

TAGS / ADVERTISE / ABOUT / CONTACT

OUR PARTNERS

[HOME \(HTTP://WWW.WEDDINGGUIDEASIA.COM/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/) [DIRECTORY \(HTTP://WEDDINGGUIDEASIA.COM/DIRECTORY/\)](http://weddingguideasia.com/directory/)[ARTICLES \(HTTP://WWW.WEDDINGGUIDEASIA.COM/CATEGORY/ARTICLES/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/category/articles/)[DESTINATION WEDDINGS \(HTTP://WWW.WEDDINGGUIDEASIA.COM/DESTINATION-WEDDINGS/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/destination-weddings/)[DEALS \(HTTP://WWW.WEDDINGGUIDEASIA.COM/DEALS/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/deals/)[E-GUIDES \(HTTP://WWW.WEDDINGGUIDEASIA.COM/EGUIDES/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/eguides/)[Home \(http://www.weddingguideasia.com/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/) > [Articles \(http://www.weddingguideasia.com/category/articles/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/category/articles/) > [Wedding Planners: The Other Side Of The Coin](#)

## Wedding Planners: The Other Side Of The Coin

19/06/12 | by Melody Song  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/author/melody/>)

[Tweet](#) 1 [Like](#) 6



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium7/>)

*Brides should be the centre of attention on their big day!*

It is becoming a trend for busy brides to call in wedding planners to help them plan their big day, but while you may be forgiven for thinking the bride gets to sit back and kick up her heels, this often isn't the case – and the wedding planners often bend over backwards to make sure the bride gets her way!

This week, Wedding Guide Asia has a chat with Leticia Hsu from [Elysium Weddings](http://www.elysiumweddings.net/) (<http://www.elysiumweddings.net/>), who shares with us some of the more "above and beyond" requests they've received from some clients – from stopping the rain, to making birds sing, to becoming wait staff at the bride's wedding reception!

Photographs by [Jon Low Studios](http://www.jonlow.com/) (<http://www.jonlow.com/>) and courtesy of WGA vendor [Elysium Weddings](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/directory/elysium-weddings-events-wizard/) (<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/directory/elysium-weddings-events-wizard/>).



### DIRECTORY

Best Wedding Vendors In Your Town

### SIGN UP NOW

Sign up for regular updates direct via email



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wp-content/plugins/max-banner-ads-pro/max-banner-ads-lib/include/redirect.php?id=46>)



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wp-content/plugins/max-banner-ads-pro/max-banner-ads-lib/include/redirect.php?id=41>)

(<http://twitter.com/wedguideasia>)

5197  
(<https://www.facebook.com/weddingguideasia/>)

(<http://feeds.feedburner.com/weddingguideasia>)

### MOST POPULAR STORIES

1. 5 mins with... [Carmen Soo](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/5-mins-with-carmen-soo/)  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/5-mins-with-carmen-soo/>)
2. 5 mins with... [Hollywood star and Asian supermodel Daniel Henney!!](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/fashion-beauty/5-mins-with-hollywood-star-and-asian-supermodel-daniel-henney/)  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/fashion-beauty/5-mins-with-hollywood-star-and-asian-supermodel-daniel-henney/>)

(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium3/>)

Feeling blue? Your wedding experts are there to help!

1. What is the most extravagant request you've received from a couple?

For this one couple, the bride had chosen a color and theme for the wedding and planning was 100% completed two weeks before the wedding. A week before the wedding, she attended her friend's wedding which was – guess what - exactly the same theme and color. She was not a happy camper!

We had to change all the stationery for the event that was already printed, all the flowers that were flown in and everything else in between that was the original wedding theme colours, in one week. I had to beg, borrow and plead with all the vendors to help find me the same items in the new color!



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium/>)

Got a scary wedding situation? Thank goodness for wedding planners!

Another extravagant request came from a bride who had seen a video of an event where the centerpieces were a particular plant which was apparently not available locally. The florist was willing to get their growers to plant the plant for the bride but the problem was, the party was in *one week*!

We were engaged to help plan the event one week before the event, everything was done at super-speed, from the invites to the menu, from the decoration to the entertainment; options were given to the bride and decisions had to be made on the spot.

To solve this, I used only the vendors I knew and trusted that would give me their best quality even at the shortest notice. I called all the florists, decorators and landscape people I knew to try get that particular plant (I've never learnt so much about plants as I did that week). In the end, for the centerpieces we created the same design using a variety of different plants and props; the bride was happy and we all had a good time.

3. Cross cultural weddings? Meet my parents!  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/cross-cultural-weddings-meet-my-parents/>)
4. Henry Golding on love, girlfriends & weddings!  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/henry-golding-on-love-girlfriends-weddings25/>)
5. My pre-wedding photos!  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/my-prewedding-photos/>)

Find us on Facebook

 **Wedding Guide Asia**  


5,197 people like Wedding Guide Asia.

 Lillo

 Care

 Evelyn

 Elven

 Rose

 Faez

 chung





 Qeena

 Aslie

 Hang

 Facebook social plugin

WE'VE BEEN FEATURED





(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium4/>)

*Your special day is all about you and your love.*

**2) What is the most unusual request you had received from a couple?**

One couple was to have their ceremony and dinner at an outdoor garden venue, and it just so happened that whenever we went for a meeting there, there was a breeze and birds a-chirping; a perfect setting for a wedding. The bride wanted me to make sure that there would still be a breeze and birds would still be chirping on that day!

What we did was hide some low industrial fans in between trees and bushes and actually had recordings of birds chirping playing among the trees. Guests (and the bride) never knew the difference.



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium9/>)

*Wedding planners will always do what they can, but they can't stop the rain!*

**3) What is the most common request you tend to receive from couples?**

"Stop the rain! Stop the rain!" - Some couples will seek a weather consultant's help in advance and others will pray for help on the day itself.

Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't, so always have a contingency setup and don't leave it up to nature! The Hindus believe that rain on your wedding day will bring you luck and the Chinese believe that rain on your wedding day means you're a scrooge. Whatever your beliefs, have a contingency plan!





[\(http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium-1/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium-1/)

*Unusual requests from brides often make for weddings to remember!*

#### 4) What would you consider the most unconventional request?

One couple had an unconventional but fun request – the bride wanted all the décor for her wedding to relate to the island venue the wedding was at, so I had to go swimming, snorkeling and tree-climbing with her to find stones, corals, shells and leaves we could use for décor.

We then used corals to make noise makers for when the groom arrived, stones as escort cards, leaves and shells as centerpieces. It was a tiring hunt but the result was priceless.



[\(http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium8/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium8/)

*Some planners go well beyond the call of duty.*

For another couple, my whole team ended up serving the guests at their wedding, at the small resort they owned. During the planning period, the couple assured me that they would get their staff from the mainland hotel to come and help for the wedding and all I had to do was brief and coordinate them.

On the day itself, no staff showed up because it was Hari Raya! Luckily, we had brought in a chef to supervise, but he ended up cleaning, cutting, washing and cooking, and my whole team were made to be waiters, bartenders, cleaners, kitchen help and movers. Even the gardener and cleaner for the rooms were put in clean shirts and made to serve! I had never in my whole life opened so many wine bottles in one night. We were dead tired by the end of the night.



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium2-2/>)

*Picture perfect result.*

**5) Name a time where you had managed to apply a quick-fix to an unforeseen circumstance that was threatening a “worst-case scenario” at the wedding. What did you do to fix the situation?**

For one couple, the bride was under the impression that she had the presidential suite on her wedding day although this was not the case; because her wedding was a one-week affair and the toll of the events had fallen on her, she was just exhausted and fixated on this particular issue. The hotel was kind enough to help the bride out, in the end.

So we went on with plans as per the program, got her changed and got her to the dinner on time. During the dinner, my team and I were packing up her room of strewn clothes, flowers and gifts; even the energy drinks were packed up and moved to the presidential suite.

During a break, when she was supposed to change, I guided her to her new room and when she entered, only did she realize that she had finally gotten her wish! She enjoyed the rest of the night and slept like a baby, according to the groom!



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium10/>)

*Wedding planners will help you work out the bugs in your plans.*

For another couple, the bride was particular about everything, from the type of plates used, to the type of cutlery, so you can imagine my reaction when I found out that the hotel had misplaced her delicately-printed menus – four hours before the dinner! After I made sure the hotel had really lost her menus, I called the stationer that designed the original menus and begged them to reprint and deliver the menus to me – on a Sunday.

The menus arrived at the nick of time and the bride never saw the difference. The original menus were found an hour after dinner started!



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/attachment/elysium6/>)

*Getting flowers sorted can sometimes be bloomin' difficult!*

Another worst-case scenario happened not by the fault of the couple, but of a florist who figured they could make the couple do whatever they wanted.

After agreeing on the contract price, payment terms and details, the florist decided – one week before the wedding – they wanted to be paid in full, up-front, without the couple even seeing the actual flowers – or they would pull out of the wedding. This was despite their contract clearly stating the balance payment will be made on the wedding day! They literally held the flowers at ransom!

I called a few florist friends I knew and found someone who was still available and willing to rush, but we still had issues with getting the flowers, calling every flower wholesaler in town to get the flowers we needed. In the end, the new florist completed the job as per the original designs, cheaper than the original quote!

*Phew! We don't know about you, but even reading that was exhausting, and certainly makes us appreciate the work of wedding planners, who help smooth out unseen bumps and hurdles, a lot more! Interested in having Leticia and her team wave their magic wand over your big day? Do get in touch with them via their [website \(http://www.elysiumweddings.net/\)](http://www.elysiumweddings.net/) or [directory page \(http://www.weddingguideasia.com/directory/elysium-weddings-events-wizard/\)](http://www.weddingguideasia.com/directory/elysium-weddings-events-wizard/).*

Tags: Brides

(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/tag/bride/>), Elysium Weddings  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/tag/elysium-weddings/>), Wedding Photographers  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/tag/wedding-photographers/>), Wedding Planners  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/tag/wedding-planners/>), Wedding Venues  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/tag/wedding-venues/>)

[Tweet](#) 1 [Like](#) 6

## RELATED ARTICLE



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/escape-to-bali/>)  
**Escape To Bali**  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/escape-to-bali/>)  
07/12/11



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/winter-wonderland/>)  
**Winter Wonderland**  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/winter-wonderland/>)  
29/11/11



(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wga-hearts-wedding-videos/>)  
**WGA Hearts Wedding Videos**  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wga-hearts-wedding-videos/>)  
28/12/10




(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/mixed-malay-weddings-what-to-do-paperwork-wise/>)  
**The Legalties Of Mixed Malay Weddings**  
(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/mixed-malay-weddings-what-to-do-paperwork-wise/>)  
24/02/11




(<http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wp-content/plugins/max-banner-ads-pro/max-banner-ads-lib/include/redirect.php?id=57>)

---



Comment using... ▼

Warning: <http://www.weddingguideasia.com/wed/wedding-planners-the-other-side-of-the-coin/> is unreachable.

 Facebook social plugin