



A Valentine's proposal.....so now what?!

Valentine's day is one of the classic days of the year to propose, so with lots of happy couples currently on the look out for that perfect wedding location, how do they go about deciding where to make their lifetime commitment and still start married life in the black?

Free information website www.marryabroad.co.uk thinks they have the answer to this question, and to many of the other dilemmas which bridal couples face.

Dilemma 1

How to not bankrupt yourself in a credit crunch and still have the wedding you've always dreamed of.

Dilemma 2

How to not offend friends and family but still have the perfect day.

Dilemma 3

How to have your dream day without your wedding planning taking over your life.

Solution

Choose an experience wedding planner and have your wedding abroad!

It's a well known fact that the average UK wedding costs around £20,000 so it's no wonder that more and more couples are deciding to save their pennies for a house rather than a wedding, and are getting married for less than half the price abroad.

This is backed up by a report from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) which shows how overseas marriages have increased over the past few years. By 2010 an estimated 55,000 weddings each year will take place overseas according to the ONS report, with 36% of those overseas weddings taking place in Europe, and couples aged 25-34 most likely to get married abroad.

The research firm Mintel concurs with this analysis, stating that the sector has grown by fifty percent between 2001 and 2005, and is still growing year on year.

The growth of this sector is good news for www.marryabroad.co.uk which has seen a rise in enquiries and visitors since Christmas. A free wedding information site, www.marryabroad.co.uk features a wide choice of wedding providers around the world and gives help and advice to couples looking for the best destination in which to get married.

Charlotte Hand from the site says "the research backs up our experience as www.marryabroad.co.uk has grown strongly since it started and shows no sign of slowing down. Couples are no longer content to compromise their special day for the sake of family feelings, and it has become much more acceptable to go off and have a small wedding abroad, with a large party to celebrate once they have returned home."

Three years on from its launch, the site is definitely not feeling the pinch as couples search for the most cost effective wedding location they can find. So far this year, and despite the current euro rate, Greece has started the year as the most viewed country, with Spain and Italy closing fast. However, perhaps the snow last week inspired more couples as Canada has now become the most viewed non-eurozone country, followed by Australia (for couples wanting to escape the snow!).

Economies may ebb and flow but marriages will still take place, it's just a question of where.

ONS reference:

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/PT133_part2.pdf