**POINTS TO CONSIDER When CONTACTING WEDDING VENUES ABROAD:**

**PRE-WEDDING VISITS:**  
  
Although not always possible, it is incredibly beneficial if you can visit your venue prior to the wedding. Photos don't always tell the entire story. Not only will you get a feel for the location and venue on your visit but it will also allow you to scope out your ceremony options.  
  
If it's not practical to have a pre-wedding visit then use "Google Street View". This fantastic tool is a must and will help give you a little piece of mind knowing that there are no big surprises out of sight.

**LOGISTICS:**  
  
Does the venue have adequate toilet facilities, appropriate power supply, parking, suitable access for caters and other suppliers. Also consider accommodation options for guests and possible pre and post wedding day celebrations or activities you would like to organise as part of your wedding abroad.

**PLAN B:**  
  
One thing that you will have absolutely no control over is the weather. So no matter what time of year you are planning to hold your wedding, it's important that the venue offers a suitable "Plan B."

**CEREMONY OPTIONS:**

Determine your ceremony options, is the venue licenced for civil ceremonies, how far is the church / town hall etc.

**DECOR, MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT:**  
  
Confirm if the venue has any restrictions on decor and more importantly check if outside loud speaker music is permitted and if there is a music curfew. If you are in a residential area, the likelihood is that you will not be permitted to party till 4am.

**RECOMMENDED / PREFERRED SUPPLIER LIST:**  
  
A venue may have a list of recommended suppliers, which is great as it can save you an enormous amount of time and stress. However, if you have your heart set on using a supplier not on their list, check:  
  
a) if this is permitted; and  
b) if using your own supplier will incur an additional charge.

**FEES:**

Understand their fee structure, including any payment schedule and exactly what this covers. Determine if they receive commissions from booking with certain suppliers. You want to be sure they are using them because of their excellence and not because they stand to make extra money.

Find out what their cancellation policy is. Will you have to pay anything or loose any deposits if you cancel your wedding? Check what your legal rights are here.

**MINIMUM STAY / MINIMUM SPEND:**

Find out if there is a minimum stay policy (if booking a venue for exclusive use) and if they have a minimum spend policy. Some Wedding Venues will only hold weddings if they cost over a certain amount.

If using the venue for the day, find out what time you can have the venue from, do they have a bridal room for you to get changed in? What time can any suppliers you may have engaged (i.e. event stylists, DJ etc) access the venue to set up. What is their clean-up policy?

Ask for a sample budget. Determine if you will be given the option to choose from different priced options?

**IN-HOUSE PLANNING:**

Do they have an in-house co-ordinator and if so determine exactly what they will and will not do. Will they be on site co-ordinating your wedding day. If so, will this be an extra charge? Will they help with organising your ceremony? (Remember, the in-

house co-ordinator works for the venue not you. Many couples hire a wedding planner to work alongside the in-house co-ordinator).

**CATERING:**

Do they provide in-house catering? Do you have the option to bring in your own caterers if required? What is their alcohol policy, can you provide your own, if so what is the corkage fee?

**GENERAL:**

Ask to see testimonials of weddings that have been held at their venue or if you can contact previous clients. Do your own research for reviews on sites like tripadvisor.com.

**For further useful information on choosing a Wedding VENUE refer to the following page:**

**<https://www.weddingsabroadguide.com/wedding-abroad-venue.html>**