



Honeymoon in Mexico



By Melissa IntVeldt

The wedding date is set, you said yes to the dress, and the reception venue is booked, now it is time to plan your honeymoon. The rich and famous have been flocking south of the border for decades; John and Jackie Kennedy, Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert, Nikki Reid and Ian Somerhalder all honeymooned in Mexico. With warm sunny weather, beautiful beaches, history and culture, world class resorts and the ability to stretch your dollar, it is no wonder this romantic destination is a honeymooner's paradise.

Mexico's proximity to the US is a key benefit for US based couples. Los Cabos is just a two hour flight from Los Angeles and the Cancun airport is just a two-and-a-half hour flight from Atlanta. The short travel time means you are able to arrive at your resort quicker and start enjoying your honeymoon that much faster! One of my brides-to-be said location ranked high on her priority list, "after all the wedding planning, I know I will be ready to relax. The quick two hour plane ride is very appealing; I think we will save the long-haul destinations for an anniversary trip".

Then of course, there is the weather. With virtually year round warm tropical temperatures, the climate in Mexico is ideal for a romantic escape. You can showcase your fabulous wedding-ready figure and your new bikini collection while soaking up some sun and listening to the waves crash against the shore at one of Mexico's countless beaches. From the stunning turquoise blue

waters of the Caribbean Sea to the romantic cliffs of Acapulco, the natural beauty of Mexico is unparalleled; many of the beaches, including Maroma Beach on the Riviera Maya, are consistently mentioned on Best Beaches of the World lists.

For those who want a more active honeymoon, Mexico offers several adventure parks such as Xel-ha, there is snorkeling to see the famed cenotes, scuba diving, hiking, horseback riding, caving, river tubing, golf and more. Plus, Mexico's rich history affords you the opportunity to patronize museums, view Mayan, Aztec and Spanish architecture and visit ancient pyramids. One of my newlyweds who recently honeymooned in Mexico, said "My husband really enjoyed the excursions to the ancient ruins of Tulum and Chichen Itza and I loved snorkeling in the stunning cave rivers and along the coral reef, which is the second largest reef in the world!"

The romance continues with candlelit dinners for two on the beach, private in-room dining or venturing out to one of the fine restaurants on property. Mexico offers delectable cuisine such as fresh fish tacos, home-made guacamole, a multitude to tequilas to sample, and of course tasty and delicious margaritas.

From budget friendly hotels to posh private villas, to luxurious adult only all-inclusive resorts, Mexico offers a wide array of accommodation options that will fit your needs. You can even enjoy your honeymoon at sea, as many cruise lines offer itineraries

that feature popular Mexican ports, such as Puerto Vallarta and Cozumel. For the land-based honeymoons, the best deals are typically available in the fall (October and November) and spring (April and May). This is a wonderful benefit to newlyweds since those are popular months for weddings and the subsequent honeymoons. Many of my honeymoon clients are pleasantly surprised by how far their dollar stretches in Mexico, stating they got more bang for their buck and more luxurious accommodations than in other destinations they considered.

Many of these resorts cater exclusively to adults and boast features that enhance the privacy, serenity and romance you crave while on your honeymoon. For example, many of the Secrets Resorts have swim-out suites with secluded pool access, in-room Jacuzzis, as well as "secret boxes" for non-intrusive room service delivery while other resorts feature private open-air outdoor showers and intimate beach beds with butler service, secluded casitas, private plunge pools and romantic couples massages by the sea. Additionally, most resorts offer complimentary honeymoon packages that may include a spa treatment or champagne breakfast in bed.

If you decide you not only want to honeymoon south of the border, but you want to get hitched there too, Mexico is an ideal location for destination weddings and vow renewal ceremonies. With the aid of a travel agent and on-property wedding coordinator, all your questions will be answered and every detail planned so you and your significant other can enjoy your special day.

Mexico is a destination rich in beauty, culture, and luxury with a mix of adventure and relaxation; all the key elements to a memorable and romantic honeymoon. Now that so many of your wedding planning details are set, cross one more item off your to-do list and join the ranks of the world's elite by honeymooning in Mexico!

For more information on honeymoons in Mexico, please contact Melissa IntVeldt with My Traveling Panda (melissa@mytravelingpanda.com).

