

Recession Brides Cut Costs, But Not the Guest List

Submitted by: 9xb

Tuesday, 15 October 2013

Even at the height of the recession, it seems couples were more likely to cut costs than compromise on the guest list.

According to a recent survey by [paperthemes.co.uk](http://www.paperthemes.co.uk) (<http://www.paperthemes.co.uk>), the average number of wedding guests remained the same throughout the recession, whilst the average cost of a wedding plummeted.

Guest list numbers continued to average at over 100 between 2008 and 2013, whilst the average cost of a wedding fell. Budgets fell from up-to £10,000 to up-to £5,000 in 2009 and up-to £7,500 in 2010.

Honeymoon-spend was one of the biggest sacrifices made by couples to cut costs. Average honeymoon budgets fell from £5,000 just before the recession hit, to as low as £2,500 during 2008/09.

The good news for the travel industry is that honeymoon budgets seem to have returned to their pre-recession levels.

It also appears that couples were prepared to sacrifice getting married on a weekend during the recession, with an increasing number getting married on a weekday.

Wedding venues tend to be cheaper to hire throughout the week, with many actually offering incentives to those open to a mid-week wedding. (The survey suggests that the midweek wedding is here to stay, with popularity continuing.)

It's not just on honeymoon and wedding date where couples can save money. Claire Gould, owner of English Wedding Blog, explains:

"Saving money by squeezing your guest list isn't the only option. It's wonderful how couples are thinking creatively to save costs in other ways. Alternative and 'naked' wedding cakes, quirky homegrown flowers and DIY wedding favours and decor are some of my favourite ways to cut back on wedding spending."

"I love hearing from brides and grooms who've had really personal weddings without all the 'luxuries' we used to be told were necessities."

Wedding survey

500 brides participated in the Paper Themes 2013 Wedding Survey of past and future brides. Stephen Prince from Paper Themes said:

"As well as highlighting a fall in wedding budgets throughout the recession, the data collected also suggests that budgets have now returned to pre-2008 levels – great news for the wedding industry!"

Ends

For full survey results, visit: <http://www.paperthemes.co.uk/wedding-survey-2013/>

About Paper Themes:

Paper Themes have been designing & printing personalised wedding stationery from their print-works in Shipley, West Yorkshire for over 100 years.

Contact info:

Stephen Prince
General Manager, Paper Themes
0845 120 6004
info@paperthemes.co.uk