

Marriage Requirements on Sint Eustatius

Official Applications, Required Documents & Fees

1. Notice of Intent to Marry (Betroth)

If you plan to get married, you first need to register this intention at the Census office. This is called a notice of intent to marry (betroth). It is a means of giving official notice of your intention to get married.

You must submit a written request to the Census Office to be married, specifying your desired date, time, and place. Please note the following crucial timing constraints:

- **Submission Lead Time:** You need to submit the request at least three (3) weeks before the intended date of the wedding.
- **Validity Period:** The wedding must take place within one (1) year of the notice of intent to marry. If the one-year period expires, you will need to re-submit the notice of intent to marry.

2. Required Documentation

Groom & Bride

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- A valid proof of identity (copy of passport).
- A recent copy of your birth certificate (must include parents' names).
- A recent official proof of "Single" status.
- If previously married: A recent copy of the divorce decree or a recent death certificate.

The Witnesses

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- A copy of a valid passport must be submitted in advance for all witnesses.
- A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) witnesses are required to be married.
- If you DO NOT have witnesses of your own, you can officially request the Census Office to provide them for a fee of US\$ 15.00 per witness.

Foreign Documents & Legalization

Documents originating from countries outside the territory must be properly legalized or provided with an apostille. Additionally, the following standard rules apply:

- **Translation:** All foreign documents not written in Dutch, French, German, or English must be officially translated into English by a sworn translator.
- **Validity:** These documents should not be older than six (6) months at the time of processing.

3. Additional Guidelines & Timeline

- **Waiting Period:** A mandatory waiting period of two (2) weeks must be observed between the date of the notice of intent to marry (betroth) and the actual Solemnization (Celebration) of the marriage.
- **Original Submissions:** ALL original documents must be submitted directly to the Census Office at least two (2) weeks prior to the actual wedding date.
- **Languages:** The official marriage ceremony can be performed in two languages: Dutch or English.
- **Venues & Location:** The Census Office and the Government Guesthouse are the standard locations officially appointed by the Government. Requests for any other venue will incur extra charges and are subject to mandatory structural evaluation.

Important Note: To avoid scheduling conflicts or logistical inconveniences on your intended wedding date, please contact the Census office prior to making firm arrangements.

4. Fees & Administrative Costs

Service Description / Administrative Item	Fee (USD)
Extract from registrar	US\$ 12.00
Marriage certificate	US\$ 17.00
Fees for betrothal	US\$ 35.00
Marriage at Courthouse during working hours (09:00 - 17:00)	US\$ 120.00
Marriage at Courthouse after working hours (from 17:00 onwards)	US\$ 145.00
Marriage performed on Sunday, Saturday, and public holidays	US\$ 250.00
Marriage performed at a specific/custom location	US\$ 65.00
Application for a specific/custom location approval	US\$ 65.00
Marriage book (Choice of Blue, Red, or White)	US\$ 45.00

Service Description / Administrative Item	Fee (USD)
Witness provision service (if none provided by the couple, per witness)	US\$ 15.00

Contact & Document Review Support

To review all documents in advance or for additional assistance, please contact the Census Office:

Address: Chapelpiece Road 1, St. Eustatius | **Tel:** +599-318-2027 / +599-318-2497

Email: census.office@statiagov.com