

Frequently Asked Questions

Below is a list of FAQs we hope you will find useful. Of course, please just contact us if you have any questions or queries and we'll be only too happy to help.

Q: Is there an additional charge for evening guests?

A: The Bonita Package includes evening catering for up to 80 day guests. Additional evening guests will be charged as per the current package.

Q: Do you charge extra for civil ceremonies?

A: No – there is no additional charge for civil ceremonies.

Q: We're having a civil ceremony; can we bring our own music?

A: Yes, of course you can. We can supply a Bluetooth sound system for you, free of charge. please ensure all music is downloaded to your device and not reliant on an internet connection.

Q: Do you charge for tables, chairs, cutlery, crockery or table linen?

A: Tables, chairs, cutlery, crockery or table linen are included in our Bonita Package for up to 80 guests. This does not include place names, menu cards, table numbers, table plans and any other wedding décor; all of which are to be arranged by the wedding party.

Q: Can we marry in either of the estate churches if either/ both of us have previously been married?

A: For those previously married and wishing to remarry in church, we advise that before meeting with our parish Vicar, you read the following guidelines from The Church of England, <https://www.churchofengland.org/media/1162432/leafletforenquirers.pdf>.

Q: If we're having a church wedding, who do we need to arrange this with?

A: If booking either of the Parish Churches, you must contact the Church Wedding Administrator, Mike Wilsher on 07590 110 860. If you are booking St John's Church, Frome contact 01373 462325.

Q: Can we talk to the chef about our menus?

A: This is always possible, and we can arrange this to coincide with your itinerary meeting or food tasting at Orchardleigh.

Q: How do we keep in touch with you and who do we liaise with?

A: If you have a query or question, please don't hesitate to contact us at 01373 472 550 or email info@orchardleigh.net

Q: When will we know who will be coordinating our wedding?

A: A wedding coordinator will be assigned to you 3-4 months prior to your wedding. Before this time, please ask any member of staff who will be very pleased to help.

Q: How do we work out the timings for our wedding?

A: Weddings need to flow without periods of inactivity. Below we have put together our recommended timings which should make your day flow beautifully.

Church Weddings

	Time	Duration	Total (Hours)
Ceremony starts	2:30	1.25 hours	1.25
Reception drink/canapés	3:45	1.5 hours	2.75
Wedding breakfast sit down	5:15	2 hours	4.75
Wedding breakfast/speeches end	7:15	45 minutes	5.5
Evening entertainment starts	8:00		

Civil Weddings

	Time	Duration	Total (Hours)
Ceremony starts	2:30	30 mins	0.5
Reception drink/canapés	3:00	1.5 hours	2
Wedding breakfast sit down	4:30	2 hours	4
Wedding breakfast/speeches end	6:30	45 minutes	5.75
Evening entertainment starts	7:15		

We do request that church and civil ceremonies are not before 2pm. This then gives your guests time to arrive at 1pm, change and attend the service.

Q: Do you have microphones and a PA system for the speeches?

A: Yes we do, just let us know beforehand and we'll sort it for you.

Q: How many car parking spaces do you have for our guests?

A: We have parking for around 75 cars in our 3 parking areas around the main house.

Q: Is the car park area lit at night?

A: The main house is floodlit at night, as are the car parking areas, so everything's easy to see at night.

Q: What time's breakfast in the morning?

A: Breakfast is served between 8:30 and 9:30 in the house or after checkout at The Peacock Restaurant at a time to suit you.

Q: Are pets allowed?

A: Pets may be allowed with prior permission.

Q: Can we have fireworks in the evening?

A: Yes you can but we must ask you to use our recommended suppliers as they have already carried out a site visit and provided the relevant paperwork for health and safety and carry massive insurance. Unfortunately, we do not allow Chinese lanterns.

Q: Do we have to use the suppliers on your recommended supplier list?

A: Of course not, you are more than welcome to use any suppliers that you wish. The only supplier that we do stipulate and must be used is our recommended supplier for fireworks as explained above.

Q: Is there a minimum requirement for accommodation?

A: When booking the Bonita Package, the minimum requirement for accommodation is 8 rooms in the house. All rooms in the house must be filled before using any rooms in Orchardleigh Mews, except for anyone needing these for access reasons or pets.

Q: Is there an additional charge for the late bar?

A: No additional charge for the bar to stay open until dawn - Please let us know if there is a particular time you would like the evening bar to close.

Q: What time does the music have to stop?

A: It doesn't, you can carry on until dawn if you can manage it.

Q: Can we have candles in the house?

A: Yes but they must be non-drip. You'll also need to make sure they are enclosed and safe from children and anything flammable.

Q: When can we have access to the house on our wedding day?

A: The Bride will have access to the Bridal Suite from 11:30 am. Guest rooms are available from 1 pm. Suppliers will have access from 11 am.

Q: Where can we have our reception drinks?

A: It really depends on the weather, but usually outside on the lawns. If the weather's a bit 'iffy', we'll serve them inside in The Morning Room or in the bar area.

Q: Can we mix and match our menu choices?

A: Yes, of course, you can, please call us and we can ask the chef for a costing.

Q: What time do we all have to vacate in the morning?

A: We do ask that your guests vacate their rooms by 10 am and leave by 11 am.

Q: What is Orchardleigh's charter?

A: Our aim is that you are totally delighted with Orchardleigh and our staff from the first time you view, through all the planning, up to and including your wedding day, and that all expectations are met and we hope exceeded. Our aim is to treat everyone as we ourselves would like to be treated.

