

Green Wedding Starter Kit

has everything you need to start planning your green wedding

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Green Destination Wedding Venue: Hamanasi Eco-Resort In Belize

You're dreaming about a destination wedding but that nagging voice in your head is concerned that the carbon footprint is starting to cause more stress than the Big Day itself. Stop worrying because [Hamanasi Adventure and Dive Resort in Hopkins, Belize](#) will give you the green destination wedding of your dreams. This eco-friendly wedding venue and honeymoon escape offers the romantic, hassle-free experience nature lovers are looking for.

**Green Wedding Venue**

Opened in October 2000, this boutique resort hotel was built on 30 acres of dense beachfront forest and was designed to protect the local ecosystems *and their biodiversity*. The resort built accommodations amidst the trees and set aside more than 10 acres as a private nature preserve. *Hamanasi also maintains a six-foot strip of vegetation along the beach's high tide point to reduce erosion and minimize silting.*

Hamanasi was the first beachfront resort in Belize to receive Green Globe certification and is dedicated to being a premier provider of sustainable accommodations and [eco-tourism in Central America](#). *To help enforce sustainable practices, Hamanasi's "Green Team" educates people on conservation and sustainability while providing help where it's needed most in the local community.*

**Wedding Shop**

- ◆ Accessories
- ◆ Attire
- ◆ Beauty
- ◆ Bridal Party Gifts
- ◆ Ceremony
- ◆ Do It Yourself
- ◆ Favors
- ◆ Gift Tags and Wrapping
- ◆ Invitations and Stationery
- ◆ Jewelry
- ◆ Rings
- ◆ Reception

Learn and Plan

- ◆ Attire and Accessories
- ◆ Beauty: Hair, Makeup, Fitness
- ◆ Decor
- ◆ Flowers
- ◆ Food, Beverage and Bakery
- ◆ Gifts and Favors
- ◆ Invitations and

- Stationery
- ✦ Photography and Videography
- ✦ Rings and Jewelry
- ✦ Travel and Honeymoon
- ✦ Venues
- ✦ DIY Wedding

Guests are encouraged to participate in the Pack for a Purpose Project by bringing school supplies that will be donated to local school-aged children. You can also volunteer with community organizations and support local businesses during your stay. If your schedule is already overwhelming, consider purchasing handmade jewelry (bridesmaids' gifts?) from the resort gift shop – 100 percent of the proceeds go directly to the Hopkins Belize Humane Society.

Green Wedding Ceremony

With Hamanasi's Tropical Dreams Wedding Package, you can walk down a conch shell aisle with the sand between their toes, gracing a bouquet of fresh, tropical flowers, while Garifuna drummers *share their local culture through music* in the background. You can share your first matrimonial kiss under a traditional Belizean wedding arch decorated with fresh blossoms, surrounded by one of the most beautiful natural environments Mother Nature has created. The on-site wedding coordinator will take care of every detail for the beachside nuptials – and if you prefer, the ceremony can be held in front of Mayan ruins! The Hamanasi staff will be happy to arrange a private, guided hike to the Mayflower Waterfall and lovely picnic lunch or schedule a private sunset cruise along coastal waters for some stress-free enjoyment prior to the big day.



Image: Jose Luis Zapata

If you want to show your guests just how eco-conscious you truly are, schedule your ceremony for the last Saturday in March. Every year, the resort participates in Earth Hour by turning off all non-essential lighting around the property from 8:30–9:30 p.m. This is an excellent way for guests to be involved and spread the message of how easy and important it is to facilitate a sustainable lifestyle, both on vacation and at home.

Private Retreat Features

With Hamanasi's Seaside Romance Package, lovebirds can choose to pop the cork on a bottle of Champagne in one of the honeymoon suites, private tree houses or deluxe tree houses.



Image: [TripAdvisor](#)

An eight-day, seven-night package includes accommodations, five couple's adventures, three meals per day, air and ground transfers from specified locations, and one romantic, candlelit dinner with private server beachside, poolside, in-room or on a private terrace. This is a magical, intimate place where newlyweds can escape and enjoy the lush jungle of Belize in their secret honeymoon hideaway, yet be a minute's walk from the sparkling Caribbean Sea.

After check-in, follow the winding pathway past chattering parrots and fragrant orchids, across stepping stones made

of recycled wine bottles, until you see your room number etched on a stone slate. Enter your private retreat to find a king canopy bed, outfitted with plush cotton linens on a Savvy Rest organic mattress.



Small, refillable wooden containers in the bathroom hold locally made, biodegradable soap, shampoo and conditioner. Large windows allow natural light to flood in and reduce energy usage while louvered windows and ceiling fans minimize the use of air conditioners. When you step out for the day, all lights, fans and AC units will be turned off but don't worry ... housekeeping will turn them back on 30 minutes before your scheduled return.

Fresh Organic Food

At meal times, you and your wedding guests will delight in the "fresh meets fusion" cuisine. Traditional ingredients such as cocoa, cassava and yampie are staples in the kitchen and are used to create exotic, local dishes. Fresh produce is taken from the organic garden on-site each day to make salads, seasonings, dressings and other dishes, and all food waste at the resort is used for compost in the garden.



Image: [Jose Luis Zapata](#)

The resort raises more than 35 crops in 40,000 square feet with no artificial fertilizers or pesticides. Half of the crops planted are from reused seeds and have managed to reduce the purchase of fruits and vegetables by 20 percent. Plus, Hamanasi only works with local vendors that respect and conform to the resort's sustainability policy.

Your Green Honeymoon Adventure



Your wedding party and guests will get to discover Belize on a variety of tours offered by the Adventure Center. Activities include (but are not limited to) a magical Mayan history tour, jungle river kayaking, tropical birding, scuba diving and snorkeling trips, and hunting invasive lionfish on the Southern Barrier Reef. All Hamanasi guides are fully licensed Belizeans who ensure plenty of exciting daily adventures while being respectful of the surrounding environment.

Start planning your ideal “I dos” on a white-sand beach amid azure Caribbean waters. Hamanasi is sure to give you a casually elegant, eco-chic, green wedding to remember. They even have a [carbon footprint calculator to offer your guests](#). Call 1-877-552-3483 or visit www.hamanasi.com for more information and wedding and honeymoon packages.

Hamanasi recently received accolades from TripAdvisor's 2014 Travelers' Choice® Awards. See [TripAdvisor's top green hotels](#) here.

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[Top 10 Green Hotels For Your Wedding](#)

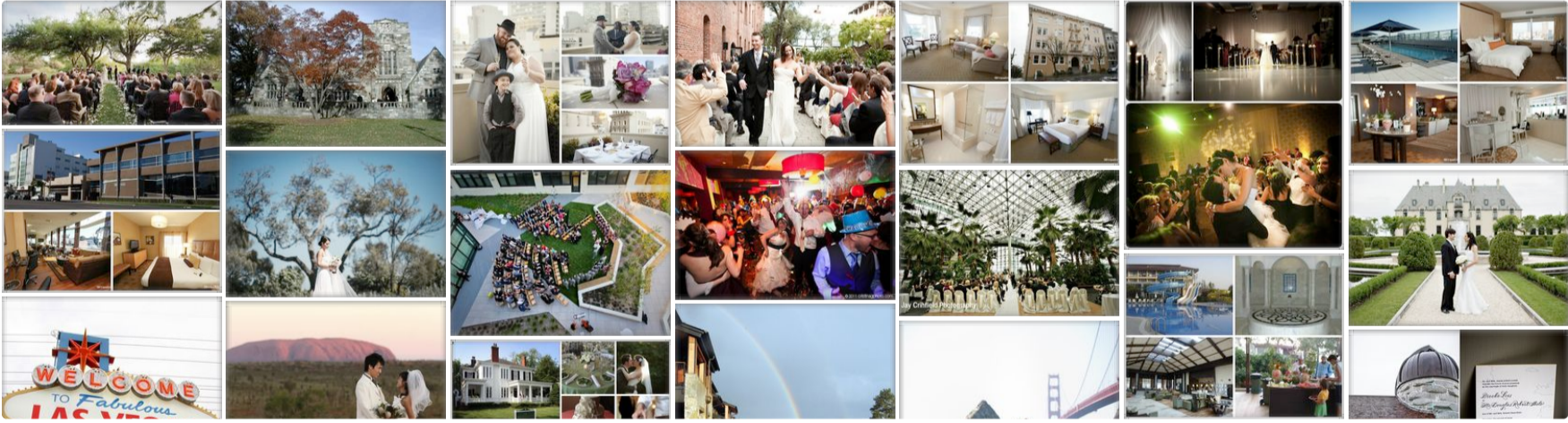
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