

Questions to ask your Wedding Venue at your Site Visit

We've put together a suggested list of questions to ask your wedding venue before you put down a deposit. Keep in mind that not everything may apply to your venue or your situation, so you don't have to ask all of these questions - just the ones that are important to you. Lastly, be sure to get everything in writing in your final contract.

Facilities:

- How many people does the space accommodate?
- How long will I have use of the space? What time will my guests have to leave?
- How many other events can be booked on the same day?
- Is there on-site parking? What are the costs (if any)?
- Are there changing areas for the bride, groom, and/or wedding party?
- Are there elevators / special accommodations for disabled guests?
- Are tables, linens, chairs, plates, silverware and glassware included?
- Can we bring in our own decor? Are there any restrictions?
- When is the last possible date that we can make changes?
- If outdoors, what is the backup plan for rain or inclement weather?
- If the venue is at a hotel, when can we reserve a block of rooms for guests?

Costs:

- What is the rental fee and what's included in that price?
- Do costs vary depending on the month, day, or time of day?
- What's the scheduled payment plan? What forms of payment do you accept?
- Are there any service charges, gratuities, cleaning fees, or overtime charges?
- What's the cancellation policy?
- Is there a food & beverage minimum?
- What are the taxes and service charges?

Food & Beverage:

- Is there an in-house caterer? If not, are there any limitations on caterers we can use?
- What is the per-person cost for food and beverage?
- Is there a price difference between a buffet and a plated meal?
- Can we bring our own beer, wine, or hard liquor? Is there a corkage fee?
- Is a wedding cake provided? Is there a cake-cutting fee?
- Can you accommodate special dietary needs?
- Do you offer a tasting so we can choose our final menu? Is there a charge for this?

Logistics:

- Do you have a sound system and/or microphones?
- If outdoor, what are the electrical options?
- Are there any noise restrictions?

Vendors:

- Are there any limitations on working with outside vendors?
- Are there any restrictions for the photographer or videographer?
- Can the venue accommodate a DJ or live band?
- What time can my vendors begin setting up?