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Royal Weddings



Synopsis

Nothing surpasses the pageantry of a royal wedding. Pomp and ritual combine in a spectacle few can resist. That mingling of personal charisma, age-old institutions, and contemporary mores is enough to intrigue the most hardened of hearts! These royal unions embody the hopes, dreams and characteristics of nations as distinct as Sweden, Japan and Spain. Comprehensive text and stunning pictures chronicle the fascinating details that make these state celebrations of personal commitment so unique and memorable.

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Customer Reviews

This is a illuminating book of 14 Royal Weddings: Haakon & Mette-Marit, Norway, 2001 Carl Gustaf & Silvia, Sweden, 1976 Frederik & Mary, Denmark, 2004 Rainier & Grace, Monaco, 1956 Juan Carlos & Sofia, Greece, 1962 Felipe & Letizia, Spain, 2004 Al-Muhtadee Billah & Sarah, Brunei, 2004 Naruhito & Masako, Japan, 1993 Reza Pahlavi & Soraya, Iran 1951 Victoria & Albert, Great Britian, 1840 Elizabeth and Philip, Great Britain, 1947 Charles and Diana, Great Britain, 1981 Beatrix & Claus, Netherlands, 1966 Willem-Alexander & Maxima, Netherlands, 2002 The many photographs are fascinating and the written commentary is basic but informative. It is interesting seeing the historal, political and cultural context of these weddings. The hierachy of the Royal Houses - the people who attended and who didn't - The Rainiers had to make do with Hollywood Movie stars as the rest of International Royalty seemed to snub them. The fashion and jewellery. The wedding gifts. The new and the traditional. The happy or unhappy endings to their fairytale weddings. The way the

couple were regarded (not always favourably) by the public is explained. The photographs showing the unstaged photos of wedding related events are wonderful. Even the paparazzi of 1956 have a photo. This book is much more than just a set of pretty, staged, fairytale photos, although they are the centrepiece of this book. The extravagance of the 40 million dollar wedding of the Sultan of Brunei's son to his 17 year old bride was breathtaking, the tradition and secrecy of the Japanese ceremony was intriguing and the air of sadness around the Iranian wedding - I have never seen such an unhappy looking bride - left me wanting to find out more.

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