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MEXICO

PRIVATE Party

CALIFORNIANS JESSIE AND SEAN SEND GUESTS TO A SECRET LOCATION FOR THEIR BEACHFRONT VOWS.

photography by FIGLEWICZ PHOTOGRAPHY

“After Sean proposed, we looked to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Our friends were married there, and everyone said it was the best wedding they had ever attended. Plus, living in Southern California, we love the beach. Our friends referred us to their planner, **The Dazzling Details**, and during a scouting visit, we fell in love with **Villa Romance**, a private oceanfront residence in Punta Mita.

Our 100 guests started to arrive the Tuesday before our Saturday wedding. We stayed at the **Villa La Estancia** resort in Puerto Vallarta, where we hung out by the pool together every day. I have family in Germany, and Sean's family is from the East Coast, so since everyone had to travel, we wanted them to be able to explore and have their own vacation too.

On March 15, 2014, we shuttled everyone 45 minutes north to the private Punta Mita neighborhood. We had kept the exact location of our wedding completely secret; we didn't even tell our parents! I loved hearing everyone try to guess where they were going. They were totally surprised and loved the intimacy of the villa.

We were married just before sunset on the beach. **Los Aventuras** mariachi band performed during cocktail hour, then we dined outside in the enclosed courtyard and garden. After a night of dancing and tequila drinking, the **Tacos Saguayo** truck arrived with snacks.

It was great having our entire support system in the same place for days. By the time Saturday arrived, I was like, 'Oh yeah, we have to get married!'” — *Jessie Shannon, as told to Amy Cassell*

1. LOCALE Jessie, in Reem Acra, posed with her new husband on Villa Romance's private beach. **2. FIRST DANCE** Guests held sparklers while the couple danced to Brad Paisley. **3. CARDS** Escort cards hung on a clothesline. **4. DECOR** Lounge furniture was set up throughout the garden. **5. FLOWER GIRLS** Children Jessie has nannied, including Ava and Maeve, shown, were in the wedding party. **6. DINNER** White roses and candles decorated family-style tables. **7. CEREMONY** Sean's dad, Michael, officiated, and the couple wrote their own vows. **8. DETAILS** The tiny clover on Sean's napkin honored his Irish heritage. **9. WEDDING PARTY** Bridesmaids wore Kirstie Kelly Couture; groomsmen, Evolution of Style.