

V&A South
Kensington

Weddings at the V&A

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V&A

Weddings at the V&A

The V&A celebrates one of the most successful and enduring marriages in British history: the marriage between Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. The Museum stands as an incredible monument to dedication and love, not only between Victoria and Albert, but of their shared passion to bring art and design to all.

For many years we have been sharing this passion by hosting wedding receptions in our world class galleries, creating stunning and memorable experiences for our wonderful couples.

By holding your wedding celebration at the V&A you are directly supporting the Museum's fantastic research, our blockbuster exhibition programme, and helping us to keep admission free to all.

Hosting your wedding at the Victoria and Albert Museum means that you join the handful of couples that celebrate with us each year for a truly unique, intimate, and exclusive experience on your special day.

The dedicated Events team will talk you through how the evening will flow and explain all the options available to make your day personal to you.



The History of the Victoria and Albert Museum

The V&A is synonymous with the very finest art and design in the world and our incredible Grade I listed building is the perfect setting for your wedding celebrations. Built in 1857 to house many of the objects from the Great Exhibition, this building was known as the South Kensington Museum before officially becoming the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1899.

For the first time in the Museum's history, we are delighted to offer four amazing spaces within our galleries where you can now get married and host your Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony. We invite you to share your own love story with the V&A and create your own piece of history.

Be part of the V&A's history by being one of the select group of couples to get married in our beautiful galleries.



The Raphael Court

The Raphael Court is the jewel in our crown and the most prestigious space we offer for private hire. It houses some of the most important surviving examples of Renaissance art in the world, the seven Raphael Cartoons, dating back to 1516. In the majestic apse end of the gallery sits a gilded Spanish altarpiece which lends a striking backdrop to wedding and dinner celebrations. The Raphael Court is also our largest licensed space for marriage, accommodating up to 400 guests for a civil ceremony.

Capacity

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony

400 guests

Pre-dinner drinks

250 guests

Seated dinner

400 guests



Thomas Alexander Photography



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The Dome

The Dome is one of London's most elegant, iconic, and impressive settings for receptions, dinners, and dances. The centrepiece of this gallery is the beautiful glass Rotunda Chandelier created in 2001 by the world-renowned sculptor, Dale Chihuly. The soaring ceiling and classical architecture of the Dome, featuring grand marble pillars, creates a stunning and sophisticated backdrop to your reception, seated dinner, or dance floor.

Capacity

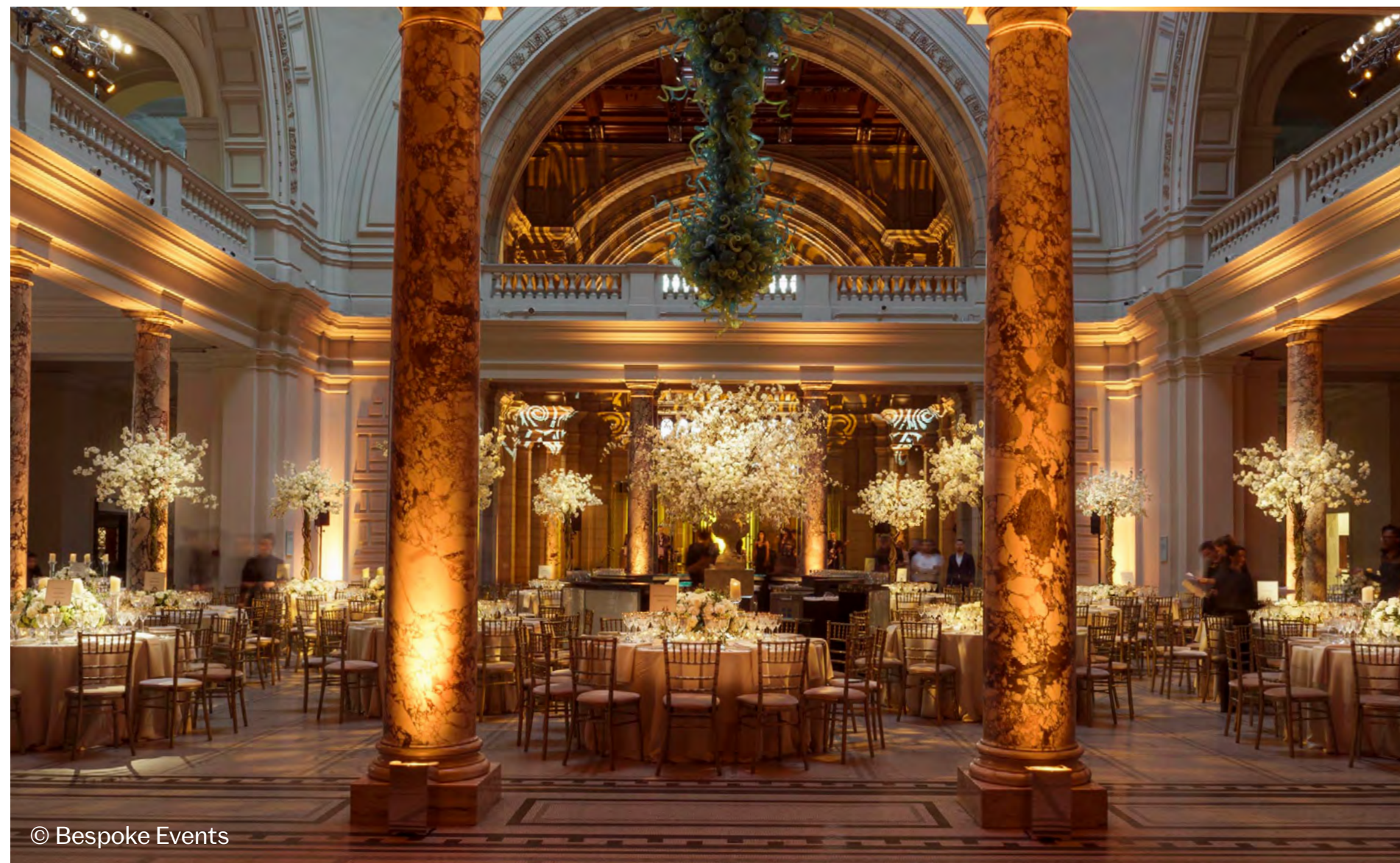
Pre-dinner drinks

400 guests

Seated dinner and dancing

250 guests

This space is not licensed for wedding ceremonies.



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© Joshua Tucker Photography

The John Madejski Garden

The John Madejski Garden is one of London's hidden treasures. Within this tranquil space there is a beautiful ellipse water feature with elegant fountains; evocative of an Italian piazza. Set within the heart of the Museum this concealed oasis is an amazing backdrop for pre-dinner drinks or a unique ceremony.

Capacity

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony

400 guests

Pre-dinner drinks

400 guests



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The Dorothy and Michael Hintze Sculpture Galleries

The Hintze Galleries display some of the V&A's finest sculpture, providing a stunning setting for receptions, pre-dinner drinks, and intimate dinners. Tall windows open out onto the John Madejski Garden, creating a beautiful vista for guests and joining these beautiful Galleries with the outdoor space.

Capacity

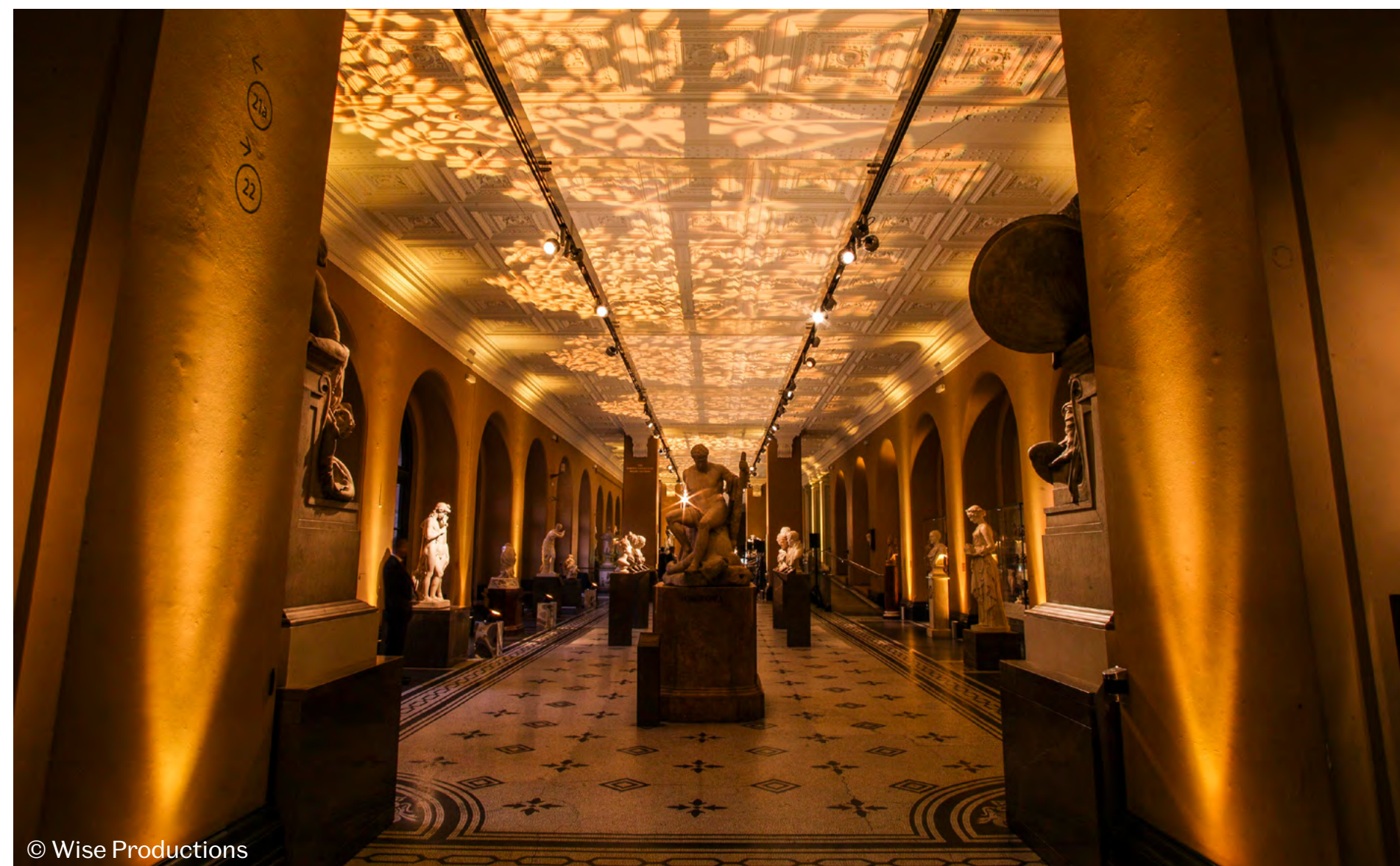
Pre-dinner drinks

250 guests

Seated dinner

100 guests

This space is not licensed for wedding ceremonies.



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The Edwin and Susan Davies Paintings Galleries

The V&A's Gallery 87 of the Paintings Galleries is on the first floor of the Museum and is an intimate and secluded space perfect for small, more exclusive weddings. Paintings by Constable, Turner and Gainsborough provide a wonderful backdrop for a ceremony.

Capacity

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony

80 guests

Pre-dinner drinks

80 guests

Seated dinner

80 guests



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© Tell Your Story Photography + Film

The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

One of our quirkier spaces, this incredible purpose-built lecture theatre is perfect for the more theatrical couple looking to make an impact. The theatre seats guests beneath its beautiful decorative ceiling with clear views of a semicircular stage for a dramatic and unique ceremony.

Capacity

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony

80 guests

Pre-dinner drinks

80 guests



© Victoria and Albert Museum



© Victoria and Albert Museum

Prices 2023/2024

| Event options | Standard guest timings | Maximum guest numbers | Pricing until 11pm departure time | Late night extension price until 2am latest |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Drinks reception in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paintings Galleries• Lydia & Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre Dinner in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hintze Sculpture Galleries | 6.45 – 11pm | 80 | £14,000 + VAT | £2,000 + VAT per hour |
| Drinks reception in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hintze Sculpture Galleries• John Madejski Garden Dinner and dancing in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dome | 6.45 – 11pm | 250 | £14,000 + VAT | |
| Drinks reception in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dome• John Madejski Garden Dinner in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raphael Court Dancing in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dome | 6.45 – 11pm | 400 | £16,000 + VAT | |
| The V&A celebrates creativity and inspiration and we want your special day to feel personal to you: the options above can be customised and our dedicated team can suggest how to make the most of the Museum to suit your vision. | | | | |
| Civil Marriage and Partnership Ceremonies <p>The V&A has four beautiful gallery spaces licensed for Civil Marriage and Partnership ceremonies: the Raphael Court, John Madejski Garden, Paintings Galleries or Lydia & Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre. A ceremony space may be added to a wedding reception for an additional hire fee of £2,000+VAT.</p> <p>For advice on which ceremony space is best suited for your wedding format and guest numbers, please contact us and we will be happy to advise.</p> | | | | |
| Catering costs are not included in the venue hire fees and should be obtained directly from the caterers listed on the Approved Suppliers list below. Supplier set up times are from 5pm in the Raphael Court and 5.45pm in all other spaces. | | | | |
| Ceremonies and drinks receptions in the John Madejski Garden are weather dependent and the V&A always includes a beautiful wet weather contingency space for wedding ceremonies and drinks receptions within our hire fees. | | | | |
| All bookings are subject to Terms and Conditions, available upon request from the Corporate & Private Events team. | | | | |





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Example running order for a ceremony followed by drinks & dinner dance for 250 guests:

- 17:45** Suppliers have access to the building for set up
- 18:15** Bride, Groom & Bridal party arrive to meet with registrar
- 18:45** Guests arrive for ceremony and make their way to the John Madejski Garden/ Raphael Court
- 19:00** Ceremony commences
- 19:30** Ceremony ends and drinks and canapés to be served in the John Madejski Garden or Hintze Sculpture Galleries as wet weather option
- 20:15** Call to dinner, guests make their way to the Dome for a seated dinner
- 20:30** Guests seated for dinner
- 21:30** Speeches
- 22:30** Cake cutting followed by first dance
Guests remain in the Dome for after dinner bar & dancing
- 01:00** Bar closes and music finishes
- 01:15** Guests head to the cloakroom to collect their belongings
- 01:30** Guests clear of the Museum.

Venue guidelines

Like many listed buildings, there are a few restrictions we have to take into account:

- Fireworks are not permitted in the John Madejski Garden.
- Smoking, naked flames, candles, candelabras, balloons, confetti (including dried and fresh loose lower petals), sparklers and dry ice are not permitted within the venue or garden.
- Due to the historic floors and collections, dark drinks or foods cannot be served during standing drinks receptions in some spaces, such as the Hintze Sculpture Gallery or John Madejski Garden.
- Dancing is only permitted in the Dome and a dance floor must be booked via the approved production company.
- The Bride and Groom are welcome to use the galleries for photos in the evening and we are happy to allow access to three galleries of your choice. If you wish to use more locations, there will be a small additional fee incurred which will be confirmed by your Event Manager.



© Nina Wernicke



© Tell Your Story Photography + Film



© Matt Chung



FAQs

Is the V&A licensed for Civil Ceremonies?

Yes, we have four beautiful gallery spaces licensed for Civil Marriage and Civil Partnership ceremonies. Please be aware that you must book your registrar directly via the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and this is not something the venue can do for you. We highly recommend securing your ceremony with them before booking the venue. They can be contacted via www.rbkc.gov.uk/registrars

Is the V&A available to hire for engagement parties, anniversaries and other celebrations?

Yes, the Museum can be hired to celebrate parties and anniversaries. The information in this brochure is relevant for all types of private celebrations so please do contact us for further information.

What is included in the venue hire fee?

The venue hire fee includes exclusive use of the agreed event areas, a dedicated Event Manager, security staff, cleaning staff, an electrician, a floor manager, and the John Madejski Garden. If you are hiring the V&A for a seated dinner, the pre-dinner drinks area and the John Madejski Garden are both included within the one fee and are not a separate cost.

The set-up time seems very short, how does that work?

We are open to the public until 5:45pm 7 days a week so we appreciate the turnaround from daytime museum to exclusive wedding venue can be daunting! However, we are very well practised at creating beautiful, memorable, and magical events in as little as 45 mins. This is down to using our Approved Suppliers such as caterers, florists, and production companies who know the building intimately and are equipped and experienced enough to deliver fabulous events in very short set up times. Please do have a look at our Wedding Showcase [film](#) to see how the Raphael Court can be transformed in under an hour.

Can we use our own suppliers?

As a Grade I listed building with priceless works on display and a short set-up time, you must work with our approved list of suppliers (listed below) for catering, production, flowers, and entertainment. By using our knowledgeable Approved Suppliers, we can ensure that not only are the Museum and its collections protected but that you will receive a high level of service due to their experience of working in our wonderful spaces. Whilst we do not specify which planners and photographers can work at the Museum, please see the recommended list for some suggestions. We do not specify which suppliers can work at the Museum for other wedding services such as wedding cakes or ceremony celebrants but we are happy to make suggestions on request.

Can we supply our own drinks?

You are welcome to provide your own drinks. We don't charge a corkage fee but your chosen caterer will charge an ancillary amount to chill, deliver, and serve the drinks so do check with each caterer regarding their policy.

Does the V&A do Micro Weddings?

Yes, the V&A does undertake micro Civil Marriage and Civil Partnership ceremonies and receptions. Please do contact us for further information and bespoke packages.

Can you recommend any wedding planners or wedding photographers?

Yes, if you would like to employ the services of a dedicated wedding planner to help pull the finer details together, we have a number of wedding planners we recommend who have extensive experience of delivering excellence at the V&A. We also have a number of wonderful wedding photographers who have captured the beauty of the V&A for our wedding clients. Please find our recommendations on the following page.

Recommended Wedding Planners

ARC Events
www.arc.events

Moriarty Events
www.moriartyevents.com

SW Events
www.swevents.uk

The Golborne Collection
www.golborne-events.co.uk

Recommended Wedding Photographers

Anthony Chok Photography
www.anthonychokphotography.com

Eye Jogia Photography
www.eyejogia.com

Joshua Tucker Photography
www.joshuatuckerphotography.com

Matt Chung Photography
mattchungphoto.com

Tell Your Story Photography + Film
www.tellyourstory.co.uk

Twobytwo Event Photography
www.twobytwo.co

Approved Suppliers

As a Grade I listed building and because of the works on display and the short set up time, you must work with our approved list of suppliers for catering, production, flowers and entertainment.

Catering

Alexander & Björck
020 3457 1700
parties@alexanderandbjorck.com
www.alexanderandbjorck.com

Alison Price
020 7840 7640
enquiries@alisonprice.co.uk
www.alisonprice.co.uk

Ben Tenenblat
020 8205 0463
info@ben-tenenblat.com
www.ben-tenenblat.com

Blue Strawberry
020 7733 3151
hello@bluestrawberry-tabletalk.co.uk
www.bluestrawberry.co.uk

By Word of Mouth Ltd
020 8871 9566
events@bywordofmouth.co.uk
www.bywordofmouth.co.uk

Caper And Berry
01483 427521
events@caperandberry.co.uk
www.caperandberry.co.uk

Dvash
020 8200 8111
events@dvash.co.uk
www.dvash.co.uk

Laguna
020 8579 9992
info@lagunarestaurant.com
www.lagunarestaurant.com

Last Supper Ltd
020 7378 0101
info@lastsupperltd.co.uk
www.lastsupperltd.co.uk

Lettice Events
020 7820 1161
info@letticeevents.com
www.letticeevents.com

Moving Venue
020 8691 6661
greatfood@movingvenue.com
www.movingvenue.com

Preeti Catering
020 8606 0303
info@preeticatering.co.uk
www.preeticatering.co.uk

Ragasaan
020 8839 0880
sales@ragasaan.com
www.ragasaan.com

Rhubarb
020 8812 3200
hello@rhubarb.co.uk
www.rhubarb.net

Rocket
020 7622 2320
parties@rocketfood.net
www.rocketfood.net

Zafferano
020 8905 9120
info@zafferano.co.uk
www.zafferano.co.uk

Production & Lighting

Bespoke Events London
020 8961 1510
studio@bespoke-london.co.uk
www.weddingsbybespoke.co.uk

Event Concept
020 7740 3988
info@eventconcept.co.uk
www.eventconcept.co.uk

Focus Productions
02085429221
info@focus.productions
https://focus.productions

White Light Limited
020 8254 4800
production@whitelight.ltd.uk
www.whitelight.ltd.uk

Wise Productions
020 8991 6922
events@wiseproductions.co.uk
www.wiseproductions.co.uk

Flowers

Fiona Fleur
077 2799 9232
studio@fionafleur.com
www.fionafleur.com

Larry Walshe Studios
020 8540 5305
thestudio@larrywalshe.com
www.larrywalshe.com

Lavender Green Flowers
020 7127 5303
info@lavendergreen.co.uk
www.lavendergreen.co.uk

Pinstripes & Peonies
020 7720 1245
flowers@pinstripesandpeonies.com
www.pinstripesandpeonies.com

Shane Connolly & Company
020 8964 4398
events@shaneconnolly.co.uk
www.shaneconnolly.co.uk

Simon J Lycett Ltd
020 7277 3322
enquiries@simonlycett.co.uk
www.simonlycett.co.uk

Veevers Carter
020 7237 8800
info@veeverscarter.com
www.veeverscarter.com

Wild At Heart
020 7229 1174
events@wildatheart.com
www.wildatheart.com

Entertainment

Euphonica
020 3397 9018
hello@euphonica.com
www.euphonica.com

Prelude
020 8660 6647
sales@preludeentertainment.co.uk
www.preludeentertainment.co.uk

Sternberg Clarke
020 8877 1102
sales@sternbergclarke.co.uk
www.sternbergclarke.co.uk

Velvet Entertainment
020 8947 8245
info@velvetentertainment.net
www.velvetentertainment.net

Sound

Dobson Sound Productions
020 8545 0202
enquiries@dobsonsound.co.uk
www.dobsonsound.co.uk

Delta Live
020 8339 3800
enquiries@deltalive.com
www.deltalive.com

Auction Technology

Givergy Events
020 7524 7813
john@givergy-events.co.uk
www.givergy-events.co.uk

Contact

We would love to talk to you about holding your event at the Victoria and Albert Museum, please do contact the Corporate and Private Events team for further information.

Email corporateevents@vam.ac.uk
Tel +44 (0)20 7942 2888
Instagram @vamevents



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