

travel q&a

Q My fiancé and I would love to find a honeymoon spot that's rich with culture and history, but also has a fabulous beach scene. Ideas?

A You have loads of options, but our favorite choices are the Greek islands (read more about Greece on page 386), Australia or Costa Rica. In Greece, the Cyclades Islands have vineyards, castles and ancient churches, all near beaches on the aqua Aegean Sea. Want even more culture? Charter a boat to Delos, thought to be the Greek god Apollo's birthplace. You could also consider a honeymoon down under. Melbourne, Australia, has pristine beaches and a big-city vibe with great food, shopping and nightlife. Take in the scenery (and maybe see kangaroos, koalas and whales!) on a drive down Great Ocean Road. Too far? Try Costa Rica. Rainforest borders the beach at Manuel Antonio National Park, and nearby San José (the nation's capital) has a vibrant theater scene and lots of clubs and bars.

the name game

Q If I'm taking my husband's name, how should I book travel reservations?

A Booking a trip using what'll be your new name may be exciting, but hold off! Name-change paperwork can take many weeks to process, and your new ID may not arrive in time for your trip. If your reservations don't match your photo ID, they won't let you get on the plane! So, book under your maiden name and change it once you get back. Feel free to use your new name at the hotel so they'll call you "Mr. and Mrs." at check-in.

agent advantages

Q We already know where we're going for our honeymoon. What's the point of booking our trip through a travel agent?

A You may have picked your honeymoon locale, but odds are, you're not sure about which hotel and flights to book. If, with all of that wedding planning you're doing, you won't have the time to focus on travel details, a travel agent can book it all for you. Besides the benefit of having someone else to do all the work (one less thing to stress about!), a travel agent can suggest the dates, times and places you'll get the best deals. They even may be able to wrangle some free perks for you! Another advantage: You're less likely to be charged for making changes to your reservations. A misspelled name on an airline ticket could cost \$150 to correct, but if you were working with a travel agent, that hefty fee could be waived.

honeymoon wish lists

Q How do honeymoon registries work?

A It's pretty straightforward: On a website like TravelersJoy.com or HoneymoonWishes.com, you can add trip activities you want to do and any items you want to bring. Guests can give money toward the total cost or buy specific experiences, like dinner or diving lessons. The sites will take a small cut, but your guests can cover that fee.

carry-on essentials

Q I'm terrified that our luggage will get lost. What are the must-haves for our carry-ons?

A You already know about the biggies—IDs and cash—but here are some other items you should bring on board:

- Prescription drugs. If you take pills twice a day, for instance, you can't exactly wait the usual 24 hours for your lost luggage to come back.
- Your flight and hotel confirmations. Paper isn't going to take up much space in your carry-on.
- Your camera. Imagine not being able to take photos on your honeymoon!
- Clothes for a couple of days. Include a bathing suit if you're heading for somewhere tropical.
- Toiletries. Make sure liquids are in containers that hold 3.4 ounces max.

Yeah, we know that's a lot of stuff, but remember that your carry-on still needs to fit in the overhead compartment or under the seat. One more tip: Instead of having separate his-and-hers bags in your checked luggage, pack some of your things in each bag, just in case one of them gets lost.

—Edited by Jenna Joyce

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