

Young V&A

Events
Brochure



V&A

Young V&A

Young V&A has a rich history that dates back to its opening in 1872 as East London's first museum. Over 150 years later, the Grade II* listed site has been transformed into the Young V&A, a vibrant national museum dedicated to nurturing creativity in children and young teenagers. In recognition of its innovative approach, Young V&A was awarded the prestigious Art Fund Museum of the Year 2024, the largest museum prize in the world.

Hiring Young V&A is a fantastic opportunity to support the work the Museum is doing with local communities, and to champion, nurture, and inspire the innovators of tomorrow.

The Museum offers an incredible event spaces in amongst the fascinating collection in an easily-accessible location just moments from the City, one of London's most exciting and vibrant areas.

In this brochure, you will find our unique spaces available to hire, for events large or small. From sleek corporate dinners to exclusive private parties, corporate family mornings to personalised wedding receptions, Young V&A has the perfect space for every occasion.

The V&A is now a multi-site Museum made up of Young V&A, V&A South Kensington, V&A East Storehouse and V&A East Museum. For event brochures and details of our family of sites, please contact the V&A Events team.

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McLain Hall

The McLain Hall is at the heart of the Museum, both literally and historically, featuring the original mosaic marble floor that was laid in 1872 when the Museum was first opened. Lit by magnificent half-moon windows, the McLain Hall features wrought iron architecture and lofty ceilings that create an open, expansive space. At one end, the dramatic spiral staircase provides both a beautiful vista and a central location for wedding entrances, musical performances and speeches.

With a large in-built bar, the McLain Hall is a fabulous spot for a drinks reception, dancefloor party, or bar/bat mitzvah. For more formal seated dinners or wedding receptions, guests can dine beneath the sweeping ceiling and overhead balconies.

Capacities

600 standing / 300 seated

Prices

Breakfasts starting from £5,000 + VAT

Evenings starting from £8,500 + VAT



© Matt Chung Photography



© Chloe Winstanley Photography



Portal Trust Community Room

The Portal Trust Community Room is a modern, blank canvas for events. The space is ideal for arrival receptions prior to dinner in the McLain Hall, or as a breakout space or green room. The open plan room also has an in-built projector which can be used for evening presentations and theatre style talks.

Capacities

300 standing / 150 seated

Prices

Breakfasts starting from £5,000 + VAT

Evenings starting from £8,500 + VAT



Weddings at Young 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. V&A Museums stand as incredible monuments of dedication and love, not only between Victoria and Albert, but of their shared passion to bring art and design to all.

Experiencing a museum out-of-hours is a special and exclusive experience that helps set your wedding apart. We are so lucky to host wedding receptions in our incredible galleries, creating stunning, unique, and memorable experiences for our wonderful couples in a premium heritage venue.

By holding your wedding celebration at Young V&A you are directly supporting the Museum's efforts to support young people, our exciting exhibition programme, and helping us to keep admission free to all.

To explore how you can customise your wedding for a truly memorable and unique day, our dedicated Events team will guide you through the process, alongside your fabulous suppliers and planners, to help you make treasured memories of your dream day.





“It has truly been a pleasure to work with you over these last few months, and you helped make our day incredibly special. We couldn’t be happier about it, all our friends and family had a wonderful time”



***“Everything was brilliant and we had the time of our lives!
The team were absolutely fab
Everything looked so amazing”***

Bar and Bat Mitzvahs

Young V&A is the UK's premier national museum designed by, and for, young people: the Museum is truly child-centred and led in its practice. The celebration of milestones forms an important part of every child's development and we have the privilege of celebrating with young people as they mark their bar and bat mitzvahs in a space designed specifically for them.

Bar and bat mitzvahs symbolise the coming-of-age for young people and part of the Young V&A mission is to prepare them for this journey in a warm, inviting, accessible space for families at the centre of a vibrant community. By holding your family celebrations with us, you are helping to support our outreach and community work with children in the capital, ensuring that the Museum remains free to access for all.

Our event spaces are flexible and customisable, offering a unique way to enjoy the Museum after hours, including the option to open surrounding galleries as part of your event for a particularly memorable experience.

Our dedicated Events team will guide you through the planning process to create a celebration that engages your younger guests with custom Museum experiences and entertains your adult guests with exceptional food and decor.



Images © Joshua Tucker Photography



Why not learn to yo-yo, get crafting, stage a flash mob or take a bow on our in-built Stage? Young V&A and our wonderful Approved Suppliers have so many fun options to keep young people and adults alike entertained at bar and bat mitzvahs



Family Mornings

Family Mornings are a unique opportunity to explore the Museum before it opens to the public, a chance to run about the galleries and start the day with play. Your guests and their families will have access to all the Museum's interactive galleries privately before they open to the public, with the option to add catering in the McLain Hall to keep little kids (and big kids) fuelled.

The Play, Imagine and Design galleries cater to all age groups from babies to young teens. Booking a family morning unlocks a world of adventure for the children of your clients, colleagues or friends to enjoy: from marble runs to monsters to dens and dolls, the collection of 2,000 objects has something for everyone (including some nostalgic memories for adults!)

Family Morning bookings also include private access to our brilliant exhibitions, such as our current blockbuster, *Inside Aardman: Wallace & Gromit and Friends*.



Exhibitions

Private Views of our exhibitions are an exclusive opportunity for your guests to escape the daytime crowds and take in our critically acclaimed exhibitions. Past exhibitions include the critically acclaimed *Japan: Myth to Manga* and the hit *Making Egypt*.

For 2026, we are delighted to launch a new exhibition which celebrates the iconic characters of Aardman animation studios: Wallace & Gromit, Morph, Shaun the Sheep and Chicken Run all feature!

Hosting your event at Young V&A means you can add a gallery or exhibition as an extra experience for your guests, offering the opportunity to take in the fun and nostalgic exhibits away from the day time crowds - they can even inspire your event theme!

‘Inside Aardman: Wallace & Gromit and Friends’ showcases over 150 items, allowing guests to peak behind the scenes of the animation process, unpacking the making of some of the most loved characters of all time. Book a private view of this ‘cracking’ exhibition alongside your event and make it a ‘Grand Day Out’ for all of your guests!

Private Views can take place in the morning before the Museum opens to the public, or after our doors have closed in the evening. It is also possible to hire one of our expert guides to give an informative introduction to guests, or lead private tours.

For more information about arranging a Private View of a gallery or exhibition, or to add this to your venue hire, please contact the Corporate Events team.

To view more information about upcoming exhibitions, please visit www.vam.ac.uk/whatson



Corporate Partnerships

Corporate Membership at the V&A is an opportunity to demonstrate your support for the arts and associate with one of the most recognisable and admired international brands. Corporate support is vital to ensuring that the V&A continues to grow and thrive. It is through the generosity of our supporters that we can sustain and develop the V&A's leadership in the fields of art and design.

Corporate Membership offers bespoke and unforgettable experiences for your employees and clients: from complimentary and significantly discounted event hire opportunities and private out-of-hours tours of our exhibitions and collections with a curator, to invitations to our exclusive private views and unlimited access to our ticketed exhibitions.

For more information about our Corporate Membership programme and available packages, please contact:

Lucia Seghezzi
Partnerships Manager
020 3949 4536
corporate_partnerships@vam.ac.uk



FAQs

Is Young 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, and a floor manager. If you are hiring Young V&A for a seated dinner, the pre-dinner drinks area is included within the one fee and is not a separate cost.

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

We are open to the public 7 days a week until 5:45pm so we appreciate the turnaround from daytime museum to exclusive event venue can be daunting! However, we are very well-practised at creating beautiful, memorable and magical events in as little as 45 minutes. This is down to using 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.

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 is 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 have specify which planners and photographers can work at the Museum, do contact us for some suggestions.

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.

Is Young V&A licensed for civil ceremonies?

Yes, Young V&A is licensed for Civil Marriage and Civil Partnership ceremonies. Please be aware that you must book your registrar directly via the Borough of Tower Hamlets 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.towerhamlets.gov.uk

Can you recommend any planners or 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 planners we recommend, who have extensive experience of delivering excellence at V&A sites. We also have a number of wonderful photographers and videographers who have captured the beauty of the V&A for our clients and have lots of brilliant contacts if you would like recommendations.



Approved Suppliers

As a Grade II 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, floristry, and entertainment. If you cannot find what you need from our list below, please ask your V&A Event Manager as there are some additional suppliers who work across V&A sister sites who may be able to support you on a case-by-case basis.

CATERERS

Ben Tenenblat info@ben-tenenblat.com 0208 205 0463 @bentenblat	Laguna info@lagunarestaurant.com 0208 5799 9992 @Laguna_UK	Zafferano info@zafferano.co.uk 020 8905 9120 @zafferanoparty
Boulevard Events enquiries@boulevardevents.co.uk 0208 533 3341 @boulevardevents	Lettice Events events@letticeevents.com 0207 820 1161 @letticeevents	
Dinner Ladies stiritup@dinnerladiesltd.com 020 3793 4126 @dinner_ladies	Social Pantry Ltd enquiries@socialpantry.co.uk 020 8871 1949 @social_pantry	

PRODUCTION & DÉCOR

Ash Event Productions info@asheventproductions.co.uk 01634 306180 @asheventproductions	Event Concept info@eventconcept.co.uk 020 7740 3988 @eventconcept	
Equip venues@equip.london 0207 7334 488 @equipevents	Storm Ltd hire@stormltd.co.uk 01483 757 211 @storm_ltd	

FLORISTS

Flowerbx events@flowerbx.com 0208 1066 919 @theflowerbx	Flower & Press info@flowerandpress @flowerandpress	Pinstripes & Peonies flowers@pinstripesandpeonies.com 020 7720 1245 @pandpaflowers
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ENTERTAINMENT

Euphonica hello@euphonica.com 020 3397 9018 @euphonicalive	Sternberg Clarke sales@sternbergclarke.co.uk 020 8877 1102 @sternbergclarke	
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Recommended Suppliers

We do not have a fixed list of suppliers for the service types noted below so you are more than welcome to source your own for these areas of service. However, here are some suppliers that we strongly recommend from our experience.

PHOTO AND VIDEO

Chloe Lowe Photography
hello@chloelowe.com
@chloelowephoto

Harry Pseftoudis
07880 545155
info@harrypseftoudis.com
@harrypsef

Matt Chung Photography
mattchungphoto@gmail.com
07940 278 679
@mattchungphoto

The Makers Film + Photography
valentin@themakers.co.uk
07446910509
@themakers.uk

twobytwo Event Photography
noah@twobytwo.co
0773 842 7713
@noahtwobytwo

EVENT AND WEDDING PLANNERS

ARC Events
hello@arc.events
0208 947 8245
@arc.events_

Moriarty Events
info@moriartyevents.com
020 3239 6025
@moriartyevents

Mulani
hello@mulani.co.uk
020 7127 8483
@mulanievents

Golborne Collection
natalia@thegolbornecollection.com
07899 935 776
@thegolbornecollection

FURNITURE HIRE

Velvet Living
info@velvetliving.co.uk
0208 947 8245
@velvetliving





are you going to get there?

DESIGN

Wickup

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Contact

We would love to talk to you about holding your event at Young V&A Kensington, please do contact the Corporate and Private Events team for further information about hosting your event here or at any of our family of Museums.

Email corporateevents@vam.ac.uk

Tel +44 (0)20 7942 2888

@vamevents

V&A South
Kensington

Young V&A

V&A East
Storehouse

V&A East
Museum



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V&A