



Wedding on Siesta Key

Photo by Cat Pennenga

# Weddings & Romance

IN SARASOTA COUNTY

Couples commemorate their love in Sarasota County every year, whether they're local residents tying the knot or starry-eyed brides and grooms getting their dream destination wedding. They can say their vows in a variety of venues to suit their personalities and wedding theme. Upscale hotels, historic mansions, and a yacht club offer a sophisticated sensibility for the ceremony, while more laid-back lovers may prefer a beach, under a canopy of oak trees at a multi-acre botanical garden like Selby Gardens, or a state park backdrop. Unusual locations include an intimate, century-old chapel, a marine aquarium, and a dog-friendly park. A popular honeymoon spot, Sarasota County is the perfect location for newlyweds to begin their happily ever-after.

## Weddings Highlights

- › Couples can declare their commitment to each other again at the Annual Valentine's Day Wedding Vow Renewal Ceremony, held on Siesta Key Beach and Nokomis Beach.
- › Siesta Key is the 12th Best Honeymoon Destination in Florida, according to Planetware.com.
- › Couples can make a grand departure via boat from the Bay Preserve in Osprey.
- › Both Mattison's Catering Company and Sarasota Catering Company were announced winners of the 2022 WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards®, an accolade representing the top wedding professionals across the board in quality, service, responsiveness, and professionalism.
- › The Resort at Longboat Key and The Pavilion at Mixon Farms were among the venue winners for the 2022 Couples' Choice Award by WeddingWire as well.





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What is your wedding dream? Imagine white drapery and Spanish moss hanging from magnificent oak trees with sunlight seeping through the endless branches, surrounded by gardens of pinkish-white roses. Or how about your toes crinkled in the sand, a fresh sea breeze lightly brushes by, and the sun sets on a magical ceremony. Maybe it's a historic church with big, red doors that open wide to the city where friends and family await, cheering you and your meant-to-be.

Every celebration should be worthy of the couple. In Sarasota County, that could be a simple, barefoot beach ceremony, a fantastical "I do" at historic mansions, a waterfront kayak matrimony or a fruit grove nuptial, or center stage at a theater with the show all about you. There's something special to match the occasion, for whatever way the bride and groom might choose to celebrate.

White-washed shores featuring turquoise waters and blue skies, green canopies of tall palm trees, magnificent live oak, and coastal mangroves. Best of all, stunning sunsets over a calm Gulf Coast. Sarasota County is the perfect recipe for a destination wedding.

Featuring 35 miles of coastline, 8+ vibrant shopping and dining districts, outstanding waterfront resorts and cozy private rental homes, easy access to the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport, and a small-town charm metropolitans dream of, there's nothing Sarasota County can't accommodate.

Known for its great beaches, as well as its amazing arts and culture, Sarasota County lets your personalities shine through with a wedding venue as unique as the two of you. Say "I do" on award-winning beaches, host an elegant soiree surrounded by replicas of ancient statuary at The Ringling Museum, or choose an all-natural ceremony in the lush, wild splendor of Oscar Scherer State Park.

Whether you're beginning a new life together, or renewing your vows, you'll discover that Sarasota County provides the perfect backdrop for your wedding or honeymoon love story. The staff at Visit Sarasota County is here to make your once-in-a-lifetime event a memory to last a lifetime!



Mote Marine Aquarium Courtyard



The Pavilion at Mixon Farms