

BLISSFUL *brides*

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Falling In Love

A ROMANTIC MÉLANGE OF
WEDDING IDEAS!

SWEET IDEAS

WHERE TO GET YOUR JEWELLERY,
FLOWERS & WEDDING FAVOURS

SIMPLY PRETTY

REAL BRIDES SHARE THEIR
SECRET BEAUTY TIPS

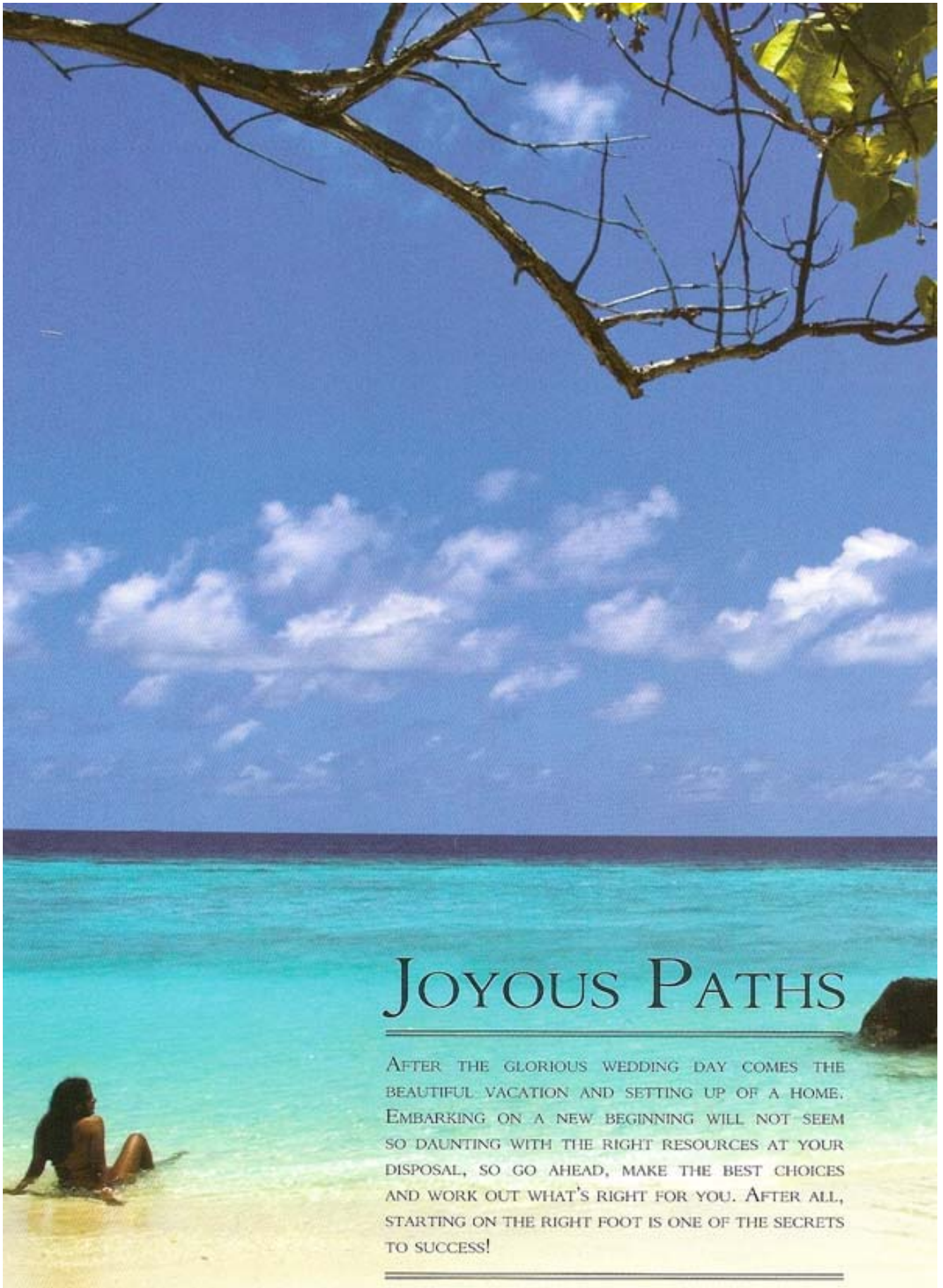
VIBRANT VENUES

WE DRESS THEM UP AND
SHOWCASE THE BEST!

101 gowns
SPECIALLY
HANDPICKED
JUST FOR YOU!
FROM PAGE 164

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JOYOUS PATHS

AFTER THE GLORIOUS WEDDING DAY COMES THE BEAUTIFUL VACATION AND SETTING UP OF A HOME. EMBARKING ON A NEW BEGINNING WILL NOT SEEM SO DAUNTING WITH THE RIGHT RESOURCES AT YOUR DISPOSAL, SO GO AHEAD, MAKE THE BEST CHOICES AND WORK OUT WHAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU. AFTER ALL, STARTING ON THE RIGHT FOOT IS ONE OF THE SECRETS TO SUCCESS!

OFF THE BEATEN PATH



Image by WTS Tours & Tours Pvt Ltd

Your honeymoon will be the most romantic holiday of your lifetime, but many couples get caught up in planning the “where” rather than the “what”. Instead of focusing on the location, why not consider what you both love doing, and plan around that? Here are some ideas from us!

To start planning for your perfect honeymoon, you need to figure out, as a couple, your vacation style. If only one person is planning, make sure you ask the other about their ideal style. Just because your fiancée has said many times that she would love to backpack across Europe, it doesn’t mean she will want to do that the week after wedding chaos, so plan ahead!

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Like the idea of a 'Thelma and Louise' style adventure? Pick up a map and plan your route. Australia is a great place to take this kind of honeymoon - roads are generally pleasant to drive, the weather is mild, and you really do have miles and miles to explore. Bear in mind that you'll probably want some time to relax, so plan your journey involving a few nights here and there to enjoy the scenery.

SET SAIL ON THE WAVES

If living it up on board a cruise ship sounds like your idea of fun, head off on the cruise of a lifetime. For something more unusual, Hajar Ali, founder of Urbane Nomads which specialises in personalised travel itineraries, says, "Try the lesser known cruises such as those in Indonesia, travelling to the islands of Borneo to visit the Asmat tribes, famous both for their handicrafts and woodwork as well as for their headhunting practices, which have continued till relatively recently."

A BEACH WITH A DIFFERENCE

If you want to enjoy a few days on the beach, but want to explore further than Phuket or Bali, head to somewhere like the Maldives or Boracay. "The secluded setting of the Maldives, with its immaculate white powdery beaches bathed with crystal clear waters, is the perfect getaway for honeymooners", says Kenny Teoh, Marketing Executive of WTS Travel & Tours Pte Ltd. "As for Boracay, you can choose from a number of accommodation types, ranging from luxurious hotel types to budget, spartan rooms."

A GOURMET EXPERIENCE

If you love wine and cuisine, make the most of it on your honeymoon. You could enjoy a honeymoon to Champagne, or a wine tasting adventure in France, Italy, South Africa or Australia. It's always important to enjoy romantic dinners together on your honeymoon, so do consider the cuisine

before you book. If you're not a fan of spicy food, for example, a honeymoon to India or Thailand might not be the best bet for you, while if you enjoy seafood, you might decide to head to the Caribbean.

SPECIAL INTEREST

Use your honeymoon to enjoy a special interest that you both enjoy. If you both love movies, for example, you could plan a trip to the Cannes Film Festival, or a honeymoon in Los Angeles. If you're both fans of yoga, you might use your honeymoon to visit a relaxing yoga retreat, while keen cyclists could plan an exploration on their bikes.

ADRENALINE ADVENTURE

If you both like a little excitement in your life, opt for a more active honeymoon. "One of the most exciting places worth writing home about is Nepal. It's an exciting off-the-beaten path destination that is bound to surprise. Some of the things to do include white water rafting, mountain trekking, elephant rides...there is plenty of nature to explore!" enthuses Kenny of WTS Travel & Tours Pte Ltd.

ON SAFARI

Fancy walking with warriors and eating honey from hives? Urbane Nomads' Hajar Ali recommends Northern Kenya, which whilst having less wildlife, is similarly characterised by private reserves and game grounds. "The emphasis here is more on the culture of the local people. Safaris are led, not on jeeps but instead feature walking with warriors - learning how to make fire, and learning to distinguish between the tracks and sounds of animals."

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Not everyone wants to stay in a five-star hotel on their honeymoon. Why not pack your rucksack, passports and a few maps and go backpacking? The world is your

oyster and, if you keep your travel details fairly flexible, you can go wherever you want for as long as you like. And... you can spend the money you save on accommodation on travelling that little bit further and enjoying some amazing experiences. ¹⁰⁰

Movie Magic

Use your honeymoon to pursue a special interest that you both enjoy. If you both love movies, for example, why not plan a honeymoon around the Cannes Film Festival?

Budget honeymoon ideas

Not every couple has the luxury to splurge on a honeymoon. These ideas can help you save money and travel in style.

Enjoy a quickie

Not every honeymoon involves a grand tour of Europe and lasts two weeks or more. Look into romance packages at local hotels and weekend getaway deals.

Discover bargain brands

There's a lot of competition in the travel industry, and you're the beneficiary. Consider budget airlines and chain hotels which have a good reputation for being value for money.

Go off-season

It's always low season somewhere. For instance, instead of paying top dollar at a ski resort after a December wedding, you can get bargain rates - and find plenty to do on the slopes - in July. If you're beach lovers, don't let the words "monsoon season" completely scare you off visiting Phuket or Hua Hin between September and December. More often than not, showers are brief and the sun soon emerges.

Check into a casino

Casinos tend to have low room prices to lure the gamblers. But how about going to a casino and not gambling? Then you have the pleasure of a nice room, good restaurants, shows by well-known entertainers, and facilities that usually include swimming pools and spas.