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## Honeymoons reflect a couple's lifestyle

Not only is the honeymoon a tradition for newlyweds, it may be a necessity.

As anyone who's ever been involved with a wedding knows, there is a lot of stress involved in preparation. A honeymoon gives a couple the chance to relax and wind down. It also seems to provide a needed psychological transition between being single and being married.

Beyond this, the purpose of the honeymoon has changed somewhat over the years. The popular image of a honeymoon is of a special time when a just-married couple goes off for a "getting to know you" period of privacy. While privacy and romance are still on the list of honeymooners' desires, new social trends such as living together before marriage have brought out a different emphasis.

Today, fewer couples are choosing to take the sort of honeymoon where they spend a week or so alone in an isolated cabin. Instead, they prefer more action — resorts and locations that include sports, entertainment, gourmet food and plenty of sights to see.

According to travel agent Bruce Myers, the main consideration in planning a honeymoon should be honesty between the bride and groom. How do each of you really want to spend your honey-

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moon? Hiking? Skiing? Shopping? Sunning?

Once the decision has been made, Myers said, make your plans early. You'll have a better chance of getting the exact accommodations you want at the time you want. Otherwise, you may be disappointed by having to pay more because rooms in your price range area all taken.

To save money be certain to investigate off-season travel rates — some location is going to be off-season no matter what time of the year you are married. Also ask about special fares on land and in the air for weekday and night-flight excursions. To find out about additional savings, you could write to airline tour departments, hotel chain headquarters and individual resorts for brochures, rate sheets and honeymoon package details.

## Cruise into marriage

The tireless romance of the ocean coupled with the sophisticated facilities of today's cruise ships is a perfect marriage in itself — and a honeymoon that makes dreams come true.

Newlyweds will find the same gourmet dining, entertainment and recreational facilities of the most exclusive hotel or resort, but with the thrill of visiting a different port almost daily.

More and more newlyweds are losing their hearts to the elegance and excitement of cruising, according to the Cruise Lines International Association, whose members operate 70 ships from U.S. ports. The association reports that 75,000 couples opted for cruising as a honeymoon in 1963 — and about one-third of those were under 40.

There is a wide selection of elegant ships and itineraries available including three-day party cruises, one-, two- and three-week voyages and three-month world cruises.

First-time passengers wondering how to select a cruise should take the ship's personality into account. Some emphasize non-stop entertainment, others emphasize value for money, others pride themselves on luxurious and personalized service. One-week cruise rates begin around \$1,000, which includes all meals, entertainment, use of ship's facilities, accommodations and usually airfare.

One- and two-week Mediterranean and Mexican Riviera cruises are especially popular with honeymooning couples, says Alice Marshall of the Cunard Line.

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Passengers seeking an active vacation will find every amenity of a land resort — health and fitness facilities, casinos, late-night discos, cinemas, shopping and on-board enrichment lectures.

In port, early arrivals and evening departures allow ample time for enjoying the sun on palmy tropical beaches and for sightseeing and shopping. Optional land tours may be arranged in advance, and some cruises offer complimentary land events. There are often opportunities for water sports, tennis, golf and horseback riding at ports.

Marshall says that honeymoon couples also may expect some special welcoming touches such as flowers, champagne and cake in their cabins and special captains' parties.

And as cruising offers the highest satisfaction rating of any vacation, according to a Gallup study, many couples return for subsequent honeymoons.