

THE SUMMER BEACH ISSUE

# DESTINATION WEDDINGS

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# ocean overlooks

You don't have to have your toes in the sand to enjoy I do's with a view. These eight amazing resort terraces, decks and lawns deliver picture-perfect seaside vistas. BY DONNA HEIDERSTADT

## ☛ Jade Mountain, Soufriere, St. Lucia

The name Celestial Terrace just about says it all: This rooftop venue, poised atop one of the Caribbean's most unique resorts — featuring 27 architecturally stunning open-air “sanctuaries” stacked one above the other — offers bird's-eye views of the island's iconic Piton peaks. The site is ideal for just-the-two-of-you vows or reception feasts for up to 60 (if everyone stays at the resort). *Rooms from \$950; wedding packages from \$79 per person.*

## The Reefs, Southampton, Bermuda

Enjoy sweeping views of the island's rocky coast and pink-sand beaches with a ceremony before up to 50 on the two-tier Deck at Caso's Point (80 if you use both deck tiers). Follow with a reception at one of the 62-room resort's three dining venues, such as the alfresco Coconuts. *Rooms from \$410, including breakfast and dinner; wedding packages from \$2,950.*

## Hotel Caruso, Ravello, Italy

This luxurious 48-room hotel, formerly an 11th-century palace set on cliffs high above the azure Amalfi Coast, offers the panoramic Belvedere terrace, which accommodates up to 100. Follow with a stylish reception amid olive trees in the Belvedere Gardens and wedding cake served around the infinity pool. *Rooms from \$660; weddings custom.*

## ☛ Terranea Resort, Rancho Palos Verdes, California

Named for its stellar view of the Golden State's most famous island, Catalina Point seats 230 and sits atop a dramatic bluff overlooking the Pacific. Receptions wow in the nearby Catalina Ballroom. The Mediterranean-style resort's other selling points: 582 rooms set in hotel towers, bungalows, casitas and villas, plus a convenient location near Los Angeles. *Rooms from \$300; wedding packages from about \$200 per person.*



## Four Seasons Resort Lanai at Manele Bay, Lanai, Hawaii

A great tee-off isn't the only reason to celebrate at the Challenge at Manele Tee Box, which also serves as the 236-room resort's most scenic event venue. Set on the edge of the Pacific, with views of Lanai's spectacular lava cliffs, as well as Maui and the Big Island in the distance, it can seat up to 300 for sunset vows capped with a tiki-torch-lit reception. *Rooms from \$425; wedding packages from \$175 per person.*

## Rockhouse, Negril, Jamaica

This inviting — and affordable — 34-room resort's cliff-top location gives it several scenic perches, including the Oval Stone Deck. Situated at the end of an aisle-perfect walkway, it holds 15 guests (other terrace areas can accommodate larger groups). Then move the party to the nearby pool area, which transforms into a seaside reception space. *Rooms from \$125; wedding packages from \$65 per person.*

## ☛ Esperanza, An Auberge Resort, Los Cabos, Mexico

At this 56-room luxury resort, the stone terraces just feet from Mexico's sparkling Sea of Cortez can facilitate both intimate and elaborate weddings. The most atmospheric is the Seaside Terrace, overlooking cliffs, with a small beach below (holds 90). Then keep your fiesta going late into the night with a reception on the Upper Pool Terrace or beach. *Rooms from \$585; wedding packages from \$105 per person.*

## Vedema, A Luxury Collection Resort, Santorini, Greece

It's nothing but iconic Santorini white and blue for as far as the eye can see when you wed on the Vinsanto rooftop (holds 80) or Vedema pool terrace (holds 90). At this 45-villa luxe hotel overlooking the postcard-perfect village of Megalochori, the serene Aegean vibe continues with a reception at Vinsanto restaurant and an after-party in a 400-year-old wine cellar lit by candles. *Rooms from \$650; wedding packages from \$93 per person.*