

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR WEDDINGS IN GRAN CANARIA

Christmas is one of the busiest times of year on our beautiful island. Thousands of people flock to Gran Canaria to enjoy Christmas and New Year in the sun.

Shiny, Christmas decorations deck the halls of the Canarian hotels and resorts, and the Christmas festivities are ringing in the air. But should you take advantage of this buzzing atmosphere and get married while you're here?

Here are some of the advantages and areas to take into account when choosing these festive weeks for your special day.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT DAY

In general, we advise holding wedding ceremonies and celebrations on non-festive days, and more so for the special Christmas and New Year celebration days.

Christmas Eve is the day that Spain and most north European countries celebrate their Christmas, and of course New Year's Eve is when everyone gets into the party mood and celebrates.

Churches have special masses taking place and hotels and restaurants are extremely busy. They also have special menus

that tend to be marginally more expensive than a normal wedding menu, with less selection.

Upside: In theory you could book a table at any restaurant and just join in with the great party atmosphere and possible complimentary firework display, along with longer opening hours and acceptable late partying and decreased sound restrictions.

Downside: Be prepared for a slight decrease in special attention at your table and event due to the high demand from the other customers using the establishment.

VENUE

Upside: Many hotels have areas available to rent for exclusive events on most days, in some cases festive days, and can attend to your day with the same excellent service and attention as any other day.

Downside: Some establishments, mostly restaurants and some hotels will be unable to cater for special events due to the high daily demand. If they agree to hold the event, there may be higher restrictions on what they will allow due to other responsibilities.

DECORATION

Upside: If you're looking for a wedding with lots of fairy lights and Christmas style glitzy decoration, then this is a perfect time of year to hold a celebration, as most hotels, restaurants and churches are adorning them in every corner and crevice.

This will cut down heavily on your decoration budget, giving you an extravagant look and feel without the cost.

Downside: The venues choice of decoration may not match your planned vintage theme or chosen colour scheme and most places will be unwilling to adapt it for your event.

ENTERTAINMENT

Upside: Entertainment, fireworks and festive things to do is increased on a daily basis in hotels and local venues, so if you're having a small event you can just join in and take advantage of free entertainment and the fantastic party atmosphere.

Downside: It probably won't be possible to choose the type of entertainment you want unless you rent out a venue especially for your event.

SERVICES

Upside: Well there isn't really an advantage on services or products during this period over any other period.

If you're lucky, some of the suppliers will remain with the same conditions.

Downside: Some suppliers may increase the prices of their services and products during the festive season.

In some cases they may also be unavailable due to the high demand and festive season personal commitments such as holidays and closure due to festive days.

GUESTS

Upside: A great opportunity to celebrate a special occasion while all the family are together.

Downside: The Christmas and New Year period is the most expensive time of year to take a holiday due to high demand; this may result in some family or friends being unable to attend.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Upside: Hotels and local establishments are busy and there is a great atmosphere with everyone in the festive spirit, which can enhance your special day.

Downside: As areas tend to be busy, if you are looking for exclusivity, then it would be advisable to rent out an exclusive venue or space for your special day, as external animated partying from other holiday makers are difficult to predict and contain.

Whether you're celebrating your wedding this festive season, or just enjoying this great period with family and friends, The Perfect Wedding Company wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and lots of health and happiness for 2015!!!

Bernadette Garside Wedding Director The Perfect Wedding Company

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GRAN CANARIA

Bespoke Wedding Planners. Creators of Original, Stylish Weddings, Blessings and Renewal of Vows Ceremonies on the Sun-kissed Island of Gran Canaria
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