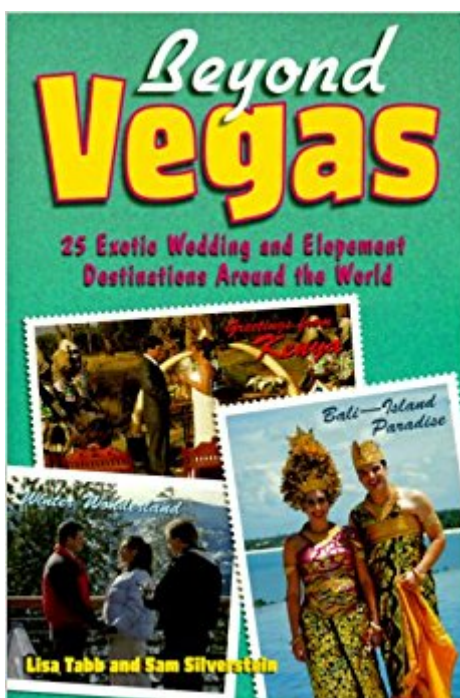


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# Beyond Vegas: 25 Exotic Wedding And Elopement Destinations Around The World



## Synopsis

To avoid the hassle of conventional weddings, many couples choose to elope and may think Las Vegas is their only option. Not so. Married couple and travel writers Lisa Tabb and Sam Silverstein have researched 25 lovely and exotic places through interviews and travel (even getting married themselves at 10 different locations) the promise romance, beauty, and the keeping of a couple's sanity. Each chapter includes sidebars on interesting activities, diversions, local customs for the newlyweds to discover.-- The average couple spends \$17,000 and takes 17 months to plan a conventional wedding -- a trip to Kenya or Greece costs far less!-- 34 percent of couples getting married are doing so for a second time and often choose to elope. This demographic is older, has higher incomes, and likes to travel-- Destinations included in Beyond Vegas range from U.S. locations to the more exotic, such as Fiji, Scotland, Israel, and Mexico

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My fiance and I were seriously considering eloping and it appears that there are really only 2 books out at this time that talk about it. I read a review on the "Let's Elope" book and someone said "Beyond Vegas" was way better. I found "Let's Elope" way better because it actually talks about eloping. The author talks you through the thought process of planning an elopement and why an elopement is an excellent alternative to a traditional wedding. "Beyond Vegas" isn't at all a bad book, but it doesn't really explain all you need to know when thinking about eloping. "Beyond Vegas" just recaps, very briefly, the specific elopement that the authors did on their own (they explain that you can't marry more than one person, but the law doesn't say anything about marrying

your spouse as many times as you would like). This isn't very helpful because they don't cover many options in the area of whatever location they got married in. They mainly write about their experience at that one hotel or venue on that one specific day at that specific time. Also, the book is pretty dated and I would bet that many of their references wouldn't even be current anymore.

I was disappointed that the book was filled with typically already tried and true suggestions. The out of the box ideas were mostly domestic (Wyoming?) and, well, there's a reason most people who stay in the States end up in Vegas. I liked the Nuts and Bolts section for each locale. That was useful information: legal requirements, when to go, etc. and the brief descriptors of specific places to stay was nice. With the internet at my fingertips, I found most of the included information pretty redundant though. It was nice to have all the info pulled into one book, but I didn't feel like it really started any wheels turning. My fiancé and I ended up getting our elopement destination from the HBTv show House Hunters. It's possible that leaving the book lying around did help draw my partner into the conversation. It's also possible that he did (or would have done) that in his own time anyway. Color pictures would have made the book more inspiring. I'm glad I bought it used and it came in like-new condition. Saved some \$\$ and took most of the sting out of my disappointment. I'd recommend it more for someone less traveled either in the early stages of planning or looking to act very spontaneously... but then you probably won't take the time to order and read a book!

I think I had high expectations for this book. It was a fun to read about the couple's adventures but the book didn't include the depth of information I was looking for. Sometimes the level of detail varied from destination to destination in a rather frustrating way. It's fun for ideas but didn't live up to my expectations.

Fantastic book filled with great information. It's all about elopement destinations of which they researched personally by getting married numerous times. If you want a small, intimate wedding or to forget about the hoopla of a traditional wedding and just elope in an exotic destination, this book is for you!

If you are considering eloping, I highly recommend that you get your hands on a copy of Beyond Vegas. It is the best book that is out there on the subject. Though it may be more popular if the title reflected better what it was about. I bought both this book and Let's Elope when planning our escape from a typical wedding. Let's Elope can get you excited about the idea of eloping, but does not really

provide much good information on how you would actually go about planning an event in any of the countries in which you might be interested. Beyond Vegas actually gives you the details you need to plan your wedding (elopement) in 25 countries, and we actually used this information to plan our wedding in Scotland. The authors actually got married in all of the destinations discussed in their book, and give all the pointers you need, not just what can be found on the official country registrar web sites.

I enjoyed reading Tabb and Silverstein's Beyond Vegas quite a bit. While some chapters ended up relatively untouched for personal reasons (Wyoming ski lodge elopement, too cold: New Mexico kiva ruins shindig, too weird), all the ideas were creative and well thought out. I can only think of one chapter that seemed like something anyone could have thought of (Ch. 1, wedding in a castle in Scotland). Beyond that, the writers/partners were quite ingenious and thrifty, finding wonderful wedding sites at the drop of an incredibly inexpensive hat. In Santorini, Greece, the couple married on the balcony of their rented villa, overlooking the black volcanic cliffs and ocean-covered caldera of the Cyclades. Cliche? I think not. In Fiji, the whole crew geared up in traditional skirts for a native wedding complete with National Geographic-quality melee. A word to the wise, though-- these vacations were a lot cheaper in 2002, just after 9/11, when Tabb and Silverstein eloped those dozen times. The preface says that the couple never spent more than \$5,000 on their most expensive elopement. Elopements are rated in the book on a dollar scale from "\$" to "\$\$\$\$", and Santorini was given a "\$\$". When my beau and I looked into what that would cost in 2006 dollars (going to all the same hotels and booking the cheapest flight), we were shocked to find that the price of the same vacation would be no less than \$5,000. While that's still a fraction of the cost of a white wedding, it's no "\$\$" on a 5K max scale. Take that into consideration as you read along.

My fiance and I dreamt about having a small wedding in Europe with a few close friends and family, but we didn't know where, and we had no idea what would be involved. After reading this book, we fell in love with the idea of getting married in Scotland. The book got us on the right track for researching it and made us realize that getting married there would definitely be possible and feasible. This book gives a great overview of the logistics of getting married in various countries...it even rates the countries in terms of the difficulty of getting married there if you are a U.S. citizen. It is a great starting point if you are thinking of getting married in another country.

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