



GOBIERNO DE  
**MÉXICO**

**TURISMO**

SECRETARÍA DE TURISMO



# MEXICAN NATIVE WEDDINGS



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## INTRODUCTION

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Native weddings are important for destinations in Mexico as they seek to rescue the cultural identity, traditions and customs of the indigenous population and of the ethnic groups that still exist. In order to perform these ceremonies, respecting and highlighting the local culture, we need a correct integration of the entire community with vendors. In this way, the local community and companies are tied economically, adding value to the cultural resources, and seeking sustainability and a balance in social inclusion in each of the destinations.

The native people of Mexico are part of its vast cultural wealth, conveyed in its traditions, music, dance, beliefs, symbols, ancestral techniques, clothing, gastronomy, etc. The latter combined with its natural resources, and its specialized vendors, make it possible to perform different types of native weddings. This variety can satisfy the needs and desires of each couple, particularly the new generations that are eager to find, in ancestral traditions, unique experiences worthy of being remembered for a lifetime.

Therefore, the Ministry of Tourism of Mexico [SECTUR] through its General Direction of Tourism Product Innovation division, promotes local culture in Romance Tourism. The focus is not only on the indigenous weddings, but seeking the integration of tourism wedding services and experiences around that special moment. With this initiative, the incorporation of the local community contributes to raising their quality of life.

These catalogs are the result of a coordinated effort between the Destination Wedding Specialist Association (DWSA), local Tourism Boards, Ministries of Tourism of several Mexican states and specialized tourist destination vendors, together with the Ministry of Tourism of Mexico. These entities took on the concerted effort to preserve native weddings and create innovative tourism services aimed at Romance Tourism, differentiating the value that gives them a distinctive touch and identity. This included seeking the benefit to small and medium-sized companies, as well as social development with gender, inclusion and diversity perspectives.

It is important to mention that this work responds directly to the new tourism policy which seeks to have these new activities benefit and strengthen the communities, and to reach more sectors of the population, with balanced development in these regions of the country.

We hope that these documents are not only useful but interesting, and that they contribute to your experience of living, enjoying and falling in love with Mexico.

## **CEREMONY**

Xochimilco Wedding

## **DESTINATION**

Xochimilco

## **ETHNICITY**

Mexica Style Ritual



The ceremony (ritual) that we perform is a mix of ancestral cultures between the Toltecas, who were the precursors in the acceptance of the LGBTQ community and "equal marriage", and the Mixtecas with the union ceremony.

This ritual is commonly known as "tilma tie" which is one of the most representative traditions in this culture, it is known as a spiritual ceremony or on some occasions as a prehispanic ceremony.

This ceremony centers on the couple making a spiritual promise, a union of two souls who want to be together.

In this ceremony, a tepetate is set on the floor with rose petals and small sea shells, these materials symbolize the life spiral in which we walk.

Family members give blessings and good wishes and a very emotional purification is performed in the presence of all the guardians of the universe and the four elements of nature: fire, water, wind and earth.

All those materials must be exchanged once entering the spiral, walking individually, with everything they want to leave behind and longing for the future that lays ahead of them.

Once they reach the center, the couple meets and begins to identify, exchange and connect their energies.

As a couple, each one wears a flower crown, that represents the infinite union of love that exists between them. At this moment the couple can choose to do other symbolic rite for the couple, exchanging rings, words, etc.





#### **OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS**

**Place:** Nativitas Pier -  
Xochimilco Streams

**Duration:** 40 minutes.

**Requirements / Formalities:** None.

**Elements used:** Flower crown or garlands, petals, quartz and conch music.

**Dress code:** There is no dress protocol, the guests and those involved can dress as they wish to conduct the event, white and comfortable clothing is suggested.

**This ceremony is offered to the LGBTQ+ market and it is accessible for people with motor, psychosocial and intellectual disabilities.**



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