



Civil PARTNERSHIP GUIDE.COM

#5



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TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT...

Big day approaching fast? Still not got your gift list sorted? Here are a select few of our favourite department stores to get you started!

Heals

Best for: Fortysomethings with a penchant for luxury bedding and colonial decoration. A gift list at **Heals** can offer newlyweds even the most overpriced designer goods, courtesy of an innovative 'contribution' system.

How it works: Couples set up their lists online at www.heals.co.uk or by calling 0207 869 7590, and once up and running guests can choose whether they want to buy a gift outright or front some of the cash towards a larger gift from several people.

I should ask for: The 1950's *Minstral Sofa* (£1,356) – it's current, yet classic, and blatantly expensive.

John Lewis

Best for: Young at heart urban couples into chic kitchenware and upmarket consumer electrical goods.

How it works: You can either register and set up your gift list online, this time at www.johnlewisgiftlist.com or call 0845 600 2202 and arrange an appointment with an advisor who will help you select gifts from across the store.

I should ask for: For wannabe chefs and urbanites alike, anything by *Dualit*. The *Vario 4 Slice* stainless steel toaster (£177) is particularly cosmopolitan, and trendy whatever your kitchen décor.



Continued on page 4 ▶

...WHAT YOU REALLY REALLY WANT!

Habitat

Best for: Young city professionals and no-nonsense types into all things 'understated' or 'minimalist'.

How it works: Buy gifts when you want them rather than because you're on a schedule; The **Habitat** gift list works by allowing friends to stock up an account with funds, leaving you to withdraw the cash when you see something you like. To register, call 0207 614 5397 or visit www.habitat.net/uk.

I should ask for: The *Pomelo* china range (dinner plate £2.80; bowl £2.80; mug £3) and *Harley* cutlery (24-piece set £39) are both fine examples of minimalist chic with an equally minimal price tag.



Selfridges

Best for: Socialites and brand junkies looking to be seen wearing, or owning, the next best thing.

How it works: Register online at www.weddingshop.com, or pay a visit to the **Selfridges Wedding Shop** (0207 318 3094) where you will receive one to one help compiling an enviable gift list from hundreds of designer brands!

I should ask for: Anything with a designer label; *Cath Kidston* has a great kitchenware range, including the *Star Apron* in cyan (£18).

Amazon.co.uk

Best for: Eco warriors, internet addicts and busy people with no time to shop.

How it works: You just register online at www.amazon.co.uk/wedding, create your list and email it out to friends and family! Minimal effort, maximum return and no paperwork.

I should ask for: Whatever you want, from books, games and CDs to a new hi-fi or DVD player; it's all reasonably priced on **Amazon**.



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www.gayweddingshow.co.uk

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ON THE WINGS OF LOVE!

Words by Fox L'Amore



For those of us who have harboured the dream to get hitched abroad (and have it legal when we return!), there are a growing number of locations to choose from.

Currently, five nations: Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Spain and South Africa, offer full same-sex marriage. However, most countries offering alternatives such as civil unions/partnerships, also recognise foreign unions as essentially equivalent to their own. In the UK our civil partnerships are legally identical to marriage, so if you wanted to get hitched abroad your overseas union is totally legal and withstanding in the UK too. Andorra, Australia (Tasmania), Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United States (California, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Vermont) all offer civil unions of some kind.

Holland made headlines in 2002 as the first nation to legalise same-sex marriage, which makes hedonistic/historic Amsterdam, with its seedy/twee charm and tourist attractions galore, an ideal marriage destination whatever your flavour or fetish. In the first year same-sex marriage became legal there, 1,075 female couples tied the knot, but Amsterdam has recently had to work hard to see off stiff competition from hip cities like Barcelona and Berlin as top notch wedding spots.

Spain in particular is cheaper, warmer and sexier than either England or Amsterdam, although Sitges, located just south of Barcelona on the Mediterranean coast, is **g3's** overall winner for couples looking to elope. Those who have holidayed there will already know it's a beautiful seaside town with quaint and quiet streets, beautiful beaches and a thriving gay scene. Add to that, nearby Barcelona's groovy bars, clubs and architecture – only short train ride away – and you couldn't ask for a more complete marriage destination!

Germany, with its laid-back attitude towards sex, also makes an attractive option, and Berlin is clearly the ladies choice. *Megadyke Productions* hold some serious parties around Berlin's varied districts and two city centres regularly that are great for hen nights.



WHERE TO BEGIN?

Iceland is a land of surreal and delightful landscapes. Imagine getting married atop a glittering glacier, saying your vows in the fresh Icelandic air amidst bizarre lava landscapes or even getting hitched at the world-famous *Blue Lagoon*! Date wise, a wedding trip in March would be prove an ideal time to catch the Northern Lights. **gb** recommends a stay in Reykjavik, the country's most concentrated gay hub. But remember: in the summer months Iceland sees perpetual daylight, whereas by December, there is very little light at all.

New Zealand offers excitement and good old colony comfort, particularly in loved-up February – the Kiwi summertime and totally Pride-tastic! Perfect for adrenaline junkies, NZ also boasts an endless list of high octane activities for honeymooning couples, including bungee jumping, jet boating, four wheel drive safaris, back country horse trekking, hot air ballooning and glacier trips. Stunning scenery, cheap land and a strong exchange rate could prove New Zealand a civil partnership destination from which you might never return!

And finally, if you're not California dreaming, then you should be.

San Francisco is just like Brighton: local, liberal, and loaded with cultural promise, except it's warmer and people love your accent. Celebrate in style by tying-in your wedding with the *San Francisco Dyke March*, a well organised and buzzing event attended by over 200,000 people in June every year.

www.gayjourney.com

Vancouver, Canada:
www.gayvancouver.net

Sitges, Spain:
www.lesbianspain.com

Amsterdam:
www.gayamsterdam.com

Reykjavik, Iceland:
www.gayice.is

San Francisco, California:
www.thedykemarch.org
and www.hillgirlz.com

Germany:
www.berlinfo.com
(gay and lesbian section),
www.europeforvisitors.com
(berlin gay and lesbian section)
and www.megadyke.de

New Zealand:
www.hero.org.nz
and www.gay-weddings.co.nz

Same-sex couples are allowed *civil unions* under California legislation but from 12 February to 11 March (2004), in apparent defiance of state law, 4,000 same-sex couples were issued *marriage* licenses. Couples travelled from all over the United States and elsewhere to be married. Sadly, all the marriages were ruled void on 12 August of that year.

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Legal/Financial

Arona Sarwar & Co: CP advice, cohabitation agreements, company and commercial, family, and immigration law, landlord and tenant disputes, taxation, wills. 13c Hoe Street, Walthamstow, London E17 4SD. t: 020 8520 5170.

Anthony Gold Solicitors: Experienced legal advisors for the gay community. New London Bridge House, 25 London Bridge St, London SE1 9TW. t: 0800 3893474.

B.J. McKenna & Co.: Specialists in wills, probates, personal injury law and civil partnerships. 182a Heaton Moor Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport SK4 4DU. t: 0161 432 5757.

Bindmans & Partners: Advice on family, CPs, finances, separation and divorce, cohabitation agreements, same-sex parenting, human rights, immigration, crime, housing and employment. t: 0207 833 4433.

Bircham Dyson Bell: Experienced law firm offering advice to those planning CPs. 50 Broadway, SW1H 0BL. www.bdb-law.co.uk. t: 020 7227 7000.

Burton Woods: Property sales, family and divorce solicitors. 25 Museum Street, Holborn, London W1A 1JT. t: 020 7636 2448.

Browell Smith & Co: CP advice from UK and abroad, pre-regis-

tration agreements, parenting issues, dissolutions, wills and probate. t: 0800 107 3000.

Cooper Sons Hartley & Williams: Advice on matrimonial and family, property, personal injury, wills, probate and civil law. 9 Terrace Road, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6DU. t: 0129 877 511.

Crosby & Moore Solicitors: Friendly solicitors' firm with unrivalled levels of personal service. t: 01273 863 295/01273 863 297. www.crosbymoore solicitors.co.uk

Danielle Cohen: Immigration law solicitors specialising in same-sex applications. Unit 4, Stucley Studios, Stucley Place, Camden Town NW1 8NS. t: 020 7267 7163.

Ecology: A unique mortgage lender for those who want property that helps the environment. t: 0845 674 5566.

Engleharts: Specialising in same-sex estate planning, parental responsibility agreements, pre-registration advice, agreements wills and probate. 18 Blatchington Road, Hove, East Sussex BN33YN. t: 01273 204411 ext 244.

Gay Lawyers: Gay Lawyers is a niche law firm based in the Strand, a short walking distance from Soho. They not only work amongst the gay community but are proud to be amongst

its members. They guide and support clients through a wide range of matters, from advice on civil partnership, pensions, wills and property purchase to child related issues such as adoption. t: 0870 0427 631 www.gaylawyers.co.uk

Gay Wills UK: Specialists in wills, enduring power of attorney, living wills & inheritance tax trusts. info@gaywillsuk.co.uk.

Gherson & Company: Immigration advice on same-sex couples and CP. 1 Gt. Cumberland Place, London W1H 7AL. t: 020 7724 4488.

Giambone & Law: Gay lawyers for gay people. t: 0870 042 7631/020 7353 6800 (London). www.giambonelaw.co.uk.

Josiah-Lake: Gay solicitors dealing with CP/ gay marriage. Soho, W1. t: 020 7439 2900.

Kaltons: CP agreements, wills, conveyancing, business law. 9 White Lion Street, Angel, London N1 9PD. t: 020 7278 1817.

Lynch & Co: CP rights, same-sex parenting, donor insemination agreements and advice, divorce and separation and more. 3 Catherine Place, London SW1E 6DX. t: 020 7808 5566.

Osbornes: Cohabitation disputes, Separation, financial settlements, pre-registration agreements and adoption. Livery House, 9 Pratt Street, Kings Cross, London NW1 0AE. t: 020 7485 8811.

Napthens: *The practice of choice.* Solicitors experienced in CPs and the dissolution of them. Contact solicitor Angela Garvey on 01772 888 444 or Angela.Garvey@napthens.co.uk

Newsome Vaughan: Inheritance tax planning, co-ownership of property, powers of attorney, trusts, impact of CP on wills and tax planning. t: 02476 633433.

UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Group: Advice on UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Group tenant disputes, taxation and wills. t: 020 8520 5170.

Wards Solicitors: Wills, tax planning, pre-partnership agreements. t: 0117 929 2811. www.wards.uk.com.

Will Drafters Ltd: Made your will yet? Call Now 0800 269 297 and quote g3 [24hrs]

Planners/Organisers

PerfectTablePlan: A software package designed to solve all your table planning headaches. Available for £19.95. www.weddingtableplan.com.

PinkWeddings: Planning services. www.pinkweddings.uk.com. www.pinkweddings.biz.

PinkWeddingdays.co.uk: Wedding Planning services dealing in floristry, cakes, honeymoons, entertainment and gifts. t: 0870 116 2960.

Pink Partnerships: t: 0845 257 6775.

e: info@pinkpartnerships.co.uk www.pinkpartnerships.co.uk

Yourperfectday.uk.com: Wedding planner specialising in CPs. t: 0790 054 3200. e: spenro2000@yahoo.co.uk.

Entertainment

A40 Fireworks: Low noise and fantastic fireworks. www.A40fireworks.com. t: 01844 281358/07989 580425.

Blow the Fuse: Great live music provided by talented and experienced female musicians and DJs. t: 020 7254 8935. www.blowthefuse.com.

Classic Fireworks: Low noise, snow, red heart fire. www.classicfireworks.co.uk. t: 01254 887144/07739 043503.

Decent Chaps: Professional musicians offering 'a personal service tailored to suit.' t: 01636 893229/07766 694963.

Eye Candy: Visual performances for something different. www.eye_candy.net. t: 020 7476 7841/07778 101711.

Function Junction: Wedding music experts. Live bands. Classical performers. Top DJ's. e: info@functionjunction.co.uk www.functionjunction.co.uk. t: 0800 034 3232.

Girls Night In: Ideal pre-CP hen parties. Facials, massage,

aromatherapy etc. 20% off when quoting g3. t: 07786 066597.

UK Bar Services Ltd: Mobile bar services specialising in CPs. 01400 282 878. e: info@ukbarservices.co.uk. www.ukbarservices.co.uk.

Wedding FM: A fully licensed FM radio station available for hire on your special day. Featuring the music and content you choose. www.weddingfm.co.uk.

Dress

Henry Kaye: Satin Wedding boots, bespoke service. www.henrykaye.co.uk. t: 0845 345 5464.

Love: Bespoke and unique bridal wear. www.lovecouture.co.uk. t: 01603 612216.

House of Weddings: Table decorations, stationary, confetti, cake tops. t: 02392 499600. www.houseofweddings.co.uk.

Sparkling Strawberry: Bridal lingerie, gowns, sleepwear, playwear and accessories. www.sparklingstrawberry.com.

Venues

Bertorelli: stylish venue licensed for CPs. Up to 70 guests. Can tailor menus, flowers, entertainment, bespoke cakes etc. 11/13 Frith St., Soho, W1D 4RB. www.santeonline.co.uk. t: 020 7494 3491.

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Chandos House: Period house off Oxford Street. www.chandoshouse.co.uk. t: 020 7290 3860.

Epsom Downs Racecourse: Great open space, 10 to 360 guests. www.epsomdowns.co.uk. t: 01372 726311.

Fennes: Homely Georgian country house. Excellent food. Bocking, Essex. t: 01376 324 555.

Folio Hotels: Countrywide venues for CP. www.foliohotels.com.

Gay-friendly-wedding-venues.com: e: info@gay-friendly-wedding-venues.com. t: 020 8806 9893.

Granville, The: Gay-owned seaside hotel available for CPs. 124 Kings Road, Brighton BN1 2FA. t: 01273 326 302.

Hammersmith & Fulham: Elegant rooms, friendly staff, tailored ceremonies to suit you. t: 020 8753 2140.

Islington and London City Register Office: 13 venues available for CPs. Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, Islington, London N1 2UD. t: 020 7527 6350/6347.

Kings Hall: Kent Edwardian building with seafront views. t: 01227 374 188. www.thekingshall.com.

London Beach Country Hotel: Ashford Rd, Tennerden, Kent. Long room with private bar

that can hold 120 guests and 250 for an evening reception. Sam Docker. t: 01580 766279.

Mint Leaf: Stylish contemporary restaurant licenced to hold CPs. Up to 450 guests. Suffolk Place, Haymarket, SW1Y 4HX. www.mintleafrestaurant.com. t: 020 7930 9020.

Oaks Farm Partnerships: A unique venue for your unique day. Oaks Farm, Oaks Lane, Shirley, Surrey, CR0 5HP. events@oaksfarmweddings.co.uk. t: 020 8654 6622.

Philpot's Manor: Grade II listed manor house in Kent. 40 guests max. 40-mins from London. Helen Garvey. t: 01732 833 047.

Renaissance Gatwick Hotel: CPs. www.renaissancehotels.com/LGWRB. t: 01293 820169.

Renaissance Heathrow Hotel: CPs. www.renaissancehotels.com/LHRBR. t: 020 8897 6363.

Springs Hotel: Oxfordshire large estate. www.thespringhotel.com. t: 01491 836687.

Royal Hotel Cardiff, The: e: events@theroyalhotelcardiff.com. t: 02920 550 753.

Stansted Manor Hotel: Set in 8 acres. www.stanstedmanor-hotel.co.uk. t: 01279 859800.

Torna-Coille Hotel, Banchoy: Victorian elegance in Deeside. www.tornacoille.com. t: 01330 822242.

Windmill Hill Place: Award-winning Grade II listed Georgian building. Windmill Hill,

East Sussex. 08700 339 997. e: info@windmillhill.co.uk.

Honeymoon

Finliz: Honeymoon by the sea. Worthing, West Sussex. www.finliz.co.uk. t: 01903 231229.

Heaven Sent Travel: Same-sex only honeymoons. www.heavensenttravel.co.uk. t: 0161 942 9924.

Madisontravel.co.uk: Gay-friendly holidays. e: jo@madisontravel.co.uk. t: 0207 690 6878.

Perfect Gay Honeymoons: www.perfectgayhoneymoons.com/g3mag. t: 08708 030105.

Starr's Hotel: Brighton hotel. t: 01273 607456.

Photography/ Video

Appature.com: Photography. CPs. Portraits. Corporate. Call Vi Appa on 07767 701067. photography@appature.com

Back2Back Photography: For all your photographic needs. www.back2backphotography.net

The Dream Catchers: Photography and video. e: carl@the-dream-catchers.com. t: 07764 449 299/01772 816 593.

Dupli-photo: Discreet photos by post. 14 Poland St., London W1F 8QD. e: info@dupliphoto.com.

co.uk. t: 020 7437 4569.

Jon Pragnell: Contemporary photography. www.link.uk.net. t: 07971 953587.

Kelvin Brown Photography: Gay-owned photography co. 410 Hestia House, City Walk, London, SE1 3ES. www.kelvinbrown.co.uk. t: 07771 946 640.

Venus Aphrodite: Stylish contemporary photography. e: venusaphrodite@ntworld.com.

Bespoke services

Cardome: 100's of cards to choose from for your CP. 47a St James Street, Brighton. t: 01273 692 916. www.cardome.co.uk.

Civil Ceremony Custom Designs: Unique invitation designs to your specification and budget. Call Angie on 020 8972 9700 or e: angie@thesetupdesign.com for a free design consultation. Also tailored menu and more.

Diana Porter: Contemporary rings. www.dianaporter.co.uk. t: 0117 9090225.

DigiStyle: Personalised wedding book. www.digistyle.biz. t: 01276 21284.

Exclusively Eve: Pleasure accessories for women. www.exclusivelyeve.co.uk.

Instant Forever: Polaroid photo guest books. www.instantforever.com. t: 0845 094 1311.

Mandalay: Designers of

wedding stationery at *Harrods* and *Liberty*. t: 020 8691 6100. www.mandalaybride.co.uk.

Matntats: Gay & lesbian gifts & homeware. www.matntats.co.uk. t: 07867 545 139

Pink Pendulum: Specific gay greeting cards. www.pinkpendulum.com. t: 020 8202 1369.

Pink Products: Over 1200 products online. Make your wedding special. www.pinkproducts.co.uk. t: 0870 020 1712.

Pink Wedding Stationery Co.: PO Box 494, Exeter, EX1 9BY. e: info@pinkweddingstationery.co.uk. t: 0845 055 7249.

Precious Moments: Personalised wedding stationery. Contact Gary on 0151 625 1022, or email: gary@apws.co.uk

Purely Diamonds: Diamond rings. www.purelydiamonds.co.uk. t: 0800 032 3422.

Rainbow Gay: Wedding products. www.rainbowgay.co.uk

Silver Moon: Lesbian books and films. Plus mail order. 113-119 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EB. t: 020 7440 1562.

Solstuf: Fragrant petals, natural confetti and décor. www.solstuf.co.uk. t: 0845 434 9599.

Stephen Einhorn: Bespoke rings. Upper St, Islington, London. t: 020 7359 4977. www.stepheneinhorn.co.uk.

Totally Crackers: Handmade wedding crackers. www.totallycrackers.co.uk. sales@totallycrackers.co.uk.

Wedding Gift Bag: Wedding bags, gifts and more. www.theweddinggiftbag.co.uk. t: 01737 832869.

The Women's Stand/Olive & Oscar: Women's postcards, greeting cards & gifts. www.womenstand.com. t: 01237 236600. e: enquiries@womenstand.com

Van Den Berg Jewellers 020 7621 1217, www.vandenbergh.co.uk for a free catalogue.

Misc

Atoz: Couple counsellor, Zing Jean. t: 07939 314008.

Broken Rainbow: For LGBT people who experience domestic violence. t: 0845 269 4460.

D&K Marquees: Marquees and interiors, flooring, tables and chairs. Barbara Kovacs on 01206 844 875/07952 894 045. e: info@dkmarquees.co.uk. www.dkmarquees.co.uk.

Ice Immediate: Award winning hand carved ice sculptures. Dry ice, chilled couriers etc. www.iceimmediate.com. t: 0800 169 3991.

NCH Adoption Agency: Adoption information for same-sex partners/families. 148 Crawley Road, Horsham, West Sussex. t: 01403 225 916.

Pink Line Chauffeuring: CP services etc. t: 01296 747 338. e: Info@pinkchauffeuring.co.uk.



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12pm
start

Reading Pride

Saturday 8th September 2007
Kings Meadow Park, Reading
Celebrating Diversity within The Thames Valley

LIVE STAGE
blue beyond
greymatter
vanders handbag
yes miss no miss
nicolette street
jess gardham
diane james
karen jones
keith anderson
jamie watson
envy
code5

Hosted by
sam vangeen &
yannick lawery
gaydarradio.com

CABARET STAGE
amber dextrous
fanny dazzle
miss kitty
davina sparkle
sandra
drag with no name
miss jason
wilma fingadoo
miss thunderpussy
miss bridey
matt & sebastian

Hosted by
rose garden
glam & glitz

Parade through
Reading Town
Centre

DANCE TENT
DJ Gary H
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heaven, salvation,
federation

DJ Chris Reardon
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heaven



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several acts
Line up to follow
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