

**T**he peaceful Tuscan landscape is primarily rolling hills, with vineyards, olive groves, cypress trees and hilltop villages all bathed in a soft, amber light. To many it seems familiar, and rightly so: during the Renaissance it was often used as the backdrop for the paintings of the masters. The rustic Tuscan farmhouse, made of local stone and set atop a hill flanked by lines of cypress trees, is a sight unique to Tuscany. Silent medieval hill towns, with their fortified castle walls and church steeples visible in the distance, are a part of the landscape: Tuscany's olive groves yield some of Italy's finest extra virgin olive oil, but the heart of the region is in its vineyards, particularly the Chianti Classico, where you can visit fattorie (wine estates), to sample and purchase their wines.

It was here Paige and David decided to crown their love and to say "I do" in March of 2008. A whole year of intense emailing went by before we first met, which may sound like a lot, but is actually the average. Through email, we create relationships with our couples, one that is more than purely business.

Paige and David are from Kansas City, Missouri where they met, became engaged, and currently live. Upon their arrival in Italy, we first met them at the charming Castle, where their wedding was held and where their 40 guests, from the US and UK stayed for a week. Paige and David could not believe their eyes. The Tuscan landscape, with the narrow country roads leading through lush vineyards and olive groves was simply enchanting. During their nuptial week, we organized interesting tours around Tuscany, and wine tasting in traditional regional vineyards. Paige and David were excited, and their guests were even more so.

The couple decided to have their civil wedding in the US, but the main celebration, the religious ceremony, was held in the Castle's beautiful little ancient chapel.

#### The Wedding day. Monday the 17th March 2008

We set up the celebration area, the chapel, with a variety of flowers. Each pew had a small floral composition tied together with ribbon. The many candles on the altar and the petals



# Italian Amore

along the aisle created a romantic setting. Paige was beautiful in her dress. She was wearing a long romantic dress, with a beautiful embroidering of little pearls. Her hair was



down, with ringlets, which framed her radiant face perfectly. The make up was delicate and highlighted her wonderful green eyes.

At 4 pm all the guests were in church waiting for the bride's entrance. She was at the altar awaiting her arrival. She arrived treading lightly on a carpet of petals thrown by the little page and flower girl, while a violinist and pianist marked her pace to the altar with the notes of Purcell.

The ceremony was simple and beautiful. Some guests shed a tear or two, moved, but everyone commented on the beauty. Aperitifs were served at the Castle as the couple took a few pictures in the stunning garden of the Castle.

Dinner was served in the restaurant of the castle. The notes of the guitar and piano accompanied a joyful but romantic atmosphere. Excellent dishes were accompanied by the best Chianti wine. The flowers and the candles on the altar perfectly with the medieval atmosphere. Comfortable beds and spacious rooms welcomed the tired merry-makers. In the fact, Weddings in Tuscany kneel and made another couple very happy.

# Portless Escape: First Class

**ays travel and weddings go hand in hand.** Whether your guests are traveling from afar to be at your wedding, you're joining the growing  
age of couples that now opt for a destination wedding, or you're honeymooning to an exotic escape, travel is somehow involved. To ensure  
d your loved ones travel plans pan out, Bridal Fantasy sought the advice from knowledgeable travel professionals and destination wedding

## Travel Tips

den name. Unless you are taking a  
ymoon, there will not be enough  
ge the name on your passport. To  
on, extra hassle and potential delay,  
ur airline tickets and visas in your  
e so they match your driver's licence  
ocuments. – Marlin Travel

ll identification documents such as  
t, credit cards, birth certificate and  
e. Pack these in your luggage, just in  
arry-on bag gets stolen. – Uniglobe

emporary lost luggage, pack a few  
your carry-on so that you can be  
joying a tropical drink in your  
while you're waiting for the airline to  
bags. A toothbrush and toothpaste  
mmended so that you can freshen  
val. – Marlin Travel

## Travel Tips

honeymoon gift registry card in your  
itations. This will allow you to off-set

the costs of your honeymoon; receive tours,  
excursions, fancy dinners, spending money and  
airline/hotel upgrades. You'll never forget the  
torch lit candle light dinner on the beach that  
you shared with your new husband all thanks to  
your favourite Aunt. – Uniglobe Geo Travel

If possible, try to avoid leaving for your  
honeymoon the same day as or morning after  
your wedding. Taking a day or two after the  
festivities to pack and tie up loose ends will allow  
you to embark on your honeymoon feeling  
relaxed. – Marlin Travel

Tell the world that you are honeymooners! Tell  
everyone – airlines, hotels, cruise lines and  
restaurants. Enjoy special treatment and  
complimentary gifts. – Marlin Travel

## Destination Weddings

Sunset weddings are beautiful; however, in many  
tropical destinations the mosquitoes are  
heaviest at this time. Mosquito repellent is  
recommended for the bridal party and the  
guests. – Marlin Travel

Pack your wedding dress and important  
accessories in a carry-on luggage item that will  
keep your dress wrinkle free and safe; this also  
ensures it arrives with you; on time and ready to  
wear. – Uniglobe Geo Travel

Plan your destination wedding with a local  
destination wedding specialist. They can ensure  
that enough space at the resort is pre-booked to  
accommodate your guest list, coordinate travel  
for all of your guests (this can be challenging),  
and be your advocate with the resorts ensuring  
promises made are kept. If an emergency should  
arise, your destination wedding specialist will be  
available to help resolve the issues. In the event  
that your wedding needs to be rescheduled due  
to flight cancellations or delays, they will be  
responsible for contacting guests and your  
resort. – Uniglobe Geo Travel

Fans are a great way to keep your guests cooler  
during the ceremony. – Marlin Travel ■



weddings in tuscany

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