

FREE CHECKLIST PACK

Destination Wedding Master Checklist & Packing Pack

Keep wedding tasks, travel dependencies, guest dependencies, packing risk, shipping, local sourcing, and the final 24-hour travel check in one destination-specific execution pack.

PLAN • DEPEND • PACK • MOVE • ARRIVE

Track What Each Task Unlocks

A destination checklist is different because every task may depend on travel, lodging, transportation, shipping, or guest action. Use this pack as the destination-specific execution layer.

1 PLAN

Track tasks by phase with owner, deadline, travel dependency, guest dependency, and status.

2 MOVE

Decide what stays under direct control, what can be checked, what should ship, and what is smarter to source locally.

3 PROTECT

Give critical items one owner, one travel method, one destination storage location, and one backup.

CORE RULE

The best checklist is not the one with the most boxes. It is the one that makes the next dependent decision obvious.

PACK BASICS

Destination: _____ Wedding date: _____

Departure date: _____ Arrival date: _____

Checklist owner: _____ Packing owner(s): _____

Use One Destination-Specific Checklist Structure

Keep broad wedding planning in the master wedding checklist. Use this sheet for tasks created or changed by the destination.

Task	Owner	Deadline	Travel dependency	Guest dependency	Status

STATUS KEY

NOT STARTED · WAITING · IN PROGRESS · CONFIRMED · COMPLETE

12+ Months Before - Feasibility First

Solve whether the destination works before investing in design or logistics that depend on it.

Task	Owner	Deadline	What it unlocks / depends on	Status
Set working destination budget				
Build priority guest list				
Compare destination options				
Choose date range				
Research venue types				
Decide on planner / local support				
Test lodging availability				
Review travel burden / accessibility				

9-12 Months Before - Build the Travel Framework

Once the destination and date are firm enough, connect venue, lodging, guest travel, and early communication.

Task	Owner	Deadline	What it unlocks / depends on	Status
Finalize venue / major property				
Confirm planning support				
Build lodging plan / hotel block				
Choose recommended airport guidance				
Define airport-transfer approach				
Define wedding-shuttle approach				
Prepare travel page				
Send save-the-dates when ready				

6-9 Months Before - Build the Destination Team

Secure the services and infrastructure that become harder to replace later.

Task	Owner	Deadline	What it unlocks / depends on	Status
Book priority local / travel-in vendors				
Confirm vendor travel terms				
Plan hosted weekend events				
Refine hotel / room information				
Confirm wedding transport assumptions				
Identify site-visit needs				
Decide shipping vs local sourcing				
Review weather / backup requirements				

3-6 Months Before - Convert Plans Into Logistics

Connect guest responses, design, shipping, transportation, and vendor execution.

Task	Owner	Deadline	What it unlocks / depends on	Status
Confirm ceremony / reception structure				
Lock major design / rental decisions				
Send formal invitations				
Track RSVP + travel implications				
Confirm additional-event attendance				
Finalize transport routes / pickup logic				
Start shipment schedule				
Confirm couple travel / baggage plan				

Final 90 Days - Reconcile Every Moving Part

Vendors, guests, travel, items, and timelines should now use the same current information.

Task	Owner	Deadline	What it unlocks / depends on	Status
Finalize vendor scopes				
Build final master timeline				
Finalize seating / guest logistics				
Confirm transportation counts				
Confirm accessibility arrangements				
Confirm shipping schedule				
Confirm item movement / ownership				
Review contingency / weather plan				

Final Month - Move From Planning to Execution

Close open decisions, transfer operations, reconfirm travel, and stop creating unnecessary new versions.

Task	Owner	Deadline	What it unlocks / depends on	Status
Final guest count complete				
Coordinator / planner handoff				
Vendor confirmations complete				
Travel reservations reconfirmed				
Shipping status verified				
Required documents checked				
Packing plan assigned				
Final guest travel update sent				
Payments / handoff owners confirmed				

Travel Week - Protect Clarity

Once travel begins, resist reopening settled decisions unless something material changes. Travel week rewards clarity more than optimization.

Travel-week check	Owner	Confirmed?	If not, action
Flights / ground travel reconfirmed			
Hotel / room confirmations accessible			
Airport transfer instructions current			
Wedding shuttle schedule current			
Critical documents under direct control			
Rings / valuables under direct control			
Wedding attire travel plan active			
Shipments received / accounted for			
Venue access / setup contact confirmed			
On-site decision authority confirmed			

TRAVEL-WEEK RULE

Change only what must change. Avoid creating a new problem while trying to improve a settled plan.

Pack by Consequence, Not Category

Ask what happens if an item does not arrive. The travel method should reflect replacement difficulty, time sensitivity, fragility, bulk, and wedding impact.

DIRECT CONTROL
Irreplaceable or time-critical items that should stay with you when practical and permitted.

CHECKED
Bulky or lower-risk items that can be replaced, borrowed, or locally sourced if delayed.

SHIP
Noncritical items too bulky to fly efficiently and able to arrive with enough lead time.

LOCAL BACKUP
Items with a realistic destination replacement or rental option if another method fails.

Item	Consequence if missing	Best method	Backup identified?	Owner

Create a Critical Item Register

Anything difficult to replace should have one owner, one travel location, one destination storage point, and one handoff plan.

Critical item	Travel owner	Travel method	Destination storage	Wedding-day handoff	Backup
Passport / ID					
Rings					
Vows					
Primary attire					
Medication					
Sentimental jewelry					
Ceremony-critical accessory					
Other irreplaceable item					

Use a Chain of Custody for Rings and Irreplaceable Jewelry

Small valuable items become risky when responsibility shifts casually. Decide each handoff before travel.

Stage	Owner	Exact location	Handoff to	Confirmed?
Travel departure				
Airport / transit				
Destination arrival				
Destination storage				
Wedding-day preparation				
Ceremony handoff				
After ceremony				

VALUABLES RULE

Do not move rings or sentimental jewelry between bags, safes, totes, and pockets without a deliberate owner change.

Protect Primary Wedding Attire

Treat wedding attire as a higher-consequence travel item than ordinary clothing. Build the plan around the route, carrier, venue surface, and local backup options.

Attire Item	Travel method	Protective packing	Backup / duplicate	Destination care	Owner
Partner 1 main attire					
Partner 2 main attire					
Primary shoes					
Backup footwear					
Undergarments / support					
Accessories					
Wedding-party critical item					

DESTINATION CARE

Steaming / pressing / minor alteration backup: _____

Avoid a Single Point of Failure

Keep wedding-critical items under direct control when practical and permitted. Do not let one checked suitcase contain every irreplaceable piece.

DIRECT CONTROL / CARRY-ON

- ☐ Passport / government ID
- ☐ Rings / valuables
- ☐ Medication
- ☐ Vows
- ☐ Critical accessories
- ☐ Travel confirmations
- ☐ Primary attire when practical
- ☐ Essential wedding paperwork

CHECKED BAGGAGE

- ☐ Replaceable clothing
- ☐ Backup shoes
- ☐ Bulk beauty / getting-ready items
- ☐ Noncritical paper goods
- ☐ Lower-risk decor pieces
- ☐ Duplicate supplies
- ☐ Items with local replacement
- ☐ Nothing irreplaceable without backup

DISTRIBUTION CHECK

If one bag is delayed, does the ceremony still have a workable path forward? [] Yes [] No

Ship Only With a Receiver, Storage Plan, and Recovery Window

A shipping plan is incomplete until you know who receives the item, where it sits, who inspects it, and what happens if it is late.

Box / shipment	Contents	Ship date	Tracking	Receiver	Delivery deadline	Storage

SHIPPING OWNERSHIP

- ☐ Courier selected
- ☐ Receiving instructions confirmed
- ☐ Storage confirmed
- ☐ Inspection owner assigned
- ☐ Return / disposal plan defined
- ☐ Delay backup identified

Source or Rent Locally When Transport Burden Is Higher Than Value

Bulky, fragile, inexpensive-to-replace, return-heavy, or locally standardized items often become easier when they do not travel with you.

Item	Carry / check cost	Shipping burden	Local source / rental	Quality acceptable?	Final decision
Decor structure					
Candles / holders					
Glassware / tableware					
Linens					
Welcome materials					
Props / signage structure					
Production / power item					
Other					

Build a Small Destination Wedding Emergency Kit

Prioritize realistic, fast fixes. The goal is not to pack for every hypothetical problem.

Category	What we actually need	Packed?	Owner
Attire fixes			
Stain / cleaning basics			
Comfort / blister care			
Personal medication / essentials			
Weather-specific item			
Ceremony small fixes			
Charging / power essentials			
Other destination-specific fix			

KEEP IT SMALL

If an item is bulky, unlikely to be used, or easy to buy locally, it probably does not belong in the emergency kit.

The 24-Hour Pre-Travel Check

Secure the systems whose failure would create the largest wedding consequence, then verify the destination-specific handoffs around them.

FIVE CRITICAL SYSTEMS

- ☐ Documents / identification
- ☐ Rings / valuables
- ☐ Primary wedding attire
- ☐ Travel confirmations
- ☐ Ceremony-critical wedding items

FINAL DESTINATION CHECK

- ☐ Shipments arrived or actively tracked
- ☐ Receiver confirmed
- ☐ Airport transfer reconfirmed
- ☐ Hotel reservation accessible offline
- ☐ Wedding shuttle final
- ☐ Weather / backup plan current
- ☐ Coordinator / planner contact current
- ☐ Chargers / adapters / power checked
- ☐ Critical medication packed
- ☐ Someone else can explain the plan

READY TO TRAVEL

[] READY [] ONE CRITICAL GAP REMAINS

Gap / owner / deadline: _____

Final document location / offline copy: _____

Packing & Execution Notes

Use this space for packing changes, shipment follow-ups, local sourcing decisions, critical-item handoffs, and travel-week details that still need an owner.