TRAVEL

Valentine's Day Gift Guide: **Unique Vow Renewal Experiences Around The** World

Jordi Lippe-McGraw Contributor ① Sharing inspiring and practical stories from around the world.

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Jan 19, 2022, 05:01pm EST

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Rekindle the romance in an exotic locale. GETTY

We all know that Valentine's Day is the most romantic day of the year. But it can be challenging to find something new to do if you've been with your partner for a while. Well, this year, why not go above and beyond romance-wise by renewing your vows? Better yet, do it in a stunning location. Hotels across the globe are offering vow renewal packages this year that might even beat your original wedding. Here are eight incredible options.

Just The Two of Us Package In St. Lucia



Imagine this romantic setting to say "I do" again. WINDJAMMER LANDING VILLA BEACH RESORT

Windjammer Landing Villa Beach Resort in St. Lucia launches the "Just the Two of Us" wedding package, which invites couples to have a vow renewal and second honeymoon in the stunning Caribbean. Starting at \$3,500, this new package provides the opportunity to exchange vows in a private ceremony among the breathtaking backdrop of the picturesque island. Couples will also enjoy a fivenight all-inclusive stay in an Oceanview Villa, a three-course candlelit dinner, a couples spa treatment, and a "Kissing Map" outlining stops throughout St. Lucia to capture romantic moments.

Say "I Do" Again In St. Vincent & Grenadines



Mark your history in this historic church. MANDARIN ORIENTAL CANOUAN

Mandarin Oriental Canouan is an intimate property that does vow renewals regularly. Why? Well, it's one of the only resorts that has an on-site 17th Century church (now non-denominational) right on the property of the resort as a vow renewal ceremony option. It's gorgeous and was brought over stone by stone from London in the 17th Century. With so much interest, the luxury property decided to create a vow renewal package. It includes a ceremony in the church, a bouquet, tropical boutonniere, private dining under the stars, signature Canouan Cake Dance, and a next-day spa service in the resort's exclusive over-water spa bungalow. You'll also get to experience a unique "castaway" lunch by boat on remote island beach designed and a sunset cocktail experience at the 13th hole of the resort's golf course.

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What a stunning place to renew your vows? GETTY

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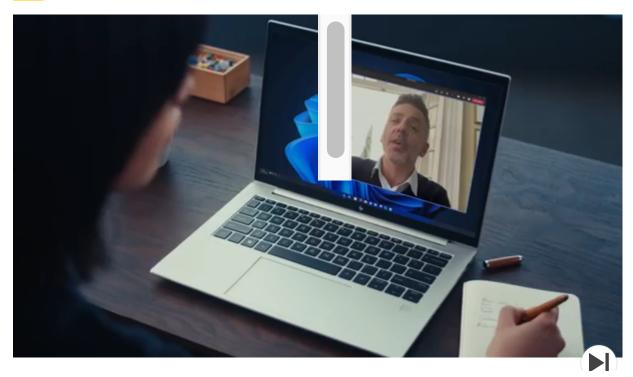
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What's more romantic than renewing your vows in the Peruvian mountains? Naya Traveler, which organizes tailor-made journeys, offers an Andean vow renewal ceremony, practiced in Peru for centuries. Then, a shaman leads you and your loved one through a prayer before making a harvest offering in a romantic ritual designed to strengthen your bond. After, you'll stay at Belmond's Sanctuary Lodge within the sacred grounds of Machu Picchu.





Vow Renewal In Belize



You'll fall in love all over again. VICTORIA HOUSE RESORT & SPA, BELIZE

The idyllic beachfront resort Victoria House Resort & Spa, Belize, was recently named "Best Hotel for Weddings, Parties, & Celebrations in Central & South America" in Condé Nast Johansens 2022 Awards of Excellence. So, it's the perfect backdrop to say "I do" again. And the resort offers a specially curated vow renewal package so couples can spend their time celebrating instead of stressing over small details.

You get an event planner, floral table centerpiece, setup of the aisle for a ceremony, an officiant, bottle of Prosecco, and cake serving two to four people. After the romance, enjoy a range of adventure activities, from exploring ancient Mayan temples, limestone caves, and cenotes, to zip-lining through tropical rainforests.

Plan A Surprise Vow Renewal In Turks & Caicos



Does it get any more romantic? © ALICIA SWEDENBORG

Wymara Resort & Villas has perfected the greatest surprise vow renewal. Start your romantic getaway in a suite, followed by a private dinner on the beach with a bonfire, ready to propose again to your loved one. Once accepted, don't let the emotions settle. Hop into the SUV waiting to bring you to your private villa, where your friends and family await to watch you say yes again. Overlooking a glistening aquamarine sea, the Wymara Villas offer a secluded getaway just

moments from Wymara Resort on Grace Bay Beach. This is the best of both worlds— total privacy meets abundant amenities, a luxurious sanctuary on one of the world's most beautiful Caribbean destinations.

Once Upon A Time In Punta Mita



Enjoy a traditional Mexican ceremony. FOUR SEASONS PUNTA MITA

Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita in Riviera Nayarit, Mexico, created the Once Upon A Time in Punta Mita to offer couples the chance to weave the beauty of the Mexican culture into a vow renewal ceremony. When guests choose this package, the resort team will help create the perfect Punta Mita wedding, including a traditional Lasso Ceremony. In addition, the package includes round-trip airport transportation, one experience (couples massage, dinner under the stars, turtle release, or tequila blending), a complimentary bottle of tequila, a personal photographer for up to four hours, traditional

Mexican music (Mariachi or Mexican Trio), a \$1,000 décor credit, a floral consultation, three-tier wedding cake with Mexican flowers, and a four-hour videography package. The package starts at \$10,000 for up to 40 guests.

French Polynesian-Style Vow Renewal In Bora Bora



It's a honeymoon and wedding in one. ST. REGIS BORA BORA

Renew your vows in exotic, Polynesian style. Yes, the St. Regis Bora Bora has a vow renewal option that includes a five-night stay in an Overwater Villa, a traditional French Polynesian vow ceremony on Spa Beach with a view of Mount Otemanu. After, enjoy a Polynesian celebration dance and get a Vow Renewal Certificate made of a rare, ancient handmade Tapa fabric that symbolizes wealth and prosperity. The priest presents the certificate when the couple is given their Tahitian names. You'll also get his and her red pareos (sarong-like garments symbolizing the couple's union), partake in a water seashell purification ceremony, and have dinner under the stars.

Journey To The Heart Package In Australia





Swoon. QUALIA

Several remote and romantic spots pepper the islands of the Great Barrier Reef and help curate the ultimate secluded setting for a vow renewal ceremony in the Whitsundays. But the best one of all has to be the reef shaped like a heart. Here, celebrants can scuba to the ceremony, and couples take the plunge, literally, off the back of boats. And private resort qualia can help make that happen with its Journey to the Heart package. You'll take a 30-minute helicopter ride over the Whitsunday Islands and Whitehaven Beach before arriving at Heart Island. There you'll board a futuristic glass-bottom boat, designed for Heart Island. Once there, guests will have the opportunity to snorkel around the coral before returning to Heart Island for a swim and mini ceremony if you want. Since four people can come, bring along an officiant to lead the vow renewal ceremony.

Wild At Heart Package In The Serengeti





It's a wild wedding. FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Safari Lodge recently unveiled the Sherehe wedding package that can also be used for vow renewals. The ceremony takes place in the stunning Serengeti wilderness, where local Maasai watch over and perform a tribal dance that signifies the start of a new life together. After, you'll enjoy a bush dinner on top of a kopje (a small, rocky hill). The package also includes a wedding cake, bridal bouquet, 90-minute spa treatment, champagne, and more.

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After quitting my job as a gossip reporter, I decided to hit the road. I've traveled to over 50 countries on all the continents (including Antarctica while 5...

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