



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT YOUR WEDDING

## WHY SO MANY PHOTOS ?

300 photos for a Wedding sounds like a Lot. Aren't 24 or 36 shots more normal?

Well, yes, it's true that most photographers shoot 24 or 36 images for the same price we shoot 300. It's also true that 24 or 36 shots can't possibly capture the beauty and elegance of a beach wedding on Kauai.

The original reason behind 24 or 36 shots was that that's how film was sold in rolls of 24 or 36 shots on a roll, and when the change over to digital came along, most photographers just kept everything the same, although they did shoot more images, they would only tell you about them later and offer them to you for extra money.

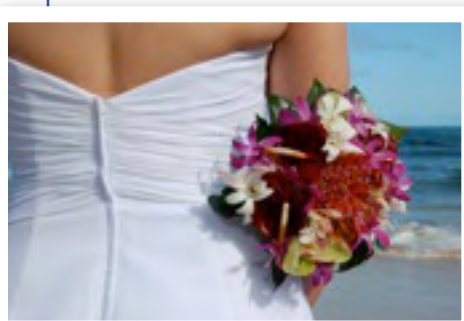
The other difference is that Kauai Island Weddings gives you the copyright to all your images FREE, with the DVD we send to you. Most companies charge up to \$400 extra for this right, which is a little strange because the photos are of you anyway.

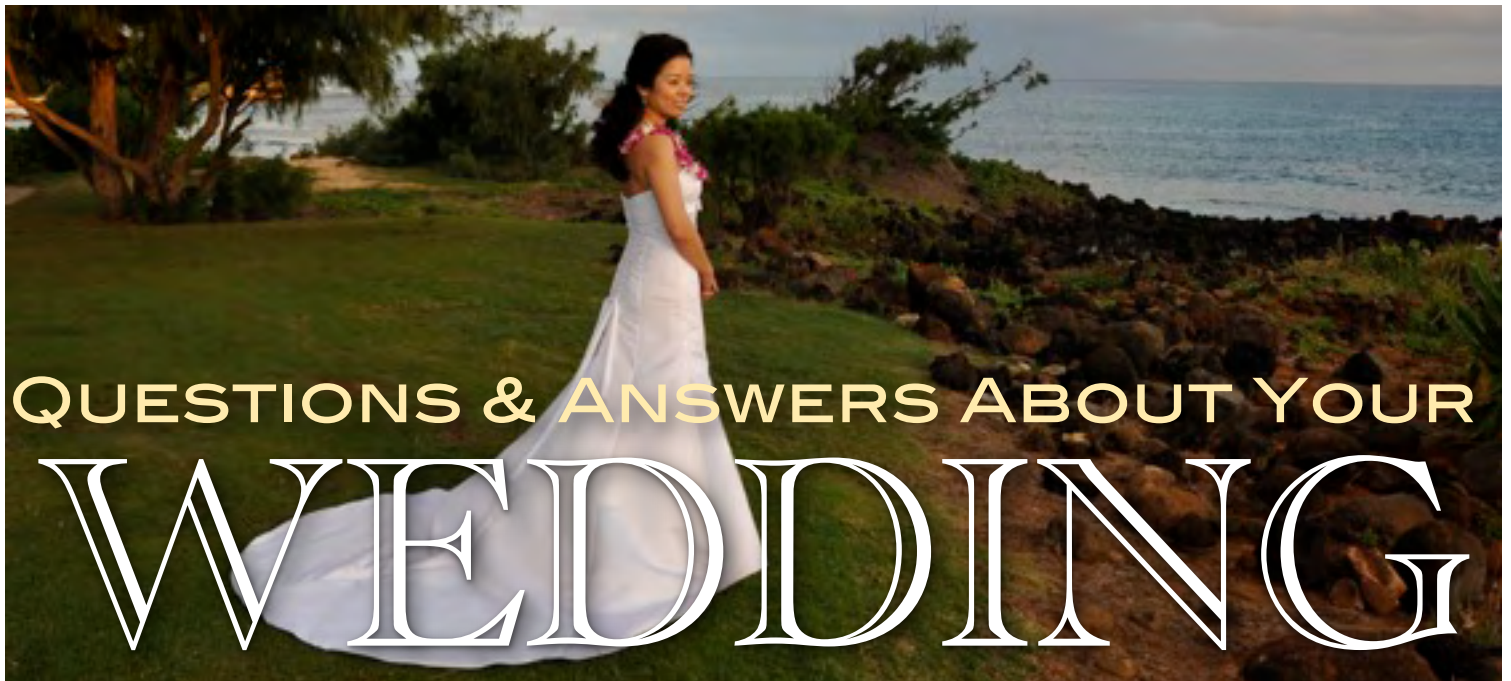
Perhaps the biggest difference is that we shoot each Wedding with two photographers, and if you order a video we make that three photographers.

Now it's easy to see that 300 isn't too many photos, in fact in many weddings, it may be too few!



There's just so many interesting ways to show the love between the both of you, and on Kauai there's just so many different backgrounds at the beach that we could go on all day taking photos and never repeat a pose more than once. Of course we limit the photography session to an hour because we realize that the smile muscles in your face do need a break sooner rather than later.





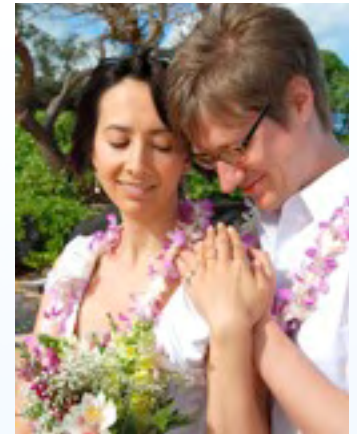
## WHAT SHOULD WE WEAR ?

You're on a Tropical Island getting married and you're not sure if you need to get a Tux and a Wedding Dress?

Well there is no easy answer to this question, the truth is you should wear what you feel best in. Most Brides wear white, most Grooms wear neutral colors like black or white or beige, but not all. Some couples wear matching colors, and sometimes that includes bright Hawaiian colors.

If you do wear a Bridal Gown or Tux, remember when you order it that the temperature here is 84 degrees Fahrenheit nearly every day, whether it's raining or sunny, so a black suit or a heavy dress with a full train might require the addition of a towel or two to keep the glossy reflections down during photography.

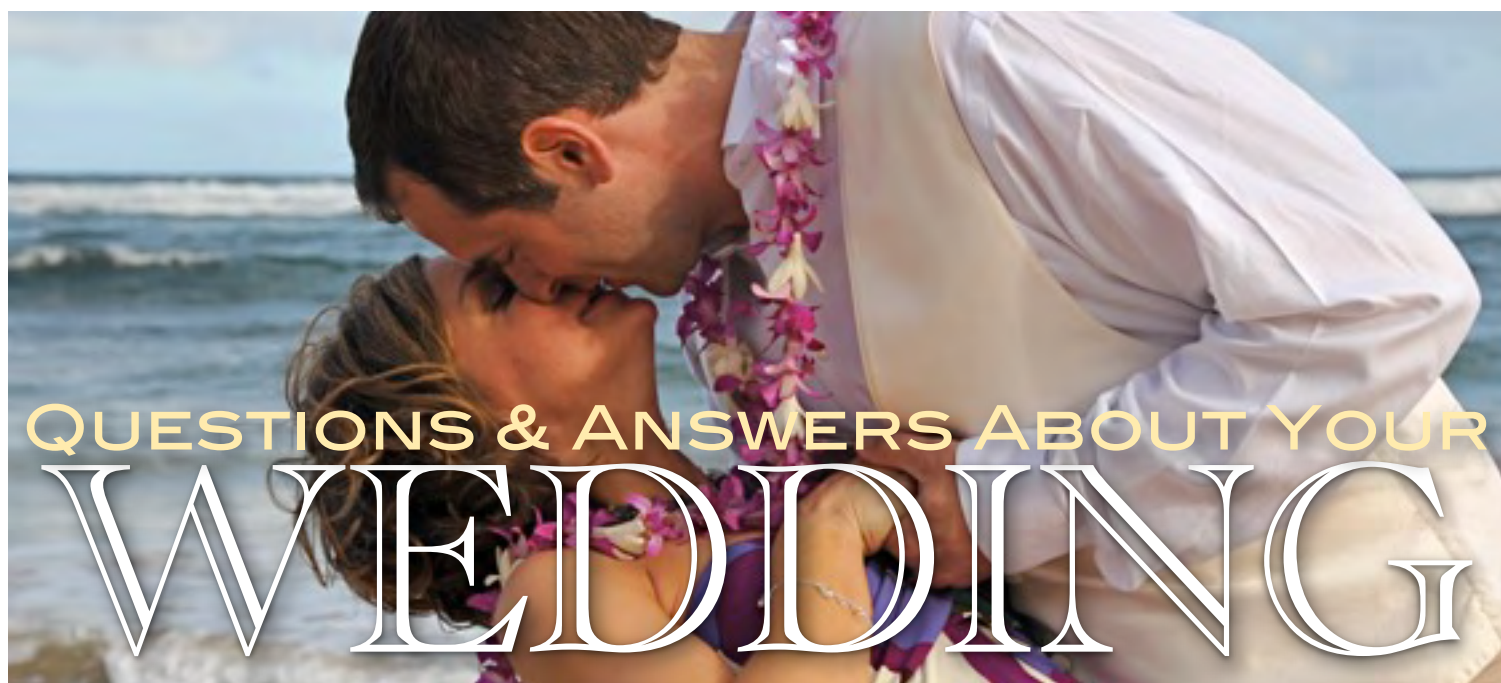
Remember, it never snows, although it does rain some time, mostly of a night, but even then the temperature is the same.



**White keeps you cooler.**  
*Remember that lighter color clothes will keep you cooler than dark or black clothes. The darker a color is the more it absorbs energy and heat, both of which will be your "heating" element on a beautiful Kauai day.*

The other issue with long trains on the beach is that they do tend to pick up everything that's on the beach, small branches, leaves etc, so we'll need extra time to disengage all those items during the shoot.





# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT YOUR WEDDING

## WHERE'S THE BEST LOCATION ?

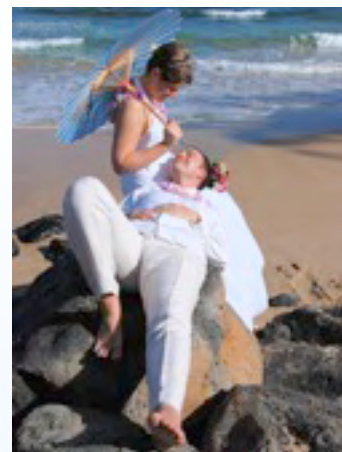
Ninety One Miles of beaches. How can we choose?

Yes there are ninety one miles of beautiful beaches on Kauai, not all of them are easily accessible, nor desirable for a wedding. What most people want is a deserted beach that's wide and sunny with small waves and great colors. So where do we find these beaches? Well a good places to start is here at this link:

<http://www.kauaiislandweddings.com/Pages/locations.html>

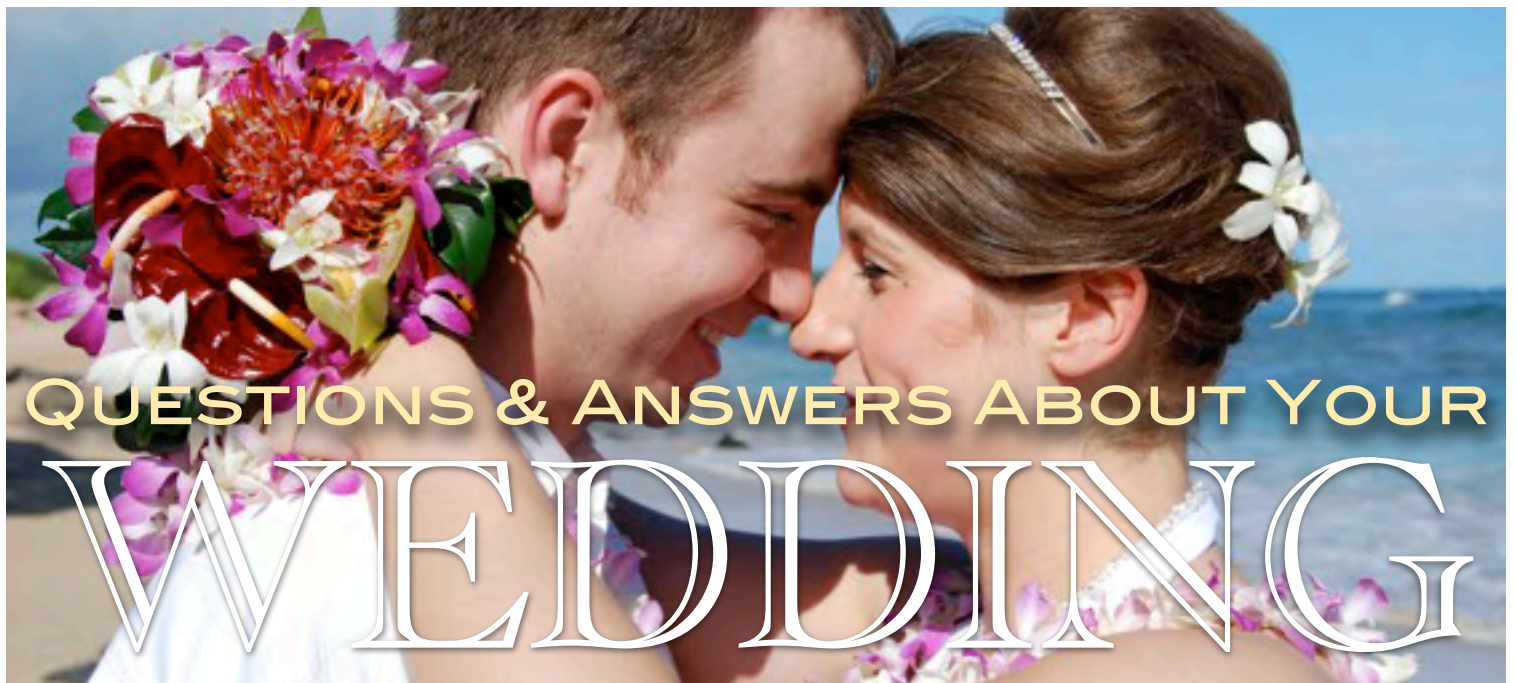
First you should know that there are some beaches that we can't get to or that are prohibited from using for Weddings. Many beaches have Hawaiian ancestors buried close to the beach, and for obvious reasons these beaches are sacrosanct. Other beaches can only be approached by hiking some distance, maybe down cliffs or through undergrowth, neither of which is advisable in a Wedding Dress and Tuxedo. Still other beaches belong to County jurisdiction and cannot be permitted for any kind of commercial events. The same is true for waterfalls and cliffs both of which involve some hiking and may not be able to be permitted.

We've taken great lengths to choose the locations which we feel work best depending upon the number of people in the wedding party, their accommodation location, the time of the year, the weather, and the ease of permitting. Also you should know that if you change a beach location, or time for the wedding, a new beach permit must be obtained.



### Kauai Deserted Beaches.

*We want to try to marry you on a beach where there is no-one else there, and many times that's what we achieve. Occasionally there's a local fisherman down the beach that actually adds flavor to the photographs.*



## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT YOUR WEDDING

### THE IMPORTANCE OF FLOWERS!

You're on a Tropical Island getting married and you're not sure if you need a Bouquet, or any additional Flowers?

Well the answer is YES, you need flowers. The next question is always Why? and the answer is simple - they add a burst of color to the photos. Take a few moments to think about these photos that will be cherished for all time, they most often will show the Bride in a white dress, and the groom in a white shirt and neutral colored pants. And yes there's color in the background of the shots, the Ocean, the sand, the sky but we need to make the couple 'pop' and the best way to do that is to add bright colorful flowers to the happy couple.

Some set up photos will suffer without a bouquet, for example the ring shots use the bouquet as a background to the hands, there are many other set ups that also use the flowers and not just the Bouquet; the Orchids in the hair set off the brides face against the flowers; the greens of the Maile lei worn by the Groom set off the shirt he's wearing and the Haku or head lei worn by the bride do double duty controlling the Brides hair and adding color above the face.

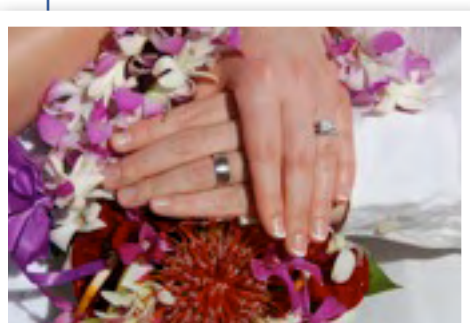
All in all the beauty that the colorful flowers bring to the photos is without question, and even though they add to the cost, how much is it worth to make the photos more memorable?



#### Sun Shades add color.

*Sometimes an old - time prop adds life to a photo when you least expect it.*

*Here a Chinese paper Umbrella adds a hint of mystery to the shot, while implying fun and intimacy at the same time.*





## WHAT DO I DO WITH MY HAIR ?

You're on a Tropical Beach with Trade Winds blowing all day and night, what's the chance your hair will stay in place?

Well the answer is NONE! Your hair will blow around in front of you during the ceremony and the photography and turn you into 'wolf girl', which is hardly the look we want for your wedding. There are many ways you can control your hair, including using a Haku Lei, pinning your hair back, having your hair styled professionally or having floral hairpieces put in place to hold your hair.

I think most Brides choose to have their hair styled by a professional so the pictures look the best they can, but not everyone can afford that extra cost, or sometimes it's the time they can't afford. We have many couples who come here on Cruise ships and only have that one day to do everything: get the license, perform the wedding, have the celebration meal, and get back on the ship before it sails.

Whatever you choose, adding flowers in your hair can do nothing but improve the photos. Putting color around the Bride is never wrong and the more flowers around the Bride the better: the bouquet, the Haku lei, the leis, the Orchid hair piece, and any flowers put in your hair really help set off the beauty of the Bride.



### Is it really that important?

*Well, I guess it's not really important if you don't mind not being recognized in your Wedding photos. We feel that you've paid a cost to get to Kauai for your Wedding, the least you can do is have great photos of your time here.*



### Sun Glasses Banned

*Ok they're not banned, just not a good idea to wear just before the Wedding. It tends to make you squint and that doesn't look good on photos, no one wants to add extra facial*

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT YOUR WEDDING

## WHAT WILL THE WEATHER BE LIKE ?

It's going to be sunny with occasional showers - every day.

The weather in Kauai is incredibly consistent most of the time, and that's because we're a little island surrounded by 2700 miles of ocean in any direction, that keeps us temperate. The trade winds that blow across the Tropic of Cancer keep us cool and our average daily temperature of 84°F. keeps us warm.

You'll be grateful for the trade winds cooling breeze as you stand in the sun during the 20 minutes of ceremony and hour of photography, it will keep you cooler. But if your hair is longer you will have to think of ways to control it to avoid looking like "Wolf Girl" (Wolf guy as well if that fits). Many Brides visit a hairdresser and have their hair put up with white flowers inlaid. Others pin their hair back or choose a Haku lei which tends to control longer hair if you don't want to put it up.. Others will use the Cymbidium Orchid hairpiece to control one side and pin back the other.

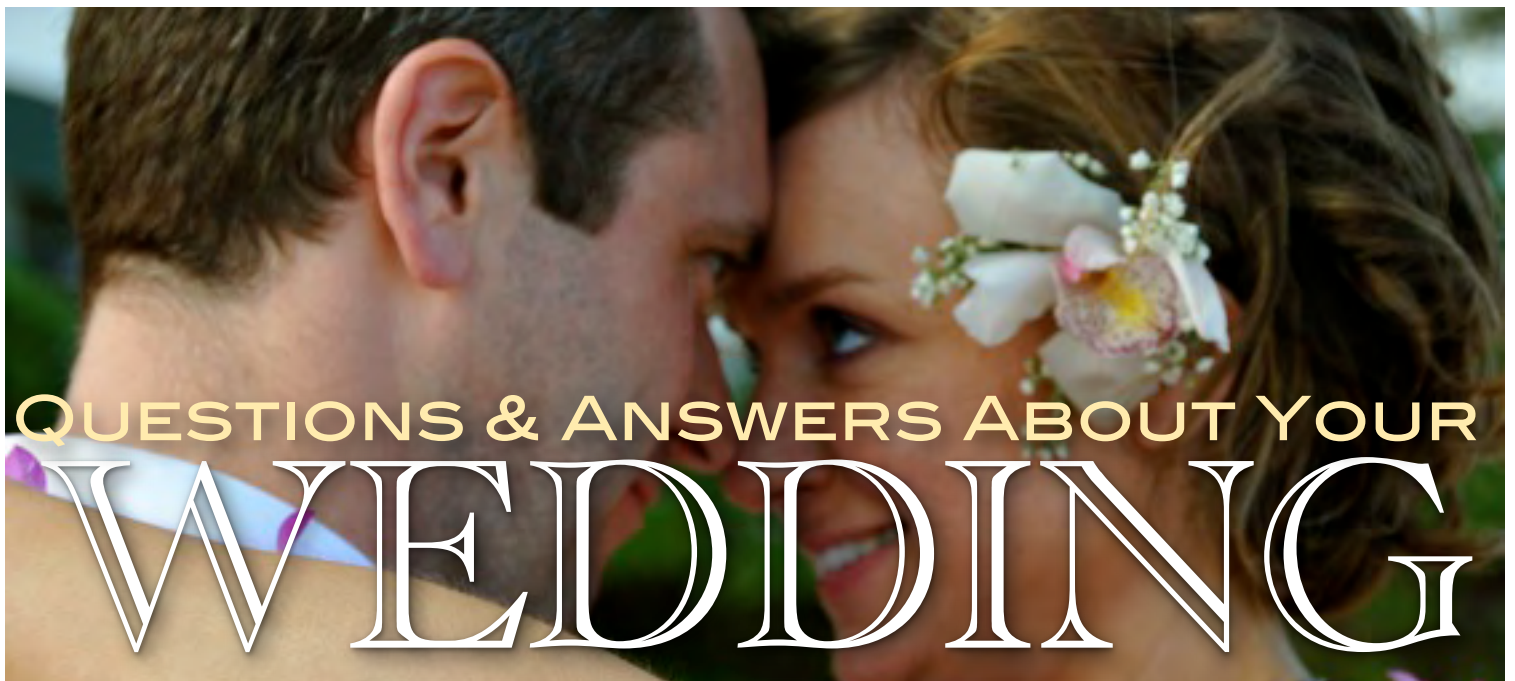
And remember, don't pack too many clothes, most people get by with shorts and tops because it's so beautiful here. A lot of people arrive with three suitcases and go home with two that they haven't opened. We prefer a mid afternoon start time, just in the 'Golden Hour' because we get such fantastic photographs.



### How About Sunset Weddings

The odds of a good sunset at 1 in 5, and it's probably not wise to gamble all your wedding photos on a one in five chance of getting a good sunset. Most nights it just gets dark as the sun goes behind the clouds.





## ABOUT THE LICENSE & PERMIT.

Do we need a permit and a license? Do we really need them?

Well the answer is YES, you need both. The \$65 wedding license is required by the State and the Federal government to validate that you were really married in Hawaii To obtain a license in Hawaii you must both appear at before a State License Agent with a picture ID. You don't need blood tests or to be here a certain time or even need witnesses. You can obtain a license on any Island in the State, but on Kauai there are more than one place to get the license. There's a list on this page of our website: <http://www.kauaiislandweddings.com/Pages/weddinginfo.html>

The Beach permit is completely different from the license, it gives the permission to use a part of the public beach for a Wedding Ceremony for a given time and for a given number of people. It cannot be applied for by anyone other than the company who will marry you. It must be obtained before the wedding and states the site and the time, limited to two hour at that location, and charged for by the square foot of used space. The photography is separate and is covered under another license which we hold from the Hawaii Film Commission. Should the time or location of the wedding change, another license will have to be obtained from the DLNR - The Department of Land and Natural Resources, for an additional fee.

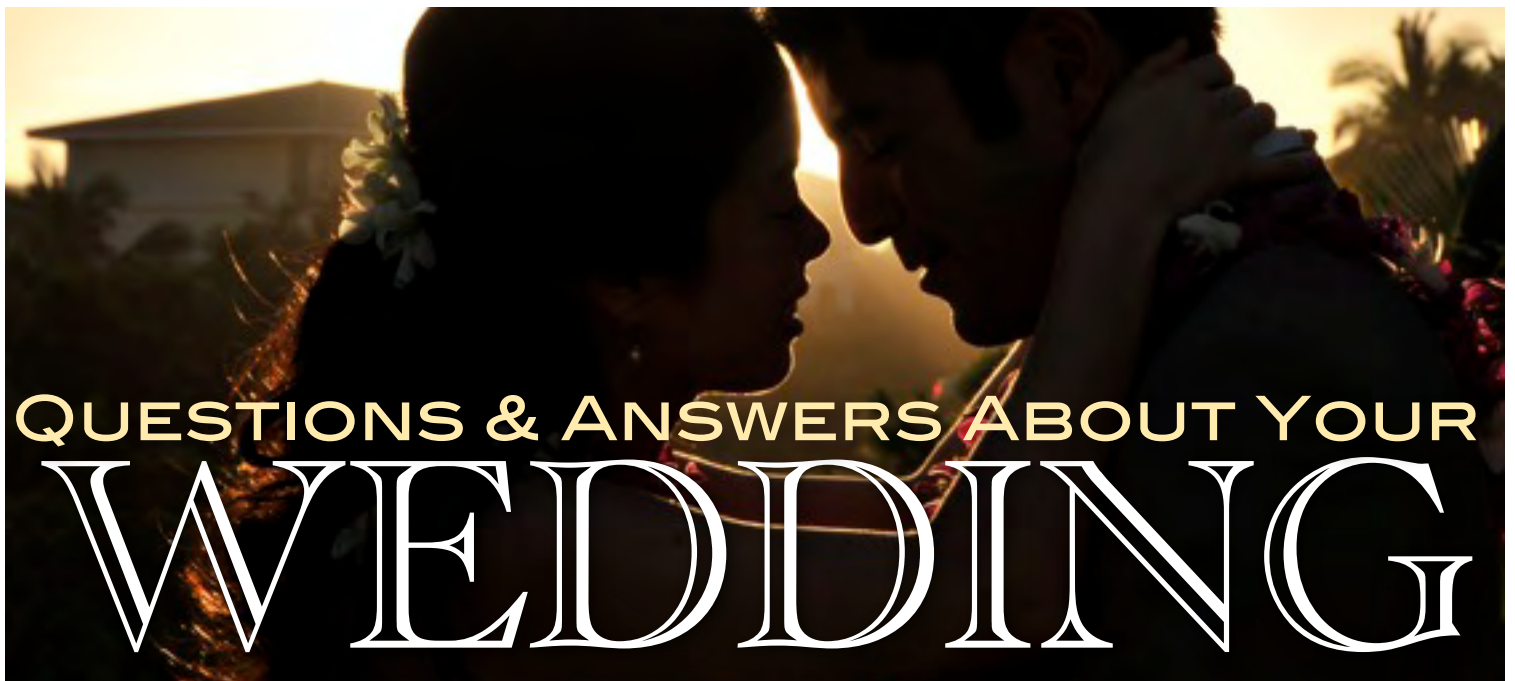


**Not all beaches are equal...**

*Only certain Kauai Beaches are available for Weddings which are presently classed as commercial activities.*

*See the Locations page on our website, here: <http://www.kauaiislandweddings.com/Pages/locations.html>*





# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT YOUR WEDDING

## CAKE & CHAMPAGNE ?

Wait, isn't a wedding cake and champagne a central part of the wedding ceremony?

The answer is YES, but the circumstances are somewhat different so that changes what might be a better solution. In the case of the Champagne, it's simple: the law states that no alcohol can be consumed on the beaches of Hawaii, nor on the adjacent county land either. That means that the Champagne is best saved for the wedding dinner that you will almost certainly be having. I can't imagine any restaurant saying no to serving your Champagne as part of the meal.

The Cake is different. There's no legal objection to having a cake at the wedding on the beach, however the DLNR law prohibits "furniture" on the beach which means you can't have a cake table. Bearing in mind that a cake on a beach in the hot sun undergoes structural changes (it melts) and that all insects within 5 miles find it

irresistible, it also is better saved for during the meal. On many occasions the Hotel or Restaurant may have a Wedding Cake you can order when you reserve, or you can call any of the bakeries on Kauai, a list of which are available at the Kauai Island Weddings website:

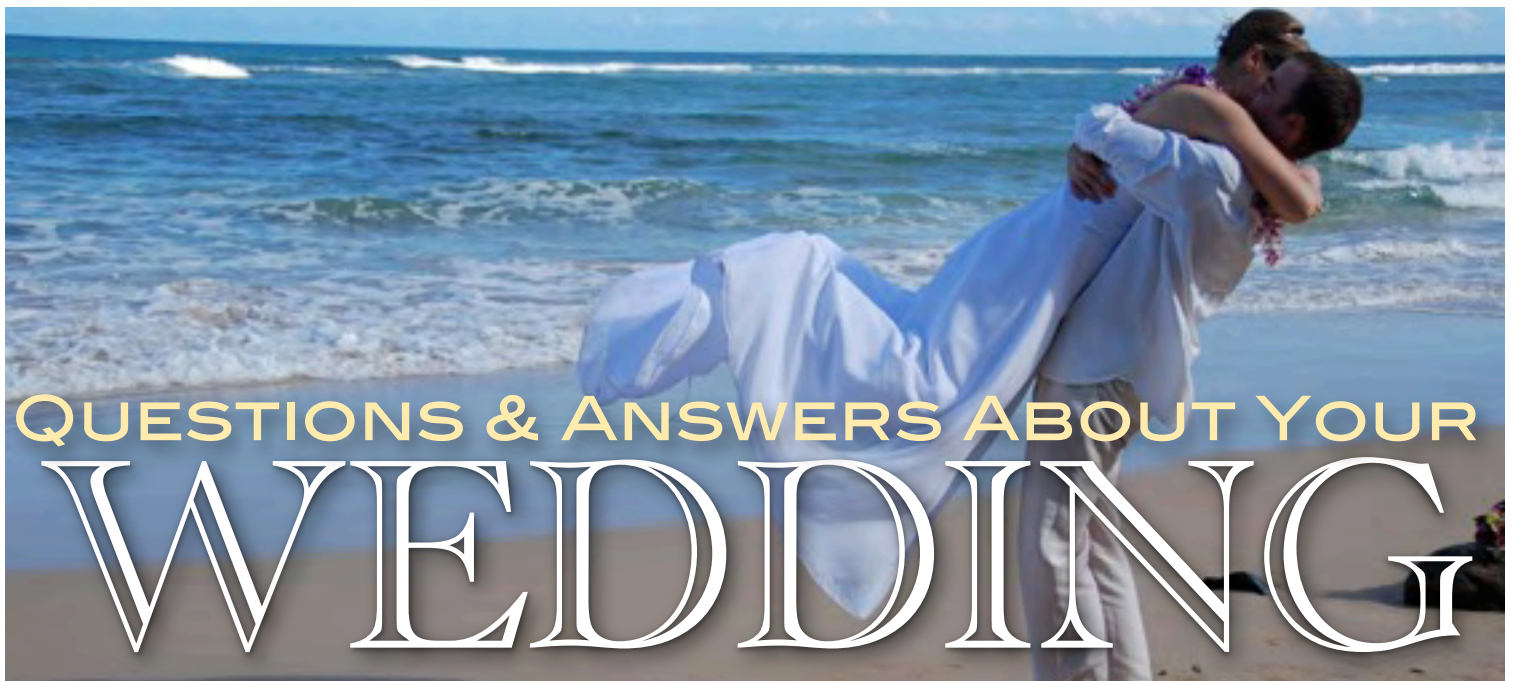
<http://www.kauaiislandweddings.com/Pages/extras.html>



### Everybody Loves Cake.

*There are many simple designs for wedding cakes and the addition of flowers certainly makes it more tropical, more in keeping with your Wedding on the Island of Kauai, your Destination Location of choice.*





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### COFFEE TABLE BOOKS WORK REAL WONDERS FOR MOM & DAD!

So you're here on your own, or with friends, or with your respective parents, is there anything you should do?

You're only going to do this once so of course you need good memories. But there may be other family members who would be delighted to be at your wedding but just can't make it for one reason or another, often because it's just too expensive for them. It may be that this includes both sets of parents who can't be there but in spirit, but will have waited for this moment all their lives when their child leaves home to start a new life, recreating the family they once started many years ago.

A nice gift for both sets of parents is to order extra copies of the coffee table books for them, these full color printed, linen covered, full bound masterpieces complete with a full color wrap around paper cover, capture the event that they sadly missed and will

be a treasured heirloom for them, and score brownie points for you.

Now if you ordered a package that includes a video, the same can be said for extra copies of the DVD Movie, which we guarantee will make them cry. Sorry, we're not responsible for the boxes of tissues you'll need.



**Don't forget Mom & Dad.**

*If you're here alone or with both families, remember that your parents have waited for this day since you were born, don't leave them out of the memories, give them each a book or a DVD.*





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## WHERE SHOULD WE STAY ON KAUAI ?

Stay in a location where you'll not be disturbed.

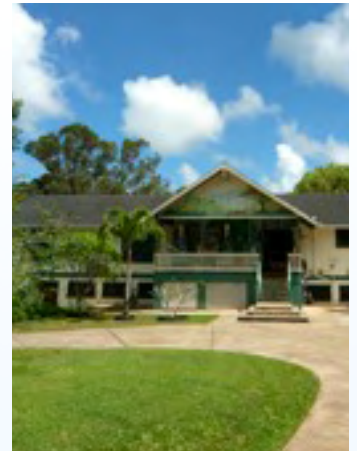
Everyone has well meaning family members, but remember, not only are they attending your wedding, they're also on a "VACATION". So if you've booked a vacation home for the family or a suite of rooms at a hotel, just consider that from the night of the wedding on, find a separate place where you can have some privacy.

It might be a good idea to each blame the other when you're asked where you're staying, - "I just don't know, he's booked somewhere as a surprise" - "I've left it all up to her guys, I don't know where we're staying for the Honeymoon, it's a surprise" - that way at least you won't have to worry about the tap on the door at 7:00 AM with a shout of "hey you two, let's go for that hike we talked about!".

Past that you could find a little hideaway like the Kauai Country Inn to stay at, or search through vrbo.com for a small cottage somewhere in the mountains that has no phone...

If you must stay at a hotel, you can't do much better than the Grand Hyatt in Poipu, with 52 acres of grounds with lakes and great restaurants.

Whatever you choose, have fun!



**Is there Somewhere peaceful**

*We have a really great suggestion, try the Kauai Country Inn, set on the edge of a tropical rain forest, only four executive suites, perfect for honeymoons: <http://www.kauaicountryinn.com>*

