



"Steve and I met for the first time briefly through work in 1997 in Sacramento, California," says Kirsten.

"In 2000, we both joined a cycling group at work and became friends through that. We didn't start dating until 2005, but once we did, we knew we were a perfect match. We feel very fortunate to have found each other, but we wish we hadn't taken so long to figure it out. We have so much fun together, and we never run out of things to talk about. It seemed natural that we should be together for the rest of our lives. Steve proposed to me in April 2006 on a rural hilltop on a weekend trip to see desert wildflowers bloom in southern California. It was perfect."

So how does a California couple find out about Gozo? Kirsten explains: "When we got engaged in 2006, we already had a trip to Europe

planned for 2007. I have never wanted a big wedding, so we thought it would be fun to get married on our vacation. When I started looking into the legalities of US citizens getting married abroad, that narrowed down the countries for us. Many countries have a much longer residency requirement than Malta. When I started investigating Malta, I read that Gozo was a much quieter, less populated island. That is definitely more our style since we love the outdoors and nature! So it was actually a pretty easy decision for us."

They organized the wedding entirely by email with Jacqui from Magic Moments, whom they found through her website. They started in the autumn of 2006, but most of the details were worked out in the 4-5 months preceding the wedding.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK CASSAR