



*Wedding & Marriage  
in the Seychelles*



## **The guide for your wedding and marriage in the Seychelles**

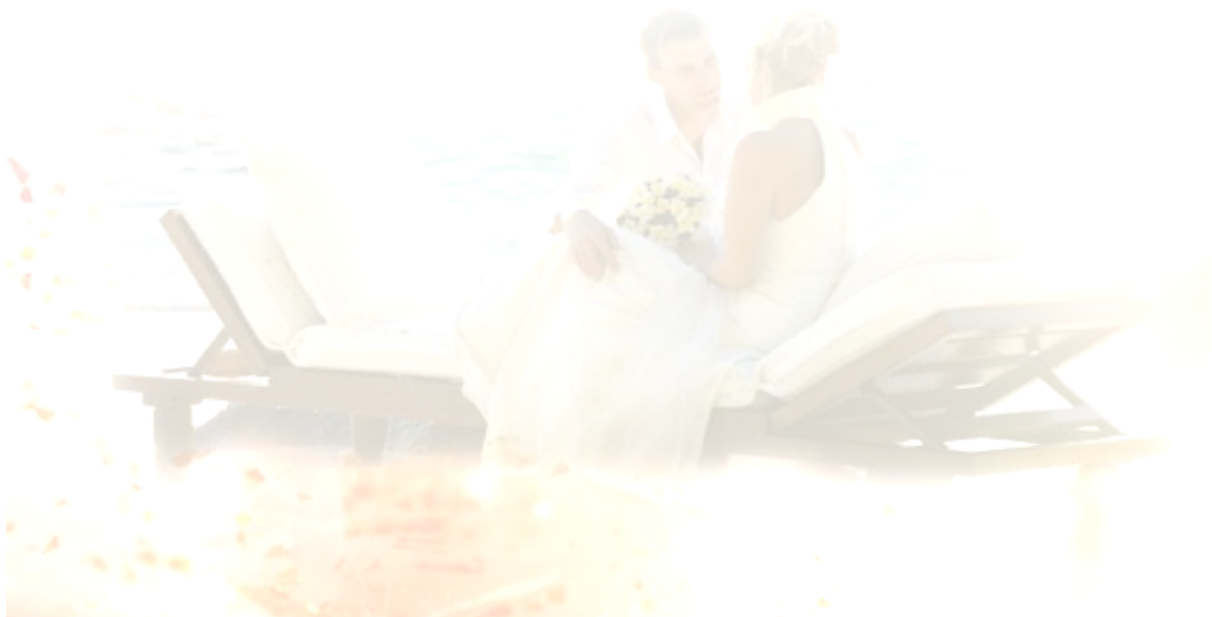
The enormous diversity of the Seychelles Islands provides an idyllic backdrop for a tropical marriage, in an environment of breath-taking natural beauty, with the welcoming smiles of the friendly people of Seychelles, and a romantic ambience whose memory will live in your mind forever. And what's more... the Seychelles vows are simple and effortless!

With the help of the Civil Status Office, we have produced the following document as a useful guide to help couples have all the requirements needed to organise a civil marriage.

It includes a list of the documents required by the Civil Service Office and contact details of some authorities.

We hope that the information in this document will help you to prepare and organise your special day in Seychelles

*Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this document, we accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions. The information is subject to change without notice and you should seek confirmation from the authorities concerned.*



## **Legal Provisions - Marriages in the Seychelles**

1. A church marriage without a civil marriage is not recognised as legally valid the parties involved must therefore perform a civil marriage before the church ceremony.
2. Persons who wish to organise their own marriage must apply for a civil marriage at the Seychelles Civil Status Office in Victoria on the island of Mahé and a church marriage at the appropriate church institute.
3. It is recommended that the marriage be planned at least two months in advance to allow for the processing of the documents.
4. Couples must notify the Civil Status Office at least eleven calendar days in advance of their teaching marriage. However, this eleven-day period can be waived by applying for a special license, which is normally granted for a fee within two days of the date of application.
5. The couple must be present in the Seychelles at least 2 days before the civil marriage.
6. Civil marriages can be held on the hotel premises with the permission of the hotel and the registrar. Marriages outside the hotel grounds can only be performed in private and officially licensed places. Permission must be obtained from the registrar.
7. Marriages may also be contracted on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, between 9.00 and 11.00 a.m., in the presence of two witnesses, to be provided by the parties themselves, at the Civil Status Office.
8. Couples who wish to marry outside the Civil Status Office have a fee to pay. This fee applies to ceremonies held on any day of the week on Mahé or one of the inner islands. The inner islands include the islands: Anonymous, Bird, Cerf, Cousin, Denis, Frégate, La Digue, Moyenne, North, Praslin, Round, Ste. Anne and Silhouette. However, the Civil Status Office also has officials on the islands of Praslin and La Digue.
9. Couples who wish to marry on the outer islands, including Alphonse or Desroches, will have to pay a different fee, and the cost of transport of the registrar to these islands.
10. A fee is charged for ceremonies held after 17:00 on a weekday or on a Saturday or Sunday.
11. Marriages legally contracted in the Seychelles are recognised under European law.
12. There are no nationality requirements to be met.

A special stamp (apostille) is required for all nationalities, except British nationals, to validate the marriage certificate obtained after the civil marriage. This stamp is available [here](#).

13. The couple must present the following documents:

- birth certificate or a certified copy thereof
- If one of the parties is divorced, the divorce certificate must be presented
- If one of the parties is a widow or widower, the death certificate of the former spouse must be presented
- Legally valid proof in case of a change of name
- Copies of the first two pages of both parties' valid passports
- a document showing that there are no impediments to the intended marriage (if this cannot be obtained, a declaration on oath must be signed in the Seychelles after a solemn declaration to this effect has been made)

14. All the above documents must be either originals or copies duly certified as true copies before departure from the home country and translated into either English or French if the translation has not already been done.

15. For details of the various fees mentioned, please contact the Seychelles Civil Status Office directly.

16. French law requires French nationals wishing to marry abroad to follow certain measures. For information on this, please contact your local government or the Seychelles Civil Status Office or the French Embassy in the Seychelles.

Seychelles Civil Status Office  
PO Box 430, Victoria, Mahé  
Tel: +248 4 29 36 13 / 4 29 36 04  
Fax: +248 4 32 10 46  
email: [info@civilstatus.gov.sc](mailto:info@civilstatus.gov.sc)

Opening hours:  
Monday - Friday 8:00 to 11:30 & 13:00 to 15:00  
Closed on weekends and public holidays