

## **Apostille Stamps**

Some couples from overseas countries, who marry in Australia, require an Apostille Stamp placed on an official copy of their Marriage Certificate. Certain countries require this before they accept an Australian marriage as a legal marriage.

If you have this situation your celebrant may be able to assist in arranging the formalities, within the fee structure. Alternatively you can organise it yourself.

This is how the process works:

1. After the marriage ceremony, the Celebrant registers the marriage with the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.
2. You then need to obtain a copy of your official marriage certificate from the Registry by making application and paying the appropriate fee.
3. The official marriage certificate must then be sent to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in the capital city of the State or Territory in which you were married or to the Canberra office in the ACT with a request to have an Apostille stamp affixed to the marriage certificate. The processing fee is currently \$60.
4. The Department will post the Certificate back to your home country unless you request that it be returned to an address in Australia.

Further details can be obtained from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.