

It's your big day and no expense has been spared to prepare for your future together with the biggest bash you have ever attended except this time you are the main attractions on stage for all to see and share the love. You want it to be special, of course. Maybe it is at the Ritz or the Four Seasons, but when it comes down to it, these five-star city venues all look the same. While that may be okay for some, just imagine an outdoor wedding on a tropical island in a luxurious private villa. Now that's wedding magic.

Seaside Ceremony

There is simply no better place to say those two magic words than at these magical venues on the Island of the Gods.

Text by Thomas Jones

Atas Ombak: The Crashing of the Waves

Literally meaning “On Top of the Waves” in the Indonesian language, Atas Ombak couldn't be more aptly named. Villa Atas Ombak was built on 100 metres of beachfront in the mid-90s and is a testament to the combination of the perfect location and old-school Bali style. The cool wind blows over the sound of the waves, leaving nothing to the imagination about where in the world you are — on the beach in lovely, tropical Bali.

Villa Atas Ombak was one of the pioneers of top-end destination villas in Bali and despite the encroaching northwards sprawl, the peace and solitude of this location remains as undisturbed as when the ground was first broken. Filled with frangipanis and fig trees, coconut palms and wealth and charm, this is a property with plenty of elbow room, and is indeed the biggest private villa of its kind this close to Seminyak. They certainly don't build them like this anymore.

It is considered to be one of Bali's most luxurious villas, and has achieved considerable editorial coverage in fashion and lifestyle publications from around the world. From location fashion shoots in Marie Claire to articles on luxury accommodation in magazines such as Vogue, Villa Atas Ombak continues to define and represent the Bali Dream. It is one of Bali's most popular wedding venues thanks to its magnificent location and large, flat garden area, and is capable of hosting ceremonies and receptions for anywhere from 150 seated to 300 standing guests.

Apart from breathtaking sunset views, the villa has a large swimming pool, a main building with three bedrooms, a large entertainment pavilion that functions as an open-air living room and two separate ocean-view rooms. White on white decor intensifies the glorious blue of the sea and the greens of the lawns and trees, glimpsed from every room. It sleeps 10 and has massive gardens making it a stellar place for large wedding gatherings, with the added advantage of ample play areas for kids (for your friends who married before you!).

One extra advantage that Atas Ombak has is that right behind it lies Eden Villas, a complex of 164 ultra-modern apartments with a total of 55 combined luxury rooms that can house even the largest invite list for any society wedding.