Enjoy your Jewish destination wedding

Mindless Sophistication can plan events in exotic locales

Jennifer Libman Special to The CJN

nce upon a time, you had to choose between having a destination wedding or a Jewish wedding.

Today, thanks to Sandra Aaron, you can have both. "I am able to merge those concepts. It's like making a couple's dream come true.'

Sandra Aaron began her company, Mindless Sophistication, in 2006, after spending years as an event planner. Aaron can help clients plan any type of event, from small birthday parties to sweet sixteens to large weddings.

"I try to make every occasion a true celebration - one full of memorable moments," she said.

Aaron offers a variety of wedding packages, ranging from just recommending vendors to a full package that includes assistance with all planning details and facilitating the actual event.

"Everyone has different needs in a wedding planner. Some couples only have a few questions, but others want their hands held the whole time. I can customize my services to meet their needs," Aaron said.

Though Mindless Sophistication is based in Toronto, Aaron can plan tradi-



tional Jewish weddings anywhere in the world.

"One of my favourite wedding spots is St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. They have the most stunning, historical synagogue with a sand floor."

Aaron offers two choices when planning a destination wedding. The first is to have her train an event planner who lives where the wedding is taking place. "Resorts and other venues often have their own wedding consultants, but they likely to do not know how to incorporate the Jewish components," said Aaron. For instance, she said, "my training usually involves teaching them how to build a chupah."

The other option is to take Aaron along to your destination. "This is certainly an amazing perk of my job," said Aaron. There, she can take care of all the details of your event, allowing you to relax and enjoy your travels. She will also help plan wedding-related events, such as brunches or group excursions. "When people travel to a wedding, it's more than just a one-day event. I make sure their whole experience is as special as the wedding itself."

Aaron can find local synagogues and rabbis, or rabbis willing to travel to the wedding location.

"I also have an amazing ability to find kosher food in the most obscure places. If we are somewhere especially remote, I can always count on Chabad to be there to help me out," she said. "It's really special that we are able to maintain Jewish traditions in cities that may not have any Jewish residents."

Aaron will work with a travel agency to help guests make arrangements. She can also help guests at the destination with local theatre tickets, transportation, tours and dinner reservations.

"Everyone wants to make their guests feel extra special, and this way you don't need to worry about the details.

For more information, call 416-251-3278, or visit mindlesssophistication.com.

