



Getting married abroad

Contact the local authorities

- You need to contact the foreign embassy or consulate of the country where you want to get married to find out what you need to do. They will give you first-hand information about their legal requirements.
- Your marriage should be recognised in the UK if you follow the correct process according to local law – you won't need to register it in the UK

Legal validity of your marriage in your home country

- Even when marrying abroad you are still bound by the laws of your home country in so far as your capacity to marry is concerned e.g. if you are 16/17 years old then you must have a letter of consent to marry.
- Basically, in order for your marriage to be legally recognised in your home country, you must meet not only the legal requirements of the country where you are marrying but also the legal requirements of your home country.

Documents

- All countries will require original documents or certified copies of:
 - A full 10-year passport with more than six months remaining before expiry.
 - Full birth certificates
 - If divorced, the decree absolute
 - If widowed, the marriage and death certificates of the deceased spouse.
 - Proof of any name change i.e. deed poll
 - Adoption certificate if relevant
- Some countries will require:
 - Certificates of no impediment which you can get from your local registry office.
 - Single status statutory declaration which can be certified by a solicitor.

You can find out exactly which documents you need and how to apply for them by using the following tool <https://www.gov.uk/marriage-abroad>