

destination weddings

THE TRAVEL MAGAZINE
FOR BRIDES AND GROOMS

& honeymoons

25 ROMANTIC FLORIDA RESORTS

choose one to
match your style

GET THE
BEST DEAL
NEGOTIATION
TIPS FROM
THE PROS

MARRY IN HAWAII

IDEAS FOR
EVERY ISLE

CULINARY BLISS
TASTY TRIPS
FOR FOODIES

+

COOL HOTEL
CHAPELS,
FINDING THE
RIGHT VENDORS
REAL WEDDINGS
GALORE

DISPLAY UNTIL AUG. 10, 2009 US \$4.99



DESTINATIONWEDDINGMAG.COM

FUN FIND

dress up

When close friends live far away, buying bridesmaid gowns can be tricky. Coco Myles allows your gals to individually order custom dresses online, with prices starting at \$128. Visit cocomyles.com and click on Custom Couture, where you can choose fabric (charmeuse, georgette or satin), colors (23 in all), top style (nine total) and skirt style (six). Celebrity-inspired looks (like Cam, right) are also available. With the fabric-reservation system, you can ensure all dresses are cut from the same ream.

— Melissa Lamkin



COOL VENUE

sumptuous social

Can't decide between a chapel, an art gallery or a resort for your vows? Then opt for the historic **MISSION INN HOTEL & SPA**, which brings together all of the above in Riverside, California. Brides-craving a grand entrance can follow Bette Davis' footsteps and hold a religious ceremony in the impressive St. Francis of Assisi Chapel, dating to 1931. Walk down the red-carpet aisle past Tiffany stained-glass windows to wed before the regal altar, ornamented with 18-karat gold leaf and carvings of saints (St. Joseph, the patron saint of brides, is in the very center). Reception options include the Spanish Art Gallery, with lofty ceilings and a marble staircase, and the larger Music Room, with its grand piano and massive pipe organ. The onsite Kelly's Spa and 239 posh guest rooms complete the picture. Rooms from \$190; wedding packages from \$1,200. (For 10 more resort chapels, turn the page.) — Rebecca Kinnear

GET INFORMED

BRIDES WHO BLOG

We love a good blog and return to these five again and again. Surf away to get advice and ideas for your faraway fete.



➔ **STYLEMEPRETTY.COM** Wedding writer Abby Larson can help you choose a color palette based on your location, give you the tools to create a personalized inspiration board for your event, and introduce you to quality destination-wedding vendors and resources in her Little Black Book section.

➔ **CLASSICBRIDE.BLOGSPOT.COM** Calligrapher Sarah Darcy highlights real weddings, decor and location ideas from Southern destination-wedding spots like New Orleans, Cumberland Island, Mississippi and Charleston.

➔ **KELLYSHIROEVENTS.COM/BLOG** Santa Barbara-based wedding planner and designer Kelly Oshiro provides a wealth of info about Santa Barbara's local vendors and event locations, including gardens, museums, ranches, private estates and, of course, the beach.

➔ **WEDDINGSBYSOCIALITES.BLOGSPOT.COM** Florida-based event and wedding planner Kelly McWilliams offers quick tips for brides planning DIY events, as well as gift and shower ideas for bridesmaids, mothers and guests.

➔ **CARIBBEANJOURNEY.BLOGSPOT.COM** Caribbean-travel specialist Laura Sangster started this blog while planning her own destination wedding and now covers everything from favors and invites to real weddings and tropical destination-wedding locations. — ML



BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR OWN BLOG AT BLOG.DESTINATIONWEDDINGMAG.COM.