



Weddings

2010/2011



Weddings Introduction

The George Albert hotel is the ideal venue for your special day, we know that your wedding is one of the most special and memorable days in your life and we treat it accordingly. We like to feel that once the wedding has been booked, we can take the weight from your shoulders, leaving you one less thing to worry about, enabling you to enjoy all the fun and excitement with your guests. We guarantee an efficient service from friendly staff from the time you contact us until the moment you leave for your honeymoon. Our experienced wedding co-ordinator can offer advice and practical assistance at all stages of your booking. We can offer an inclusive wedding package for your special day, which can be tailored to all your requirements, or if you are simply looking for a meal after your ceremony our banqueting menu is extensive and varied.

Planning a wedding is a complicated and involved process, so we want to make sure you know as much as you can before you start on this page is a guide to each stage of the day and how we can help you. It also explains some of the traditions.



The Wedding Breakfast

Traditionally, the bride and groom partake in a meal with their family and friends known as the wedding breakfast. This is usually followed by toasts and speeches by the father of the bride, the groom and the best man. In more recent times, it has become quite common for the bride to make a speech as well.

At the George Albert hotel we can accommodate you in our Elizabethan Suite for both the wedding breakfast and the evening reception.

Evening Reception

The evening reception for weddings has become a long standing popular way of having many more friends and family celebrate your wedding with you. With limits on sit down numbers, it is nice to be able to invite those people who were unable to join the day, to celebrate with a little food, a little drink and a little dancing...

Overnight Accommodation

We would be delighted to host the bride and groom as well as some of their guests. If you have your wedding breakfast and evening reception at hotel we offer the bride and groom complimentary accommodation. For guests we are more than happy to offer a preferred rate (subject to availability). If you have had guests join you overnight, perhaps you would like to dine together at breakfast? We can arrange this all for you before the wedding, what better way to spend the morning than with your friends and family?





THE DRESS

White was the colour which the ancient Romans believed would ward off evil spirits. It had nothing to do with purity or virginity, the veil was also designed to protect the bride from evil spirits seeing her beauty and being jealous.

THE WEDDING BOUQUET

In olden days this was made up of strong smelling herbs to frighten away evil spirits, and to surround the couple with beauty. Most flowers have their own meaning. The bouquet used to always contain orange blossom which symbolised fertility.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The first photograph was taken in France in 1826. It took eight hours to make the exposure. Luckily today's bride and bridegroom don't have to stand still that long. In 1853 William Fox Talbot of Britain invented the process of making a negative from which later prints could be taken. The first colour photograph was taken in 1861.

TOSSING THE SLICE

Believing that newly weds brought good luck, they were showered with nuts and grains to ensure a bountiful harvest. This has now become the throwing of confetti.

TRANSPORT

Today's practice of using vintage cars and horse-drawn vehicles probably began about 30 years ago and sets the scene in the manner of the elegant 20's.

THROWING OF OLD SHOES

This was the traditional way of transferring the responsibility of the bride's father to her new husband – now best kept alive by tying shoes to the back of cars.

THE HONEYMOON

Centuries ago, it was customary for the Bride and Bridegroom to drink mead (a wine made from honey) for a month after the wedding. A month was known as "moon" – hence honeymoon.

THE CAKE

The cake is a very ancient feature of the marriage feast. The richer the mixture the more abundant the marriage would be. The original mix was of sesame seed and honey. The first slice should always be cut by the bride and bridegroom.

WEDDING MENU DISHES

These dishes are only a guideline we can create a menu to suit your own requirements and taste

Appetisers

Parfait of Duck, Whisky and Orange with Warm Toast	£6.25
Buffalo Mozzarella, Beef Tomato, Red Onion and Sweet Pepper Tower on a Bed of Balsamic Glazed Mixed Leaf Salad	£5.50
Smoked Chicken, Grape and Walnut Salad with a Honey and Mustard Dressing	£5.95
Seasonal Soup of the Day	£4.95
Home Cured Gravalax marinated in Light Dijon, Mint and Oil Dressing	£6.30
Fan of Canteloupe Melon with Parma Ham and Red Onion Marmalade	£5.50

Main Courses

Breast of Chicken Filled with Asparagus, Wrapped in Prosciutto with a Champagne Sauce	£13.95
Medallion of Beef Fillets with a Duo of Red Wine Jus and a Brandy Cream Sauce	£18.95
Salmon, Spinach and Red Onion Wrapped in Puff Pastry with a Fish Veloute	£15.95
Traditional Roast Beef or Pork with Yorkshire Puddings	£14.50
Roasted Cannon of Lamb Filled with an Orange Mousse and served with a Red Wine Jus	£18.95
Pea and Basil Risotto with Pamesan Crisps	£12.95
Baked Aubergine Filled with Mediterranean Vegetables and Topped with Cheese Served with a Herb Sauce	£12.95

Desserts

Chocolate and Tia Maria Mousse Cake	£5.50
Raspberry and White Chocolate Cheese-cake	£5.50
Fresh Fruit Salad	£4.50
Chocolate Profiteroles	£5.50
Apple Crumble	£5.50



BUFFET MENUS

MENU 1

£11.95 per person

Honey Glazed Ham

Roast Beef

Mixed Leaf Salad

Cucumber Yoghurt and Mint

Cherry Tomatoes Red Onion and Basil

Coleslaw

Mediterranean Vegetable Cous Cous

Hot New Potatoes with Fresh Mint

Freshly Baked Bread

MENU 2

£19.95 per person

Dressed Salmon

Honey Roasted Gammon

Roast Topside of Beef

Mustard Marinated Chicken

Mixed Leaf Salad

Cucumber Yoghurt and Mint

Cherry Tomatoes Red Onion and Basil

Coleslaw

Mediterranean Vegetable Coud Cous

Hot New Potatoes with Fresh Mint

Fresh Fruit Salad

Cheese Cake

Chocolate Mousse

FINGER BUFFET ITEMS

£9.95 per person

Please choose 6 items from following list,
extra choices charged at £1 per person

Selection of Quiches

Chicken Satay

Assorted Sandwiches

Mini Salmon Wellingtons

Sesame Chicken Goujons

Mini French Bread Pizzas

Butterfly Prawns

Cocktail Spring Rolls

A Selection of Dim Sum

Fish Goujons with Tartar Sauce

Breadcrumbs Brie Wedges

A Selection of Bruschetta

Semolina coated Calamari

Cocktail Sausages with Honey & Sesame Seeds

HOT FORK BUFFET

Any 2 dishes for £13.95

served with your choice of rice or new potatoes
and a mixed leaf salad

Lasagne

Moussaka

Chicken Stroganoff

Chilli Con Carne

Chicken Madras

Beef & Black Bean Sauce

Vegetable Stir Fry

Vegetable Pasta Bake

Fishermans Pie

Seafood Linguine

Sweet & Sour Pork

Strips of Beef in a Mixed Peppercorn Sauce

DRINKS PACKAGES

Package A

Glass of Sherry or Pimms on arrival
Glass of House Red or White wine with the meal
Glass of sparkling wine for the toast

£7.50 per person

Package B

Glass of Rum Punch or glass of Bucks Fizz or bottle of Budweiser on arrival
2 Glasses of House Red or White wine with the meal
Glass of sparkling wine for the toast

£10.50 per person

Package C

Glass of Bucks Fizz or glass of sparkling wine or glass of Pimms on arrival
2 glasses of Superior wine with the meal
Glass of Champagne for the toast

£13.95 per person

Package D

Glass of Champagne or glass of Bucks Fizz or glass of Kir Royale on arrival
2 glasses superior wine with the meal
Glass of Champagne for the toast

£15.95 per person

Non-alcoholic drinks package

Glass of fresh fruit punch or bottle of alcohol free beer
1 glass of fruit juice or non-alcoholic wine with the meal
Glass of sparkling non-alcoholic wine for the toast

£6.95 per person



Planning your Special Day

Your wedding is a very special day. Planning your wedding is an exciting time for both of you to share ... choosing rings, choosing dresses etc. Six months to a year before your special day gives you plenty of time to enjoy all the preparations for getting married.

THE COUNTDOWN:

1 year to go

- Arrange location of wedding ceremony
- Book your reception at The George Albert Hotel
- Book your honeymoon (remember that you can spend your first night here at the hotel, subject to availability)

8 Months to go

- Compile your guest lists – select bridesmaids, best man and ushers.
- Select dresses and accessories
- Select mens outfits and reserve any items that may need to be hired (eg top hats)

6 months to go

- Arrange and book transport
- Order wedding cake
- Get invitations and orders of service printed
- Make your wedding gift list
- Book your photographer

4 months to go

- Choose wedding rings
- Organise flowers (ceremony, reception, bridal and buttonholes)
- Visit your church or registry office to discuss banns/ fees music and confetti
- Liase with The George Albert Hotel to confirm food and drink requirements

3 months to go

- Send out wedding invitations
- Check honeymoon travel arrangements
- Buy gifts for bridesmaids and best man.

2 months to go

- Compile list of acceptances and make seating plan
- Send out gift list
- Liase with The George Albert Hotel on any changes and decoration requirements

1 month to go

- Check wedding clothes (wear your shoes around the house to break them in)
- Visit your hairdresser for a trial
- Have trial run for your make up
- Finalise with The George Albert Hotel your numbers and seating plan

1 week to go

- Full wedding rehearsal
- Finalise honeymoon arrangements (luggage to reception, pick up travellers cheques)
- Finalise arrangements for photographer, cake, flowers and transport
- Enjoy stag and hen parties but allow a few days for recovery.

1 day to go

- Relax in the knowledge that your special day is almost here and that the professional team at the George Albert Hotel will ensure it is a complete success.
- * This list is a guide only. To avoid disappointment we advise that you make bookings as early as possible.

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Appointments

Date Notes

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The Wedding Checklist

Please use this page to keep track of your arrangements

	Tick	Contact	Tel No		Tick	Contact	Tel No
Choose wedding dress				Confirm legal arrangements			
Agree your budget				Buy bridesmaids dresses			
Decide date and venue				Order flowers, balloons etc			
Arrange church/venue				Choose wedding rings			
Book reception		<i>George Albert Hotel</i>		Send out invitations			
Book evening party		<i>George Albert Hotel</i>		Arrange hen/stag night			
Book entertainment				Check passports are valid			
Book photographer/videographer				Choose hymns for service			
Book toastmaster				Choose presents for bridesmaids			
Order transport				Confirm travel arrangements			
Decide on number of guests				Arrange men's suit hire			
Order invitations				Confirm numbers with caterers			
Choose Bridesmaids				Make beauty appointments			
Choose Best Man and Ushers				Confirm car hire, photographers etc			
Order wedding cake				Final wedding dress fitting			
Book honeymoon				Talk through hairstyle with hairdresser			
Make wedding present list				Start packing for honeymoon			