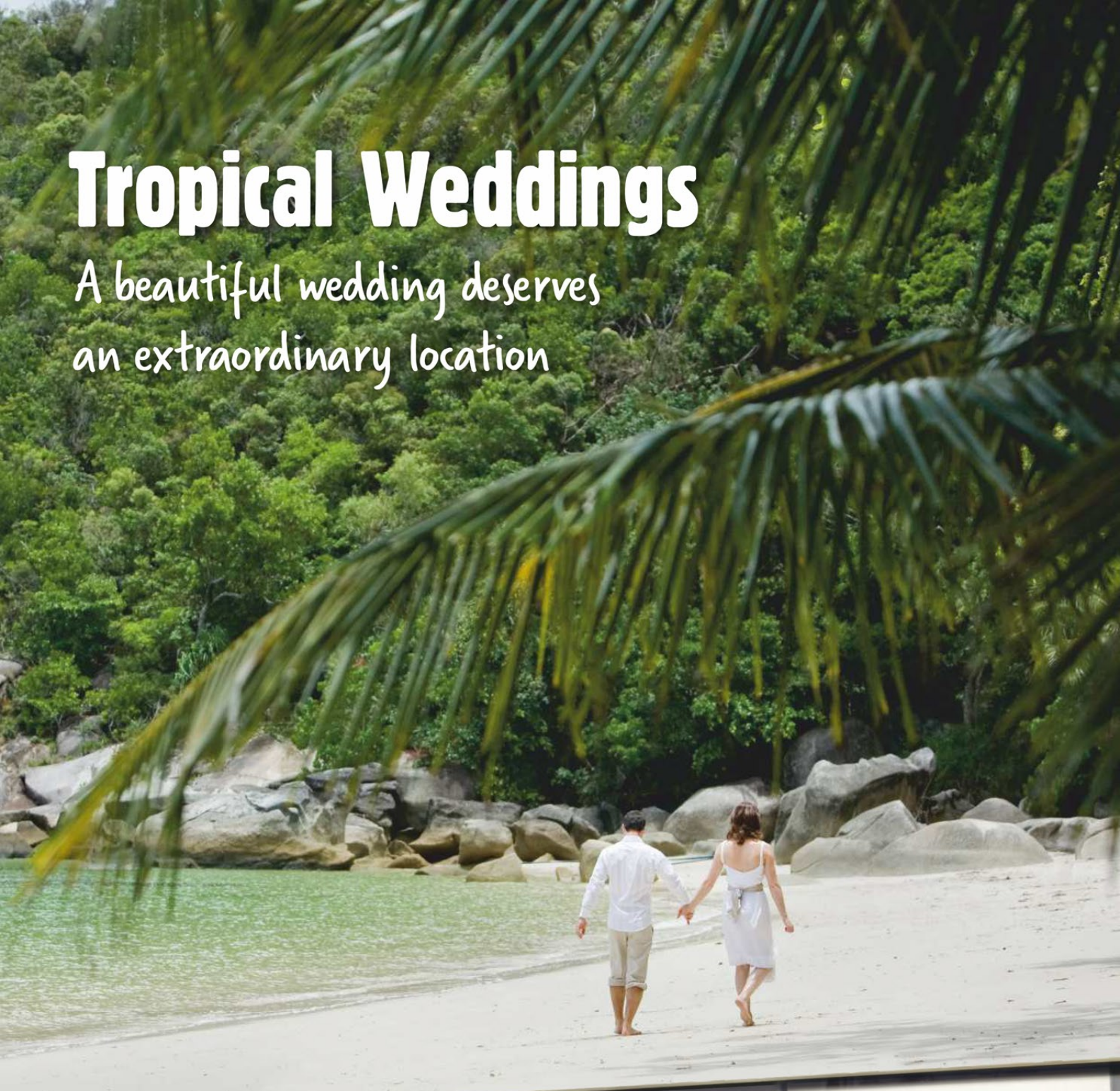


Tropical Weddings

A beautiful wedding deserves
an extraordinary location



**Tropical North
Queensland**
Where rainforest meets the reef

Port Douglas • Palm Cove • Cairns • Daintree
Great Barrier Reef • Mission Beach • Atherton Tablelands • Cooktown

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A tropical wedding to remember

Imagine you and your partner hand in hand on a Great Barrier Reef sand cay saying 'I do' before being whisked away by a helicopter for your honeymoon. Maybe the cool greens of the rainforest are more your style, with formal tables set under a luxurious marquee, or a romantic beach setting with the reception at a nearby resort. Perhaps you want to inject some fun into your special day with a shindig in a rural setting or a party on a reef boat.

Tropical North Queensland is where the rainforest meets the reef giving you endless options for the tropical wedding of your dreams. A wedding chapel on the beach, charming hinterland winery, luxurious resorts and seaside church are among the options, or head outdoors and say "I do" under the rainforest canopy, on an island, beside a lake or on the beach.

The beauty of a destination wedding is that it is a memorable event for friends and family who will enjoy the relaxation of combining your special day with a holiday. Couples who choose a destination wedding have found the guests wanting to join them, and often spend some time reconnecting with them before the wedding or relaxing together afterwards.

An exotic destination wedding is affordable in Tropical North Queensland with an international airport just 10 minutes from the Cairns city centre and accommodation to suit every budget. The dual World Heritage areas of the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics rainforest provide an array of experiences to keep your guests as busy or as relaxed as they choose. And best of all, your honeymoon can start immediately.

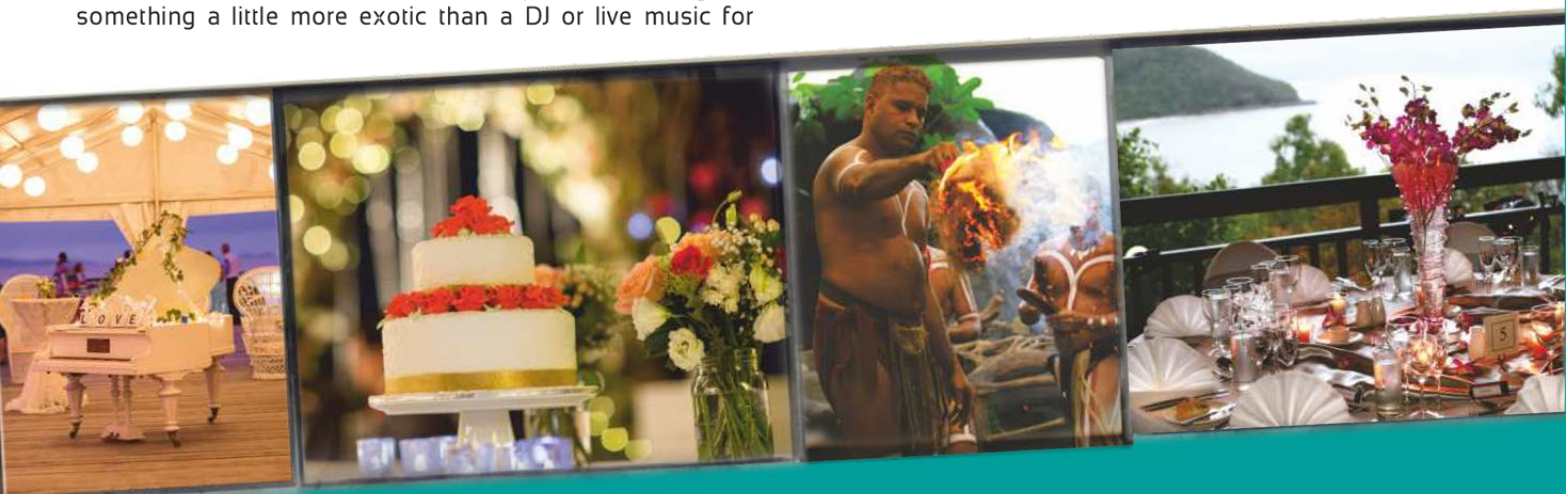
Professional service at your fingertips

A destination wedding presents the opportunity for something a little different to add that wow factor to your wedding.

Emphasise the tropical location with a simple bamboo frame elegantly draped under which to exchange vows with a line of sea shells guiding guests along the beach. Dine on local seafood and exotic fruit cocktails. If you are looking for something a little more exotic than a DJ or live music for

entertainment, try an Aboriginal smoking ceremony or cane toad racing.

Wedding coordinators, celebrants, photographers, videographers, florists, event companies, wedding car hire specialists and catering experts are ready to help you design a personalised and memorable event.





Locations with the WOW Factor

Plan a wedding that will be remembered for years as your special day in a destination worth photographing. Tropical North Queensland has a location just right for your unique wedding in the tropics.

Port Douglas

A chapel with an ocean view, a long white beach, a historic sugar wharf, a marina and a plethora of resorts will tempt couples wanting to get married in Port Douglas. One hour's drive from Cairns Airport along the spectacular Great Barrier Reef drive, Port Douglas also has a range of accommodation options to suit your guests. There is an incredible array of restaurants, boutique shops and spas plus a world-class golf course.

Palm Cove

Say "I do" with the sand between your toes at the picture-perfect location of Palm Cove. Just a 25-minute drive from Cairns Airport, this palm fringed beach is a popular wedding destination for couples wanting an outdoor ceremony with function rooms and accommodation within walking distance. The intimate village boasts tropical resorts, several day spas, award-winning beachfront dining and a golf course.

Cairns Beaches

Beautiful beachfront locations including resorts can be found at a number of Cairns northern beaches. Yorkeys Knob, Kewarra, Trinity, Ellis, Clifton and Machans Beaches all have wonderful photographic locations and accommodation options.

Cairns City

Getting married in the cosmopolitan city of Cairns gives you a choice of venues including wedding chapels, five-star hotels with professional wedding planners, the Botanic Gardens, the Cairns Esplanade and Trinity Inlet with an international airport and excellent domestic connections, Cairns is easy for your guests to travel to and provides excellent holiday options if they choose to extend their stay.



Daintree

The cool greens of the world's oldest tropical rainforest provide a spectacular backdrop for a wedding. At Daintree and Cape Tribulation you can choose an intimate resort, the charm of Daintree village, a rainforest-fringed creek or a deserted beach to exchange your vows. Luxurious homes in exclusive locations are perfect for those wanting an intimate wedding in a private location.

Great Barrier Reef

Tie the knot in the middle of one of the wonders of the natural world, the Great Barrier Reef. Options include a sand cay, islands with resorts, onboard a boat or sail away for an intimate three-day wedding on a live-aboard dive boat.

Mission Beach

In the heart of the Cassowary Coast, Mission Beach has quiet beaches and rainforest locations perfect for a wedding getaway as well as resorts overlooking the Coral Sea and its islands. This intimate location has a range of accommodation options including romantic B&Bs.

Atherton Tablelands

In the cooler hinterland behind Cairns, the Atherton Tablelands has incredible lakes and waterfalls as the backdrop for your wedding or venture further west into the outback. Function venues capture the rustic charm of the Tablelands or spoil yourself with a ceremony in a hot air balloon.

Cooktown

Boasting panoramic views of Cooktown, the Endeavour River and the Coral Sea, Grassy Hill and its lighthouse where Captain James Cook set foot is a popular wedding location. Historic buildings and Australia's oldest botanic gardens also can set the scene for your special day. Accommodation options include a resort hotel, luxury guest house and motels.



Pre-wedding activities

Ensure your wedding day is stress-free by having a holiday before the big day relaxing with your partner's friends and family. Tropical North Queensland presents exciting activities for groups whether it is learning to dive, winery and food tours, meeting for dinner at a different restaurant each night or relaxing together at a resort.

This time can be spent with your wedding party doing last minute preparations such as shopping at markets for tropical table decorations or choosing handcrafted jewellery for the bridesmaids. Book into a nail salon and complete your holiday look with a spray-on tan.

Use the time to celebrate the end of your single days with a party with a difference. The bucks might like to charter a fishing boat to chase black marlin, test their fitness mountain biking through the rainforest or take a trike tour to a historic pub. A spa party is a great way for the hens to unwind. Escape to a tropical island or have a giggle at a cocktail making class. Of course, you can still end the day with the traditional pub crawl.

Honeymoon

Simplify your wedding preparations by choosing to get married in the same place you want to spend your honeymoon. Resort weddings are ideal as you can base yourself in the bridal suite and explore the region. Include tour vouchers on your list of presents so wedding guests don't have to lug heavy presents to your Tropical North Queensland wedding.

Your suggestions could include horse riding on the beach, a historic train ride to Kuranda, a canoe trip through the rainforest or a Dreamtime walk with an Indigenous elder. If you really want to relax, stay on an island in the middle of the Great Barrier Reef where you can go snorkelling every day.

Romantic proposals

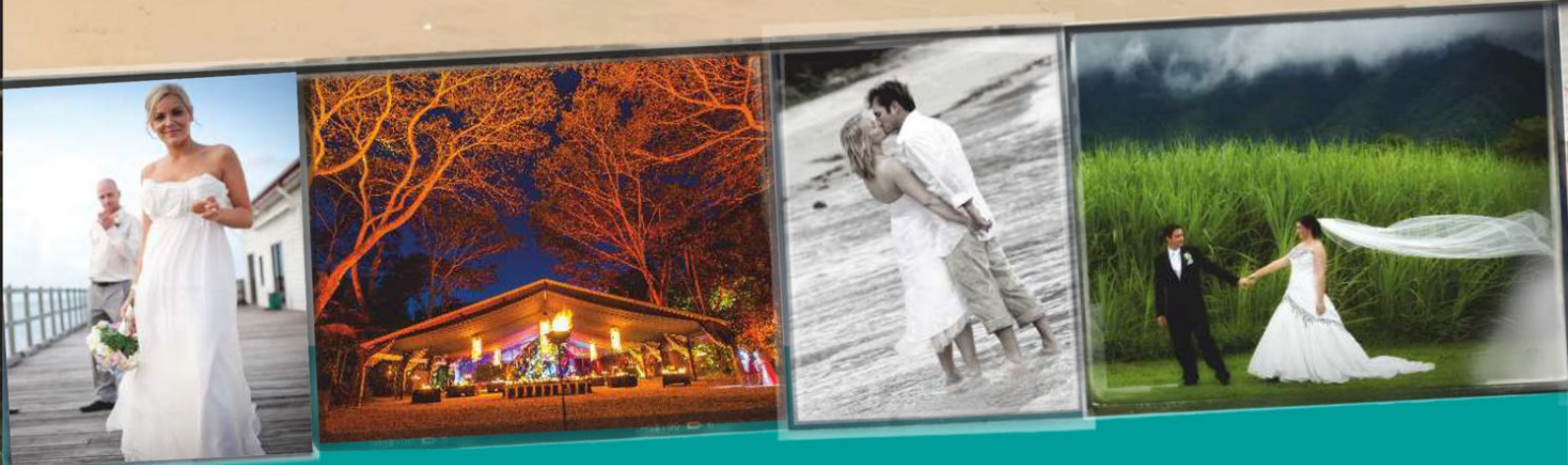
There is no need to get down on your bended knee when you have options like proposing in a hot air balloon or underwater with an engagement ring in a pearl shell. Of course, a traditional proposal can still be catered for in Tropical North Queensland. Add to the romance with a tropical twist - a table for two under the palm trees on the beach, sparkling wine on a sand cay or a gourmet picnic at a waterfall.



Picture perfect...

Exotic photographic locations are plentiful in Tropical North Queensland where the dual World Heritage areas of the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics rainforest present the natural backdrop for a beautiful and relaxed wedding. Emerge from a rainforest stream in a wedding gown, kick up your heels among the cane fields, stroll hand-in-hand through an avenue of palm trees or run bare foot on the edge of the Coral Sea.

With year-round warm weather, a Tropical North Queensland wedding means you can be comfortable in the dress of your choice and enjoy the fun of an outdoors photo shoot. The region's creative wedding photographers know just where to go for a picture worthy of framing. Choose from a sand cay, rainforest-fringed waterfall, tropical garden, secluded beach or cane fields.



Images used in this brochure courtesy of Posh Photography, Lovegreen Photography, Blue Sky Photography, Catseye Productions, Zen Photography.

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