

green honeymooners

26

Considering the environment is now a big factor in many couples' wedding plans. And that consideration can be extended to the honeymoon. In fact, there's a booming industry for very romantic, and very green, honeymoon getaways at home. Even if you want some unashamed luxury, many major hotel chains have introduced green business practices. Check out their credentials. And if you want to avoid mass tourism after the big day, you'll be spoilt for choice with the boom in romantic eco-friendly destinations. If you're going to fly, make sure you include carbon offsets when booking your tickets.

- **add carbon offsets to your wedding registry gift list**

celebrations 39

21



a family tree tradition

Across our lives there's a lot to celebrate, and a lot to mourn. It's all part of life. Start a green tradition in your family to mark all the significant events in your life. To celebrate, to remember and to remind, there are a lot of good reasons to plant a tree. Mark the birth of your children or the loss of a loved one; your children's first and last day of school; college graduations; weddings or even divorces. You'll be creating tangible touchstones for you and your family and helping to protect the environment.

- **mark important events – plant a tree for a cleaner future**

34 celebrations

Illustration: Marian Kyle

33

mother's day



Celebrated in Australia since the 1920s, Mother's Day was born out of the Civil War in America. The modern Mother's Day founders, Julia Ward Howe and Anna Jarvis, could never have imagined how their day would become a billion-dollar industry. Honour your mother this Mother's Day in the tradition of the day's founders. Make it a special day about peace and family. Let your mother know how important she is in your life – you don't have to buy something to do that. You could cook her breakfast or dinner, spend the day with her or make a Mother's Day resolution to be there more for her in the year ahead.

- **tell your mother she's special, without the waste**

Photo: Marian Kyle

45 celebrations

celebrations

22

true green party



Fifteen trees are cut down to make 907 kilograms of the glossy paper that's used in cards, magazines and catalogues. Next time you organise a birthday party, housewarming or barbecue, do something different and make it green. Think about what makes a great party and how a lot of stuff gets thrown away afterwards. Use recycled materials for costumes, decorations and wrapping paper. Provide locally grown organic food – but don't serve it on disposable plates. Let people know that it's a green party when you invite them and encourage them to follow suit.

- **have a party for the environment**

celebrations 35