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Getting married in Las Vegas or spending your honeymoon on Mauritius can be a great adventure. In this lesson you will hear a radio interview with a travel agent specialising in “marriage related” trips who organises „holidays of a lifetime“ for newly married couples. You will learn words and expressions useful when talking about such holidays. Before listening to the dialogue, listen to the words and phrases that are used in this conversation:

to focus on sth - skupić się na czymś

stag party - wieczór kawalerski

hen party - wieczór paniński

honeymoon - miesiąc miodowy

an ordinary travel company - zwykłe biuro podróży

phenomenon - zjawisko

uncommon - niezwykły

without a doubt - bez wątpienia

key ingredients - kluczowe składniki

varied - zróżnicowany

something a bit special - coś specjalnego

to tie the knot - pobrać się

long-haul - odległe

there is a good market for sth - jest dobry rynek (popyt) na coś

extended - poszerzona, rozszerzona

bride - panna młoda

groom - pan młody

the best man - drużba

bridesmaid - drużna

civil ceremony - ślub cywilny

combined with - połączony z

to receive - otrzymać

wedding present - prezent ślubny

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And now listen to the recording. You will hear a radio interview with Mike Heart, a travel agent organizing “marriage-related” trips. The specialist holidays include such events as stag parties, honeymoons and weddings abroad. Listen carefully:

- We have with us today Mike Heart, a travel agent, whose company Worldwide Wedding Bells specializes in what he terms “marriage related” trips. Hello Mike, welcome to the show.
- Hi. Nice to be here.
- First of all then let me just ask you, what exactly “marriage related” trips means?
- We have basically three areas of business that we focus on – stag and hen weekends, weddings abroad, and honeymoons.
- And is it there a good market for your trips at the moment?
- There certainly is... things are developing year by year.
- How did you get started in the business?
- We were just an ordinary holiday company to begin with, doing the usual package holidays from brochures. Then several years ago we began to notice a lot of people coming in to ask about stag weekends. The idea started from there. Not too long after the trend for people getting married abroad also started to establish itself. And from there of course it’s a logical step to get into the honeymoon business too.
- And what about the hen weekends?
- It was mostly the men who started off with the pre-wedding weekends abroad... the groups of women is something of a recent phenomenon. I guess they saw what fun the men were having!
- What sort of destinations are popular then for the stag and hen weekends?
- You won’t be surprised to hear that the men and women like to go to the same places. At first, several years ago, there were a lot of trips being organized to places within the UK... Edinburgh and Manchester were favourites. Then, I think, Amsterdam and Dublin were the first destinations which people actually flew to. Nowadays it only really depends on the budget of those getting married. It’s not uncommon for people to go to Barcelona, Rome, or even Paris.
- And which is the most popular destination?
- Prague. Without a doubt. The beer and hotels and restaurants are cheap... the three key ingredients for a good stag weekend. And on top of that the city is a wonderful place.
- How about weddings then?
- The wedding market is a little more varied. People are looking for that something a bit special. Cyprus is popular, as are the Canary Islands. But increasingly people are tying the knot further afield... long haul destinations... in places such as the Caribbean and Thailand. And of course, there is a good market for trips to Las Vegas for Elvis style weddings.
- Tell me one thing... does the whole extended family fly out to these weddings?