see their quality and designs. Online shop currently available only in Greek.
liloaccessories.com
 @liloaccessoriesgr



No idea what to get for your guys and girls? Think Pig may have a solution for you. Greek girls, designers with sense of humor that can brighten your day. Find handmade favors, cups, bags, plates, notebooks and sweet gifts for your partner.
thinkpigdeco.weebly.com
 @thinkpig



What about a bag or tee souvenir from Greece? Surprise your bridesmaids or groomsmen with a gift which they can use. Choose a lovely bag for your girls and funny tee for your guys. At T-Greeks, the original Greek T-Shirt, you can find all sorts of blue and white designs and items, reminding everyone on those times from Greece.
t-greeks.com
 @t_greeks



For all boho brides! From elaborate hanging décor, macramé table runners, totes to accessories, all made by hand. Gianna from BohoChoco will take care that your bohemian chic wedding will be all in style. Ask her for tips on unique wedding favors and special gifts for your closest friends and family. See more in the next article by Gianna.
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The art of handmade knots

- a boho trend to admire every day

by Gianna Arvaniti

Nature lovers and boho brides, pay attention! This article from Gianna Arvaniti, macramé artist from Boho Choco will explain the art of macramé and inspire you with her gorgeous artwork and ideas for your wedding.



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Macramé is a fabric art, where knots are made by hand. It comes from the arabic word migramah, meaning "decorative fringe", and dates back to the 13th century and the Arabs, who decorated towels and veils, but also made camel and horse halters. Since then, the art traveled throughout the world via conquerors and sailors and made a big comeback in the 1970s through the hippies' movement -hence its bohemian characteristic- who extended its use to indoor and outdoor decor.



Today, macramé is recreated in a modern, more minimal, boho chic/luxe way and is the ideal decor for a wedding, especially in Greece, where nature is strongly present - the 100% cotton cords/ yarn I use are a perfect match for the sea, the sand, sunbeams, wood and rocks! The places and ways you can use it are endless: A statement backdrop curtain or arch, decorated with flowers during the ceremony, which the couple can use as a wall hanging or bed header in their house. Runners, set on tables, under the wedding cake, on benches, even thrown around a floor candle lantern. Plant or candle hangers hung above the tables or on trees, garlands, lanterns and dream catchers. "His and hers" chair backs, big macramé pillows on the beach, a hammock or a swing for the guests. And what about a macramé wrap for the bridal bouquet, a hair piece for the boho bride or mini key chains for favors? The choice is yours!



Macramé pieces are cool and on point as a trend, but they also give a folklore aesthetic and a romantically chic touch to your wedding decorations. On top of that, if bought and not rented, they can easily be packed and travel back home with you, where they will serve as a beautiful reminder of your special day!

Gianna Arvaniti

Find me at:

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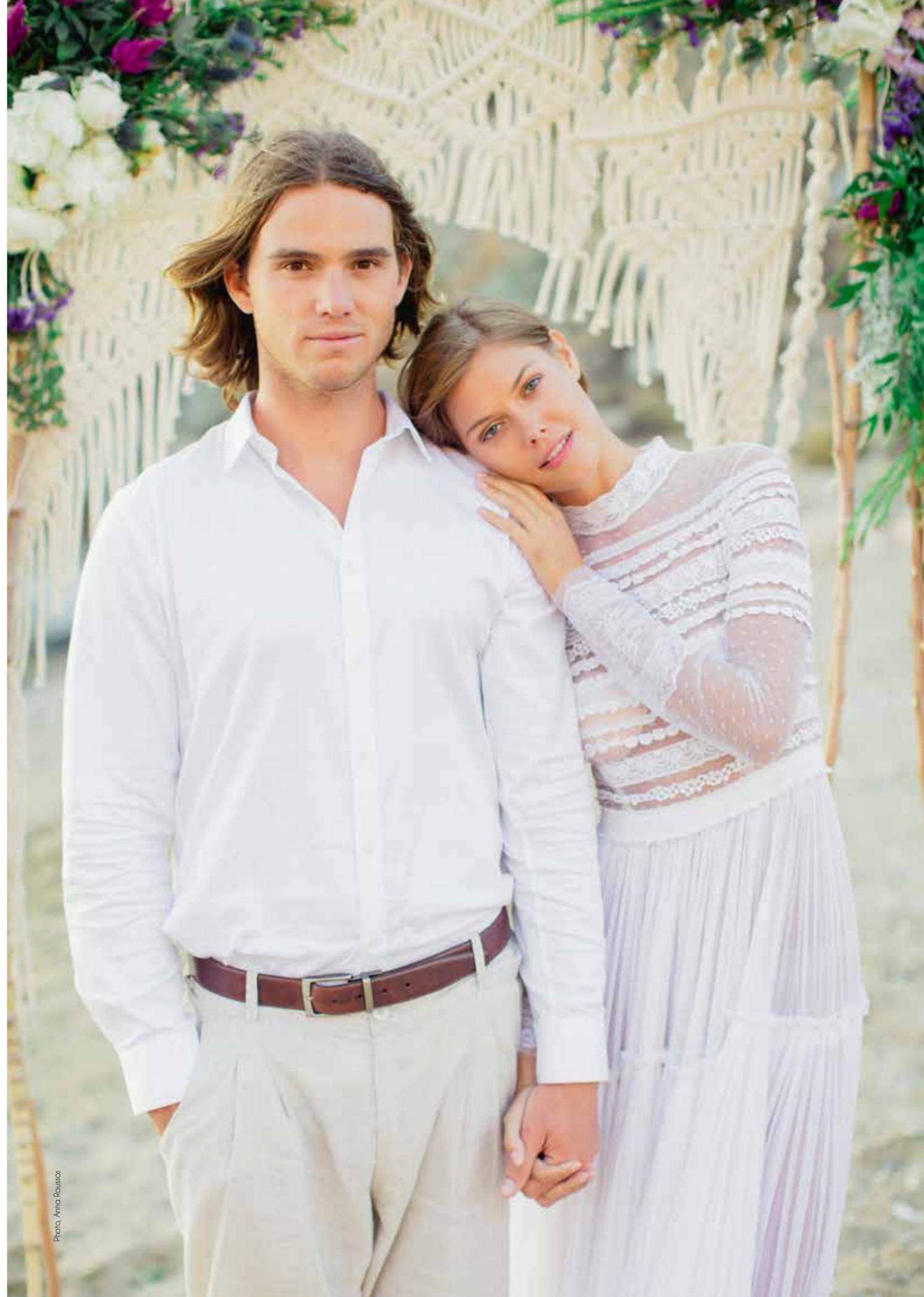
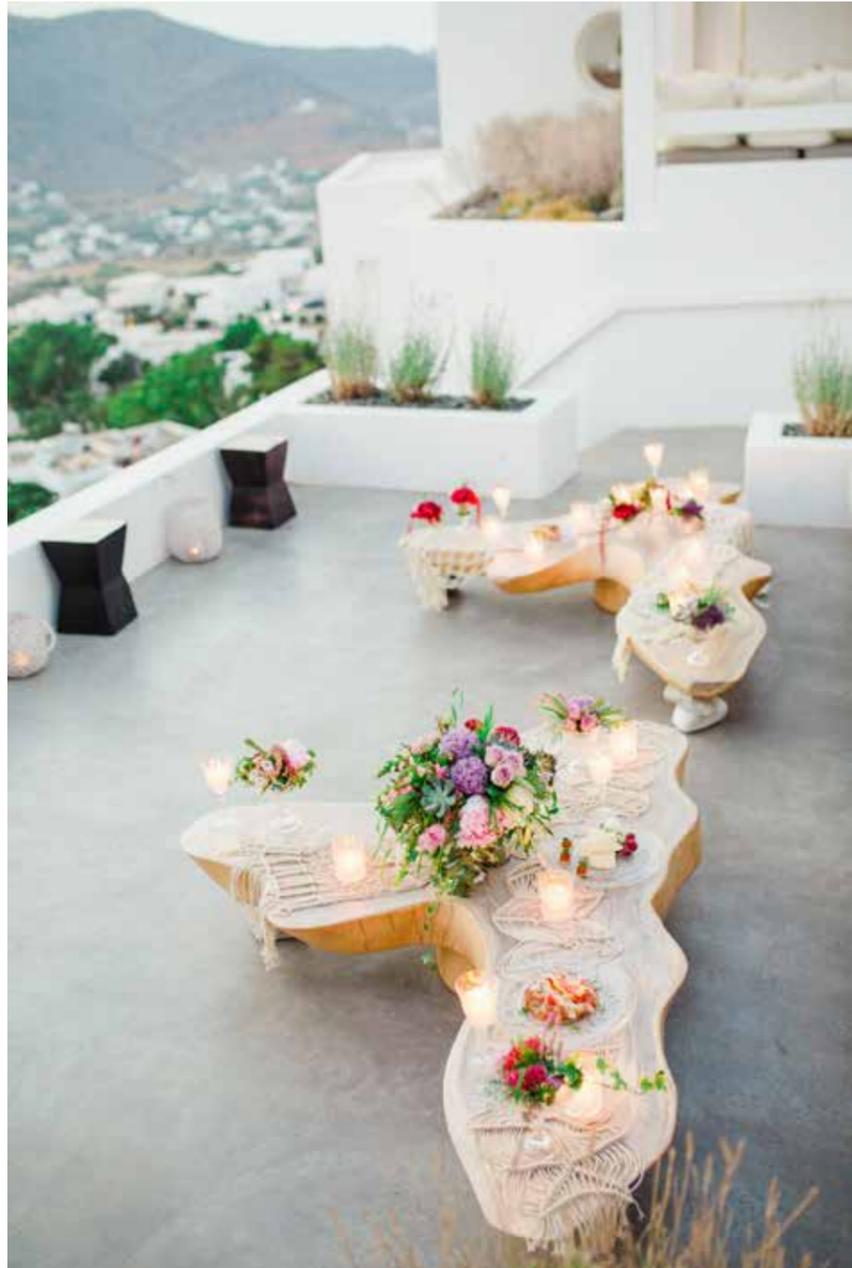


Photo: Anna Roussos

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Real couples tell it all

Pros and cons of destination weddings

by Natalie Wingrove

With the growing popularity of weddings abroad, more couples than ever before are considering the option of jetting away and celebrating their wedding in a unique and fabulous location.

I know from personal experience the decision to get married abroad is not one you make lightly and there are definitely both advantages and disadvantages in having your wedding abroad.

So how do you know if getting married abroad is right for you?

Firstly, the most important factor to remember is that the decision to get married abroad is very personal and it's not something anyone else can do for you - you will need to weigh up all the pros and cons and give each a measure of importance to you as a couple.



For Sharon and Simon, the decision to have a destination wedding began after they started planning a traditional wedding in their hometown. As their plans progressed, Sharon commented that "it just didn't feel right to us, neither of us felt overjoyed about this type of wedding". During a planning session, her partner Simon casually mentioned that he would love to get married in a tropical rainforest and immediately they both knew this was how they wanted to celebrate their wedding day.

So after many long discussions, Sharon and Simon made the decision to cancel their big affair in their hometown but were very apprehensive about informing their family and friends of their change of plans. Sharon said, "we had needlessly put ourselves through a lot of anguish, pondering whether cancelling was the right decision, and about the reactions we would receive. Everyone surprised us saying it was a fantastic idea, and gave us their full support, so we worried needlessly about pleasing everyone all along".

From her experiences, Sharon's advice to all couples is that "if the idea of breaking with conformity, and disappointing family and friends is hindering your decision to have a wedding abroad, my advice is go for it. I guarantee you will be pleasantly surprised at the reaction you receive from those you inform. Once you take the plunge, your wedding takes on a whole new magical feel and then your choices are limitless".

So what do other couples say that've had their wedding abroad? The following list of advantages and disadvantages comes from the real life experiences of couples who have had a destination wedding.

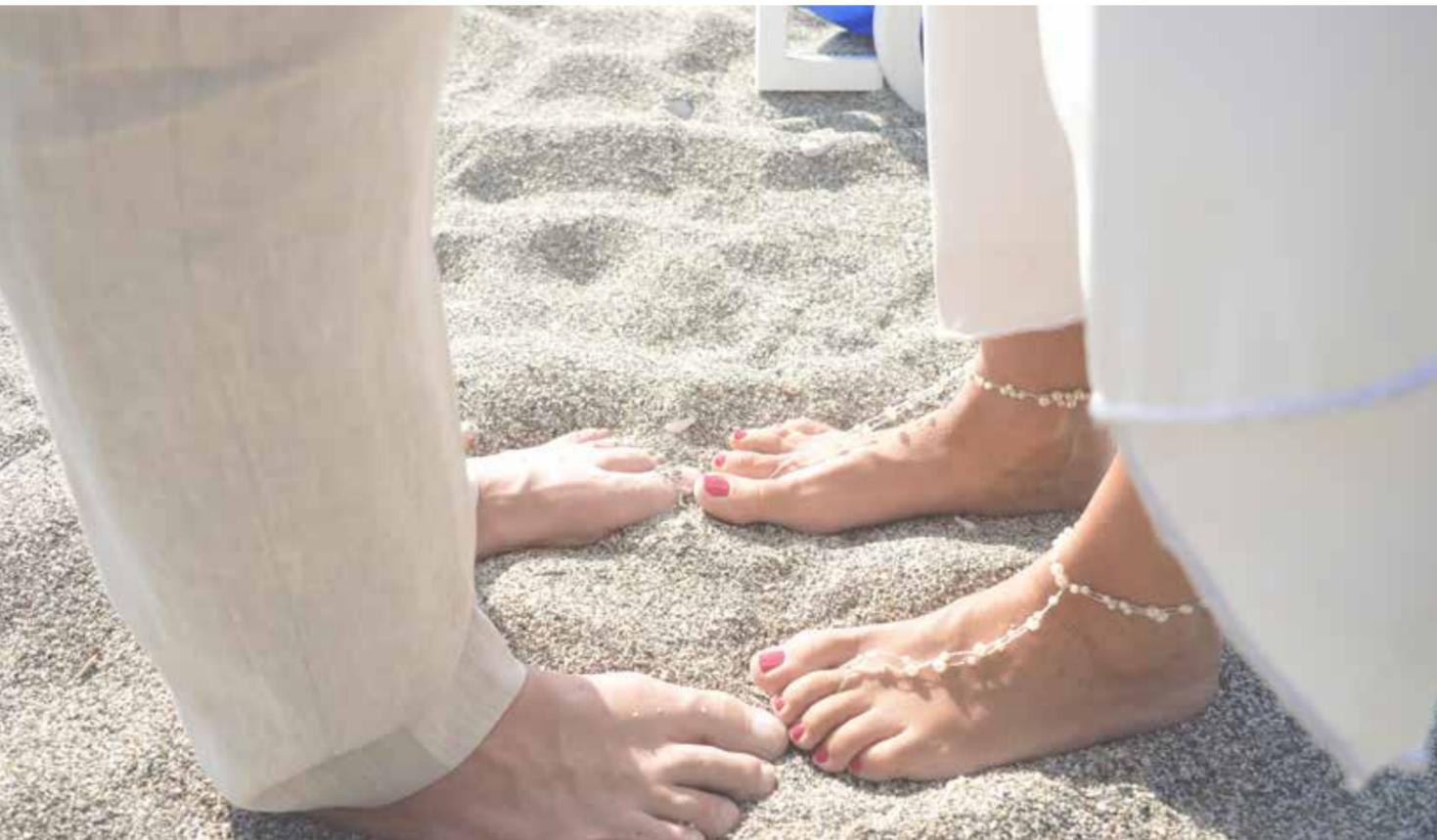
The Advantages of Getting Married Abroad

- Our choice of destinations and locations was endless.
- We had our wedding in a unique and spectacular setting. The photos were amazing!
- The cost of getting married abroad was significantly cheaper than if we'd of had our wedding at home.
- The planning was easy and stress free because we hired the services of a wedding planner.
- We didn't get caught in the conveyor-belt of the traditional weddings, where couples often find themselves having the same format and style as every other wedding simply because there is no scope to do anything else.
- Our families had a special week on holiday together, it made our wedding more than just a day, and it ensured that only our nearest and dearest attended, rather than the 150 guests at the evening reception made up of the obligatory people from work and our parents' friends.
- Our friends and family were really relaxed and they enjoyed it so much more as it was a holiday for them. The atmosphere was amazing and the weather was perfect.
- The entire day and location reflected our personalities. It was also more intimate and a lot more relaxed than it would have been at home.



The Disadvantages of Getting Married Abroad

- Some loved-ones simply couldn't attend, and their absence was really felt.
- It may cost your guests more to attend your wedding abroad and you do need to be mindful of this. Some guests may feel a little resentful about this fact.
- You have to go with the flow a bit more when you get married abroad. If you are using a wedding planner or a tour operator, it is not always possible to be as hands on as you may like.
- Logistically it can be quite hard. When I planned my table decorations and favours, for example, I forgot that I had to actually ship them all to the venue!
- If you're using foreign suppliers you may not get EXACTLY what you want. For example, my bouquet was slightly different to what I expected, but it was still beautiful.
- You may be taking risks with suppliers. I booked our chapel, hair & makeup, photographer and restaurant all over the internet based on recommendations picked up in wedding forums! It was risky but it all came off perfectly. If you can handle the risk then go for it!



Natalie Wingrove, from the Weddings Abroad Guide, author of The Secrets to Planning a Perfect Wedding Abroad, step-by-step guide, successfully planned her own wedding abroad. In order to share her experiences and offer valuable advice, hints and tips on destination weddings she has created an online community and the website weddingsabroadguide.com for all the destination brides to be.

www.weddingsabroadguide.com



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Trendy Mood Boards

Green of the year

Every year wedding trends change and Pantone sets the trend with their pick of the color of the year. For 2017, they choose green. Green or Greenery can go great with the island style, blue sea and beach weddings in Greece. Think of tropical styled wedding with cacti and lush greenery (check a real wedding on page 131) Or maybe a simple and minimal olive green wedding? It can't get more Greek than that! Check images of a simple chic olive green wedding on our blog. Use fruits like green apples or limes, combined with green vegetables and Greek herbs. Use eucalyptus for that silver hue in the green palette.

Color of the Year 2017
PANTONE®

Greenery
15-0343

Image from Pantone



Blush pastels

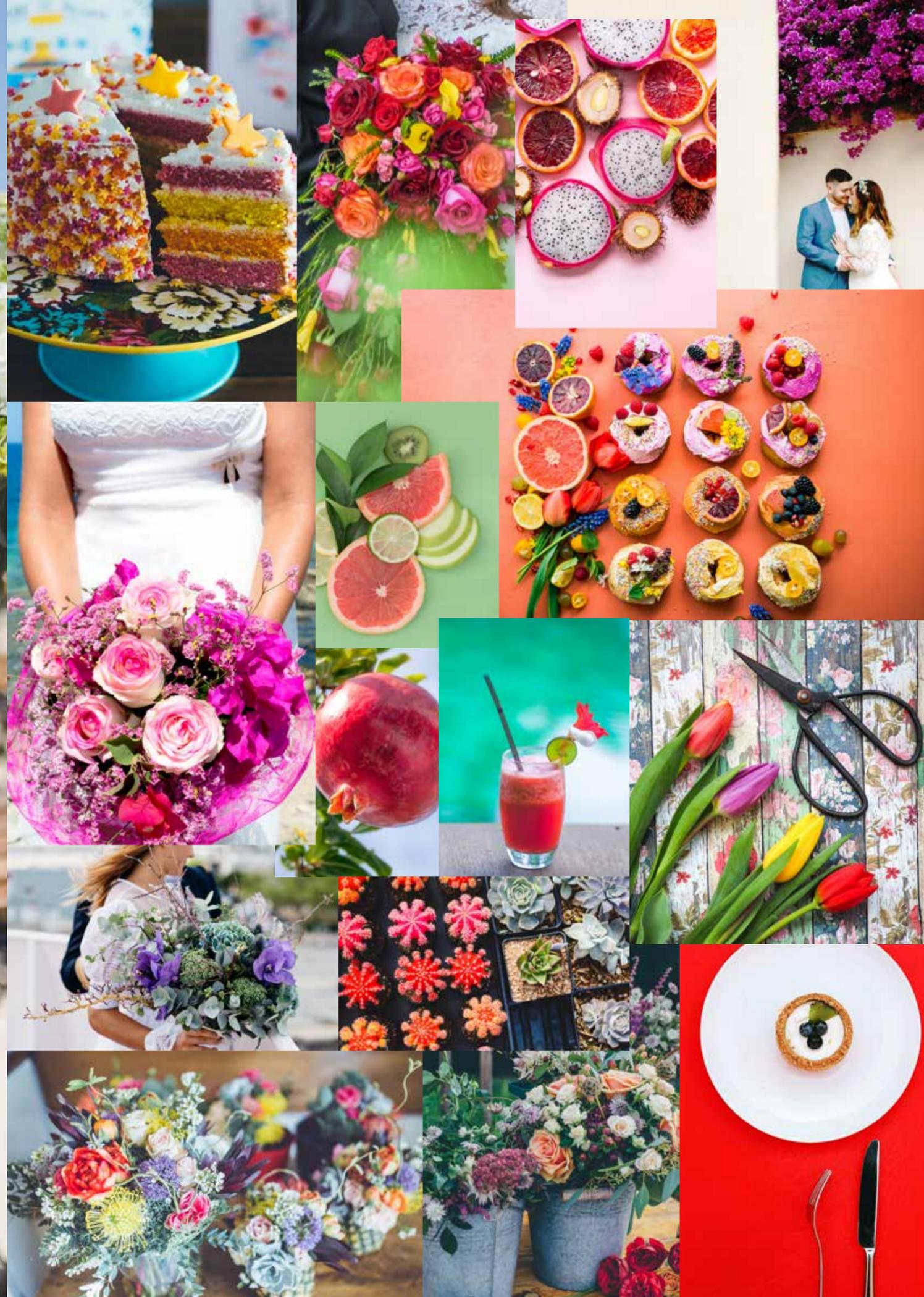
Another popular choice for 2017 is blush pink. From dusty grays and blues, brides are moving towards blush pinks which are great for rural nature of certain islands and locations around Greece. Think of countryside chic weddings with that Riviera or rustic chic look and feel. Get seduced by romantic extravagance and old style royal luxury. Imagine blush pink wedding dresses and boho chic dreamy beach weddings.





Bright 'n Bold

Be brave and go all out. Mix all bright and strong colors together. Think of fiesta summer party with bright red, yellow, orange, green, fuchsia, and bold pink. Greece is the country of Bougainvillea flowers, that come in all these strong and bold colors. Make a statement and enjoy your event in a sea of color! Check our colorful Indian wedding on page 125 or bold pink boho romance on page 137.



Summer jet-set cruise

Styled cover shoot

Greece is synonymous to the idea and image of sea and islands! Every island, of course, has its own charm and they vary in climate as well as their style or architecture. What better way to explore them all, than going on your own private cruise with a luxury catamaran or a yacht either before or after your wedding. Take your best friends or family for the trip of their lifetime.

Check out this issue's styled cover shoot with our lovely bride and her best bridesmaids relaxing and having fun on one of the luxury catamarans.



Photographer, Nikos Paliopoulos
 Model, Hazel Alcantara
 Dress design by La Cocotte
 Shoes, "Rose" in bordeaux by The Workshop
 Yacht, Nomicos Yachts



Photographer, Nikos Paliopoulos
 Model, Eleanna Mouliou, Hazel Alcantara,
 Aggeliki Vytinidi
 Drsses designed by La Cocotte and vintage Dress
 (left) by Yesterday's Bread
 Yacht, Nomicos Yachts



Ellwed Styled Cover Shoot Collaborators

Organizing, Preparation & Styling, Ellwed
 ellwed.com
 @ellwedmag

Photographer, Nikos Paliopoulos
 facebook.com/nikos.pal.31
 @nikos.pal

Clothes,
 Yesterday's Bread
 facebook.com/yesterdaysbreadathens
 @yesterdaysbread

La Cocotte
 facebook.com/lacocotteathens
 @lacocotteathens

Shoes,
 The Workshop
 www.theworkshopshoes.com
 @theworkshopshoes

Migato
 www.migato.com
 @migato

Models,
 Hazel Alcantara
 facebook.com/hazellnutt91
 @hazellnutt91

Eleanna Mouliou
 facebook.com/eleanna.mgmt
 @ele_annam

Aggeliki Vytinidi
 facebook.com/angie.wohoo
 @angievtyt

MUA, Hera Magaliou
 facebook.com/hera.theallpowerful
 @hera_magaliou

Decor & Behind the scenes, WBS team
 weddings.bysanya.com
 @weddings.bysanya

Yacht, Nomicos Yachts
 www.nomicos-yachts.com
 @wondersailing



*Dresses designed by La Cocotte and vintage
 Dress (right) by Yesterday's Bread
 Shoes, (left to right) Poem In Blue by The
 Workshop, Rose in Bordeaux by The Workshop,
 Mirabell in Lilac by the Workshop
 Yacht, Nomicos Yachts*



*Jumpsuit and skirt designed by La Cocotte,
Vintage top (right) by Yesterday's Bread
Shoes, (left to right) Monokeros in Mint by The
Workshop, Monokeros in Pink by the Workshop
Yacht, Nomicos Yachts*



*Kimono and high waisted shorts designed by La
Cocotte, Vintage top by Yesterday's Bread
Shoes, Cupcake in Pink by The Workshop
Yacht, Nomicos Yachts
Watch, Lencia*



Skirt and top designed by La Cocotte Sohes, Camel multistrap platform bt Migato Yacht, Nomicos Yachts



Vintage skirt and top by Yesterday's Bread Shoes, Yellow high-heel sandals by Migato Yacht, Nomicos Yachts



*Vintage high waisted zip culotte and top by Yesterday's Bread
Shoes, Rose in Blue by The Workshop Yacht, Nomicos Yachts*



*Vintage kaftan dress (left) and vintage dress (right) by Yesterday's Bread
Shoes, Cupcake in Pink by The Workshop (left), Cupcake in Teal by The Workshop Yacht, Nomicos Yachts
Bag, The Salty Bags*

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Photographer: Andreas Markakis

Real wedding – Vintage Glam Wedding in Crete

This vintage inspired glamorous wedding of Mikela and Giannis, was big and traditional and as every Greek wedding, it did not lack traditional elements. The day started with preparations at home, shoe signing and dressing up the bride. Once the bride was ready, a vintage car took her to the church, where the groom and everyone were already anxiously anticipating her arrival, where they first see each other. After the extended evening ceremony and customary rice throwing, everyone proceeds to the reception venue, where the party really starts. Now, take a look at the whole event, as captured by Andreas Markakis.



*Credits:
Photographer: Andreas Markakis
Wedding coordinators: Crete for Love
Wedding dress: Konstantinos Melis by Laskos
Bridal shoes: Christian Louboutin
Grooms shoes and suit: Hugo Boss
Stefana and rings handmade by: Katerina Makriyanni
Floral arrangements: Sempolia
Catering service: Moderno*



From Andreas:

"Despite being friends of mine, this was a couple I most definitely wanted to photograph on their wedding day. Mikela and I have worked on many photo-shoots and projects together as she is a fantastic makeup artist, hair stylist, prop designer, and actress among other things! A truly talented person, with a love and passion is in costume design. She absolutely adored the idea of being a vintage bride, and I knew beforehand that she would look stunning. So I was beyond excited and honored to capture their day. The best part was the enormous Oak tree in the background over the dance floor. It felt like the soul of a gigantic tree was there to protect and shield the couple onto their new lifelong journey to come. Rightfully, the wedding was themed after it."



Photographer: Andreas Markakis

Real wedding – Indian Fairytale Wedding in Rhodes



By looking at the images, you would think that we made a mistake and published a wedding from India. But I assure you, we did no such thing! This Indian fairytale actually happened on the island of Rhodes, one of the biggest and most popular Greek destinations. Natasha and Deepak came from the UK and chose Princess Adriana hotel for their amazing Indian wedding in Greece. Vivaah sankskar or wedding ceremony, as it's called in India, is traditionally conducted in Sanskrit, the language of holy ceremonies. The couple organized the event mostly on their own and the whole wedding was captured by Magdalene Kourti, a documentary wedding photographer.



From Magdalene:

"Being a wedding photographer means sharing beautiful moments. Covering a Hindu wedding, means sharing a-m-a-z-i-n-g moments! We experienced the Milni accompanied by a cocktail party at the hotel. The Indian ceremony and Doli took place at the coral beach area and the day ended with a great party under fireworks!"



Photographer: Magdalene Kouriti



Photographer: Magdalene Kourti

Photographer: Magdalene Kourti



Photographer: Anna Roussos

Real wedding – Tropical Greek wedding on Anafi

Not far from the popular island of Santorini, one can visit the small island of Anafi and its beautiful sandy beaches. This tropical paradise Greek wedding of Maria and Nikos is the definition of special. Why? Because it is real-life proof of what happens when a wedding planner becomes a bride. Maria, from Tie the Knot in Santorini, decided to plan her own small private tropically-inspired wedding on the beach. "We chose to have our destination wedding and exchange vows in front of our nearest & dearest, on the beach with the sand between our toes." explains Maria. Since, she knows the job inside out and with the help of her friends, she knew exactly where to start. The whole event was decorated in the style they both love. Cacti were placed on the tables, guests received handmade favor bags with trending tropical

prints and surf elements were everywhere. Event was captured by Anna Roussos, a destination wedding photographer from Greece.



- Credits:**
Photography: Anna Roussos
Planning & design: Tie The Knot in Santorini
Florals: Betty Flowers Santorini
Wedding Dress: Nidodileda
Cake: Alexandra's Cake
Wedding Stationery: Bright White
Reception Venue: Margarita Anafi
Makeup: Renia Bledaki
DJ: Constantine Kalfakakos
Arch, Signs + Macrame Creations: Weddings & Whimsy
Bar Catering: Barflies
Favor Bags: We Wear Young
Sound + Light: Multimedia Events
Tableware + Linens: White Lilac

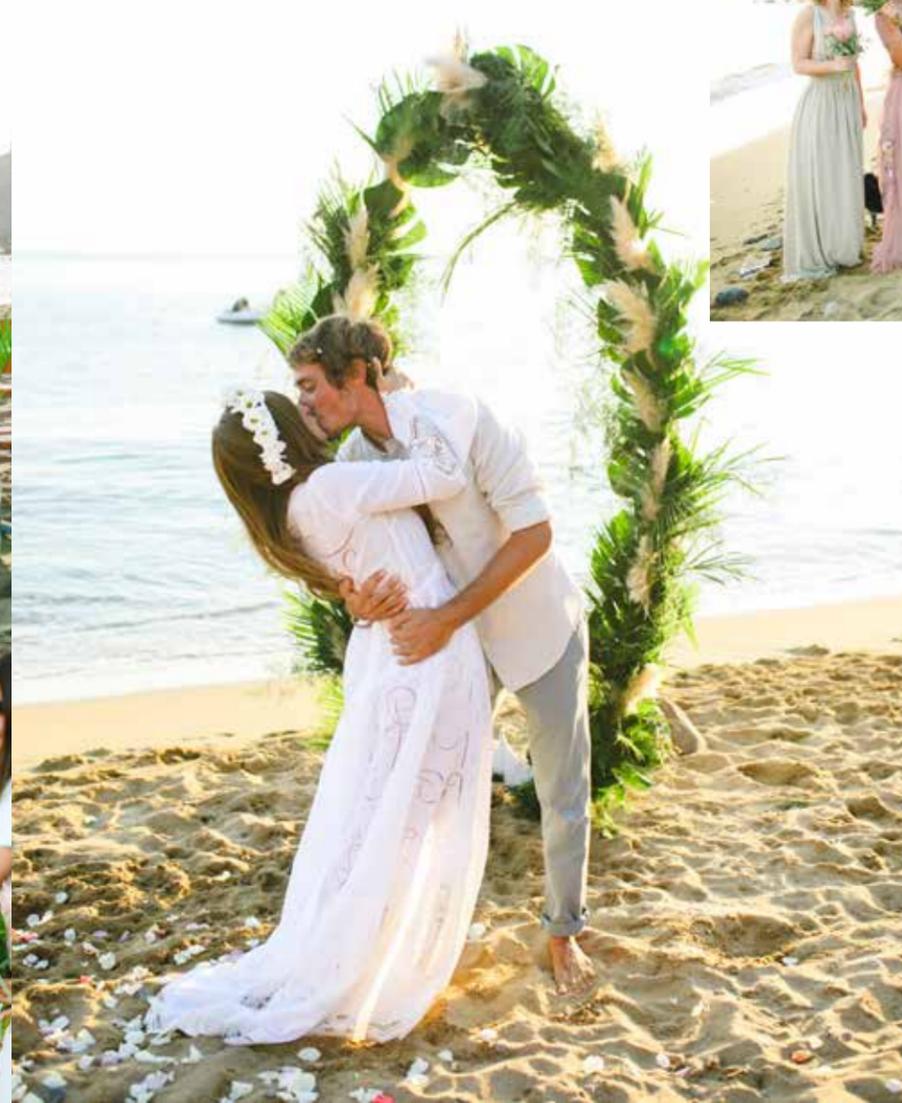
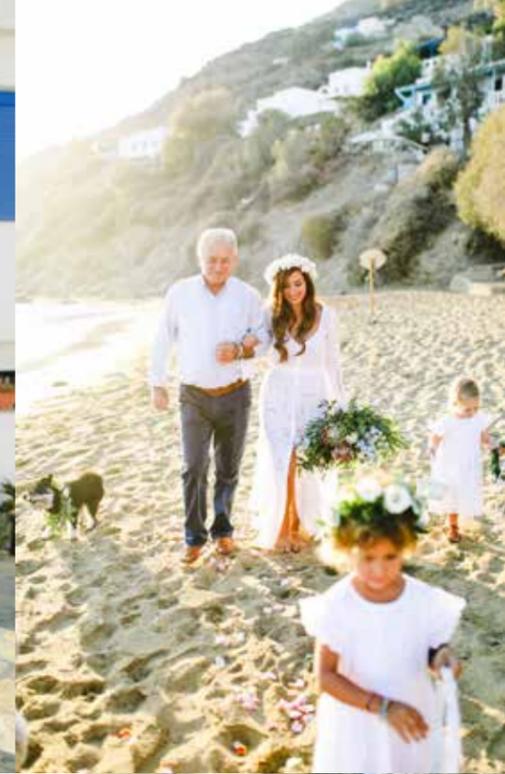


From the bride:

"A fun, relaxing, bohemian atmosphere was our vision for our wedding day. While designing the wedding, I tried to incorporate elements that both Nikos and myself love. Details that would make us feel comfy and express our personalities. Nikos loves to surf. As a tribute to his passion for surfing, we designed, with Weddings & Whimsy, a surfboard shaped wedding arch! I love tropical and botanical elements and I am a sucker for palm prints and cacti plants. This is why our wedding ceremony was held under a big palm tree, our We Wear Young favor bags were made in tropical prints and the tablescape was full of cacti details!

Potted plants of ivy and fern hung from macramé creations and gorgeous peacock chairs were some of my favorite bohemian elements of the wedding styling. Our color palette was a combination of soft yellow, blush, powder blue and loads of greenery! You can imagine my excitement when a few months later "Greenery" was announced as the Pantone color of 2017. Being a wedding planner turned bride was such a fun and creative process and our wedding was truly the happiest day of our lives."







Photographer: Dimitris Giouvriss

Styled Wedding - Bohemian Romance at the Athenian Riviera

What better way to get inspired for your wedding in Greece than these romantic photos of a chic styled wedding. The wedding story, which is set in the great Athenian Riviera, captured the sense of style found in Greek islands, while being just an hour away from the Athens city centre. The event was covered by photographer Dimitris Giouvriss.



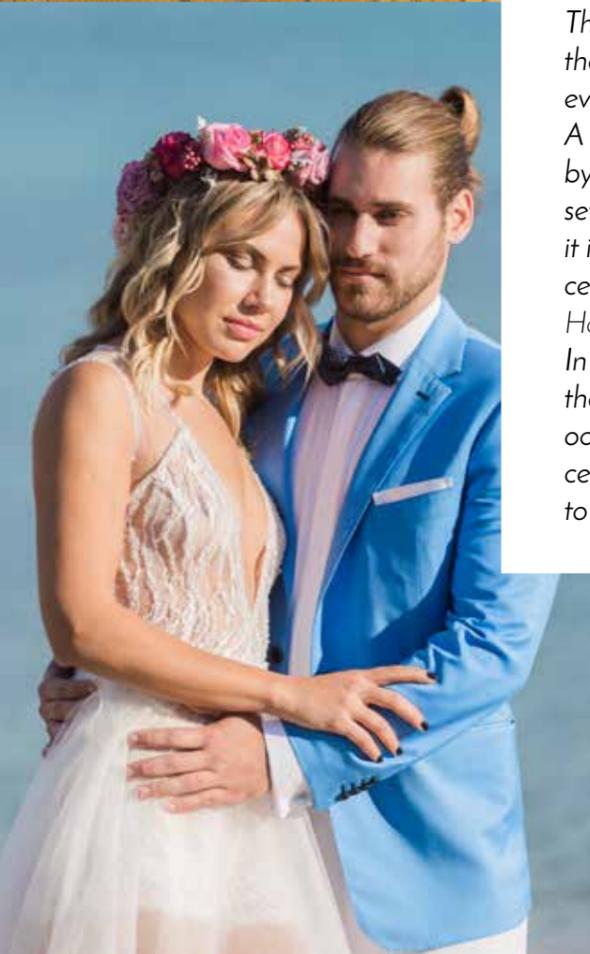
Credits:

Eclectic Events Greece - Event Planning/Concept Design
Dimitris Giouvriss Photography - Photo
Grand Resort Lagonissi Resort - Venue
Theofilos Venardos Photography - Backstage Photo
Wed Memories - Video
Nox Lumos - Backstage Video
Harmantas Flower Creations - Flower Decoration
Kathy Heyndels Haute Couture- Wedding Gowns
Giannetos Handmade - Groom's Attire
Kokos - Wedding Shoes
Gemini Hairartists - Hair & Make-Up
Zazoo Event Rentals - Event Rentals
Just Invite By Art & Vision - Invitations And More
Party Mobile Services - Event & Entertainment Production



From Dimitris:

The grand peninsula of the Athens Riviera was the backdrop of the styled photo-shoot and Eclectic Events Greece, who planned every detail of this bohemian chic wedding. A simple yet modern Save The Date and invitation, designed by Just Invite, with the colored heart-shaped fingertips and the setting name cards "Me" & "You", speaks eloquently of love and it is ideal for couples who love holding each other's hand and celebrate their love every day. The fresh and vibrant flowers by Harmantas Flower Creations create a boho and aerial sensation. In addition, the elegant wooden monastery-style dinner table, that accommodates our exotic centerpieces, combined with the oak-Louis style dining chairs, by Zazoo Event Rentals, add a certain mix-and-match, modern, sophisticated but also rustic twist to our story.



Angelique, was laughing and enjoyed every moment of this special day, as she shined in her airy wedding gowns made by Kathy Heyndels, with their ethnic elements, embroidered by hand semi-precious stones and crystal details, as well as impressive and revealing back endings and tulle/silk tails. Her hair and makeup was taken care by Gemini Hair Artists and her shoes were handmade by KOKO Shoes.

As George walked barefoot on the sunny beach, he never stopped watching Angelique bearing a happy and playful look in his eyes. He made a difference in his outfit, as he wore an eccentric, electric blue slim fit jacket and white trousers, with a 100% silk self tie bow all made by Giannetos Handmade.

All back-stage photo credits belong to Theofilos Venardos, video credits to WedMemories with NoxLumos filming backstage and special thanks to Grand Resort Lagonissi! See the video on vimeo.com/201094168



Styled Wedding - Countryside Boho Wedding in Crete

Just by looking at the whimsical images from this styled wedding from Crete, you can see the raw provincial nature and architecture combined with boho elements and styles. The story was set in Apokoronas region, where you can find a unique combination of sea, beaches and mountain villages. With a 2008 Olympian synchronized swimmer bride, Eleni Tziraki dressed by Xamam, this boho chic wedding story happened near the historic chapel and the family vineyards Dourakis and was planned by Crete for Love wedding planners. See the video on vimeo.com/161015738. The event was captured by Andreas Markakis.



Photographer: Andreas Markakis



Wedding planners: Crete for Love
Model: Eleni Tziraki
Clothing & accessories provided by: Xamam-Philosophy to wear
Dress at chapel: Kourbela Ioanna
Dress at Dourakis winery: La Vaca Loca
Leather accessories: Iro Garofalaki-Hellenic Inspirations
Accessories with semiprecious: Maria Mastori
Shoes: Sandali, Love my shoes
Floral arrangements by: Green Factory
Furniture by: ZAIRA Collection
Special thank you for the hospitality, & wine, at Dourakis winery
The creative team:
Photographer: Andreas Markakis Photography
Hair & Make-up: Mikela Papadoulaki
Cinematography: Giannis Vaidomarkakis
Photo & video assistant: Agie Tomara
Drone videography: Kostas Verganelakis



Photographer: Andreas Markakis

Photographer: Andreas Markakis

Venue Reviews from Greater Athens

A given fact is that Greece does not lack in choices as far as the destination for your wedding is concerned. The same applies to wedding venues. Although islands might be the preferred destination for tourist brides, local brides will try to choose something closer to home and the capital city. Discover these three venues around Attica or Greater Athens area that we at Ellwed chose for you.



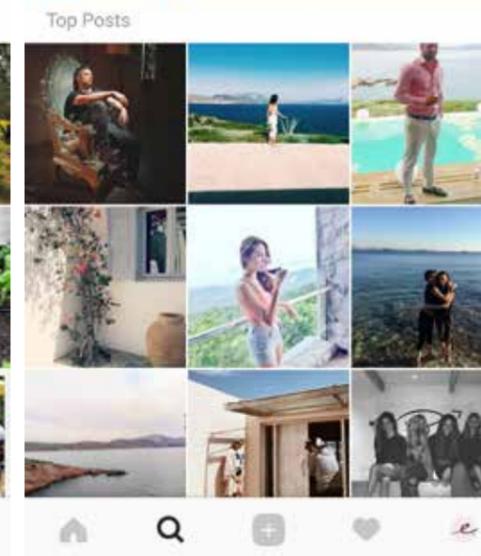
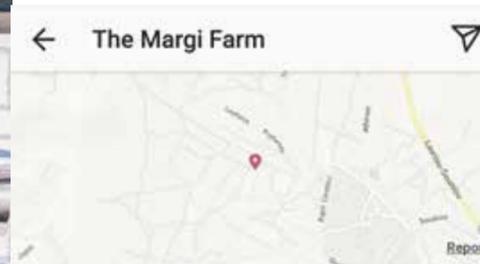
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CEREMONY . RECEPTION



Please note that these are objective opinions of each place and are formed solely on the idea of weddings and events. The article is only supposed to contribute to the bride's decision to choose the right venue for her wedding in Greece. These reviews are meant to promote the locations and venues in Greece. The reviews are not in any way meant to discredit or slander any professionals, companies, locations or venues.

The Margi Farm

@themargifarm, margifarm.gr/en

This trending "back to nature" venue will bring you down to earth. Literary. Leave technology behind, relax and rejuvenate at the Margi Farm. You don't have to go far to discover and enjoy traditional Greek farm life. Indulge yourself in organic homegrown food with its own story and specially selected dishes from their private chef. Photos from margifarm.gr/en

Pros

Perfect for smaller private weddings or social events
Perfect for your group activities before the wedding
Surrounded by nature, vineyards and olive trees
Fresh organic seasonal food
Seasonal dishes from their-own grown vegetables
Connected to nature
Guided farm life activities
Private Chef
Live cooking
Lovely scenery
Modern rustic designs
Great for nature-inspired photoshoots
New fresh look and rustic design
Organized transportation from The Margi Hotel

Cons

For nature lovers, open spaces
Further away from the beachside
No view of the sea, surrounded by land
Recipes from the farm's seasonal produce
Set menu and activities
Not suitable for bigger groups



Not suitable for traditional weddings
Island Art and Taste

@islandathensriviera, www.islandartandtaste.gr
If no venue has it all, this one comes pretty close. Island Athens Riviera or Island Art and Taste is a cluster of venues with a bar, restaurant, club, private house and a shop. Choose your style of plates, tables, cutlery and chairs from the ones offered for your lavish event. Get pampered by their team of professionals and choose one of the many venues that is just right for your event.

Pros

Open view of the sea
Many venues in one location
Venues with indoor spaces
Bar, club, restaurant nearby
Island designs
Each venue has a different design
In-house catering
Secluded areas
Well-equipped with everything you need for your event
Various tableware and chair choices
Guarded parking
Good for receptions and ceremonies

Cons

Exposed to nature elements and especially wind
Possible other events happening on the same day
Possible clubbing options in the vicinity
No activities
Not suitable for autumn and winter events
Further from Athens or city
Not suitable for rainy days for bigger events



Limni Vouliagmeni

@vouliagmeni_lake, www.limnivouliagmenis.gr/en
This natural wonder will most probably take your breath away. The Vouliagmeni Lake, with its impressive cliffs, thermal waters and VIP area for your private events is situated in the heart of the Athenian Riviera. You have it all in one spot, from a unique thermal experience to wellness and leisure. Choose a perfect spot for your party in this geological phenomenon up until the morning hours.

Pros

- Impressive view of majestic rock walls and calm lake
- Can swim in the lake
- Activities for guests
- VIP or private area, secluded and gated space for your party
- Green lawn with tall pine trees
- Good for ceremonies as well as receptions /dinner or other events
- Impressive scenery
- Easy to reach, in the heart of the Athens Riviera
- Bar and restaurant nearby
- Different places to choose
- Stage with electricity and metal construction
- Natural rustic, Greek designs

Cons

- For nature lovers, open spaces
- No sea or sunset view
- Not suitable for very big weddings or events
- Toilets outside the VIP area
- VIP area is open air place - must rent a tent in case of rain
- Open to other guests of the lake
- Possible other social events and happenings




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Honeymoon - 3 destinations in Greece

If you choose Greece as the destination for your wedding, you can easily combine it with your honeymoon. Did you ever think of island hopping? Greece, with its clusters of islands, is a perfect destination for something like that. Depending on your time and budget, you definitely have many options. Choose between luxury villas on the beach or secluded landbound chic farm houses, typical or fortress hotels, or even luxury yachts or bare boat sailing yachts.

*Check our blog on rustic hotels, villas around Greece
ellwed.com/blog*

For our first issue, we prepared three not so typically tourist options for a relaxed honeymoon.





Monemvasia:
 Travel back in time and stay protected behind the fortress city walls of Monemvasia.
 More on our blog
<https://ellwed.com/discover-monemvasia-medieval-city>

Elafonisos
 Go off the grid on the beautiful paradise beaches at the end of the Peloponnese on the small island of Elafonisos.





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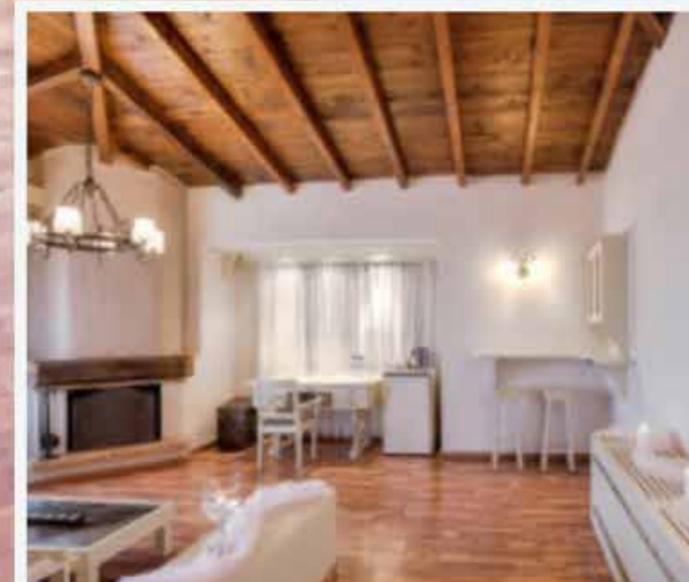
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For Brides

Attention all brides!

Do you still have questions on weddings in Greece?

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All best questions and answers will be published in the next ellwed issue.

If you can't wait till then, head over to our Bridal Community. Its free to join and we can answer right away.

www.facebook.com/groups/ellwed.bridal.community

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Paiania, Athens Greece



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For PRO's

USE #ELLWEDMAG TO GET FEATURED ON OUR INSTAGRAM

Attention all Pro's!

Do you have a usefull advice to give or a story to tell? Send us your advice for brides to be and get featured in the next ellwed autumn issue.

We would love to hear your advice and see your work.

submit@ellwed.com

All best stories and useful advice will be published in the next ellwed issue.

If you want to get free education and network with Pro's all over Greece and abroad, head over to our Pro's Community. Its free to join.

www.facebook.com/groups/ellwed.pros.community/

Learn with Anna Roussos, our featured photographer. One on One Photography mentoring at annaroussosworkshops.com



One on One Photography Sessions With Anouschka Rokebrand at anouschkarokebrand.com/mentorsessions

All photos from the owner's websites

Attend Boheme Workshop in 2017 at www.boheme-studio.com



Bridal Expo and Fashion Show NewLife 19-22.1.2018 in M.E.C. Paiania, Athens Greece, apply for participation at www.newlife-expo.gr



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