

Your Santorini Wedding: Step By Step Plan

1. First of all make sure and carefully read over the 'Your Santorini Wedding' website pages on TIPS & ADVICE, note the information about travel dates etc. before you set in stone an exact date.
2. Familiarise yourself with the SANTORINI MAP, get to know the well known and popular areas for holding weddings or for accommodation. (Fira, Imerovigli, Oia, Kamari, Perissa)
3. Try have an idea of your NUMBER OF GUESTS attending, this is essential for doing any research into booking certain venues and helps planning your overall budget.
4. Decide on what TYPE OF DAY you think you would prefer either a Caldera view ceremony & reception (the volcano side of the Island) or a Caldera view ceremony & seaside view reception in Kamari/Perissa might suit you and your guests wants & needs better.
5. Take time looking at the various LINKS ON THE WEBSITE for popular hotels & restaurants that cater for wedding functions on a regular basis. You can contact them directly about dates available, sample menus and prices or for any other queries you might have.
6. If you decide to use one of the many hotels who offer FULL WEDDING PACKAGES and planning, you may not need a separate planner, but if you decide to have the local help of a well known planner for the legal aspects contact them as soon as you have a date in mind to reserve it and book the registrar for the ceremony. Most wedding planner packages are for the ceremony only and allow you to organise the wedding reception. Please see advice on selecting planners on the website before selecting your planner.
7. Once you have the DATE SET YOU CAN START PLANNING on all the other aspects depending on the sort of venue you are opting for (at this stage you could send out your invitations unless you want the venue details written on them) use tripadvisor for independent reviews for hotels restaurants and planners.

TYPE a .A hotel ceremony/reception (all in the same venue)

Look at pictures of the wedding area, ask about the decorations they use, see menus available, price per head, waiter serviced or buffet meal , wedding cake selection and price, wine price list, bar drinks price list. Room rates available per night, if you are only staying here for the wedding night they nearly always offer discount as you are having your wedding with them .Find out any rules/regulations on music or entertainment, if you want a dj, weather have they dancefloor area and what time can you have the music until ? Are you allowed fireworks ?Once you know these things and you are happy with it all you have to do is a seating plan for your meal if you want one that is. Once you have your venue confirmed you can start booking your dj, fireworks, hair/makeup, putting research into your photographer and transport options using the direct links to service providers on the website.

Type b .A Winery / chapel ceremony & restaurant reception.

See winery options available find out if any rental rates apply to the ceremony sites. Look at restaurant options available taking into account your party size, distance from ceremony site, transport costs, what decorations are used, menus available , price per head, wedding cake selection and price, waiter serviced or buffet, wine and drinks price list, firework regulations, private toilets, if any dj is allowed as not all will allow them and some might have restrictions on the time they are allowed play until, do they have a dancefloor area for your party. All these aspects will help you determine which options will suit you best.
8. At this stage you have all aspects of planning covered and everything will be coming together for you. Concentrate on your dress, shoes, accessories, bridesmaids, grooms suit, wedding rings, any specific decorations you want, colour themes ,flower selection and colour, your first dance song, specific music selection for the dj ,planning any other events for the holiday like sunset boat trips , group nights out or day trips, holiday bookings for you and guests, car hire etc.etc.etc.
9. Keep in contact with your planner all the time and know the deadline for having all paperwork sent to them. Send to them with plenty of time to spare to check in case anything is amiss or wrong.
10. Enjoy the exciting lead up to the wedding, relax on the day so you can fully enjoy it.

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