

Worldwide Weddings



Bernadette Chapman scours the globe for fabulous ideas to incorporate into your big day

As we know is getting smaller with travelling and working abroad, falling and marrying someone with a different and nationality. In fact 25% of my clients a different country with bi-cultural ships. Many choose to marry here in the make it a weekend affair with guests from across the world. I love it when I get the chance to mix other cultures and bring elements of different traditions into a client's wedding; it makes the couple's wedding unique and utterly special. This truly is what a wedding is about, people in love, joining their families and together. What better way to say to your future family, I love you and I love you and nationality, let's have a wedding which celebrates and acknowledges the differences? You have to follow the crowd, be adventurous, and be creative. Are you getting married? Do I have your attention? Read my blog on how to incorporate some elements from other countries into your wedding.

AUSTRALIA

Wedding in Australia is a 'once in a lifetime' event as pompous and big as the couple can have. The ceremony itself can be a casual affair



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where the guests don't usually dress for the occasion but it is at the reception where they change and practically 'show off' in their best outfits and gowns! It is also very common for many of the guests not to attend the ceremony, although they will all be present at the reception. Church ceremonies often have the 'unity' candles, (see my comments on America). Traditionally the couple save the top part of the wedding cake to eat on their first anniversary and the second layer for the christening of the first baby.

STEAL

1. Rather than a formal greeting line take a tip from the Aussies and announce the wedding party instead. Invite all your guests into dinner then line up the wedding party outside the room. Each couple of the bridal party and parents are announced into the room individually with huge applause and cheers.
2. Kitchen tea: close female friends shower the bride with all she needs for the kitchen. They usually play silly games to prepare the wife for married life (i.e. hanging cloths on the line and so on).

For weddings in Australia contact Deborah at Just Get Married www.justgetmarried.com

AMERICA

Americans and English are renowned for having a close relationship, and falling in love is no exception. Regardless of whether it is an American girl or boy, they love coming to the UK to marry. I have seen many of their traditions transfer to weddings here that I almost feel American! Most weddings in the US will have a rehearsal ensuring the wedding party know where to walk, at what speed and where to sit. After the rehearsal is a dinner for the wedding party and immediate family. It's a fantastic chance for families to meet in a more informal, intimate atmosphere. Rather than ushers, the groom has 'groomsmen' and there will normally be an even number of men to the bridesmaids. At the ceremony the bridesmaids walk down the aisle first on beautiful monogrammed aisle runners. They are then followed by the bride and her father.

STEAL

1. Ask the ushers to escort the bridesmaids