

HONEYM N

TRAVEL & DESTINATION WEDDINGS

The Complete Bridal Salon & Plaza

10 East Main Street, Rt. 72

East Dundee, IL 60118

Honeymoon Checklist

9 Months to 1 Year Before

- Determine what time of year you would like to Honeymoon, whether directly after your Wedding or a more convenient time. Spring Break, Christmas Holidays, Valentine's Day Week, or a destination that has a music island music festival, or some kind of sports tournament, that week can be more expensive.
- Pick your Honeymoon destination based on the best weather for your month of travel .Example: Costa Rica has a rainy and dry season.
- Evaluate how much money you can spend on your Honeymoon and set a realistic budget.
- Check out airfares and flight times before you set your heart on a destination or resort. Mondays may not have nonstop flights versus waiting and flying out on a weekend.
- Research your chosen destination.
- Check travel-warning sites about your destination. Research destination for vaccinations or medical clearances needed
- IMPORTANT: Find a travel agent who specializes in your destination or Honeymoon type, or do the research yourself. Ask friends for insights, but don't base your final decision based on what resort was perfect for them.
- Purchase Travel Insurance. You want cancel for any Reason Insurance. Remember your health insurance may not cover you out of the country.
- If you are interested in the local language, begin learning that language.
- Register for your Honeymoon (optional) – some couples choose to have a Honeymoon registry in lieu of gifts. This is a great way to affordably pay for your dream Honeymoon! Honeymoon Travel offers a free registry.
- You can lock in the resort rate this year. Many resorts will allow you to book in at today's rate, you can add the air when it comes available usually 9 or 10 months out from your date.
- Get your passport. Usually there is at least a 2 month wait. Brides must travel in their maiden name. Names must be an exact match on the air and resort letter for letter in reservations as on passport. Research requirements for travel visas and apply for a visa if necessary.
- Start a folder online for all emails and conversations. If you don't have it in writing , you don't have it. Keep all receipts in a folder, and bring it along
- Book excursions, massages, dinners on the beach, and shows or special dinners, especially if you want something on the next few days after you arrive.
- Create a Honeymoon packing list to see what clothing or items need to be purchased. Look out for holiday sales!

1 Week Before

- Begin packing, review packing list.
- Pick up any clothing, equipment or luggage that you're borrowing.
- Pick up dry cleaning.
- Set up "out of office" auto-reply for email accounts.
- Purchase prescriptions (leave in original bottles), toiletries, magazines or books for the trip.
- Buy snack food and wine, check airplane regulations on liquids.
- Confirm travel reservations and flight schedules again.
- Arrange for the transportation of your bags to your Wedding night suite or other location from where you're departing. Confirm ride to airport.

Day of Departure

- Confirm flight schedules.
- Make sure all passports, visas, money, ID and paperwork are easily accessible and secure in carry-on bag.
- Arrive at the airport early, at least one hour ahead for domestic flights and two hours ahead for international flights.
- Tell everyone you meet that you're Honeymooners from the airline check-in, plane staff, resort check-in, concierge, restaurant staff, etc. This will get you luxury treatment on your Honeymoon.
- Enjoy your Honeymoon!

Odds & Ends

- Bring single \$1 dollars about 100 and a few \$5 and \$10's, These are for tips rewarding staff for service over and above.
- Aqua sox or water shoes as they are called are a must for walking in the hot sand, going into the ocean where it is rocky, on a catamaran or around of the swimming pools where it is slippery.
- I bring a candle or spray for the room if it has a musty smell when it is very humid
- A waterproof camera is really almost a must. you can use it in and around the pool and never worry that you may lose your Honeymoon photos.
- Bring a soft sided small cooler
- A Pair of stainless steel mugs for your drinks at the pool or beach
- 2 or 3 small combination locks to lock up your suitcases in the room. I will put my laptop, cell, or tablet inside the suitcase and then run the charger
- into the suitcase when I am out of the room.
- A couple of mini flashlights or walking around after dark, to read a menu in a dark restaurant or in the room in the middle of the night.
- Don't store your credit card style room key next to your cell phone, it will demagnetize the card and you will have to keep going to the lobby to get a new card. You could waste an hour.
- Throw some hangers in your suitcase, there are never enough.
- I bring a couple of small old towels to put on the loungers by the pool, sometimes you have to reserve the best locations before 8AM and the towel stand is not open.
- For best service tip the maid at the beginning of the week, Don't wait to the end.
- Bring a bunch of ziplock bags so you can make a snack from the buffet if you are going on an excursion, or for your flight back on the plane.

- Men you will need long pants no jeans, a dress /golf shirt (no T's), a dress shoes for most fine dining gourmet restaurants in the evening.
- Confirm your transfer pick up time a few days prior the end of your Honeymoon back to the airport.
- Don't waste your time going to a time share meeting . they will run you over the coals. A free 1/2 hour massage is not worth the harassment.
- Know what the exchange rate is on the dollar, and NEVER pay a vendors 1st asking price, Learn the art of haggling. But tip well for excellent service.
- Inside your suitcase right on top make a big sign saying (Your Name) is staying at the (Resort Name) from (dates) . This is in case your luggage is lost. You can add your cell phone , email, tour operator and booking number.