

Beach Permit Requirements

Beach Weddings

Virtually all beaches in Hawaii, except for those under Federal jurisdiction, are public beaches managed by the state of Hawaii. Beach permits are required for weddings that occur within the average high tide line and the ocean. To obtain a beach permit for weddings you are required to have a general liability insurance policy with a minimum \$500,000.00 aggregate limit of liability and which specifically names the state of Hawaii as an additionally named insured party on the policy. We will provide both for \$45.00. Chairs and arches as well as alcohol are expressly prohibited on state beaches, with the exception of chairs for the elderly or physically impaired. There are beautiful pictures on the internet of weddings right on the beach with chairs, arches, tikis, and more. Unfortunately, almost every one of these was done illegally. Some wedding companies are willing to take the chance but we are not one of them. The best case scenario is that the authorities stop your ceremony, the worst case scenario could be having your ceremony stopped and being fined. Be careful and make sure that you don't let a wedding company put your special day at risk. Chairs and arches can be set up at some beach parks that fall under the jurisdiction of the City and County of Honolulu. We have information for these beach parks below.

WARNING!

PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR BEACH LOCATIONS AS DEFINED ABOVE REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE AND FAILURE TO COMPLY CAN RESULT IN A CEREMONY BEING HALTED AND FINES MAY BE ISSUED BEGINNING AT \$500.00. UNFORTUNATELY SOME COMPANIES OR INDIVIDUALS WILL TELL COUPLES THAT A PERMIT IS NOT NECESSARY WHEN IT IS SO PLEASE BE CAREFUL.

Beach parks

Almost all Hawaii beach parks are under the jurisdiction of the City and County of Honolulu and while many require a permit, some do not. This needs to be verified on a park by park basis and, where permitted, is subject to certain rules and regulations. When permits are required they must be applied for at least 3 weeks in advance. Chairs and arches may be set up in certain beach parks with a permit. For our Gala beach weddings, which includes chairs and arches, we will apply for the permit on your behalf. Once the permit has been issued to you, you must sign the permit and mail it to the appropriate park office. You must also have a copy of the permit in your possession at your ceremony.