

Civil Wedding in Mauritius

Almost all nationalities of the world can have a legal wedding here in Mauritius. Back in your home country you will need to register your civil wedding at the Civil Status Office. We recommend you to inform your Civil Status Office in your home country before planning your wedding in Mauritius. Some countries require the Mauritian wedding certificate to be sent through the embassy of your home country back to your home country.

9 weeks prior to your wedding date at the latest we would need the following documents from you via email:

- a copy of the relevant double page of your passports (sent to us as a **pdf** via email)
- Birth Certificates in English or French otherwise translated and certified. Both certificates must be issued no later than 3 months prior the the wedding date (sent to us as **pdf** via email)
- filled in "Application to Marry" (sent to us as **pdf** via email)
- If you have been married before we need the final divorce papers (in English or French)
- If the surname of the birth certificate is not the same as in the passport (any other reason than a previous marriage), a dead poll must be sent showing why the name has been changed (below explained in detail)
- If you are widowed the death certificate of your previous spouse must be shown
- if applicable a marriage contract

1. We will print out and drop these documents at the Civil Status Office in Port Louis and inform them about your wedding date and the dates of your arrival.

2. We make sure the Civil Status Officer has successfully received your documents and agree with him on an appointment 2 working days prior to your wedding.

3. 2 working days before your wedding we will drive you to the Central Civil Status Office in Port Louis where passports and the birth certificates (if applicable also other documents you have sent us before via email) need to be shown in original. After that you will be brought to a regional Civil Status Office (close to the wedding location) where you will meet your personal Civil Status Officer and discuss the time and the language of the wedding.

3. Your wedding day: The Civil Status Officer comes to your chosen wedding location to perform the wedding ceremony that takes around 20 Minutes. That can be in your house, your hotel, at a public beach or in a garden. 2 witnesses are obligatory. If you travel alone we will be your witnesses. Please note that should your wedding day be a public holiday or on weekend, an additional fee of 30 EUR will be charged and paid to the registrar.

4. After the wedding: We will bring the wedding certificate to the Prime Minister who will seal the document with the Apostille. If your home country is member of the Den Haag Convention, the wedding certificate will be easily registered by means of the official seal called Apostille. 2-3 working days after the wedding we will bring you the wedding certificate to your accommodation. Should you have already left Mauritius, we will send it to your home country via Post (delivered in 2-3 weeks) at no cost. DHL deliveries cost around 50 Euros from Mauritius and take only a couple of days. Please show the Mauritian wedding certificate to your Civil Status Office of your home country for your wedding to be registered there.

Important: Civil Weddings can be performed from Monday to Friday as from 16:15 and on weekends and on public holidays the whole day. Please bring with you all the originals of the required documentation to Mauritius.

Please note that there must be at least 1 day between your appointment in Port Louis and your wedding day. Thus, the formal part in Port Louis and the wedding itself can not be organized on the same day. Please also note that the appointments in Port Louis can be organized only on working days due to their opening hours.

Women who have been divorced or widowed and wish to remarry within 10 months of the dissolution of their previous marriage must obtain a Mauritian doctor's certificate to prove non-pregnancy. If the bride is pregnant, the wedding cannot be performed.

On the wedding certificate you will always find the surname according to your birth certificate and not according to your passport. Only if you have legal proof of why your surname changed from the birth certificate, your name on the wedding certificate can be taken from the passport. Should the reason for the different name in your passport be a previous marriage (and you kept your spouse's name), then a court order stating that you can use that name and an affidavit from the previous spouse allowing the use of name would be necessary. Should you wish to change your name after the wedding, please get in contact with your Civil Status Office in your home country.

Neither a certificate of no impediment to marriage nor a certificate of your place of residence is needed for a civil wedding in Mauritius.