

Honeymoon registry a popular option

(NAPS)—More and more brides and grooms are discovering a delightful new twist on an old wedding tradition.

Bridal registries have long been the way for engaged couples to identify exactly what they need—and want—to start their lives together. Traditionally, young couples who were establishing a home together created a registry chock-full of household items. Nowadays, however, many couples prefer a new registry trend that can help turn the honeymoon they envision into a well-planned reality.

The increasingly popular honeymoon registry lets friends and family help the bride and groom afford a trip to Fiji, the

Caribbean or anywhere in the world they dream of going. Instead of purchasing an impersonal set of flatware or risking a duplicate gift, wedding guests can now contribute to unique experiences that can help make a couple's honeymoon all the more memorable, such as sponsoring a couple's massage, a sunset cruise, a snorkeling excursion or a helicopter tour.

As one bride, Lisa Dexter Johnson, put it: "Our honeymoon in Hawaii was a once-in-a-lifetime trip that we will always cherish. Our friends and family loved the idea of being able to help us create memories that will remind us of them."

The only major honey-

moon registry service that also offers full-service, complimentary travel planning is 1-800-Registry. It's a free online registry that makes it simple to select unforgettable honeymoon gifts. The company will even contribute \$200 to get the honeymoon fund started.

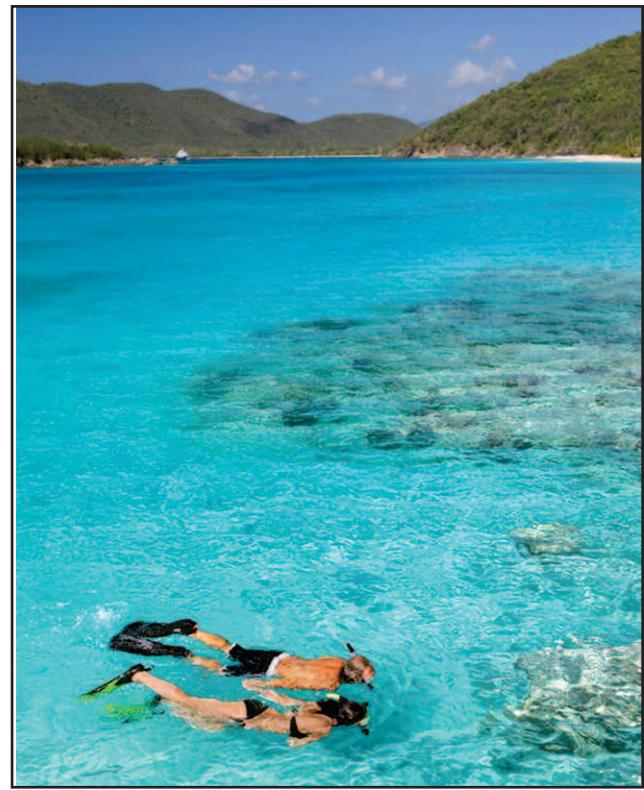
In addition, couples can make the most of their honeymoon trip with some proper planning:

- Start early. The sooner you decide where you're going and where you're staying, the more likely you are to get what you want at a good price. It will also give you time to arrange for passports and visas—this may take time, especially if a name change is involved.

- Go later. Many couples take the time right after their wedding to settle in and unwind and plan to take their honeymoon trip when they have more time or more money or when the destination is less expensive or less crowded.

- Get to know the destination. Check out the weather, the amenities and the costs. You can consult with a 1-800-Registry Honeymoon Specialist for all the destination details.

You can help a couple you care for to afford the honeymoon of their dreams.



Bouquet Bravado

Brides have been carrying bouquets for hundreds of years. In ancient times, bridal bouquets generally consisted of garlic, herbs and spices to keep evil spirits away. By Victorian times, fresh flowers had replaced the garlic, herbs and spices, and many of these flowers carried special meanings, like innocence, faith and love. Floriography, the language of flowers, continues to this day, with some brides re-searching flower meanings and basing their bouquet selections on those meanings. Floriography isn't the only trend in bridal bouquets. There are many others. Here is a brief review.

Bridal bouquets are traditionally pale in color, but today's brides are branching out and choosing bolder colors, like burgundy, red and purple. Bouquet color schemes can be monochromatic—all shades of purple,

for example—or complementary. With bouquets getting brighter, they have become a real feature in wedding photography, in particular black and white photography with selective coloring.

Roses remain a bridal bouquet standard, but other flowers are starting to make their way into the mix. Daisies, hydrangeas, lilies, peonies and tulips are popular choices, as are orchids. Many brides, in fact, are asking for more tropical flowers in their bouquets, either because of their theme or for a unique twist.

While cascades of flowers were once the norm in bridal bouquets, many brides today are opting to take a simpler route. Hand-tied bouquets are a popular choice. With the flowers gathered together and wrapped in ribbon, the bouquets are easier to handle and have a contemporary look to them.

While today's bridal bouquets might be somewhat simpler in design, brides can still add some dazzle to them with beads, crystals, feathers, pearls, sequins and other accessories. Brides with themed weddings can take it a step further and incorporate extra special touches into their bouquets, like miniature seashells, pinecones or butterflies. Bouquets featuring vintage brooches are also becoming popular.

Bridal bouquets can run the gamut from the traditional all-white hand-tied rose bouquet drenched in crystals to the sassy gold, red and purple bouquet cuffed by feathers. It is up to the bride how she wants her bouquet to be. Brides should check out some samples, talk to their florist and select a bouquet design that speaks to them.

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