

DIRECTORY

Perfect places for her to say yes

Marriage proposals are easier when the destination evokes memories

Destination marriage proposals are gaining popularity, from the familiar beach resort to the exotic, or somewhere with a sense of adventure.

The right environment can help set the scene for a perfect proposal, which means considering a place where both partners will feel at ease.

A familiar location can make it easier to plan a destination proposal, while knowing a partner likes the location can take some of the pressure off to get it right.

"Knowing her favourite place would always be the perfect option," says Michelle Lam, managing director of event planning specialist Spoilt.

"A destination the couple have been to together is always a good choice. They will both feel at ease and he can draw on

memories they created together to plan the perfect proposal. Proposing in the same restaurant or place that you have visited echoes the memories there."

An unfamiliar location can be equally as romantic, especially if it shows forethought. A location that reflects a partner's interest, whether sun and sand, excitement and adventure or a place with family and friends, is certain to lead to a more relaxed, and therefore conducive, environment to utter those four words.

"Find a suitable destination that you can find the right elements for her to give a big yes. And make yourself comfortable in any destination by getting help from local partners. Plan well in advance. Arrange and confirm all details including transportation, booking restaurants and hotels and making the



A yacht at sunset is the perfect place for a marriage proposal. Photo: Thinkstock

final arrangements for the proposal," Lam says.

Destination wedding planner Sonya

Yeung of Bliss Creations says a beach in the Maldives, a desert camp under the stars in India or the temples of Angkor

Wat in Cambodia are some of the top places to propose in Asia.

But any location, no matter how familiar, requires a certain level of flexibility and consideration of the immediate surrounding environment, she says.

"You may want to consider adding décor elements to the setting, whether there are many people within the vicinity or how you will do it: down on one knee, until you have a stunning view at the top of a pass, or with an underwater signboard," Yeung says.

"Many times the guy will get nervous and want everything to be perfect and thus not enjoy their time together. We suggest proposing when you feel the moment is right. This can relieve some stress if the timeline can be eliminated.

"Ultimately, the biggest consideration is to consider what you want to say ahead of time and speak from the heart. The romance is in what you say and if all plans fail, simply get down on one knee."