

Islands

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10 Wedding Venues with Private Beaches

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Dreaming of a beach wedding but worried about privacy, i.e., interruption from random frisbee-passing strangers? These 10 resorts offer private or semiprivate (guest-only) beaches that ensure beautiful private beach weddings with minimum interference.



Sea Island - Georgia

Southern romance gets a seaside twist on the barrier islands off the southern Georgia coast. St. Simons gets loads of local visitors, so for more privacy, look to [Sea Island](#), an exclusive gated community next door. Venue options include the charming Cloister Chapel and a serene lawn shaded by 80-year-old oak trees dripping with Spanish moss. But for many couples, only the beach — a gorgeous five-mile stretch fronting the genteel 175-room Cloister resort — will do. Amid tall sea grass and swaying palms, tie the knot under a wooden frame swathed with blooming vines of wisteria and confederate jasmine. When it's time to party, experience true Southern hospitality in the beachfront courtyard, where servers pass mint juleps and vodka lemonade in mason jars, along with sweet-potato crab cakes and Southern fried lobster pops, while a bluegrass band gets your toes a-tapping. Pull up a chiavari chair on the Ocean Room Terrace to savor a plated dinner (fried lobster tail, sweet-tea-marinated pork tenderloin) in the salty sea air, followed by scrumptious red-velvet cake. Back in the courtyard, dance the night away under the stars, and cap off your coastal celebration around a huge copper fire pit (a former cane-sugar melting pot), where you can congratulate yourselves with cigars and whiskey — Sea Island has its own blend of Woodford Reserve bourbon, which also makes a great groomsman gift.