

RECAPITULATIVE LIST OF LEGAL MARRIAGE OBLIGATIONS IN NEW CALEDONIA

Overseas visitors intending to get married in New Caledonia are required to select the date of the ceremony as well as the commune where they would like their marriage to be celebrated. The below documents must be sent at least 45 days prior to the ceremony to the City Hall of the commune where the wedding will take place.

More information can be found on our website: www.newcaledonia.travel

Determine eligibility to get married in New-Caledonia:

- Both spouses must be at least 18 years old
- Both spouses cannot be already married
- Cannot be related by direct lineage
- Cannot be of French origin or have French residential status in France or its territories
- The bride and the groom must each choose a witness (who must be 18 years of age or older – please note, if the chosen witnesses are not present, the mayor will appoint a witness).
- A translator/interpreter needs to be present at the ceremony.

Required Documents:

The future married couple must submit an application file at least two months before the publication of the banns (official marriage notice made by the commune) to the City Hall of Noumea at:

mathieu.galea@ville-noumea.nc

The documents need to be translated by a sworn translator.

- A letter signed and dated by both future spouses, addressed to the mayor of the commune chosen for the marriage ceremony, noting which language the ceremony will take place in ([model form enclosed](#))
- The “Marriage of foreign citizens in New Caledonia” form, duly filled ([model form enclosed](#)).
- Proof of identity of both of the future spouses (copies of their passports).
- A certified copy of both spouses’ birth certificate authenticated with an “Apostille” (note: the birth certificates must have been issued less than 6 months prior to the date of the marriage). Both birth certificates and the “Apostille” must be translated into French by an approved translator and legalized by the French Consulate. Translators can be found on the consulate’s website.
- A “[Certificate of non-marital status](#)” (“[Certificat de célibat](#)”) signed by lawyer, translated into French and legalized by the French Consulate. Lawyers can be found on the consulate’s website.
- Customary certificate: certificate setting out the basic conditions of the marriage and setting out the conditions for their implementation, with its apostilled translation.
- Proof of residency for both future spouses (a utility bill or any bill noting names and physical address will suffice). A photocopy of bills for both spouses is acceptable.
- **Optional**, if a prenuptial agreement has been created, it must be translated into French and authenticated by the French Consulate.

Send All Materials to New-Caledonia:

- Send all materials to the Mayor's office of the commune in which the spouses are getting married in at least 45 days prior to the ceremony. After submission of the application file the Mayor's office will post a Non Opposition to Marriage document ("*publication des bans*").
- The mayor's office will then contact the spouses to **inform them** of the approved date and time of the wedding!

The Ceremony:

- On the day of the ceremony, the future spouses, **guests and the witnesses go the City Hall**.
- The Mayor (or an appointed representative from the Mayor's office) will perform the ceremony, in the presence of at least two witnesses **and in the language** chosen by the spouses.
- After the ceremony, the mayor will give the spouses a Marriage Certificate ("*Certificat de célébration de Mariage*"). This certificate will be dated and signed by the mayor's office of the commune in which the marriage takes place and will allow the spouses to prove that the marriage was legal when going back to their country of origin.

*Approved by the Mayor of the Commune in which they are getting married