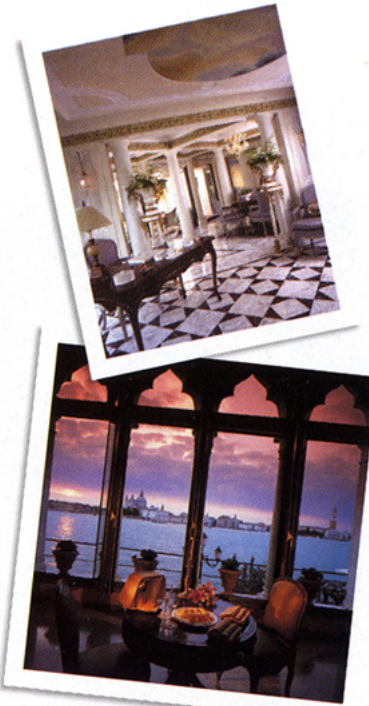


wedding parties looking to push the boat out. This one-time, 18th century palace has dreamy terraces and jaw dropping views of the coast and across the Med to the island of Capri. Guests can opt for a sunset excursion along the Amalfi Coast in the hotel's own boat. And if you're just starting your honeymoon, it's worth splashing out on the one of the special Junior suites which come with jacuzzis overlooking the sea.

ROMANCE IN VENICE

For the ultimate in indulgence, head for the Hotel Cipriani in Venice – Italy's most romantic city. Set on the secluded tip of Giudecca Island in the lagoon, you and your guests will be whisked over for the wedding by private motor launch before enjoying a five-star wedding. Cocooned from the bustle of Venice, you can sip bellinis in the manicured gardens, shady terraces or Casanova Gazebo with the romantic Venice skyline as a backdrop. One memorable wedding at the hotel included a chapel built of flowers with a petal strewn pathway specially created in one of the gardens. The Cipriani is also perfect for your honeymoon – smooching on your private sun terrace and hot tub overlooking the Venetian lagoon before dining under the arched domes of the Fortuny Restaurant is pretty hard to beat!

As well as Venice, Florence and the Amalfi Coast, other popular locations include Lake Garda and Lake Como, and Italian Riviera towns such as exclusive Portofino. Wherever you choose in Italy, you are guaranteed a stylish romantic wedding, and a passionate start to wedded life!



PLANNING TIPS FROM THE PROS

Alberto Ciani, Founder of Italian wedding planners, WeddingItaly.com has organised countless weddings for English couples in Italy, including some at the Hotel Cipriani in Venice. "At the Cipriani, we normally arrange wedding parties stretching over the weekend, giving guests and the couple the chance to explore Venice before the actual ceremony. The hotel is one of the best in Venice and we look after all the details such as photographers and flowers. All of our weddings are tailor-made for the individual but a typical wedding might include cocktails in the Antique Gardens or the Granaries, before dinner and dancing," he explains.

"Many English couples choose to get married here because of Italy's reputation as the world's most romantic country, and also because it gives them the chance to plan an intimate wedding with close family and friends in breathtakingly beautiful locations."