

## Checklist For Planning A Wedding Cruise

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### One To Two Years Ahead

- Start discussions of where you want to cruise to at least a year ahead of time. Research destinations that you like and look up [what seasons are best to go cruising with a group](#).
- Decide on a potential time of year that you want to get married on a cruise ship. Make sure the time frame will match the needs of your friends and family too.
- Decide on the approximate length of the wedding cruise.
- If you need help with the planning then read "[How To Plan A Wedding Cruise](#)"

### One Year Ahead

- Go to [GroupTravel.org](#) and enter the dates that you would like to sail. After submitting your information, one of our group cruise specialists will contact you to present group rates for cruises.
- Compare cruise ships based on
  - The group cruise rates presented
  - The cost of the wedding package for the number of people you expect to attend
  - Whether the cruise ship is offering you a free room or at least a room upgrade
  - The kind of additional amenities they are willing to throw in to earn your business
  - Whether they have a lot of experience with wedding cruises (Hint: If they have a wedding cruise department, it most likely means that they will know what they are doing)
  - Can you get married at sea?
  - If you're getting married at the port, are the proper times available
  - Is group dining available

### 11 Months Ahead

- Decide on a cruise ship for your wedding and have the cruise line block as many rooms as you think you may need. There is no deposit required to block rooms, but you only have a limited amount of time to get your family and friends to call and make reservations at the discounted group cruise rates.
- Book any flights, hotels, and any transfers that may be needed to get to the departure port
- Send out "Save the Date" cards – You can make your own or have the cruise line mail them on your behalf.
- Research Excursions at all the ports of call
- Set up website detailing the wedding cruise itinerary

### 10 Months Ahead

- Finalize details of wedding times, check in time, and complete itinerary with any excursions. Although you have up until 45 days to finalize all the details, it's best to start early so you get the exact date's and times.
- Send out wedding invites (You want to send these as early as possible so people have all the details and can plan their flights etc.
- Set up website so you can keep your guests informed. You can also use a website to keep track of who is coming and who is still undecided.

GroupTravel.org is a popular event planning website for groups of 10 or more attendees. Planners can handle numerous details of booking a wedding cruise without having to make a single phone call. We guarantee the lowest [Group Cruise Rates](#).

## 6-9 Months Ahead

- Select photographer, flowers, videographer.
- Decide on the wedding and reception music, and any special vows.
- Get registry done – Have the cruise line set up a registry so your wedding guests can pay for any excursions or even for your cruise.
- Pick Wedding dress/ Tux
- If you selected a wedding package from the cruise line, then decide on
  - Colors for your wedding,
  - Flowers,
  - Food,
  - Music,
  - Cake,
  - Decorations

## Three Months Ahead

- Find and book an officiant (If it's not part of the wedding package)
- Obtain your marriage license – most cruise lines can help with this.
- Get vaccinated if you're going to a country other than the USA
- Get passports if you do not have one
- Book any additional transportation at the point of departure or at the ports of call.

## One to Two Months Ahead

- Finalize all rentals, cruise ship itineraries, any special events/banquets. Do a roll call of all the people you expect to be there.
- Order and set up [wedding gift bags](#)

## Day Before Wedding

- Check into a hotel near the departure port one to two days ahead. Being there early will relieve any last minute issues that will come up.
- Hair salon? Manicure, Pedicure?

## Day of Wedding

- Enjoy!

Here are some [wedding cruise tips](#) that will make planning easier