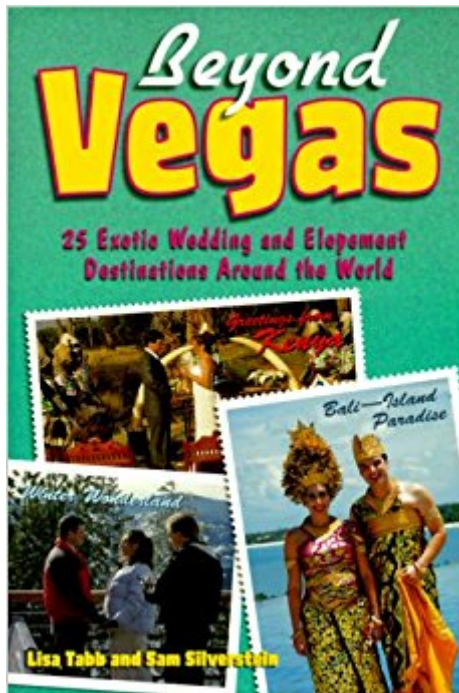


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# Beyond Vegas: 25 Exotic Wedding And Elopement Destinations Around The World



## Synopsis

To avoid the hassle of conventional weddings, many couples choose to elope and may think Las Vegas is their only option. Not so. Married couple and travel writers Lisa Tabb and Sam Silverstein have researched 25 lovely and exotic places through interviews and travel (even getting married themselves at 10 different locations) the promise romance, beauty, and the keeping of a couple's sanity. Each chapter includes sidebars on interesting activities, diversions, local customs for the newlyweds to discover.-- The average couple spends \$17,000 and takes 17 months to plan a conventional wedding -- a trip to Kenya or Greece costs far less!-- 34 percent of couples getting married are doing so for a second time and often choose to elope. This demographic is older, has higher incomes, and likes to travel-- Destinations included in Beyond Vegas range from U.S. locations to the more exotic, such as Fiji, Scotland, Israel, and Mexico

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you are considering eloping, I highly recommend that you get your hands on a copy of Beyond Vegas. It is the best book that is out there on the subject. Though it may be more popular if the title reflected better what it was about. I bought both this book and Let's Elope when planning our escape from a typical wedding. Let's Elope can get you excited about the idea of eloping, but does not really provide much good information on how you would actually go about planning an event in any of the countries in which you might be interested. Beyond Vegas actually gives you the details you need to plan your wedding (elopment) in 25 countries, and we actually used this information to plan our wedding in Scotland. The authors actually got married in all of the destinations discussed in their

book, and give all the pointers you need, not just what can be found on the official country registrar web sites.

My fiancé and I dreamt about having a small wedding in Europe with a few close friends and family, but we didn't know where, and we had no idea what would be involved. After reading this book, we fell in love with the idea of getting married in Scotland. The book got us on the right track for researching it and made us realize that getting married there would definitely be possible and feasible. This book gives a great overview of the logistics of getting married in various countries...it even rates the countries in terms of the difficulty of getting married there if you are a U.S. citizen. It is a great starting point if you are thinking of getting married in another country.

I enjoyed reading Tabb and Silverstein's *Beyond Vegas* quite a bit. While some chapters ended up relatively untouched for personal reasons (Wyoming ski lodge elopement, too cold; New Mexico kiva ruins shindig, too weird), all the ideas were creative and well thought out. I can only think of one chapter that seemed like something anyone could have thought of (Ch. 1, wedding in a castle in Scotland). Beyond that, the writers/partners were quite ingenious and thrifty, finding wonderful wedding sites at the drop of an incredibly inexpensive hat. In Santorini, Greece, the couple married on the balcony of their rented villa, overlooking the black volcanic cliffs and ocean-covered caldera of the Cyclades. Cliche? I think not. In Fiji, the whole crew geared up in traditional skirts for a native wedding complete with National Geographic-quality melee. A word to the wise, though-- these vacations were a lot cheaper in 2002, just after 9/11, when Tabb and Silverstein eloped those dozen times. The preface says that the couple never spent more than \$5,000 on their most expensive elopement. Elopements are rated in the book on a dollar scale from "\$" to "\$\$\$\$", and Santorini was given a "\$\$". When my beau and I looked into what that would cost in 2006 dollars (going to all the same hotels and booking the cheapest flight), we were shocked to find that the price of the same vacation would be no less than \$5,000. While that's still a fraction of the cost of a white wedding, it's no "\$\$" on a 5K max scale. Take that into consideration as you read along.

...researching on your own. I bought this book because I'm a travel agent, want to eventually get married away, and am always interested in what others suggest to clients. Honestly, I found the book an "ok" source of info. Sadly, I ended up wondering where the couple involved in the book would get married next and what they would wear. I am not opposed to destination wedding guidebooks, but this one could be a bit more interesting.

My fiancée and I were seriously considering eloping and it appears that there are really only 2 books out at this time that talk about it. I read a review on the "Let's Elope" book and someone said "Beyond Vegas" was way better. I found "Let's Elope" way better because it actually talks about eloping. The author talks you through the thought process of planning an elopement and why an elopement is an excellent alternative to a traditional wedding. "Beyond Vegas" isn't at all a bad book, but it doesn't really explain all you need to know when thinking about eloping. "Beyond Vegas" just recaps, very briefly, the specific elopement that the authors did on their own (they explain that you can't marry more than one person, but the law doesn't say anything about marrying your spouse as many times as you would like). This isn't very helpful because they don't cover many options in the area of whatever location they got married in. They mainly write about their experience at that one hotel or venue on that one specific day at that specific time. Also, the book is pretty dated and I would bet that many of their references wouldn't even be current anymore.

This book is just brief descriptions of places to go. There is not enough information to plan the trip, the details about marriage licences (for Jamaica) are incomplete and miss some of the details that have tripped up other couples.

Beyond Vegas is the best book for uncovering and discovering non-traditional wedding ideas. The extensive research that Tabb and Silverstein have done on the subject simplifies an otherwise overwhelming event! The book is well-written and provides relevant and useful information such as, price ranges, obtaining a marriage license, actual phone numbers, accommodations, and activities. Beyond Vegas is a great book to buy if you're planning a wedding or know someone who needs a little wedding guidance!

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