

Your Ultimate Guide To Planning An English Wedding In The Heart Of France

Are you thinking of having your wedding in a magical mix of English traditions with the romantic essence of France's landscape?

Recently, destination weddings have come up, and the [global industry has grown from \\$21.31 billion in the year 2022 to \\$28.31 billion](#) in the year 2023. France has become a natural choice for unique and memorable couples' weddings.

The place strikes a perfect balance between the sophistication of an English wedding and the enchanting backdrop of the country's historic châteaux, rolling vineyards and charming countryside.



Photo by [Jeremy Wong Weddings](#) on [Unsplash](#)

However, the sort of planning needed for such a spectacular event requires a lot of thought and a good understanding of both cultures.

In this article, we will guide you through each step required to pull off an unforgettable English wedding in the heart of France.

Step 1: Hire English-Speaking Event Planner and Supplier

When it comes to navigating the intricacies of French laws, customs and logistics, contracting with [English-speaking event and wedding suppliers in France](#) goes a long way. These professionals eliminate any chance of misunderstanding when teams communicate and ensure you are comfortable with everything from the moment the planning process starts.

Furthermore, from supplying high-quality equipment like a sound system, lighting, and dance floor to orchestrating the translation of documents to overseeing the whole event – they'll take care of it all without ever asking for payment beyond an agreed-upon amount.

Benefits of Hiring English-Speaking Professionals:

- Clear communication of your vision and preferences that can be strived for.
- The ability to coordinate English-style weddings in French surroundings.
- Stress-free management of logistics for you so that you can concentrate on the planning as well as the general day.

Step 2: Choose the Perfect Venue

There is no shortage of beautiful venues for any type of occasion and on any budget in France. Moreover, one can locate beautiful, majestic châteaux and charming barns, as well as luxurious villas and the most charming gardens.

Key Considerations:

- **Location Accessibility:** Proximity to major airports or train stations should be taken into account as a booster for location accessibility. This ensures the ease of travel for your guests to the venue without unnecessary stress or frustration. Moreover, it offers transportation options.
- **Venue Size:** The venue must be big enough to fit the number of people you are going to put on your guest list. In addition, the venue should have dining areas, dance floors and quiet spaces to allow everyone to enjoy the whole evening.
- **Seasonal Appeal:** Consider the season you select, as it will also impact your decor, dress, and photography, but more than anything, how the venue looks in the season you choose. Furthermore, check whether the venue has heating or cooling facilities to make it comfortable.

Top Recommendations:

- **Château de Turreau (Provence):** Grand estate with a stately facade and beautiful gardens.
- **Domaine des Evis (Normandy):** A rustic but elegant option, surrounded by green lushness.

- **Château de Challain (Loire Valley):** Also called the Cinderella Castle, this place is suitable for your fairy-tale wedding.

Step 3: Understand the Legalities

Before being able to get a legally binding marriage in France, at least one of you must have been living in the country for a minimum of 40 days. The majority of international couples choose to host a symbolic or religious ceremony in France after having the legal ceremony in their own country.

Required Documents for a French Wedding:

- Birth certificates (translated into French by a certified translator)
- Passports or national IDs
- Proof of domicile (utility bills or rental agreements)
- Certificate of no impediment to marry

Step 4: Infuse English Traditions

Include English wedding traditions into your French celebration to personalize your moment and mix the cultures. Thus, consider these timeless customs:

- **Afternoon Tea:** Provide an elegant tea selection with finger sandwiches, scones and cakes during cocktail hour.
- **The Speeches:** Include heartfelt and humorous toasts from

the bride's father, the groom, and the best man.

- **The Wedding Cake:** Opt for a traditional fruitcake or a modern twist with a naked or semi-naked design.
- **Bridal Attire:** Prefer the classic English style with lace gowns, veils, and cut suits.

Step 5: Prepare a Fusion Menu

France is known for its gastronomic skills, which make for a spectacular dining experience when mixed with English favorites. So, find a local caterer who can combine the two cuisines to make the best possible menu.

Menu Ideas:

- **Appetizers:** Include [French gougères with little Yorkshire puddings](#).
- **Main Course:** Beef Wellington accompanied with seasonal veggies.
- **Desserts:** A dessert table with mille-feuille and sticky toffee pudding.
- **Drinks:** French champagne toast and English gin-based drinks.

Step 6: Select Vendors Wisely

Finding the proper providers is essential for carrying out your vision. Seek work with pros who understand your

preferences and have a destination wedding experience.

Vendor Checklist:

- **Photographer/Videographer:** Hire a photographer and videographer who you know is familiar with your venue, as they will better capture the essence of an English wedding.
- **Florist:** Use flowers that have an English garden charm and French elegance.
- **Entertainment:** Hire a live band or DJ who performs a blend of English and French songs.

Step 7: Plan Guest Accommodations and Travel

Give detailed travel information and make arrangements for the journey for your loved ones. Book rooms at your local hotels or hire a big villa for your family and friends.

Tips for Guests:

- Create a travel tip and the accommodation section on your wedding's website.
- Set up group transportation from the event location.
- Provide a gift box of local goodies, maps and an itinerary.

Step 8: Adopt French Details

Some elements inspired by France will enhance the ambiance of

your wedding:

- **Decor:** Lavender, Olive trees and rustic wooden accessories are some decorating ideas.
- **Favors:** Mini bottles of French wine or macarons wrapping are good favors.
- **Music:** Include a performance of a French chanson or accordion during supper.

Step 9: Create a Timeline

A precise timeline will guarantee that your day works smoothly. Schedule important moments, such as:

- Seating and guest arrivals.
- Ceremony begins at the specified time.
- Dinner and cocktail hour.
- Speeches, a first dance, and an evening of entertainment.

Step 10: Work out Pre and Post Wedding Activities

Extend the wedding by organizing activities before and after the wedding. Guests can learn how beautiful France is and spend some quality time with each other.

Activity Ideas:

- **Pre-Wedding:** Host a wine tasting or a casual welcome dinner.
- **Post-Wedding:** Have a picnic in the country or a farewell breakfast with croissants and mimosa.

Conclusion

The combination of timeless English traditions and the romantic allure of France makes it the perfect scenario to plan an English wedding in the heart of France.

Using the right venue, adding some cultural aspects to the celebration, and hiring experienced vendors and suppliers, you will create a magical celebration that will remain forever in the memories of you and your guests.

In general, provided that you plan and exercise a little bit of your imagination, you will have your dream wedding.