

Wedding formalities



PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS

Preliminary procedures

The date of the wedding ceremony to be held either at the hotel or anywhere outside the premises of the Civil Status must be communicated to us when documents are sent, this at least 5 weeks prior to the wedding date. We must receive photocopies of all documents **at least 5 weeks before the wedding date**. Please note that all originals will be required during the formalities in Mauritius.

Required documents

1 copy of the birth certificates of both parties

1 copy of the main pages of each passport (usually the first 3 pages)

Any document relating to a previous divorce, the decease of previous husband/wife or a change of name (*in case the bride has obtained her final decree of divorce less than 10 months before the new wedding date, we must also have a medical certificate confirming that she is not pregnant. The ceremony cannot be performed otherwise*)

A letter from both parties attesting that they want to get married in Mauritius and on the chosen date. This document should bear the current permanent address of each party and their profession.

Dress Code

During the formalities in Port Louis, the couple must be decently dressed, according to the authority act: the gentleman should wear trousers and shoes (Shorts & mini-skirts for both and slippers for the gentleman, are not allowed)



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WHILST IN MAURITIUS

After their arrival in Mauritius and at least 2 working days before the wedding day, the couple will have to come to our capital city, Port Louis for the following formalities:

First stop at the Civil Status Office to check passports and all original documents against the copies sent to us before the arrival. If everything is correct, the officer will remit to the couple a document certifying that they are non-residents of Mauritius.

In accordance with the Civil Status Act, civil status documents listed above submitted should have been issued **not more than 3 months** of the date of the application for publication of the wedding.

However, where any party cannot produce any civil status documents valid more than 3 months, the couple may instead produce an affidavit sworn in their country of residence OR fill a valid form found at the Registrar of Civil Status. This alternative document can be filled in at Port Louis during the formalities.

Afterwards, the couple will proceed to the Supreme Court where both will swear the affidavit before the Chief Registrar. Once all the formalities in Port Louis is done, the couple will proceed to the Civil Status Office situated in the vicinity of their hotel for the publication of Bans.

PUBLICATION OF BANS

During the publication of bans, a copy of the prenuptial contract/ agreement (if issued in the country of origin of guests) should also be presented to the Civil Status Officer. If the guests have not established a prenuptial contract, they need to inform the Civil Status Officer about the matrimonial regime chosen.

WEDDING CEREMONY

The wedding can be celebrated at least 24hrs after the publication of the Bans (if all the formalities have been completed and are agreeable to all parties concerned) either at the Civil Status Office of the area where the couple is residing or in any private premises (the hotel for example) The ceremony will be performed by the Civil Status Officer of the Civil Status Office situated nearer to the place where the couple is residing

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Other documents may be necessary in specific cases. Documents can be sent either by fax or by email should be legible and SHOULD BE in English or French.

All documents should reach our office at least 5 weeks prior to the couple's arrival in Mauritius. The couple must be in Mauritius at least 2 working days before the scheduled wedding date. The formalities will take place in the Civil Status office in the capital city on any weekday (from Monday to Friday) except public holidays and weekends. The ceremony can take place on any day (from Monday to Sunday).

AN ADDITIONAL FEE IS APPLICABLE for celebration scheduled during public holidays and weekends. The final time of the ceremony will also depend on the availability of the Civil Status Officer. Please note that an additional cost of EUR 22 will be claimed on the spot if couple wishes to have a copy of wedding certificate in addition to the original one.

Both ceremony and formalities will be performed in English or French.

If a translator is required, AN ADDITIONAL FEE IS APPLICABLE.

