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.

Host 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 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony</td>
<td>400 guests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-dinner drinks</td>
<td>250 guests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seated dinner</td>
<td>400 guests</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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.
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
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.

© Wise Productions
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
90 guests
The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

One of our quirkiest 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
Prices 2023/2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event options</th>
<th>Standard guest timings</th>
<th>Maximum guest numbers</th>
<th>Pricing until 11pm departure time</th>
<th>Late night extension price until 2am latest</th>
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<tr>
<td>Drinks reception in one of:</td>
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<td>• Paintings Galleries</td>
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<td>• Lydia &amp; Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre</td>
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<td><strong>£14,000 + VAT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• John Madejski Garden</td>
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<td><strong>£14,000 + VAT</strong></td>
<td><strong>£2,000 + VAT</strong> per hour</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dinner and dancing in:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner and dancing in:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Raphael Court</td>
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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

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.

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.

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.
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.
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](http://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 video 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 Suppliers

**Catering**

- **Alexander & Björck**
  - Phone: 020 3457 1700
  - Email: parties@alexanderandbjorck.com
  - Website: www.alexanderandbjorck.com

- **Alison Price**
  - Phone: 020 7840 7640
  - Email: enquiries@alisonprice.co.uk
  - Website: www.alisonprice.co.uk

- **Ben Tnenblat**
  - Phone: 020 8205 0463
  - Email: info@ben-tenenblat.com
  - Website: www.ben-tenenblat.com

- **Blue Strawberry**
  - Phone: 020 7733 3151
  - Email: hello@bluestrawberry-tabletalk.co.uk
  - Website: www.bluestrawberry.co.uk

- **By Word of Mouth Ltd**
  - Phone: 020 8871 9566
  - Email: events@bywordofmouth.co.uk
  - Website: www.bywordofmouth.co.uk

- **Caper And Berry**
  - Phone: 01483 427521
  - Email: events@caperandberry.co.uk
  - Website: www.caperandberry.co.uk

- **Dvash**
  - Phone: 020 8200 8111
  - Email: events@dvash.co.uk
  - Website: www.dvash.co.uk

- **Laguna**
  - Phone: 020 8579 9992
  - Email: info@lagunarestaurant.com
  - Website: www.lagunarestaurant.com

- **Last Supper Ltd**
  - Phone: 020 7378 0001
  - Email: info@lastsupperltd.co.uk
  - Website: www.lastsupperltd.co.uk

- **Lettice Events**
  - Phone: 020 7820 1161
  - Email: info@letticeevents.com
  - Website: www.letticeevents.com

- **Moving Venue**
  - Phone: 020 8691 6661
  - Email: greatfood@movingvenue.com
  - Website: www.movingvenue.com

- **Presti Catering**
  - Phone: 020 8696 0303
  - Email: info@presticatering.co.uk
  - Website: www.presticatering.co.uk

- **Ragasaaen**
  - Phone: 020 8339 0680
  - Email: sales@ragasaaen.com
  - Website: www.ragasaaen.com

- **Rhubarb**
  - Phone: 020 8882 3200
  - Email: hello@rhubarb.co.uk
  - Website: www.rhubarb.co.uk

- **Rocket**
  - Phone: 020 7622 2320
  - Email: parties@rocketfood.net
  - Website: www.rocketfood.net

- **Zafferno**
  - Phone: 020 8905 9120
  - Email: info@zafferno.co.uk
  - Website: www.zafferno.co.uk

**Production & Lighting**

- **Bespoke Events London**
  - Phone: 020 8901 1110
  - Email: studios@bespoke-london.co.uk
  - Website: www.bespoke-london.co.uk

- **Event Concept**
  - Phone: 020 7740 3988
  - Email: info@eventconcept.co.uk
  - Website: www.eventconcept.co.uk

- **Focus Productions**
  - Phone: 020 8542 9221
  - Email: info@focus.productions
  - Website: https://focus.productions

- **White Light Limited**
  - Phone: 020 8254 4800
  - Email: production@whitelight.ltd.uk
  - Website: www.whitelight.ltd.uk

- **Wise Productions**
  - Phone: 020 8991 6922
  - Email: events@wiseproductions.co.uk
  - Website: www.wiseproductions.co.uk

**Flowers**

- **Fiona Fleur**
  - Phone: 077 2799 9232
  - Email: studio@fionafleur.com
  - Website: www.fionafleur.com

- **Larry Walshe Studios**
  - Phone: 020 8540 5305
  - Email: thestudio@larrywalshe.com
  - Website: www.larrywalshe.com

- **Lavender Green Flowers**
  - Phone: 020 7127 5303
  - Email: info@lavendergreen.co.uk
  - Website: www.lavendergreen.co.uk

- **Pinstripes & Peonies**
  - Phone: 020 7720 1245
  - Email: flowers@pinstripesandpeonies.com
  - Website: www.pinstripesandpeonies.com

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.

**Approved Suppliers**

**Recommended Wedding Planners**

- **ARC Events**
  - Website: www.arc.events

- **Moriarty Events**
  - Website: www.moriartyevents.com

- **The Golborne Collection**
  - Website: www.golborne-events.co.uk

- **Recommended Wedding Photographers**

  - **Anthony Chok Photography**
    - Website: www.anthonychokphotography.com

  - **Eye Jogia Photography**
    - Website: www.eyejogia.com

  - **Joshua Tucker Photography**
    - Website: www.joshuatuckersphotography.com

  - **Matt Chung Photography**
    - Website: www.mattchungphoto.com

  - **Tell Your Story Photography + Film**
    - Website: www.tellyourstory.co.uk

  - **Twobytwo Event Photography**
    - Website: www.twobytwo.co.uk

- **Shane Connolly & Company**
  - Phone: 020 8955 4398
  - Email: events@shaneconnolly.co.uk
  - Website: www.shaneconnolly.co.uk

- **Simon J Lyckett Ltd**
  - Phone: 020 7277 3322
  - Email: enquiries@simonjlyckett.co.uk
  - Website: www.simonjlyckett.co.uk

- **Veevers Carter**
  - Phone: 020 7237 8800
  - Email: info@veeverscarter.com
  - Website: www.veeverscarter.co.uk

- **Wild At Heart**
  - Phone: 020 7239 1174
  - Email: events@wildatheart.com
  - Website: www.wildatheart.com

**Entertainment**

- **Euphonica**
  - Phone: 020 3297 9088
  - Email: hello@euphonica.com
  - Website: www.euphonica.com

- **Prelude**
  - Phone: 020 8660 6647
  - Email: sales@preludeentertainment.co.uk
  - Website: www.preludeentertainment.co.uk

- **Sternberg Clarke**
  - Phone: 020 8977 1152
  - Email: sales@sternbergclarke.co.uk
  - Website: www.sternbergclarke.co.uk

- **Velvet Entertainment**
  - Phone: 020 8947 8265
  - Email: info@velvetentertainment.net
  - Website: www.velvetentertainment.net

**Sound**

- **Dobson Sound Productions**
  - Phone: 020 8545 0202
  - Email: enquiries@dobsonsound.co.uk
  - Website: www.dobsonsound.co.uk

- **Delta Live**
  - Phone: 020 8339 3800
  - Email: enquiries@deltalive.com
  - Website: www.deltalive.com

**Auction Technology**

- **Givergy Events**
  - Phone: 020 7524 7813
  - Email: john@givergy-events.co.uk
  - Website: 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
@vamevents

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