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New Job, New Country, Two Weddings

Recent bride Nicole Mathers plans two weddings with a new job in a new country!

Nicole is a down to earth Sydney girl who met a gorgeous English guy (Chris Waudby) while holidaying in Sydney. Of course they fell in love and it wasn't long before thoughts turned to "serious commitment".

Living in Bondi and working in Magazines, Nicole loved Sydney and always dreamed that her wedding would take place with the Harbour Bridge as a back drop. Enter a slight deviation to the plan, when Chris proposes and asks her to move to London with him!

Ever the pragmatist, Nicole accepts, on one condition – that they have a Sydney Wedding AND a UK wedding, to keep all sides of the Nicole/Chris equation happy!

So, condition granted... Nicole packed up and moved to the UK to live with her fiancé and start planning two dream weddings!

With just over a year to plan, Nicole thought it would be a breeze – until she started looking into what's involved! If 250 hours = 1 wedding, then Nicole was looking at 500 hours of planning ahead of her. As she had just started a stressful new job at Marie Claire in London, Nic realised she was going to need all the help she could get. Every second week she was traveling for work, spending hours commuting on trains and in airports with just her laptop and minimal luggage - which meant leaving behind bulky wedding folders, magazines and piles of wedding related lists.



A friend of Nicole's suggested she try Marziplanner wedding planning software. "It's so perfect for you – it will get you organised, you can work on the wedding from anywhere

and it will save you from loads of stress, worrying about what needs to be done” her friend raves. “Plus, you can get it straight away – just go to the website and download the free trial – I am sure you will love it.”



So, Nicole followed her advice and got onto Marziplanner. The 7-day free trial let her plan a few of the smaller upcoming events like her engagement party in the UK and her Sydney bridal dinner for later in the year. The best thing was how it helped her with all the guests and the 13 (yes thirteen) events they were holding leading up to the wedding day – two lots of guests from all over, managed in the one simple and secure place.

Nicole was excited and relieved to have found such a life-saver! “It really got me on track with what I had to do – the task list gave me a timeline of things to achieve and delegate to family and friends which was critical to me getting through it all. And I could email reminders to my somewhat lazy fiancé about sorting out his tasks, like the cars and the alcohol!”

“I think the biggest advantage was the time saving – once you put all your guests name and addresses in, the rest is as easy as clicking the mouse – I had 13 different events in two countries – from hens, bucks, kitchen tea, rehearsal dinners – the full monty! So it was amazing that I could tick off every event for each guest and manage the invitations, RSVPs and seating so easily.”

“Another major thing for me was all the presents – which was so much fun – but I needed a method of recording who gave us what, and if I had sent a thankyou note – for all these different events throughout the year. Marziplanner helped me with this and made the whole experience a delight.”

Marziplanner also helped Nicole manage her suppliers – a key planning task when you have two lots of them in two different countries! And the interactive music playlist editor added some fun planning time for Nicole and Chris together – arguing over their first dance song amongst others! The floorplanner and seating plan tools also proved invaluable, “The seating plan was simple – forget sticky notes and paper – Marziplanner is the only way to do it”

Cut to 11 months later, and we asked Nicole how she felt with her big day in Sydney being just 5 weeks away. “You know, I was so totally overwhelmed when I started the planning on my own – it got me really down as I had



so much riding on my new job, plus living in a new country..... when I got Marziplanner it was like I had found a friend in my PC who just took over the hard work for me. I couldn't have done without it!"

The wedding day was perfect – set in the Botanic Gardens with the Opera House and Harbour Bridge as a backdrop, Nicole and Chris were simply radiant.

And what's next for Nicole? "Honeymoon in Port Douglas, then back to London to do it all again!!"