



Our Favorites

The following are people, places, and things that we recommend to help plan your Florida Beach Wedding!

[Where a point of contact is provided, please go through this person if you need more information, and please let them know you heard about them through Simple Weddings!]

Beaches

Pass-a-Grille – Located at the southern end of St Pete Beach (approximately [800 Gulf Way, St Pete Beach, FL 33706](#)), Pass-a-Grille is a beautiful white sand beach. Advantages include plenty of (metered) parking, and a few nice restaurants (see below) right across the street, making it popular with our clients who want to have their wedding and reception/dinner in the same location. Contact us for more info.

Sunset Beach – Located at the southern end of Treasure Island (approximately [7700 West Gulf Blvd, Treasure Island, FL, 33706](#)), Sunset Beach is a relatively quiet residential area with a very long and wide beach, making it easy to find a more secluded and quiet spot for your beach wedding. Metered parking is available (**quarters only!**). Adjacent to Sunset Beach is the Sunset Beach Pavilion, which can be reserved for around \$300 and makes a nice venue for a cocktail hour or the wedding itself in case of rain. Contact us for more info.

To see pictures of beach weddings held at these locations, check out our blog at <http://simple-weddings.blogspot.com>!

Other Wedding Venues

The St Pete Beach Community Center – If you want to be ‘on the water’, but not necessarily ‘in the sand’, then the St Pete Beach Community Center is exactly what you’re looking for. They have multiple indoor and outdoor wedding and/or reception venues to suit a wedding party of any size. From their manicured waterfront lawn and pavilion, to their outdoor breezeway, to their grand Boca Ciega Ballroom. They truly have it all, and at very affordable rates that include tables and chairs!

www.weddingwire.com/StPeteBeachCommunityCenter

[Point of Contact: Kelly Poole, k.poole@stpetebeach.org, 727.363.9245, ext 307]

Sunken Gardens – Sunken Gardens is a historic botanical garden located near downtown St Petersburg, and has several stunning outdoor wedding/reception venue options available, as well as an indoor banquet/reception room. A little known fact: For small, intimate weddings (20 people or less), they allow “walk-in” weddings for just the price of admission! Contact us or [click here](#) for more info.

[Point of Contact: Sarah Carvalis, sarah.carvalis@stpete.org, 727.892.5715]



The Snell Isle Gazebo – Located across from the Snell Isle Country Club, the Snell Isle Gazebo is one of the best kept secrets in St Petersburg! The beautifully landscaped gazebo area is maintained by the City of St Petersburg and can often be used at no charge (if not in use) or reserved for a small fee. Contact us or [click here](#) for more info.

Downtown St Petersburg – Downtown St Petersburg is full of beautifully landscaped waterfront parks: Vinoy Park, Straub Park, North Shore Park, Demen's Landing... the list goes on and on, which can be used for free or for a small fee. Contact us for more info.

Hair & Makeup

Destino Y Luz – Mobile hair and makeup artist Priscilla Marie is amazing! Not only will she come to your home or hotel and make you look beautiful for your wedding day, she'll also keep you relaxed and laughing. By the time she's done with your hair and makeup, you'll be best friends!

www.destinoyluz.com

[Point of Contact: Priscilla Marie, makeup_priscilla@yahoo.com, 813-476-8386]

Florist

Seaside Florals – Conveniently located in the Don Cesar Hotel, this independently-owned florist can't be beat for convenience if you're staying at the Don or anywhere on St Pete Beach. Kim (owner) and Marsha (floral designer) always take good care of our clients, and their selection and quality is second to none! Closed Sunday & Monday. www.seasideflorals.com

[Point of Contact: Kim or Marsha, info@seasideflorals.com, 727-363-5056]

Catering/Receptions/Banquet Hall

Bayside Banquets – Conveniently located in the heart of St Pete Beach, Bayside Banquets is the perfect reception venue for up to 80 guests. Tasteful décor... Delicious, affordable food... Responsive staff... Alcohol sales... Offsite catering... restaurant dining - they truly have it all!

www.floridabeachweddingreceptions.com

[Point of Contact: Debbie Stanbaugh, 727-251-1045]

Beachfront Hotels

Residence Inn Treasure Island – The Residence Inn's stunning and affordable rooms are truly like a home away from home. Their private beach is to die for, and their poolside outdoor bar is perfect for a cocktail hour or small reception. What more could you possibly need?

www.residenceinntreasureisland.com

[Point of Contact: Rachel Ricks, Director of Sales, Rachel.ricks@marriott.com, 727-456-2463]



Tradewinds Island Grand – The Tradewinds is one of our favorite hotels on St Pete Beach. The beautifully landscaped grounds include a canal that guests can ply by paddleboat and is crossed by several scenic footbridges. They also have multiple outdoor gazebos, a beautiful white sand beach, and several restaurants and reception venues on site.

www.JustLetGo.com

[Point of Contact: Francisco Arias, farias@twresort.com, 727-363-2321]

The Sirata Beach Resort – The Sirata is a nice, mid-priced beach resort located directly on St Pete Beach. They offer several options for indoor or outdoor/beach weddings and receptions, and have several restaurants on site. www.sirata.com

[Point of Contact: Stacy Feldhusen, sfeldhusen@sirata.com, 727-363-5176]

The Grand Plaza - The Grand Plaza is a nice, mid-priced beach resort located directly on St Pete Beach. They have several beautiful beach, indoor, and outdoor wedding venues and reception areas available, as well as unique revolving rooftop restaurant with amazing views. www.grandplazaflorida.com

[Point of Contact: Cherish Coddington, cherish@grandplazaflorida.com, 727-360-1811 ext. 1040]

Downtown Hotels

The Hampton Inn & Suites – Located near downtown St Petersburg, this gorgeous hotel is located in a historic building that has been recently renovated, and is surrounded by beautiful waterfront parks. The St Pete Yacht Club, The Pier, Baywalk, and dozens of local restaurants and nightclubs are within walking distance (be sure to check out the Ceviche Restaurant downstairs!). www.stpetehampton.com

[Point of Contact: John Backe, john.backe@hilton.com, 727-892-9900 ext. 110]

The Renaissance Vinoy Resort – The Vinoy is a first class luxury resort and golf club near Downtown St Petersburg. It is gorgeous (we were married there ourselves)! They have a beautiful outdoor “Tea Garden” that can seat around 100 guests, a veranda overlooking Tampa Bay and Downtown that can be used for weddings, cocktail hours, or receptions, and several restaurants on site that will cater to your every need! Located on Tampa Bay, about 10 miles from the Gulf Beaches.

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/tpasr-renaissance-vinoy-resort-and-golf-club

Airport Hotel

Chase Suites Tampa – If you are flying into or out of Tampa International Airport, you can't beat the Chase Suites. Convenient, location, airport and port transportation, and beautiful suites that make you feel at home at a very reasonable price. Be sure to check out their [Snooze & Cruise Simple Wedding Package!](#)

www.ChaseHotelTampa.com

[Point of Contact: Leslie Kimmerer, LKimmerer@chasesuitehotels.com, 813-281-8089]

www.SimpleWeddingsFlorida.com



Condo Rentals

Resort Realty – Looking for the privacy of your own condo or townhome on the beach? Look no further than Resort Realty of St Pete Beach! www.resortrentals.us

[Point of Contact: Ron Thompson, ronthompson@tampabay.rr.com, 727-422-5558]

Villa Luna – Recently renovated 5-unit condo on Pass-a-Grille Beach. Great for large groups who want to be co-located. Literally steps from scenic Pass-a-Grille Beach!

www.jennysvacationrentals.com/properties.html

[Point of Contact: Jenny O'Malley, jennyomalley@tampabay.rr.com, 727-641-5964]

Bed & Breakfast

The Laughing Lizard – If big beachfront resorts aren't your thing and you are looking for something more intimate and personal, look no further than the Laughing Lizard Bed & Breakfast on Indian Rocks Beach! www.laughinglizardbandb.com

[Point of Contact: Bill Ockunzzi, info@laughinglizardbandb.com, 727-595-7006]

Restaurants/Reception Venues

The Black Palm Restaurant – One of our personal favorites, The Black Palm is an intimate and elegant restaurant with a beautiful outdoor courtyard, indoor banquet room, and full bar. Located just steps from Pass-a-Grille Beach. Owners Cathy & Louie take great care of our clients! www.blackpalmrestaurant.com/wedding.html

[Point of Contact: Cathy, 727-360-5000]

Gennaro's Italian Restaurant – The steady stream of locals and tourists frequenting this casual Italian Restaurant in historic Pass-a-Grille is no coincidence: Gennaro's is a local legend when it comes to pizza, pasta, and other Italian favorites! They have an impressive selection of wine and beer and a beautifully decorated banquet room that can seat up to 20. Located just steps away from the sugar-white sands of Pass-a-Grille beach!

[Point of Contact: Erynne or Marcello, gennaros1@msn.com, 727-360-0563]

Spinners – Located atop the Grand Plaza Hotel, the aptly-named Spinners is a revolving rooftop restaurant that slowly rotates (about once per hour) as you dine, offering constantly changing views of the beaches, the Gulf of Mexico, and downtown St Petersburg! Not available for large receptions/banquets, but reservations can be made for small groups. Open to the public.

www.grandplazaflorida.com/spinners-restaurant.html

[Point of Contact: Cherish Coddington, cherish@grandplazaflorida.com, 727-360-1811 ext. 1040]



Custom Interior Décor and Arches

Signature Elegance – Looking for columns, pillars, arches, lighting, and other accessories to add a touch of elegance to your formal reception, dinner party, or other event? You have to check out the “before and after” pictures at www.signatureelegance.com!

[Point of Contact: Tim or Mia Hildebrand, tjhildo@hotmail.com, 941-799-7939]

Outdoor Air Cooling

Tropical C Breeze – Want your guests to relax in comfort as they wait in the Florida sun for your stroll down the aisle? Tropical C Breeze has several affordable portable outdoor air cooling options available for daily rentals (electricity required). Ask for the “Simple Weddings” discount! www.tropicalcbreeze.com

[Point of Contact: Mike Lanning, michaellanning@tropicalcbreeze.com, 727-433-3506]