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WEDDINGS THAT STAND OUT BY MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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Weddings that Give Back: Natasha and Alexander- St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

February 22, 2017 by Danielle Calhoun — Leave a Comment

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Today's *Weddings That Give Back* feature is one for the nostalgic destination wedding record books. Full of Jamaican voluntourism, supporting local farms, businesses and artisans, sustainable intentionality, this couple truly embraced their wedding day as an opportunity to serve those that have inspired their lives greatest!

Alex's mother grew up in Jamaica, and Natasha's family traveled to Jamaica frequently and she even studied abroad there. After their summer living in the parish of St. Elizabeth on the South Coast together, and working at BRED's Treasure Beach nonprofit foundation, this place in Jamaica was forever sacred in their hearts.

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The couple and their family and friends stayed at Jakes Hotel, Spa and Villas throughout the week leading up to their wedding. The hotel is known for its funding of the **BRED's Treasure Beach Foundation** (where Natasha previously worked), and its focus is devoted to improving the community. In lieu of gifts, the couple asked for donations to BRED's. Volunteering was also a major facet of the wedding. Family and friends spent some time painting schools and coaching sports to the children of the Treasure Beach community, as part of the BRED's foundation. They had a full week itinerary with optional activities for guests (a trip to YS falls, a boat trip to Pelican Bar, lunch at a local jerk hut, bike tours, etc.)

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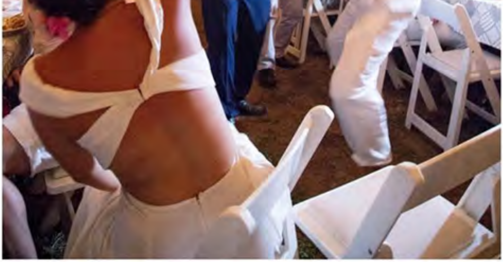
They also had gift baskets for all the wedding guests, with goodies curated and sourced by local business owners and artisans.

TREASURE BEACH
A+N

TREASURE BEACH
ST. ELIZABETH
JAMAICA
A+N
RAW
MINT AND EUCALYPTUS CANDLE
MADE WITH LOVE
A+N

Alex went on an epic beach walk with his friends to find the branches that they built into the hoopah. They made the big wooden piece that has their initials carved into it with seashells they found on the beach-this was a total surprise! (It’s now hanging in their Brooklyn bedroom.) All the jewelry Natasha wore and gave to the women in the wedding was made by Veronique, a local artist making amazing pieces from natural elements she finds in Treasure Beach.

All the kids in the wedding went to the local boutique store Callaloo, where they all picked outfits to wear for the wedding. The table cloths were also made from West African fabric the couple found in NYC, their friend sewed it together, and they brought it all the way to Jamaica.