

Getting Married In Puerto Rico

Here's what couples planning to marry in Puerto Rico need to know before they can tie the knot on the island:

- a. Medical certification indicating that they meet all the tests required for marriage in the place of residence. The certificate is valid for a period of ten calendar days from the date of issue, after ten days the certificate will not be valid and a new certificate will be required.
- b. Any person who is not a resident of Puerto Rico and wishes to get married on the island must present for the Demographic Registry a copy of an affidavit stating that he/she (1) are not residents of Puerto Rico (2) that the purpose of your visit is for marriage, and if foreign citizen, will not stay in Puerto Rico for more than what is specified in the permission documents to enter U S territory granted by the appropriate federal agency. If the affidavit is written in the United States, it must be accompanied by certification of the corresponding state's "county clerk". If written in a Republic/ Sovereign Country, it must be accompanied by the Apostille seal of the Hague Treaty of 1961.
- c. Any person who is not a resident in Puerto Rico and wishes to get married on the island must submit to the Registry a valid photo ID issued by the government of the country or state where he/she lives. This may be one of the following: driver's license, passport or state ID. Foreigners must present a valid passport, visa or green card.
- d. Internal Revenue Stamp totaling \$150.00 USD from the Puerto Rico Government.
- e. Birth certificates (original document no copies) - The names of the parties shall be recorded as they appear on the certificate.
- f. Divorce decrees from each previous marriage and/or death certificate of spouse.
- g. The registrar shall examine the documents and all be annexed to the back of the marriage license. Otherwise complete the licensing will be issued and signed if these meet the requirements, and in addition, be given the marriage certificate to

present at the ceremony. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by both parents.

- h. The celebrants will review all these documents and if they comply with the requirements of the Demographic Registrar's Office, must sign the certificate of marriage in all its parts, using permanent blue or black ink, or a typewriter (not with a ballpoint pen) and officiate the ceremony. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by both parents, properly identified, who will sign the marriage certificate in presence of the celebrant.
- i. The celebrant shall deliver the certificate and marriage license, with all attached documents to the Demographic Registry of the municipality where the ceremony took place, during the next ten days after the marriage.