

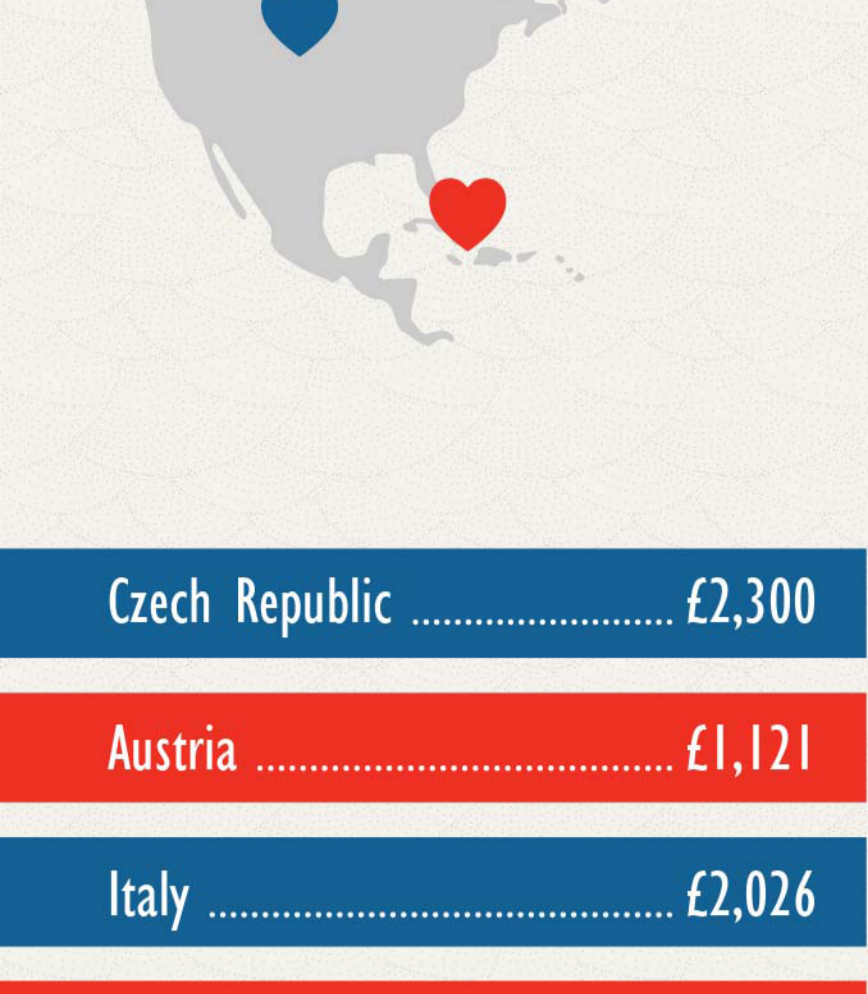
# GETTING MARRIED ABROAD

Your wedding day is one you'll remember forever.  
Tying the knot abroad can make it even more special and save you some money.



## AVERAGE COST PER COUNTRY

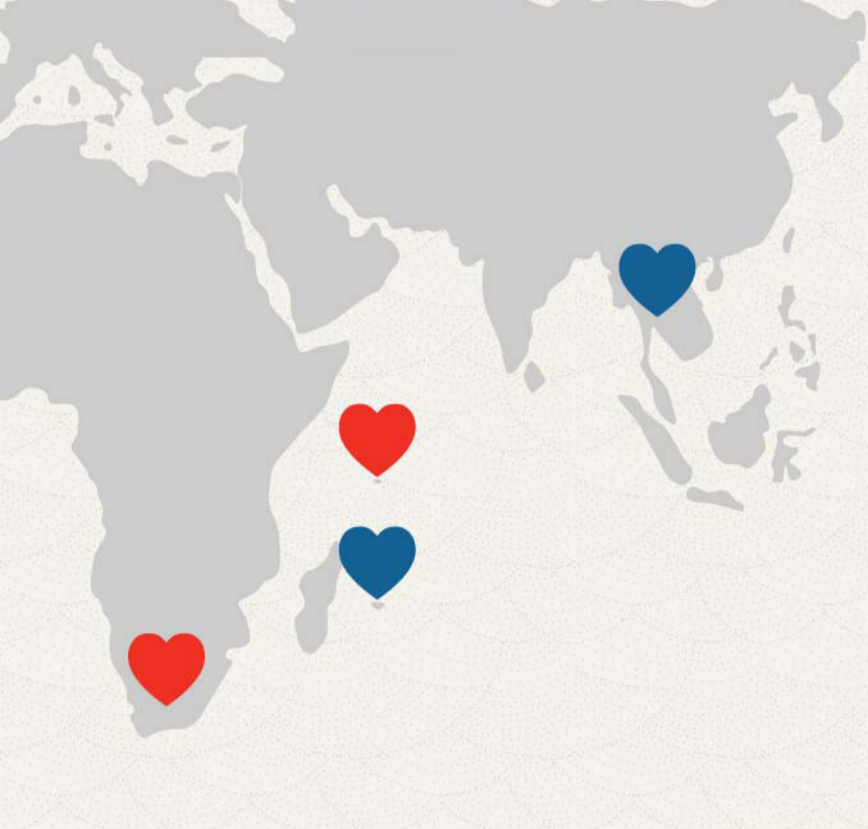
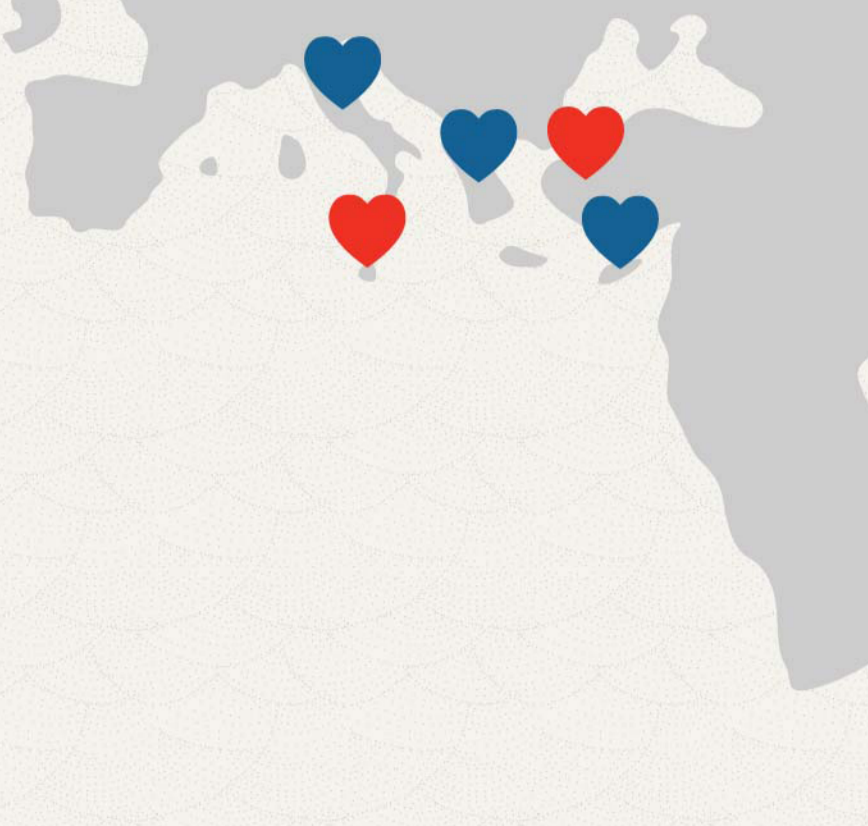
Prices for weddings in some of the more popular destinations<sup>(1)</sup> (not including flights):



Iceland	£1,259
Canada	£1,965
USA	£488
Caribbean	Free*

\*If you stay a certain number of nights at some resorts

Czech Republic	£2,300
Austria	£1,121
Italy	£2,026
Malta	£459
Greece	£700
Turkey	£673
Cyprus	£557



Thailand	£2,004
Seychelles	£597
Mauritius	£414
South Africa	£862

TYPICALLY INCLUDED IN THESE COSTS

- VENUE
- CELEBRANT
- LEGAL GUIDELINES
- SEATING FOR GUESTS

SOME PACKAGES ALSO INCLUDE

- FLOWERS FOR THE BRIDE
- BUTTONHOLE FOR THE GROOM
- A FEW WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHS

## ADDITIONAL CHARGES

- Legal documentation (translation / apostille costs)
- Wedding reception and meal
- Entertainment
- Decorative flowers
- Hair / makeup
- Full set of photographs
- Flights and accommodation

OTHER COST CONSIDERATIONS

- THE REGION YOU'D LIKE TO GET MARRIED IN
- THE TIME OF YEAR
- THE NUMBER OF GUESTS
- THE COST OF FOOD AND DRINK
- EXCHANGE RATES

- If you're staying in Europe, Greece and Cyprus are beautiful, cheaper and easy to reach on budget flights - handy for your guests.
- Getting married in winter may keep the price lower, as long as it's not around Christmas or New Year.

## DESTINATIONS BY TYPE OF WEDDING

CYPRUS

**Church weddings**

All the paperwork is in English and most churches cater both to Anglican and Catholic denominations.

GREECE

**Big family weddings**

Affordable option if you're looking to go all out with family and friends in tow, with excellent weather year-round.

S. AFRICA

CROATIA

ITALY

ICELAND

HAWAII

PORTUGAL

**Same-sex weddings and civil partnerships**

All are good options for legally recognised same-sex weddings or civil partnerships.

- If you're booking with a hotel, pay close attention to what the wedding packages include and how flexible they are on tailoring to your wishes.

## HOW TO PAY FOR YOUR WEDDING

Make sure you know your options for sending money abroad to pay for the big day.

International money transfers are offered by:

- Banks and building societies
- Foreign exchange (FX) brokers
- High street transfer firms (i.e. Western Union)

- Don't go with the first exchange rate you find. If you can afford to wait, shop around and compare rates.

**Check for hidden fees**

Always check the provider's upper and lower limits.

Will they charge you for transferring below a certain amount?

Would you better off paying a lump sum instead of smaller, frequent payments that will incur more charges?

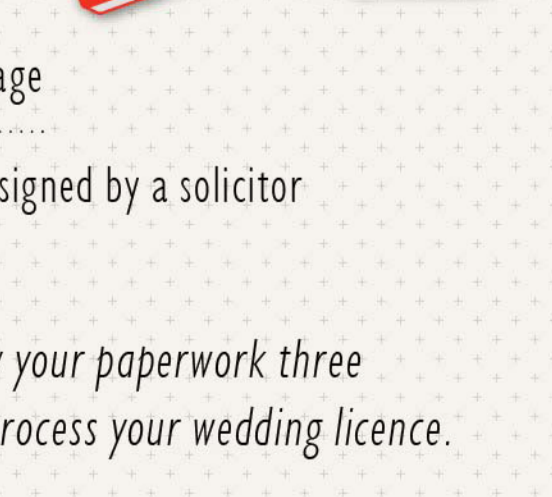
**Paying in another currency**

Some service suppliers will accept other currencies (such as US Dollars), and if the rate is more favourable, it might be better to pay in a currency that will offer you more value for money.

## LEGAL PAPERWORK

To avoid any 'legal impediments', you'll usually need to supply the following:<sup>(4)</sup>

- Birth certificates
- If adopted, an adoption certificate
- A 10-year passport (valid for at least 6 months)
- If widowed, a death certificate and previous marriage certificate
- An affidavit signed by a solicitor stating no legal objection to the marriage
- If your name has been changed by deed poll, proof of this stamped and signed by a solicitor



A good tour operator should ask you to supply your paperwork three months in advance, leaving plenty of time to process your wedding licence.

## BACK IN THE UK

LEGAL DETAILS

- There's no legal requirement to register your foreign marriage or civil partnership with the General Register Office (GRO).
- If your certificate is in a foreign language you will need an official translation of it, especially if it's to be used for official purposes.
- A UK court will recognise a foreign marriage as valid<sup>(5)</sup> as long as it is legal in the country you get hitched in.

## SOURCES

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/average-british-wedding-cost-uk-27000-hitched-venue-honeymoon-food-london-midlands-a7937551.html>  
2. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/financial-services/currency-exchange/international-money-transfers/getting-married-abroad/>  
3. <https://www.weddingabroadguide.com/weddings-abroad-prices.html>  
4. <https://www.101honeymoons.co.uk/getting-married-abroad/>  
5. <https://www.gov.uk/marriage-abroad>