

LIGHTS. **VEGAS** ACTION.



Before you plan your perfect Las Vegas wedding, here is what you need to know about getting a marriage license in Clark County, Nevada.

**Marriage license requirements**

The following requirements are the same for U.S. citizens. and non U.S. citizens.

- Applicants must be a male and a female, at least 18 years of age, and not nearer of kin than second cousins or cousins of half blood, and not having a husband or wife living. Both the bride and groom must appear at the Marriage License Bureau. Both must fill out applications.



MGM-Mirage

THEwedding Chapel at Mandalay Bay's THEhotel.

- Applicants may be required to prove their age. Accepted identification includes: Driver's license, state-issued identification card, original or certified copy of birth certificate, foreign birth certificate (must be translated into English and notarized), passport, military identification or resident alien card.
- Social Security numbers are required on the application for a marriage license. Those who don't know their Social Security number may be refused a marriage license. Non U.S. citizens are not required to have a Social Security number.
- To obtain a marriage license and have a legal marriage, divorces must be final in the state where granted. The date (month, day and year) of the final decree and city and state where granted are required on your marriage license application. You are not required to bring your divorce decree.
- In Clark County, blood tests are not required and there is no waiting period.
- It is suggested that non U.S. citizens check with their local officials for special documents that may be needed to ensure that their marriage will be recognized in their country.
- All marriage certificates issued in the state of Nevada must be used within this state.
- In order to have a legal marriage, a ceremony must be performed in Nevada within one year from date of issuance of the marriage license by any person licensed or authorized to perform ceremonies in Nevada.
- Fee for marriage license is \$55.00.

Clark County Marriage Bureau  
Where: 201 Clark Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89155  
Hours: 8 a.m. to midnight daily.  
More info: [http://www.co.clark.nv.us/clerk/marriage\\_information.htm](http://www.co.clark.nv.us/clerk/marriage_information.htm)



Each year more than 120,000 couples get married in Las Vegas.

Vegas Wedding Chapel

# Lucky in love

Las Vegas prepares for the luckiest wedding date in a century: 7-7-07

The phrase "Getting lucky in Las Vegas" takes on a whole new meaning this July as thousands of couples prepare to tie the knot on the luckiest day in a century – 7-7-07.

"We expect this to be the busiest wedding day in the history of Las Vegas," said Leslie Evarts, marketing coordinator for Vegas Wedding Chapel. "Dates of the same number such as 5-5-05 have always been prime dates to marry."

With 7-7-07 couples are latching on not only to the novelty of a same number wedding date, but the mystical and religious connotations of the number seven as well. Not to mention that 7-7-07 only comes around once every 100 years.

With roughly 7 percent of all U.S. marriages taking place in Nevada each year, it's no surprise Vegas is known as the wedding capital of the world. The number of couples expected to tie the knot on 7-7-07 in Vegas is huge, estimates range between 1,500 and 3,000. Many wedding chapels are staying open from 12 a.m. to midnight on 7-7-07 to handle the volume.

Brandon Reed, general manager at Graceland Storybook Wedding Chapel expects this to be one of the busiest days the chapel has ever experienced since its opening 50 years ago.

"Normally we receive reservations from as far out as two to three months," said Reed. "Our reservations for this day are completely sold out for the morning, afternoon and evening. We only

have availability at this point in the early morning hours."

Reed said there are more than 80 weddings booked in the chapel for 7-7-07 from 7 a.m. to midnight, with ceremonies every 15 minutes. And despite the expected sweltering heat, he said there are 25 weddings scheduled outside in the gazebo.

Jacqueline Montoya, director of weddings at Wynn Las Vegas' chapel said while the day can be quite hectic, she wants her guests to feel as comfortable as possible.

"Although 7-7-07 is busier than normal, we are extremely committed to ensuring the experience is just as exceptional and private as it would be if they were to host their wedding on any other day," said Montoya.

**Special packages make it creative**

Who says just because you're in Las Vegas, you can't get married on the beach?

For hopeless romantics and beach lovers, Mandalay Bay is offering a special 7-7-07 wedding package at Mandalay Beach.

"[This] fabulous ceremony on the sand will include a reception with live entertainment afterwards," said Colleen Kestel, special events manager for THEwedding chapel. "We expect this wedding to be the most talked about wedding of the century."

The Mandalay Beach 7-7-07 wedding package is \$1,007.77 and includes a bouquet for the bride, lei for the groom, a gift

bag with 777 beach memorabilia, reception with concert to follow at Mandalay Beach, appetizers, a champagne toast and a photo of this memorable day.

Kestel said there will even be a wedding at the Mandalay Bay Shark Reef.

Planet Hollywood (formerly the Aladdin) makes couples feel like celebrities with the High Roller package offering spectacular views of the city for \$777.

"Couples can get married in a High Roller suite overlooking the fountain and Eiffel Tower," Sarah Martini-Ricci, manager of wedding services, said. "We are also doing special surprises for our couples on that day to ensure they feel special and enjoy the day to its fullest. It can be easy to feel like cattle going in and out and we are truly aiming to make

"The best advice I can give to a bride and groom on their wedding day is to not forget that this is their special day," said Kestel.

Also, keep in mind that just because you want a wedding on 7-7-07, it doesn't mean you have to pick the first chapel that has availability.

"Be selective in choosing a wedding chapel in Las Vegas," Reed said. "There's a wedding chapel for every taste and preference. It's your wedding day. You can afford to be picky."

He mentioned consulting a hotel concierge can also reduce a lot of stress.

"He or she will be able to assist in making reservations at a really good restaurant, limousine transportation [and] romantic excursions over the Strip in a helicopter," Reed said.

**"We expect this to be the busiest wedding day in the history of Las Vegas."**

-Leslie Evarts, marketing coordinator for Vegas Wedding Chapel

every bride and groom feel like a celebrity."

Hotels like Caesars Palace, the Riviera and Las Vegas Hilton are also offering 777 packages.

**One "lucky" wedding cake**

Chapels aren't the only places getting tons of phone calls.

Freed's Bakery of Las Vegas, popular for its unique and artistic cake concoctions, already has 40 (and still counting) wedding cakes planned for 7-7-07.

This bakery offers a clever design with its 777 "Lucky in Love" cake. Instead of the traditional bride and groom standing side by side on top of the cake, the bride drags her groom by the collar.

The idea behind this? "The bride dragging the groom is just another fun, whimsical idea," owner Joni Fried said. "I think some time in the past Las Vegas was known for the 'quick' wedding. What signifies that more than the bride dragging the groom?"

She knew she wanted to create something fun for this particular day.

"With 777 being such a lucky symbol in our city, we knew that this would have a huge effect on the weddings happening on that day."

Since the "Lucky in Love" cake is in high demand, Fried advises customers to order at least a week before the wedding.

**Making 7-7-07 a day to remember**

Organizing a wedding can be overwhelming on any day. Since 7-7-07 is so popular, coordinating for this particular day can be more challenging. Las Vegas wedding experts advise bridal parties that with a calm mind and careful planning, the wedding can turn out quite well.



Freed's bakery's "Lucky in Love" wedding cake.

Freed's Bakery

Joellen Taniguchi, assistant manager at the wedding chapel at Monte Carlo, said couples should go to the Clark County Marriage Bureau office as soon as possible to get their license.

"It will probably be one of their busiest times of the year," said Taniguchi. "Traffic also may be more congested than normal. Everyone should allow extra time to get to their destination."

"We expect to be very busy. Much like Valentine's Day, if not worse" said Cheryl Vernon, a supervisor at the Marriage Bureau. "Couples should come as early as they can to avoid the huge crowd."

Couples must come prepared to prove their age and save any celebrating until after the ceremony to insure they have a marriage license, Vernon added.

Vernon pointed out that the line can be up to two hours long and guests must wait out in the sun.

Couples can speed up the process by filling out the marriage application in advance and bringing the completed application with them. The form must be submitted in person. Applications and marriage license instructions are available on the Marriage Bureau's website.

Make sure to call ahead for flowers and to reserve space at reception halls. Many restaurants in hotels offer private banquet rooms for these types of events.

But the most important thing to remember is to relax.

"Enjoy the time here in Las Vegas with your family and friends, soak up the dry desert sun and take time to smell the roses," said Fried. "If you choose professionals to do your wedding, all will come out fantastic."

This advertising supplement was prepared by Jeannie Borbe and the VEGAS.com staff and did not involve the reporting or editing staff of the Los Angeles Times.

