



GUAM USA Where America's Day Begins



Churches, Chapels & Hotels

Amor in the Sky Chapel
Ocean Palace Chapel
St. Maria Arena Chapel
T: 1-671-646-1242
www.couture-naoco.com
Email: naoco@teleguam.net

Blue Aster Chapel
Watabe Wedding, Owner
T: 1-671-646-4100
www.watabe-wedding.co.jp
Email: administration@watabewedding-guam.com

Dusit Thani
T: 1-671-648-8000
www.dusit.com/Dusit_Thani/Guam
Email: dtgu@dusit.com

Hilton Guam Resort & Spa
Aqua Stella Chapel
St. Probus Holy Chapel
T: 1-671-646-1835
www.hiltonguamresort.com
Email: guam@hilton.com

Hotel Nikko Guam
Crystal Chapel
T: 1-671-649-8815
www.okura-nikko.com/guam

Hyatt Regency Guam
Jewel by the Sea Chapel
www.guam.regency.hyatt.com
T: 1-671-647-1234

Leo Palace Resort Guam
Del 'Anello Chapel
T: 1-671-471-0001

Lotte Hotel Guam
Aqua Symphony
T: 1-671-646-6811

Pacific Star Hotel
Amantes Chapel
T: 1-671-649-7827
www.pacificstarguam.com

PIC (Pacific Islands Club)
St. Laguna Wedding Chapel
T: 1-671-646-9171
www.picresorts.com/guam

Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort
White Arrow Chapel
T: 1-671-646-2222
www.sheratonresorts-ap.com/resort.php

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
T: 1-671-646-1708
Email: ecim@ite.net

Westin Resort Guam
St. Leo Chapel
T: 1-671-647-1020
www.westin-guam.com

Non-Traditional Venues

Jeff's Pirates Cove
T: 1-671-789-2683
www.jeffspirascove.com
Email: jpcpirate@teleguam.net

Two Lovers Point
T: 1-671-647-4100
www.twoloverspoint.com
Email: info@twoloverspoint.com

Valley of the Latte Adventure Park
T: 1-671-789-3342
www.valleyofthelatte.com
Email: info@valleyofthelatte.com



Wedding Coordinators

Arluis Wedding Guam Corp.
200 Chichirica Street 209
Tamuning, GU 96913
T: 1-671-647-1215
www.arluis.com/guam
Email: mkawahira@arluis.com

Dream Weddings Guam
T: 1-671-483-9220
ourdreamwedding.net
Email: info@ourdreamwedding.net

Fashion Bride
T: 1-671-687-1682
www.guamwedding.com
Email: jane@guamwedding.com

Ginza Couture Naoco
T: 1-671-646-1242
www.couture-naoco.com
Email: naoco@teleguam.net

(Wedding Coordinators, cont.)

Paradise Weddings
T: 1-671-477-2030
T: 1-671-987-1503
www.paradiseweddingsguam.com
Email: paradiseweddingsguam@gmail.com

Watabe Wedding Guam, Inc.
T: 1-671-646-4100
www.watabe-wedding.co.jp
Email: administration@watabewedding-guam.com

Supporting Organizations

GALA
(Guam's Alternative Lifestyle Association)
Tim de La Cruz, Executive Director
P.O. Box 128
Hagåtña, GU 96932
T: 1-671-969-5483
C: 1-671-488-6025
www.galaguam.webs.com/
Email: timotik@gmail.com
Email: galaguam@gmail.com

ISA Guam
CTC: James Servino
Email: jserves@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/ISAGuam/

Department of Public Health and Social Services
Office of Vital Statistics
123 Chalan Kareta, Room 109
Mangilao, GU
T: 1-671-735-7185/7280
F: 1-671-734-5910
www.dphss.guam.gov/content/office-vital-statistics

Please be aware contact information is subject to change. It is always best to check the GVB website for the most current contact information.

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401 San Vitores Road
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www.visitguam.com



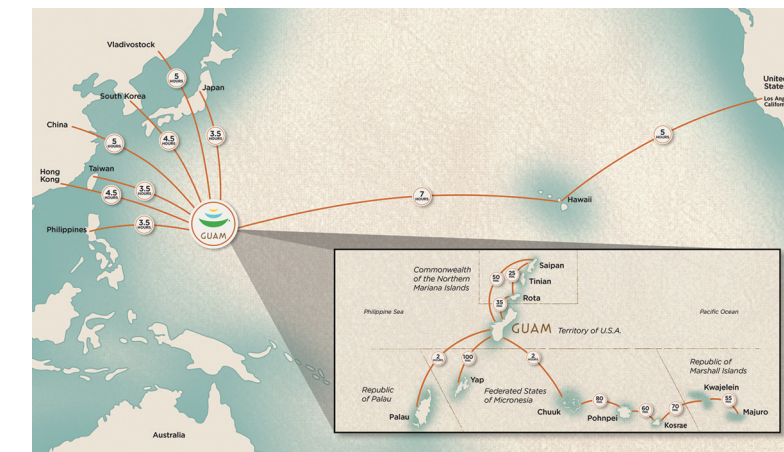
Marriage Equality in Guam



Where America's Day Begins

Guam is an unincorporated territory of the United States, located just 13 degrees north of the equator, meaning we have beautiful sunny weather for most of the entire year. Our proximity to Asia makes Guam a popular holiday destination for Japan, China, Europe and other nearby countries. Guam is also a wonderful place to celebrate your wedding vows and honeymoon in a tropical paradise.

There is much to do and see in Guam, from an exciting variety of water activities to duty shopping. Guam's warm, hospitable people enjoy sharing their Chamorro culture with guests. The Chamorro culture is over 4,000 years old and has been preserved in sites like the Latte Stone Park in the capital village of Hagåtña. There are dinner shows featuring authentic Chamorro dance and sightseeing tours to places like Gef Pa'go and Valley of the Latte, where visitors can explore what Guam would have been like thousands of years ago.



Guam's rich history can be seen throughout the island at sightseeing spots like the Plaza de España in Hagåtña, the Old Spanish Bridge in Agat, and Fort Soledad in Umatac. There are wonderful places to stop and take in the island's natural beauty like the Cetti Bay and Pago Bay overlooks. The Wednesday Night Market at the Y SengSong Chamorro Village in Hagåtña is great event to attend for unique shopping, local food, and live entertainment.

Visitors to Guam will also love the duty-free shopping, the fabulous restaurants, and exciting nightlife. There is an endless list of water activities from parasailing to paddle boarding, snorkeling to scuba diving, kayaking to deep sea fishing. There is so much to love about Guam, it has become a lover's paradise. Every year, couples share their love story with Guam by choosing to exchange their wedding vows on our lovely little island. Guam welcomes everyone to add a touch of Håfa Adai Spirit to their own unique love story.



Tiny Territory Makes Big History

On June 5, 2015, Guam became the first territory of the United States to legalize same-sex marriage. With the ruling of the District Court of Guam and the nationwide legalization of same-sex marriage on June 26, 2015, the Guam Legislature introduced Bill No. 119-33 to legally change Guam's definition of marriage. On August 27, 2015, the bill was passed and the legal definition has been amended to the following: Marriage means the legal union between two persons without regard to gender.



Getting Married in Guam

Since June 9, 2015, 134 same-sex marriage licenses have been issued by the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS). The department has made changes to their marriage application, creating a new application for same-sex couples.

The marriage application forms are available online at the DPHSS offices in Mangilao. Both parties



must be present when the application is filed and must be filed with a true certified copy of each applicant's birth certificate.

Hospital or baptismal certificates will not be accepted. If any of the documents are in a foreign language, they must be translated by an official translator and notarized. Both the marriage license and the marriage certificate should have the legal names of each party and appear exactly how they are written on their birth certificates, unless otherwise stated.

If one of the applicants was adopted, their adoption papers must be presented. This also applies if one



of the parties is a naturalized citizen. The individual must be able to provide their naturalization certificate or certificate of citizenship as well as their U.S. Passport. Likewise, if either or both of the applicants are foreign nationals, notarized affidavits of foreign birth must be presented, accompanied by notarized translated birth certificates, certificates of family relations or civil registry and their respective country's current passport.

If one of the intended has been previously married, widowed, or had a marriage annulled, they must present documentation that proves they are legally able to re-marry. A certified true copy of the final divorce decree, death certificate, or annulment document must be submitted to the Office of Vital Statistics at the DPHSS. Photo copies are not acceptable. A full list of the requirements can be downloaded at the DPHSS website at <http://dphss.guam.gov/forms-and-documents>

Guam does not require a blood test when filing for a marriage license. It takes five working days for a marriage license to be issued and costs a non-refundable fee of \$30 USD. A license may be expedited for good cause, which must be shown by submission of a Waiver Affidavit and costs an additional \$50 USD. Examples of good cause include military orders, air plane tickets with a departure



date of less than five days from the projected issuance date, medical reasons, and others which are listed on the waiver affidavit form.

Who May Officiate a Marriage

There are several individuals who are legally authorized to solemnize a wedding, according to Guam law. The clergy is, of course, allowed to perform weddings and while certain faiths have become more progressive, most will give their blessing to a same-sex union but not conduct an actual wedding ceremony. There are other options that are still legal and binding wedding ceremonies.

The Governor of Guam and his designee, such as the Lt. Governor, are both legally able to perform weddings. The ceremony may also be officiated by the Speaker of the Guam Legislature or his/her appointee, which would be either the Vice Speaker or a senator, and judges from the U.S. District Court and the Superior Court of Guam are authorized.

As mentioned previously, the director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services, as well as directors from the Department of Administration and the Department of Revenue and Taxation may also solemnize a marriage.



Guam's village mayors and vice mayors are allowed to officiate wedding ceremonies. If being married by a mayor or vice mayor, there is a \$50.00 fee which must be paid three days in advance. This money is given to the Mayors Council of Guam, who then distribute it to the village account of the officiating official. This money becomes part of the village's Community Development Fund and is used for needs within the village.

Guam law requires any legally authorized officiant to review and include specific information before they sign the marriage license. The officiate must include where the wedding is taking place, the date and time, and the name and residence of at least one witness. They must also include a description of their official designation authorizing them to perform the ceremony, or if a member of the clergy, the denomination they are affiliated with.



Where to Hold Your Ceremony

A wonderful symbol of Guam's accepting culture and hospitality can be found in the number of venues that welcome same-sex marriages. Guam's hotels and resorts are all comfortable with same-sex weddings taking place in their ballrooms or on the grounds. Many have beautiful chapels with gorgeous ocean views that welcome same-sex weddings and are happy to assist with a reception afterwards. Arrangements can be made through the banquet manager or a wedding planning company.



The Episcopal faith has been performing same-sex weddings since 2015 and proudly proclaims "The Episcopal Church welcomes you!" to their lesbian and gay brethren. St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in Tamuning, Guam welcomes the LGBTQ community and performs same-sex weddings in the church.

Some couples prefer an intimate outdoor ceremony and Guam has very beautiful and unique settings to select from. Two Lovers Point is Guam's most popular sightseeing spot because of its panoramic view of the island and Pacific Ocean. There is a privately owned chapel on the grounds, but Two Lovers Point also assists couples in holding their wedding in the open with the view as their backdrop. Another wonderful location is Jeff's Pirates Cove in southern Guam where they provide a package that includes an officiate, décor, and a reception afterwards.

There are many professional wedding companies in Guam who are experienced in coordinating a memorable wedding experience for gay and lesbian couples. These planners are adept at handling the extraordinary number of details that are involved in creating the wedding of your dreams, including the processing of all necessary paperwork. We have included a fine selection of some of Guam's finest, along with a list of chapels that are very welcoming to the LGBTQ community.

Your wedding day should be magical and memorable. Guam is the destination where those dreams will come true. To learn more about Guam USA, visit the Guam Visitors Bureau website at www.visitguam.com.