

# ENDLESS *Summer*



*The sun shines* four seasons  
a year in Florida, meaning your wedding  
will be kissed by golden rays



Couples kayak and scuba dive in the dead of winter in Florida. They ride bikes and zoom down roller coasters, stroll through historic districts and drink craft cocktails in swanky alfresco bars. As the cold wilts weddings up north, Florida blossoms, beckoning with temperate climes and destinations ranging from chic and urban to rural and tranquil. If you'd like to host your big day in a locale where summer never ends, head to one of these Florida wedding hot spots.

## WESTERN WAYS

Along Florida's west coast, personable cities, towns and islands offer a mélange of wedding possibilities.

Circus tents and nature preserves, sports stadiums and wine cellars, posh mansions and botanical gardens. From Longboat Key down to Manasota Key, the **Sarasota** area has among the nation's most diverse, and tempting, array of wedding venues. This Floridian stretch along the sunset-sensational Gulf Coast is warm and welcoming all year long. Marry here, and you can choose the simplest, most sophisticated or most playful ceremony and reception venues imaginable.

With the beach as backdrop, go to a chic hotel and let the events team handle the details. Head to a state park and immerse yourselves in Sarasota's take on endless summer. Rent out an opera house, or join hands under banyan trees. Charter a yacht or go country at an old-fashioned fruit farm.

From conservative chapel ceremonies to exuberant celebrations, Sarasota appeals to couples of all types. What's more, the folks at Visit Sarasota County will help you out for free. They'll lead you to lodging for you and your guests. They'll recommend vendors from photographers to makeup artists. And they'll provide local maps and guides. [weddingssarasota.com](http://weddingssarasota.com)

Let's say you want table linens the color of sunshine for your wedding, complete with a martini bar and ice luge at the cocktail reception. Maybe you hope to start the festivities with a family tennis tourney, gals' spa day or guys' golf outing. Or maybe a shorts-and-Ts after-party is on your wish list. **The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club** will take care of all of it — every element. Book your wedding at this beachfront golf hotel and the events and culinary teams will take care of *everything*, from lodging and budgets to rehearsal dinners and farewell brunches.

The Naples Beach Resort is a one-stop shop: a scenic haven with 7 miles of beach, stunning sunsets, a full-service spa and a bevy of venue options. Exchange rings by the shore as guests face the Gulf of Mexico, or choose to create an aisle amid a manicured stretch of green grass. Celebrate under the blue sky or the twinkling stars, or take in the inspiring vistas from a formal ballroom with large windows. At The Naples Beach Hotel, it's all about choice — and top-tier service providers who will execute your selections flawlessly. [naplesbeachhotel.com](http://naplesbeachhotel.com)

Log onto the weddings page for **Sirata Beach Resort** and you'll be hypnotized by brightness — whites and yellows splashed against pastel skies and towering palm trees. Talk about endless summer. With its ballrooms, breezeways and sugary stretch of ivory St. Pete Beach, plus a location minutes from St. Pete's sophisticated dining and retail hub, Sirata has everything you want in a wedding destination.

Work with the resort's onsite planners to put together an intimate ceremony on the sand, a posh gala, an upbeat rehearsal dinner and a joyous farewell brunch. Sirata has a slew of menu options, plus strong relationships with trusted vendors like photographers, A/V experts and DJs. Once you hook up with your dedicated planner, you'll start creating your ideal wedding and honeymoon, with able

# Happily Ever After STARTS HERE



*Sandestin Weddings*  
IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES



Love and cherish every moment of your wedding, from romantic white beaches to venues overlooking the Choctawhatchee Bay. Sandestin offers the perfect location for an unforgettable wedding day at the #1 Resort on Florida's Emerald Coast.



CALL 866.293.4829

[sandestin.com/dwh](http://sandestin.com/dwh)



Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort

© Paul Johnson Photography





Historic Milton and Navarre Beach

assistance every step of the way. No wonder a top national wedding site names Sirata St. Pete Beach's top wedding destination year after year.

Your guests will be as happy to be at Sirata as you are. When you're not all celebrating together, you'll be off dining in three signature restaurants, splashing in three pools and sipping cold ones at two beach-front bars. [sirata.com](http://sirata.com)

### NORTHWEST NUANCES

Wide soft-sand beaches, sprawling green forest and friendly small towns mix nature



The Florida Keys & Key West

and nurture in the Sunshine State's northwestern quarters.

Trade fuss and bother for endless beaches, charming chapels and nature-based activities like paddling down a pretty river. **Florida's Playground** — Historic Milton and Navarre Beach — is the Florida you rarely hear about, the hidden haven where you can have a wedding and honeymoon the way you really want it.

Located in between northwest Florida's Pensacola and Destin, Florida's Playground is a dreamy collection of beauty and friendliness. Say your vows indoors or out, surrounded by sand and sea, or by the pews of a petite or grand chapel, or maybe in your own rental condo, cottage, beach house, hotel suite, inn or cabin. Wedding planners will be happy to help with the details.

Then enjoy the historic treasures of Milton. Take a honeymoon stroll that lasts for miles along the serene Gulf Islands National Seashore. Soak in the rays away from the crowds at Navarre Beach. Rent a canoe for two and leisurely work your way down the river of Blackwater River State Park, known as the Canoe Capital of Florida.

Your guests will find their own delights — maybe a butterfly garden, pier fishing or zoo. [floridasplayground.com](http://floridasplayground.com)



WHERE  
"I DO'S"  
BECOME  
"Must-DOs."

Sugar sand beaches white as wedding gowns. Emerald Gulf waters. Trendy downtowns. The two of you, family and guests are sure to take home lots of "I did's."

[VisitSarasota.org](http://VisitSarasota.org)

VISIT  
**Sarasota**  
beaches and beyond

LONGBOAT KEY | ST. ARMANDS | LIDO KEY  
SIESTA KEY | CASEY KEY | VENICE  
MANASOTA KEY | ENGLEWOOD | NORTH PORT

With gorgeous waterfronts, palm tree-lined parks, award-winning chefs and a remarkably friendly vibe, **Panama City** is the place for your super-chill, unpretentious wedding. Chartering a private sailboat with exquisite food and drink can be part of your plans, for sure, yet this destination with 320 days of sunshine and a 74 degrees Fahrenheit average temperature weaves a lightness into even the most sophisticated affairs.

Exchange rings on the crystal-white sand or in a posh events space such as the Panama City Center for the Arts. Or get creative: How about sharing your vows underwater in scuba gear, amid dolphins or aboard a deep-sea fishing vessel? If you're eco-interested, head to Shell Island, a stunning uninhabited state park where sand dunes and pine woods will be the backdrop for your photos.

Before and after the big day, join your guests for group spa days, live music or a hands-on art project themed just for you. Then sneak away just the two of you for a hand-in-hand stroll through the quaint historic areas of Panama City, including St. Andrews with its quirky shops, galleries and cafes with sidewalk seating, and end the day taking in a romantic sunset on beautiful Beach Drive. For a free Visitors

Guide and planning assistance, visit the website. [destinationpanamacity.com](http://destinationpanamacity.com)

Freedom. Flexibility. Florida beachfront beauty. They're all reasons that **Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort** is such a coveted wedding destination. In this quiet Gulf-front multifaceted wedge of the Sunshine State, you — and your guests — can custom-design your stays.

Begin the festivities with a beach bonfire, a spa day or a golf tournament. Opt for a barefoot-in-the-sand wedding or an elegant indoor event, or mix and match



Panama City



Hawks Cay Resort



Call Our Wedding Professionals to Schedule a Tour of the Property.



You've found the person to make your dreams come true. Now let The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club bring your dream wedding to life, from rehearsal dinner to reception and every memorable moment in between. An experienced event and catering staff will dazzle while our resort's 319 spacious rooms, golf course, spa, tennis and so much more delight you and your guests.

Our beautiful venues include:

- White-sand beach and brilliant sunsets
- Impeccably manicured lawn setting
- 5,000-sq.-ft. ballroom with breathtaking Gulf views
- Incomparable outdoor settings

**MENTION THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$500 OFF CEREMONY!**

Visit [NaplesBeachHotel.com](http://NaplesBeachHotel.com) or call 855.847.4393



The Naples Beach Hotel  
& Golf Club  
A Naples Original





*You'll Always Remember This Moment.*

Imagine beginning your life together on an island paradise nestled midway down The Florida Keys, where expert planners have seen to every detail and twin coconut palms stand as happy witnesses. Just one of endless possibilities for your special day found at Hawks Cay Resort.




**HAWKS CAY RESORT WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS**  
(855) 466-3041 | [www.hawkscay.com/weddings](http://www.hawkscay.com/weddings)



the ceremony and reception. The rooftop Overlook with Choctawhatchee Bay views, and two green lawns, are equally tempting. Want to bring your cake, videographer or centerpieces? The choice is yours. Sandestin's events team welcomes you to create your big day as you want it. Use your vendors, theirs or none at all.

Executive chef Javier Rosa adds a contemporary spin to the ever-popular buffet and plated-meal menus. Maybe try his popular new creations like lemon-thyme-glazed mahimahi fillet and the signature Sandestin miniature crab cakes.

Best yet, all the folks on your guest list will join you and make the stay their own. Families can spread out in budget-friendly multiroom villas while couples might choose luxurious condos or townhomes. With 19 pools, four golf courses, 15 tennis courts, a marina, watersports and a shopping village, Sandestin is an ideal vacation destination, no matter your passion. [sandestin.com/dwh](http://sandestin.com/dwh)

## SOUTHERN COMFORT

Along Florida's southernmost tip, you'll find an assortment of laid-back destinations, each with distinct offerings.

"Come as you are," they say at **The Florida Keys & Key West**. They mean it. Big budget or small, barefoot or formal, straight or gay, alone or with a crowd, this destination invites you to have a wedding as traditional or as quirky as you want it.

If you're looking for history, culture or simply an anything-goes vibe, choose the Florida Keys as your destination.

Each of the Keys has its own drawing card. Key Largo, for example, lures couples who love to dive. Islamorada, sport fishing. Marathon, boating. And Big Pine Key and the lower Keys, tranquility. In Key West, quaint lodgings with tales to tell, and community-wide sunset-watching parties, are the backdrop for personable ceremonies and celebrations.

It's like going to a faraway island, only without passports or currency exchanges. [fla-keys.com](http://fla-keys.com)

**ONE OF OUR BIGGEST ATTRACTIONS IS ATTRACTION.**




**GET MARRIED HERE.**  
Get inspiration at [floridasplayground.com](http://floridasplayground.com)

**HISTORIC MILTON** *Navarre Beach*  
FLORIDA'S PLAYGROUND

There's something magical about seeing the one you love in a different light.

**SIRATA**  
BEACH RESORT  
#CelebrateTheExperience



5300 Gulf Blvd,  
St. Pete Beach, Florida  
(844) 256-3047  
[weddings@sirata.com](mailto:weddings@sirata.com)

[sirata.com](http://sirata.com)

Have your wedding at **Hawks Cay Resort** and your friends and family will thank you — and not just for including them in your so-special day. They'll be grateful for the excuse to have a holiday at a 60-acre escape with a tropical vibe, a serene ambience and such a roster of activities that fishing, watersports and dolphin interactions are on offer, in addition to classic joys like swimming in five pools and a private saltwater lagoon.

Wedding options are as diverse as the amenities offered at Hawks Cay, a Duck Key hideaway accessible by car, boat and air. Say your vows on the sand, under an enchanting colonial-style gazebo overlooking the turquoise water of the Florida Keys, or on an expansive lawn at sunset. Celebrate in a grand ballroom, aboard a yacht or around a lushly landscaped pool. And the food? Modern tropical is the general theme, and the chefs will customize buffet and seated-meal menus to your tastes.

Before and after the ceremonies, bond with your guests over staff-organized events from girly spa days to guys' fishing expeditions that end with a buffet of finny fare they caught themselves. Group catamaran sails are always a hit. [hawkscay.com](http://hawkscay.com)



Sirata Beach Resort



The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club



Sarasota

## Panama City, Florida is a new destination for weddings and honeymoons.

Get a free visitors guide and start planning your "Uniquely PC" honeymoon or wedding at [DestinationPanamaCity.com](http://DestinationPanamaCity.com)

Selfishly, we have kept the stunningly beautiful St. Andrews Bay and all things "Uniquely PC" to ourselves.

*Like our romantic Beach Drive sunsets and crystal blue water.*

