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## Venues for Intimate Weddings

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What really defines an intimate wedding? Small venue, small number of guests or limited budget? I say, Intimate wedding is a perfect way to celebrate your biggest day with love ones. Aside from being relaxed on your special day because you are surrounded by close friends and family, your wedding day will be less stressful as it will just feel like a family and friends gathering rather than a big production. Not to mention you will be able to save extra bucks to start your family.

This is not to say though that you cannot splurge on your wedding day. Some couples opt to have limited guests not necessarily because they don't have enough budget, rather, they choose to spend their money into something that really matters to them. Like designer gowns, destination wedding venues or a great jazz band.



Nowadays, intimate weddings are becoming more popular among couples and destination wedding is probably the number one choice for brides and grooms when tying the knot. Now, that being said, listed are some of the best places in the Philippines that promise you a romantic and one of a kind wedding celebration that you won't forget sans the big preparation and a wedding coordinator.

Photo taken from Fundacion Pacita Website

**Tukon Chapel, Batanes.** Tukon Chapel in Batanes is a relatively new chapel in Basco. The chapel's construction only started last 2008 and is just a few steps away from Fundacion Pacita. Tukon Chapel has life-size paintings of saints installed in its ceilings, all made by young Ivatan artists who are all scholars of The Pacita Abad Center for the Arts.

With breath taking views of both South China Sea and Pacific Ocean, Tukon (Ivatan word for mountain) Chapel is probably one of the best places to go to for a cinematic wedding. The chapel's stained glass windows, pews of recycled hardwood and a facade that can be likened to the traditional Ivatan stone house make this chapel very unique. **Tukon Chapel** is a project of the Abad family, dedicated to their parents whose main desire when they were still living was to be able to walk to the nearest chapel or church. Today, the couple is now buried in the Abad pastureland in Tukon.



Photo taken from Fundacion Pacita Website

The **Fundacion Pacita Batanes Nature Lodge**, which is nestled atop rolling hills of Tukon, gives one a 270-degree view of the sea and rolling hills of Batan. It was once a home studio of internationally-acclaimed Trapunto artist Pacita Abad which was reconditioned by his brother, DBM Secretary Butch Abad, who revealed that before his sister died, wanted her studio to become a lodge where guests, specifically artists, photographers and hobbyist, nature lovers, yoga enthusiasts and similar groups could stay, thus the nature lodge was born to provide everyone serene accommodations amid the lush garden and pasture land of Tukon. Every room of Fundacion Pacita was designed to resemble an art gallery with walls carefully

adorned by masterpieces of various artists.

Any couple can be mesmerized by the amazing view from the terrace in all of Fundacion's room. Waking up being greeted by the cool breeze, rolling hills, cliffs and sea is definitely an experience you would want to share with your husband or wife.

Thus, if you are looking for a laid back wedding, away from the cacophonous Manila, with few selected guests, (mind you, air fare to Batanes is very costly at Php13,000 for a roundtrip so you might want to trim down your guest list) then going for a Batanes wedding is definitely something that should top your list.

**Fundacion Pacita Website:** <http://www.fundacionpacita.ph/>