

Greetings from Florida ~

We hope this email finds you well. RJ and I have been busy with wedding planning and wanted to share some information with you about our big day:

We will be getting married in sunny Florida on Sunday, May 20, 2007 (We know this sounds like a long time away for you, but for us, it is right around the corner!). Our ceremony will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by cocktail hour and a dinner/dance reception. All of these events will take place at the Sheraton Yankee Trader, on Fort Lauderdale Beach. It's a beautiful area and the hotel is across the street from the ocean so we hope you can join us for a beach weekend and our wedding day.

The wedding may be on the beach, but that doesn't mean shorts and bathing suits. Plan your trip accordingly – this is an evening event so bring appropriate wedding attire. However, shoes are optional for the ceremony! We encourage you to wear comfy shoes during the ceremony, if you wish. Afterwards, there will be a short 20-30 minute break before the cocktail hour for you to change into your reception/dancing shoes.

Also, since our ceremony and reception is in the evening, it will be an adults-only event. We want to let you know this in case it effects how you plan your trip.

We have a 25-room block at the Sheraton, at \$139/night. We will be able to add rooms to the block once we know how many more rooms are needed. You can book your room through our wedding website, <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/raphaeldiep> (click on "Book your Room"), or call (866) 716-8106 or (954) 467-1111 and tell them you need a room in the Raphael/Diepenbrock wedding block. Our rates are guaranteed from Friday, May 18 – Monday, May 21. If you need rooms for additional nights, you will need to call the hotel. If you use a credit card, it will not be charged when you make the reservation, and you can cancel up to two days before check-in. We are asking you to book your room(s) as soon as possible, as Ft. Lauderdale Beach is a popular tourist destination.

If you will be flying in to join us, the most convenient airport is Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport (FLL). You can get a shuttle or cab from the airport to the hotel --- it's a 20-minute drive. Miami International Airport – MIA – is the other option, but it is farther from the hotel (around an hour), and generally more chaotic to deal with. Once you are at the hotel, you will not need a car for wedding related events. If you are interested in exploring South Florida while you are here, we are in the process of confirming a group rate for Enterprise Rent a Car. We will get the discount code to you as soon as we receive the information.

If you are interested in seeing additional pictures from our engagement and planning so far, go to <http://rjdiepenbrock.com>. As we finalize the details, we will keep this site updated.

We are excited to share our day with you, and we hope you can join us. If you have any questions, please email or call either of us.

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