

outdoor WEDDINGS

by the knot



10 Best Outdoor Wedding Sites in Florida



1. Fairy-Tale Magic

Fulfill your childhood fantasies at Walt Disney World in Orlando. Wed in a pavilion with Cinderella's castle as your backdrop while Disney pals drop by your reception. Not your thing? You can also host your wedding in the Italian courtyard or Japanese garden at Epcot, just off the Boardwalk at Disney's Boardwalk Resort/Sea Breeze Point overlooking Crescent Lake. The Disney caterers will work with you to create a magical menu. (321) 939-4610, DisneyWeddings.Go.com

2. Regal Resort

The Palms Hotel & Spa in South Beach has lush gardens and a colonial-style gazebo. The covered Veranda Terrace is close to the beach and lets in ocean breezes during your reception (which must be catered by the resort). Living up to its name, the tropical resort is completely covered in palm trees. (305) 534-0505, ThePalmsHotel.com

3. Lush Lawns

TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach has two premier golf courses, which can make pristine backdrops for your vows. Hold your wedding on the 11,400-square-foot lawn; it has views of a pond, waving palm trees and the 18th green and can accommodate up to 500 guests for dinner, catered by the facility. Nearby is the massive Mediterranean-style clubhouse. (904) 273-3344, TPC.com

4. Dolphin Adventure

Ever dreamt of swimming with dolphins -- at your wedding? At Marineland in St. Augustine, you can pose for portraits with the resident sea creatures. Hold your ceremony on the habitat's sloping beach. The site can accommodate up to 400 guests, and in-house catering is available. (877) 933-3401, Marineland.net

5. Island Hideaway

Sitting on a secluded Captiva Island beachfront, South Seas Island Resort is perfect if you don't want a sandy ceremony but do want Gulf of Mexico views. The East Lawn overlooks the Yacht Harbor and is filled with palm trees and tropical flowers. Or have your wedding on the West Lawn with a view of the golf course. Take your photos at Sunset Cove, a secluded beachfront right on the gulf. (800) 524-7601, SouthSeas.com

6. Luxe Inn

The Inn on Fifth in Naples has two outdoor wedding spots. The Rooftop Courtyard can seat 175 guests and features tropical, poolside waterfalls. The Fifth Avenue Terrace has a view of downtown and can seat 80 guests. The inn provides upscale catering and an escape from the busy vacation town. (239) 280-2703, InnonFifth.com

7. Riverfront Terrace

Located in the heart of downtown Jacksonville, the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront has outdoor terraces along the St. Johns River. The River Deck Balcony can accommodate up to 600 and looks out onto the Main Street Bridge. The River Terrace has a private balcony that overlooks the four-mile boardwalk lined with palm trees, adding a tropical splash to the city view. (904) 360-8684, Jacksonville.Hyatt.com

8. Elegant Estate

Ceremonies with up to 250 guests at the Deering Estate at Cutler in Miami take place on a palm tree-lined lawn with a view of the Biscayne Bay. The courtyard in front of the Grand Stone House has backlit stone archways and trees, creating a soft glow for your wedding. You choose all of the vendors, making the estate feel like your home for the day! (305) 235-1668 ext. 236, DeeringEstate.com

9. Breathtaking Beachfront

Florida's Gulf Coast is known for its white-sand beaches, and Carillon Beach is no exception. The patio of the palm-lined pool sits on the banks of Lake Carillon, while the lawns of the Resort Green are spacious enough for larger weddings. Or dance outside under lit palms on the balconies of the Market Street Ballroom. (850) 230-0855, Carillon-Beach.com

10. Tropical Escape

The Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa in Weston is a chic resort on 23 acres of tropical gardens. The Rainforest Patio holds 250 guests overlooking exotic plants and flowers, a stream, fountains and a pond. Receptions must be catered by the hotel. (954) 349-5778, Bonaventure.Hyatt.com

-- Jayme Klock