

DESTINATION WEDDING & HONEYMOON

greece

ISLE STYLE

While looking to their future, this spirited couple paid homage to the past with an intimate celebration in Santorini.

By Meg Mathis

Photography by Rebecca Marie Photography



ALISSA AND BETHANY
MARCH 13, 2017
SANTORINI, GREECE

For Alissa Pagels and Bethany Minor, March 13 is a sacred day. It's not only the date that they first met on OkCupid in 2014, but it's also when—after getting matching tattoos of their initials on their ring fingers—Bethany proposed at Yamashiro Hollywood in 2015.

Exactly two years after their engagement, Alissa and Bethany exchanged vows in Santorini—a destination that holds special significance. “Bethany loves history and suggested Greece because it is the foundation for most of society,” explains Alissa. “We thought there were few places better to be the foundation of our marriage.”

The scenic La Maltese offered a picture-perfect backdrop as the pair exchanged vows. “We wanted the classic Greek-sunset and -sea photo,” says Alissa, a professional photographer who added her creative touch by designing the wedding's invitations, programs and place cards. During the ceremony, the couple took a moment to acknowledge the strides that have been made for African-American, LGBT and interracial couples to marry.

Following the outdoor ceremony, the couple and their 32 guests headed indoors for the reception. After feasting on dishes such as octopus carpaccio, rack of lamb and sea bass, the crowd hit the dance floor, where staff from La Maltese taught them new moves as Greek music played into the night.

Next up: a honeymoon to take place in 2018. Might we suggest March 13? ■

Clockwise from top: Alissa carried a textured bouquet of white blooms with lush greenery; the olive branch was a motif throughout the decor, including on the menu; at the reception, guests dined at a long rectangular table adorned with a stunning floral table runner; the bright colors of Santorini provided a beautiful backdrop to the nuptials. Opposite page: The fashionable couple expressed their unique senses of style, with Alissa wearing a stunning lace gown from Reformation and Bethany donning a Tessaro Custom suit and Ted Baker shoes.



The List

Venue La Maltese, lalmaltese.com
 Wedding Planner Akeshi Akinseye, Kesh Events, keshevents.com
 Bride's Gown On Alissa: Reformation, thereformation.com
 Bride's Suit On Bethany: Tessaro Custom, tessarocustom.com
 Bride's Shoes On Alissa: Nordstrom Rack, nordstromrack.com;
 On Bethany: Ted Baker, Amazon, amazon.com
 Bride's Watch On Bethany: Maurice Lacroix, Jomashop, jomashop.com
 Bride's Hair On Alissa: Bella Damigou, Bella Hairstylist, bellasantorini.com
 Bride's Makeup On Alissa: Renia Bledaki, Make Up Santorini, beauty-santorini.com
 Rings On Alissa: Tiffany & Co., tiffany.com; On Bethany: David Yurman, davidyurman.com
 Catering La Maltese, lalmaltese.com
 Rentals La Maltese, lalmaltese.com
 Linens La Maltese, lalmaltese.com
 Entertainment Multimedia Events Santorini, eventsinsantorini.com