

V&A South Kensington

**WEDDINGS AT V&A
SOUTH KENSINGTON**



V&A

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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 with 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.

Hosting your wedding at V&A South Kensington 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 HISTORY OF THE V&A

V&A South Kensington 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 V&A 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 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.



Two by Two

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

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony

400 guests

Pre-dinner drinks

250 guests

Seated dinner

400 guests



© Victoria and Albert Museum



© Imogen Xiana

DOME

The Dome is one of London's most elegant 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.



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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



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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.



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EDWIN AND SUSAN DAVIES PAINTINGS GALLERIES

The Paintings Galleries are on the first floor of the Museum and are 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

80 guests



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PRICES

Event options	Standard guest timings	Maximum guest numbers	Pricing until standard 11pm departure time	Late night extensions after 11pm until 2am latest
Drinks reception in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hintze Sculpture GalleriesJohn Madejski Garden Dinner and dancing in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dome	18:45 – 23:00	250	£16,000 + VAT	£3,000 + VAT additional per hour
Drinks reception in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">DomeHintze Sculpture GalleriesJohn Madejski Garden Dinner in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Raphael Court Dancing in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dome	18:45 – 23:00	400	£18,000 + VAT	
Wedding ceremony in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">John Madejski GardenRaphael Court Drinks reception in one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hintze Sculpture GalleriesJohn Madejski Garden Dinner and dancing in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dome	18:45 – 23:00	250	£19,000 + VAT	
V&A South Kensington celebrates creativity and we want your special day to feel personal to you – the options above can be customised and our dedicated team can advise on how to make the most of the Museum to suit your vision with the event spaces on offer.				
<p>Event service costs (such as catering, floristry, entertainment and production) are not included in the venue hire fees and should be directly from the lists of Approved Suppliers below in the brochure. Our FAQs section below outlines what is included within V&A dry hire prices.</p> <p>Supplier access times for set up are from 17:00 in the Raphael Court and 17:45 in all other spaces.</p> <p>Ceremonies and drinks reception in the John Madejski Garden are weather dependent and V&A South Kensington always includes a beautiful wet weather contingency space for wedding ceremonies and drinks receptions within our hire fees.</p> <p>All bookings are subject to Terms and Conditions, available on request from the Corporate & Private Events Team.</p>				



© Tash Busta Photography

VENUE GUIDELINES

Like many listed buildings, there are a few restrictions we have to take into account. Some of these include:

- Fireworks are not permitted in the John Madejski Garden.
- Smoking, naked flames, candles, candelabras, balloons, confetti (including dried and fresh loose flower 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.
- Confetti is not permitted anywhere on site at V&A South Kensington.



© Nina Wernicke



©Tell Your Story Photography + Film



© Matt Chung



© Imogen Xiana

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 | Couple 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. |

FAQS

Is the V&A licensed for Civil Ceremonies?

Yes, we have four beautiful gallery spaces licenced for Civil Marriage and Partnership Ceremonies when a ceremony is held as part of a larger wedding reception. 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

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 minutes. 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 [film](#) 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.

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. The couple are welcome to use the galleries for photos in the evening and we are happy to allow access to three galleries of their choice. Please find our recommendations on the following page.



APPROVED SUPPLIERS

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.

Catering

Alexander & Björck
020 3457 1700
parties@alexanderandbjorck.com
www.alexanderandbjorck.com

Alison Price
020 7840 7640
enquiries@alisonprice.co.uk
www.alisonprice.co.uk

Ben Tenenblat
Kosher Catering
020 8205 0463
info@ben-tenenblat.com
www.ben-tenenblat.com

Blue Strawberry
020 7733 3151
hello@bluestrawberry-tabletalk.co.uk
www.bluestrawberry.co.uk

By Word of Mouth Ltd
020 8871 9566
events@bywordofmouth.co.uk
www.bywordofmouth.co.uk

Caper And Berry
01483 427521
events@caperandberry.co.uk
www.caperandberry.co.uk

Laguna
South Asian Catering
020 8579 9992
info@lagunarestaurant.com
www.lagunarestaurant.com

Jimmy Garcia
020 7998 3676
events@jimmygarciacatering.com
www.jimmygarciacatering.com

Last Supper Ltd
020 7378 0101
info@lastsupperltd.co.uk
www.lastsupperltd.co.uk

Lettice Events
020 7820 1161
events@letticeevents.com
www.letticeevents.com

Moving Venue
020 8691 6661
greatfood@movingvenue.com
www.movingvenue.com

Preeti Catering
South Asian Catering
020 8606 0303
info@preeticatering.co.uk
www.preeticatering.co.uk

Ragasaan
South Asian Catering
020 8839 0880
sales@ragasaan.com
www.ragasaan.com

Rhubarb
020 8812 3200
hello@rhubarb.co.uk
www.rhubarb.net

Rocket
020 7622 2320
parties@rocketfood.net
www.rocketfood.net

The Drunken Jockeys
Bar and Cocktail Services
020 3007 9209
enquiries@thedrunkenjockeys.co.uk
www.thedrunkenjockeys.co.uk

Zafferano
020 8905 9120
info@zafferano.co.uk
www.zafferano.co.uk

Production & Lighting

Bespoke Events London
020 8961 1510
studio@bespoke-london.co.uk
www.bespoke-london.co.uk

Event Concept
020 7740 3988
info@eventconcept.co.uk
www.eventconcept.co.uk

Focus Productions
020 8542 9221
info@focus.productions
www.focus.productions

White Light Limited
020 8254 4800
production@whitelight.ltd.uk
www.whitelight.ltd.uk

Wise Productions
020 8991 6922
events@wiseproductions.co.uk
www.wiseproductions.co.uk

Flowers

Fiona Fleur
077 2799 9232
studio@fionafleur.com
www.fionafleur.com

Flower & Press
077 6049 1234
info@flowerandpress.com
flowerandpress.com

Larry Walshe Studios
020 8540 5305
thestudio@larrywalshe.com
www.larrywalshe.com

Lavender Green Flowers
020 7127 5303
info@lavendergreen.co.uk
www.lavendergreen.co.uk

Pinstripes & Peonies
020 7720 1245
flowers@pinstripesandpeonies.com
www.pinstripesandpeonies.com

Shane Connolly & Company
020 8964 4398
events@shaneconnolly.co.uk
www.shaneconnolly.co.uk

Simon J Lycett Ltd
020 7277 3322
enquiries@simonlycett.co.uk
www.simonlycett.co.uk

Veevers Carter
020 7237 8800
info@veeverscarter.com
www.veeverscarter.com

Entertainment

ALR Music
020 3732 0232
info@alrmusic.co.uk
www.alrmusic.co.uk

Euphonica
020 3397 9018
hello@euphonica.com
www.euphonica.com

Prelude
020 8660 6647
sales@preludeentertainment.co.uk
www.preludeentertainment.co.uk

Sternberg Clarke
020 8877 1102
sales@sternbergclarke.co.uk
www.sternbergclarke.co.uk

Velvet Entertainment
020 8947 8245
info@velvetentertainment.net
www.velvetentertainment.net

Sound Only

Dobson Sound
020 8545 0202
enquiries@dobsonsound.co.uk
www.dobsonsound.co.uk

Recommended Wedding Planners

ARC Events
www.arc.events

Moriarty Events
www.moriartyevents.com

SW Events
www.swevents.uk

The Golborne Collection
www.golborne-events.co.uk

Recommended Wedding Photographers

Anthony Chok Photography
www.anthonychokphotography.com

Eye Jogia Photography
www.eyejogia.com

Joshua Tucker Photography
www.joshuatuckerphotography.com

Matt Chung Photography
mattchungphoto.com

Tell Your Story Photography + Film
www.tellyourstory.co.uk

Twobytwo Event Photography
www.twobytwo.co

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](https://www.instagram.com/vamevents)

V&A

