

WEDDINGS AT
Avoncroft 

Unique. Bespoke. Original.





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CONGRATULATIONS

Thank you for considering Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings for your wedding. With its character-filled grounds, historic buildings and views over the beautiful Worcestershire scenery, the Museum is a truly unique and romantic setting for your wedding.

Here at the Museum we have been providing exceptional experiences for our couples for over twenty years. We pride ourselves on our friendly and customer-focused approach and aim to ensure that your day is a truly memorable experience for you and your guests.

Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings is conveniently situated close to the M5 and M42 motorways, approximately two miles south of Bromsgrove. There is a wide range of hotels in the area and the Museum enjoys excellent transport links.

“

Thank you so much for making our wedding day so perfect. It was completely stress free dealing with you and the whole team at Avoncroft have been amazing. For most of our guests it was the first time at Avoncroft - but I think many will be back in future!

— Rachel & Andy



OUR WORK

Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings, England's first open-air museum, is home to over 30 exhibits. These are all architecturally important buildings and structures, which have been rescued from demolition or destruction and carefully re-constructed on our site.

Avoncroft Museum is an independent museum and a registered charity (no. 241644). Most of its projects are funded by generous donations, legacies and grants.

It currently costs around £15,000 a month to ensure the Museum opens to the public and remains an exciting venue for family days out and group visits, as well as a place for learning for hundreds of school children and students.

By choosing us as the venue for your special day you are helping to ensure that the Museum can continue to carry out its work of rescue and restoration - preserving and conserving historic buildings for future generations.

NEW GUESTEN HALL

New Guesten Hall, located near to the Museum entrance, is licensed for civil ceremonies. The Hall's fourteenth-century roof was originally on Worcester Cathedral's reception hall for guests, boasting beautifully detailed medieval carpentry. It is a large and flexible space which can accommodate up to 120 seated guests for your ceremony and wedding breakfast, and up to 180 guests for a non-seated evening reception.

If you would prefer a smaller and more intimate wedding venue, the Weaver Gallery, located above the main hall, can comfortably hold up to 40 guests for your civil ceremony.

To ensure that you are able to hold your ceremony on your chosen date, please book your registrar well in advance. The public contact number for Worcestershire Registration Service is **01905 768 181**.

THE LONG ROOM & EDWARDIAN TEA ROOM

Should you wish for some additional space, or for a smaller reception venue, the Long Room is available for hire for £45 per hour (VAT is applicable with the Guesten Afternoon Tea package). The space holds 30 people seated and up to 50 people unseated. Please note that this room is only accessible via stairs.

Additionally, our Edwardian Tea Room is available to hire outside of Museum opening hours, and provides a calm and relaxing space for guests who may wish to take a break from the party. Exclusive hire of the Edwardian Tea Room is priced at £40 per hour (+VAT) and includes a member of staff to serve your guests.





THE MISSION CHURCH

The Mission Church, an authentic Victorian 'tin chapel', located near to New Guesten Hall is available to hire for religious blessings and vow renewal ceremonies (these cannot take place in New Guesten Hall). It was originally located at Bringsty Common, Herefordshire.

The church has a charmingly simple wooden interior, which you are welcome to decorate to complement your colour scheme, and can seat up to 90 guests.

The church is part of the Parish of Stoke Prior, Wychbold and Upton Warren. Please contact Angela Kovacevic on **01527 861 247** to arrange for a member of the local clergy to perform your blessing.



“

Thank you all for helping to bring our big day to life, it was perfect and we'll never forget it!

— Nicky & Phil

THE MUSEUM GROUNDS

The cost of Wedding hire includes Museum admission for all your guests on the day of your wedding, along with permission to take your wedding photographs in the Museum grounds and exhibits.

Our historic buildings and the surrounding countryside provide beautiful backdrops for your wedding photographs. The Danzey Green Windmill, Town House and National Telephone Kiosk Collection have been particular favourites with couples who married at Avoncroft Museum.

Should you wish to have more time to explore the Museum grounds and exhibits, extended access to most of our historic buildings is available from April to September between 5.00pm and 7.00pm on the day of your wedding, priced at £150 (+VAT). Access to the Danzey Green Windmill can be arranged in addition to the other buildings, subject to availability, and is priced at £50 (+VAT).



“

Thank you so much for everything that you did in arranging our wedding and being so accommodating. The day was perfect and all the guests loved the venue and the jousting!

— *Laura & Tom*



“

What a fantastic venue Avoncroft is. It was perfect for all ages and we had a brilliant night... the approved caterers and bar were fantastic too.

— Juliet

BAR

Our specialist bar provider, Bars on the Run, will set up the bar in advance and open the bar at a time of your choosing after your ceremony. Their staff can serve your drinks at table during the meal, from the bar during the reception, and throughout the evening. Please note that the bar will close at 11.00pm.

Bars on the Run offer an extensive bar menu and can even create bespoke cocktails in honour of the occasion. For further information please contact Ros Hasbury on **01905 640 227** or email info@barsontherun.com.

CATERING

We offer a wide selection of approved caterers for you to choose from, allowing you the flexibility to put together a wedding menu unique to you.

Our caterers are adaptable and experienced, and will help you to create the menu that best suits your special day.

They have options to suit every occasion and budget, whether you would like a seated three-course meal, Afternoon Tea, a buffet, barbecue, or even toasties and crepes.

Please get in touch with our team to discuss the full range of options, by calling **01527 831 363** or emailing us at **bookings@avoncroft.org.uk**



“

Thank you so much for such a wonderful day, it couldn't have been more perfect! All the staff were amazing, so friendly and professional! The hall looked absolutely beautiful as well! Thank you so much for all of your help in the lead up to the big day it's been brilliant!

— Alice & Michael





ENTERTAINMENT

You are free to choose your own entertainment for your guests, from a DJ to a live band, or even a ceilidh. Our licence allows music to be played until 11.30pm. We are able to offer a very limited number of late licences each year, so please get in touch with our team to discuss this in greater detail.

If you are looking for something a little bit different, why not entertain your guests with a train ride while you have your wedding photographs taken in the Museum grounds. The miniature train can be booked exclusively for your wedding guests. For prices and to book, please call Janet Lamb from the Bromsgrove Society of Model Engineers on: **01905 775 797**.

Do you have a sweet tooth? We have a vintage-style Ice-cream Tricycle which is available for hire. A member of Museum staff will serve your guests delicious ice-creams and sorbet during your reception. Prices start from £237.50 (+VAT) for up to 60 guests, please ask a member of staff for more details.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Impress your guests with Avoncroft Museum miniature bricks, priced at £1.25 each (+VAT), a favour they can keep forever! Perhaps you might wish to use them for your place settings (labelling service not included).

Alternatively, give your guests a token of luck and love with our hand-forged iron hearts, made here in the Museum's forge, priced at £3.00 each (+VAT).

There is also a wide range of gifts, vouchers, souvenirs and postcards available from the Avoncroft Museum shop. We have many options for favours that are a little bit different, just like your venue!



“

A huge “thank you” for all your support and attention to detail that helped Saturday to go off so well. We all had an amazing day. Many of our guests had not been to Avoncroft before and they were so complimentary about the venue, facilities and the train ride that we provided. It all meant that Beth and James had a wedding day to remember... and of course the sun shone!

— Hayley





THE
SIMPLY GUESTEN
WEDDING

If you would prefer to coordinate the arrangements yourself, we offer the “Simply Guesten Wedding” which includes:

- *Use of the New Guesten Hall*
- *Chairs*
- *Tables*
- *Access to set up beforehand and collect belongings afterwards*
- *Free entry to the Museum*
- *Free car parking*



THE GUESTEN AFTERNOON TEA PACKAGE

If you would prefer us to organise things for you, we offer the “Guesten Afternoon Tea” package, which leaves you more time to focus on the other details of your day.

The “Guesten Afternoon Tea” package includes:

- *Use of the New Guesten Hall*
- *Ivory chair covers with your choice of coloured sash*
- *Ivory table linen to dress our circular tables, each seating 10 guests*
- *Afternoon Tea served in pretty mismatched china:*
 - *Pots of award-winning loose-leaf tea*
 - *Delicate sandwiches, homemade cakes and traditional savoury and sweet scones all served on vintage cake stands*
- *A choice of our selected floral table centres, with fresh flowers to co-ordinate with your colour scheme*
- *Hire of our china tea service and cake stands, cutlery and stylish bunting*
- *Glass of sparkling wine, served in a vintage-style champagne saucer*
- *Bar hire with a range of alcoholic drinks*
- *Use of the beautiful Museum grounds for photographs*
- *Free parking*



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Accessibility

The main part of the New Guesten Hall is fully accessible, however there is no lift access to the Weaver Gallery. There are disabled car parking facilities close to the Museum entrance. Vehicle access can be made available to the front of the New Guesten Hall. If your guests have other access needs, please speak to a member of Museum staff and we will do all we can to help.

Car Parking

There is ample free car parking space in the main Museum car park. Guests are welcome to leave cars overnight after the event. However, the Museum does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to vehicles whilst parked in the Museum car park. The Museum car park is locked following the end of your function, re-opening at approximately 9.00am the next day.

Toilet Facilities

Separate ladies' and gentlemen's toilets are available within the New Guesten Hall, including a facility for disabled guests and baby changing facilities.

Marquees

You may hire a marquee in order to provide an additional dance floor, or more reception space, for which a ground rent fee is payable to Avoncroft Museum. Please contact us for more details.

Equipment

Additional equipment is available for you to use in the Hall, such as a CD player, microphone, digital projector and screen, easel, coat rail, high chairs and stage. Please contact us for more details and current hire charges.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Here are some answers to the questions we are most often asked. If you would like any further information, or can't find the answer to your question here, please get in touch with our team by calling **01527 831 363** or emailing us at **bookings@avoncroft.org.uk**.

Do I have to use your bar supplier and caterers?

Yes. We offer a choice of excellent caterers who are flexible in approach and will be happy to discuss your needs with you. Similarly, our bar company are happy to accommodate requests, and they are inexpensive to hire, charging pub prices for their drinks.

Can we provide our own drinks?

If you select the "Simply Guesten" package you may provide up to 5 drinks per person yourselves: two welcome drinks, two glasses of wine (or an alternative) during the wedding breakfast, and a toast drink. Bars on the Run will be happy to provide glass hire and serve this alcohol to you. This option is not available with the "Guesten Afternoon Tea" package.

Who will be around on the day?

For civil ceremonies, there will always be an appointed member of Avoncroft staff to assist the registrars. For receptions, you will be looked after by the bar company and/or the approved caterer chosen, and they will also be responsible for locking up afterwards.

What do I need to do to make the day run smoothly?

You may wish to appoint somebody within the party who acts as a main point of contact on the day for yourselves or your suppliers. Similarly, you might like to distribute tasks to your guests, such as operating the CD player during the ceremony.

How does the room get turned around between a ceremony and reception?

Your chosen approved caterer will set the room up and lay the tables for your reception.

How big is New Guesten Hall?

In total, New Guesten Hall measures 20m x 10m. The foyer and balcony are 4m x 10m. The space of the Hall excluding the foyer is 16m x 10m.

Is New Guesten Hall heated?

The Guesten Hall has superb under-floor heating.

Can we have fireworks?

Unfortunately, we cannot allow fireworks or fire lanterns to be set off on site owing to fire risk (many of our historic buildings are timber-framed).

Are we allowed to use candles and/or confetti?

Within New Guesten Hall we allow candles and tea lights to be used as long as they are in a container such as a hurricane vase that is taller than the flame itself. You may use confetti as long as it is biodegradable. If you use confetti inside the hall we would ask you to clear it up the following morning.

What are the rules on smoking on site?

We ask that while the Museum is open, all smoking takes place on the Museum car park. Once the Museum is closed to the public, smoking is allowed at the front of the Guesten Hall. We ask that smokers place their cigarette butts into the sand bins provided.

Can we have a band or our own choice of DJ?

You can have a band or DJ for your evening reception. If required, there is a stage available you can hire (£100.00+VAT), which is 6m x 3m at full size or can be made smaller, 4m x 2m.

All electrical equipment needs to have passed Portable Appliance Tests (PAT) and copies of the certificates provided to us along with a copy of your band or DJ's public liability insurance.



THE FINE PRINT

All bookings made by the Client are subject to these Terms and Conditions.

Client: means any person booking the services of Avoncroft Museum.

Museum: means Avoncroft Museum.

Booking

Once a provisional booking has been made it will be held for two weeks. A booking is deemed to be provisional until the signed copy of the agreement is received, together with the 25% required deposit.

Prices and Payment

Payment can be made by credit card or BACS payment. Cheques are made payable to 'Avoncroft Enterprises'. Fees are determined on the basis of an agreement between Avoncroft Museum and the Client to use the rooms for a set time. We reserve the right to make an additional charge in the event of any variation to this time.

The balance of the booking charges are payable 30 days prior to the event, as will a £400 returnable deposit for the New Guesten Hall. This deposit is for:

- any damage that may occur during the function, either to the function room or any part of the Museum buildings and site - the room not being left in a reasonable state
- balloons being let into the roof space of the New Guesten Hall
- any decorations being stapled, pinned or attached to the New Guesten Hall
- any additional costs incurred as a consequence of the function

Avoncroft reserves the right to withhold that deposit (or any part of it) if we believe any of the terms and conditions have not been upheld, and to invoice the Client should costs exceed this deposit.

The room must be vacated by midnight, to comply with the Public Entertainments Licence.

At the end of the event, the room must be left in a reasonable condition.

No wines, spirits or food may be brought into the Museum, unless prior written consent of the Museum has been obtained.

Where VAT is applicable it is quoted at the current Treasury rate for the date of the invoice.

All accounts are to be settled in full 30 days before the function.

Other Conditions

Clients wishing to use their own electrical equipment must supply an up to date electrical test certificate, failure to do so may result in permission being refused.

The Museum does not accept any liability for any failure to provide or delay in providing the services contracted. The Museum may, at any time, arrange a public event on the day of the function. The event will not interfere with the New Guesten Hall hire.

Only the Museum's approved caterers and bar may be used. No third-party caterers or bar may be used by the Clients.

Any damage wilful or otherwise to the Museum, furnishings, fixtures or fittings will be the responsibility of the Client, and must be paid for on request of the company.

The Museum has a No Smoking Policy.

The Museum will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to personal belongings during the use of the room.

Please note that the use of smoke machines, fireworks, sky lanterns and exposed candles are prohibited for fire safety reasons.

Cancellation by the client

If you cancel your function, please confirm in writing.

- Cancellation with more than 91 days to the event – no deposit refunded and no balance to be paid.
- Cancellation between 90 and 61 days prior to the event – no deposit refund and 50% of balance of invoice to be paid.
- Cancellation under 60 days prior to the event – no refund of the deposit and full balance of invoice to be paid.

Cancellation by the Museum

The Museum may cancel the event at any time based on the following:


1. If in our reasonable opinion the booking might in any way prejudice the reputation of the Museum or otherwise cause damage to the Museum.
2. If the Museum becomes aware of any alteration in Client's current financial status.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Cover	Just Hitched Wedding Photography
p2-3	Just Hitched Wedding Photography
p4	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p5	Tuxe & Tales Photography
p6	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p7	L Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p7	R Tuxe & Tales Photography
p8	Rosie Kelly Photography
p9	Rosie Kelly Photography
p10	TR Just Hitched Wedding Photography
p10	BR Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p11	T Rosie Kelly Photography
p11	BL Rosie Kelly Photography
p11	BR Olivia Photography
p12	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p13	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p14	TR Alex Sharp Photography
p14	BR Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p15	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p16	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p17	Just Hitched Wedding Photography
p22-23	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers
p25	Rob & Sarah Gillespie Photographers

- L** Left
- R** Right
- TR** Top Right
- BL** Bottom Left
- BR** Bottom Right
- T** Top





Get in touch...

Please get in touch with our team to find out about availability, arrange a viewing, make a booking, or if you have any questions or queries.

Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings
Stoke Heath
Bromsgrove
B60 4JR

Telephone: 01527 831 363
Email: bookings@avoncroft.org.uk