



**WEDDINGS AT**  
THE CROWN HOTEL

## WELCOME TO THE CROWN HOTEL...

YOUR UNIQUE JOURNEY STARTS WHEN YOU FIRST STEP INTO THE CROWN HOTEL, WHERE A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU.



The Crown Hotel is situated in the market town of Blandford Forum & is easily accessible from Bournemouth, Poole, Shaftesbury & the West Country. For centuries the Crown Hotel has provided a haven for brides & grooms wishing to celebrate the most important day of their lives with friends & family.



## YOU & YOUR WEDDING...

The Crown Hotel has one dedicated function suite; the Sealy Suite, which boasts a private garden, bar and facilities for your wedding. Furthermore, The Crown Hotel holds a licence to conduct ceremonies, allowing you to host your whole wedding day with us for an additional fee.

A key component of the service we are delighted to provide is a dedicated Wedding Co-ordinator who will look after you from your first meeting up to the wedding day. They will be involved as much or as little as you require in the planning of your day, and can help with local suppliers and any personal touches to make your day extra special. On the big day itself, an Event Manager will be there to ensure that everything runs smoothly, leaving you to relax and enjoy your day.





TO MAKE YOUR WEDDING DAY AS ENJOYABLE & STRESS-FREE AS POSSIBLE, WE OFFER THREE WEDDING PACKAGES, TAILORED TO INCLUDE ROOM HIRE, DRINKS, FOOD AND ANY LITTLE EXTRAS YOU MAY REQUEST.



## PICTURE PERFECT...

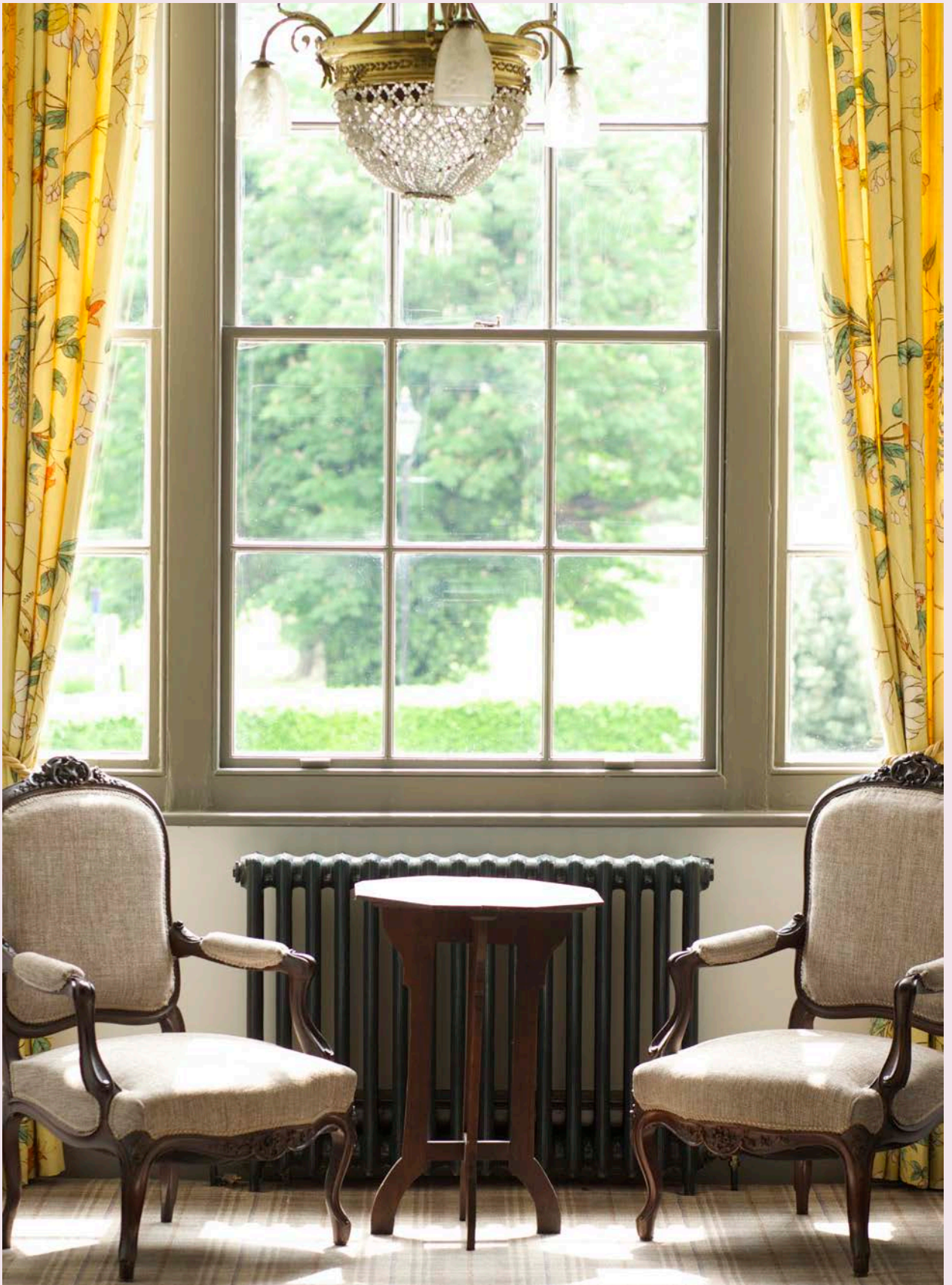
The experienced team at the Crown Hotel includes an experienced kitchen team committed to excellent wedding food, an enthusiastic Wedding Co-ordinator and a food manager who cut his teeth in 5 star hotels, all dedicated to ensuring your wedding day runs smoothly and reflects your individual tastes and requirements.

NESTLED ON THE EDGE OF THE DELIGHTFUL DORSET MARKET TOWN OF BLANDFORD FORUM, THIS GEORGIAN HOTEL OOZES CHARM AND CHARACTER. ALL OF OUR 27 BEDROOMS ARE EN-SUITE AND VERY WELL APPOINTED.











## ACCOMMODATION...

We have 27 spacious and comfortable guest rooms at the Crown Hotel, each one designed with our valued guests in mind.

In a world where many hotel rooms closely resemble one another, The Crown Hotel retains an authentic, timeless charm that will make your wedding day even more memorable for your guests.

A team of front desk staff are available to help with any queries or requirements you may have during your stay.

The following is a selection of the in-room amenities that guests at the Crown Hotel can enjoy:

- Ensuite bathroom
- Room Service
- Tea/Coffee making



## GARDENS & GROUNDS...

The Crown Hotel offers beautiful gardens for you to relax in and enjoy on your special day, with direct access to the Sealy Suite.

Our ornamental gardens provide the perfect setting for romantic, relaxed photographs that can be treasured for a lifetime.

For lovely sunny days, we have ample seating and umbrellas in our garden, where waiting staff will serve you welcome drinks and canapés prior to your wedding breakfast.

Why not book an appointment with our Wedding Co-ordinator who will be happy to show you around the hotel and grounds.

TO MAKE YOUR WEDDING DAY AS ENJOYABLE & STRESS-FREE AS POSSIBLE, WE OFFER THREE WEDDING PACKAGES.











## THE FULL PACKAGE...

Whether helping to arrange your ceremony or hosting your reception, at The Crown Hotel we will approach your wedding preparations with an experienced, friendly and professional manner. We are pleased to assist you with all aspects of your day, from menu choices to recommending photographers, wedding car hire, cake makers and florists.

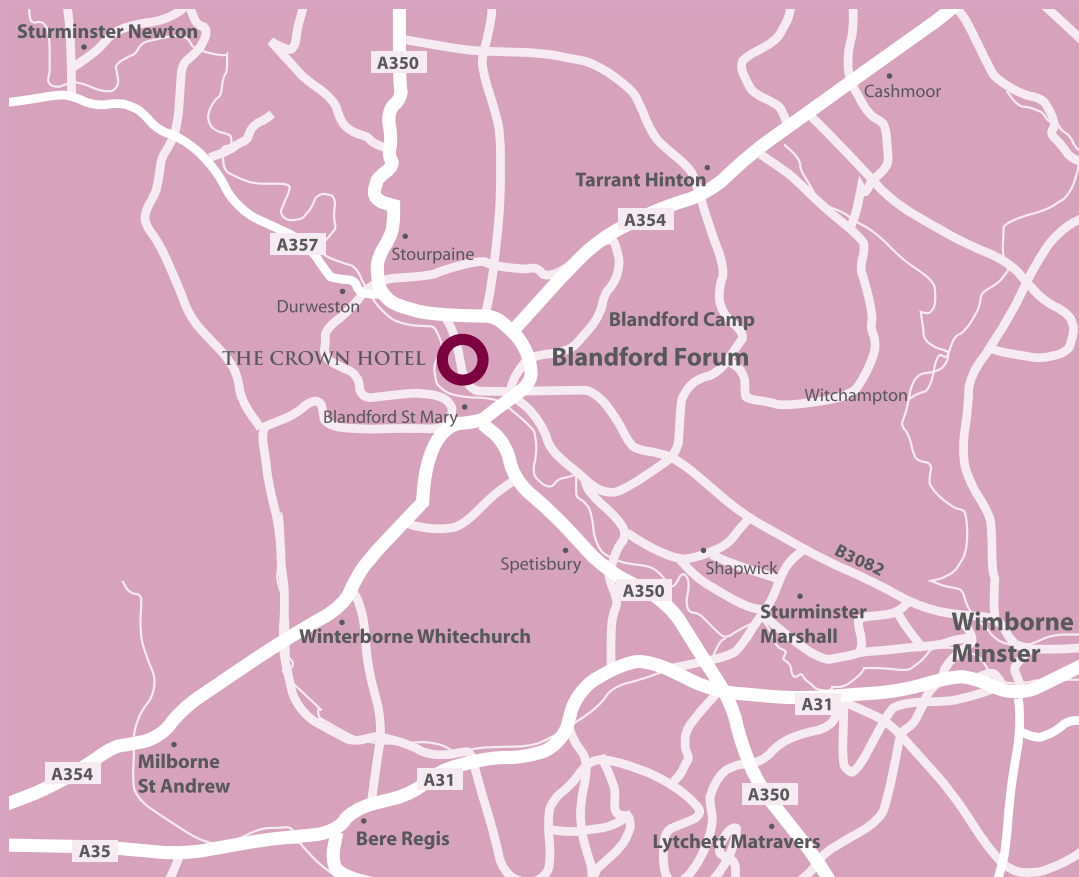
Plan a wedding with us and you will enjoy the following:

- A complimentary bedroom for the Bride and Groom on your wedding night.
- Wedding breakfast prepared by our chefs.
- Use of our grounds and gardens for your photographs.
- Red carpet for you and your guests.

THE EXPERIENCED TEAM AT THE CROWN HOTEL WILL ENDEAVOUR TO MAKE YOUR WEDDING DAY MAGICAL.



## HOW TO FIND US...



**From the M27:** Follow the M27 WEST. Join the A31 and continue past Ringwood. Follow signs for A31 to Poole (do not branch off towards Bournemouth). After a series of roundabouts, follow signs to A350 Blandford. Continue through a few villages, beware of speed cameras! When you reach the Tesco store in Blandford, continue past the Brewery, and then turn right over the river. The Crown Hotel is situated in front of you.

**From Salisbury:** If coming from A303 (Newbury / Andover area), follow signs to Salisbury. Go through Salisbury, following signs for A354, Blandford. Follow the A354 past Sixpenny Handley and Tarrant Hinton. After Pimperne, turn left at the next roundabout,

following signs to the Brewery Visitor Centre and Blandford. Go over the bypass, and straight on at the next roundabout. Turn right at the Tesco roundabout, following signs to the Brewery Visitor Centre. Continue past the Brewery, and turn right over the river. The Crown Hotel is situated in front of you.

**From West:** Follow A35 past Bridport and Dorchester. Take the A354 to Blandford. Go through villages including Milborne St Andrew and Winterborne Whitechurch. At the Tesco roundabout, turn left, following signs to Brewery Visitor Centre. Continue past the Brewery, and then turn right over the river. The Crown Hotel is situated in front of you.

# WINES...

## RED WINES

### Garnacha

Spain – Very easy drinking with juicy bramble, cherry & redcurrent flavours.

### Merlot

Chile – Smooth & juicy with hints of ripe plums & mocha.

### Malbec

Argentina – Dark & powerful with great concentration, hinting of liquorice & smooth vanilla.

## Silver Package



## Gold Package



## Platinum Package



## WHITE WINES

### Macabeo

Spain – Ripe, refreshing & fruity with nutty stone fruit flavours & a dash of minerals.

### Pinot Grigio

Italy – Delicate with lightly honeyed fruit & lemony freshness.

### Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough

New Zealand – Ripe, tropical & gooseberry flavours with a clean, zingy finish.



## ROSÉS

### White Zinfandel Rosé

USA – A medium to sweet blush rosé with luscious wild strawberry.

### Pinot Grigio Rosé

Italy – Pale, dry, fresh & fruity with delicate aromas of red berries & a palate of lush summer fruits.



## BUBBLES

### Cava, Brut

Spain – A classic blend of Cava grapes. Delicate fine bubbles give way to a long finish & a savoury twist.

### Prosecco

Italy – Lightly aromatic with hints of crusty bread, apples & peaches & a creamy, lemon-tanged flavour.

### Langham Classic Cuvée

England – Aromas of red apple & brioche, giving way to flavours reminiscent of honeydew melon & poached pear.

### Joseph Perrier Cuvée Royale NV

France – Aromas of citrus fruit peel, reinette apples & vineyard peaches, with hints of vanilla & cinnamon.





## PACKAGES...

THE PLATINUM, GOLD & SILVER PACKAGES HAVE BEEN CREATED TO KEEP YOUR PLANNING SIMPLE, IF YOU PREFER WE CAN TAILOR MAKE A PROPOSAL TO MATCH YOUR REQUIREMENTS

PACKAGE CONTENTS	Silver Package £75 Per Person (Excluding Ceremony)	Gold Package £90 Per Person (Excluding Ceremony)	Platinum Package £115 Per Person (Excluding Ceremony)
Dedicated Wedding Co-ordinator	♥	♥	♥
Event Manager to oversee your wedding	♥	♥	♥
Red carpet on arrival	♥	♥	♥
Silver cake stand & knife	♥	♥	♥
Personalised table plan, placecards & menus	♥	♥	♥
Hire of the Sealy Suite	♥	♥	♥
Accommodation for Bride & Groom in our Executive Room	♥	♥	♥
Chair covers with colour co-ordinated sash	♥	♥	♥
Buck's Fizz or Pimm's on arrival	♥ (1 Glass)	♥ (1 Glass)	♥ (2 Glasses)
Three canapés on arrival		♥	♥
Wedding breakfast	♥ (3 Courses)	♥ (3 Courses)	♥ (4 Courses)
Two glasses (175ml) of House Wine with your wedding meal	♥	♥	
Three glasses (175ml) of wine with your wedding meal			♥
Two bottles of mineral water per table		♥	♥
A glass of bubbly for the toasts	♥	♥	♥

Rates are subject to seasonality.

Champagne, wines & menus are correct at the time of printing but are subject to change, supplement charges may apply.

Minimum number of 60 adults applies for weddings taking place on a Saturday or a Bank Holiday Sunday, May to September.

# SAMPLE MENUS... Please speak to our Wedding Coordinator if you wish to design a more bespoke menu.

## STARTERS

### Homemade Soup

*Baton & butter*

### Classic Prawn Cocktail

*Peeled prawns, topped with Marie Rose sauce, fresh lemon*

### Country Terrine

*On brioche toast*

### Minted Pea & Feta Bruschetta

*Minted crushed peas, crumbly feta on toasted sourdough*

### Mackerel Pâté

*Tomato & onion chutney, rocket salad*

### Crab Croquettes

*Avocado & chilli salsa*

### Cured Ham & Grilled Mediterranean Veg

*Rocket salad & balsamic dressing*

### Duck Confit

*Pepper leaf salad, orange & walnut dressing*

### Dorset Blue Vinny & Pear Rarebit

*Toasted garlic muffin with walnut dressing & chutney*

### Smoked Salmon Two Ways

*Micro salads & malted sourdough toasts*

## Silver Package



## Gold Package



## Platinum Package



## MAIN COURSES

### Steak & Tanglefoot Pie

*Mashed potato & seasonal vegetables*

### Woodland Chicken

*Roast chicken supreme, seasonal vegetables, chef's choice of potatoes, creamy field mushroom, bacon & fresh herb sauce*

### Cod Supreme

*Oven roasted cod supreme, garlic & rosemary roasted new potatoes & a sunblush tomato & caper dressing*

### Pork Belly

*Red cabbage, buttered mash, Stowford Press cider & red onion gravy*

### V/VG Parsnip Nut Roast

*Seasonal green vegetables, garlic & rosemary roasted new potatoes, red cabbage, & roast tomato sauce*

### Salmon Encroute

*Baked fillet of salmon with cheese, spinach & mustard wrapped in puff pastry with green veg & white wine sauce*

### Roast Beef

*Yorkshire pudding, beef dripping roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, roast gravy*



MAIN COURSES CONTINUED...	Silver Package	Gold Package	Platinum Package
<b>Duck Confit</b> <i>Confit duck leg, with buttered mash, red cabbage &amp; Blandford Flyer beer gravy</i>		♥	♥
<b>V Feta &amp; Grilled Veg Pithivier</b> <i>Garlic &amp; rosemary roasted new potatoes &amp; a sunblush tomato &amp; caper dressing</i>		♥	♥
<b>Roast Chicken</b> <i>Supreme of chicken, seasonal vegetables, chef's choice of potatoes, red wine sauce</i>		♥	♥
<b>Beef Wellington</b> <i>Fillet of Beef Wellington, seasonal vegetables, chef's choice of potatoes, red wine sauce</i>			♥
<b>Stone Bass En Papillote</b> <i>Stone bass baked in a bag with garlic &amp; rosemary potatoes &amp; green veg</i>			♥
<b>Lamb Shoulder</b> <i>Dauphinoise potatoes, fine beans &amp; honey roast carrots, with a fruity red wine &amp; redcurrant sauce</i>			♥
<b>PUDDINGS</b>			
<b>Toffee Apple Crumble</b> <i>Cream or custard</i>	♥	♥	♥
<b>Chocolate Brownie</b> <i>Cream or custard</i>	♥	♥	♥
<b>Hand-Cut Fresh Fruit Salad</b> <i>Served with sorbet</i>	♥	♥	♥
<b>Summer Pudding</b> <i>Raspberry Coulis &amp; Crème fraîche</i>	♥	♥	♥
<b>Sticky Toffee Pudding</b> <i>Cream or custard</i>		♥	♥
<b>Lemon Curd Syllabub</b>			
<b>Pimms Eton Mess</b> <i>Classic Eton mess with a twist, summer fruit &amp; meringue with Pimms cream</i>		♥	♥
<b>Baked Treacle Tart</b> <i>Cream or custard</i>			♥
<b>Assiette of Chocolate Desserts</b> <i>Chocolate mousse, chocolate torte &amp; chocolate brownie</i>			♥
<b>FOURTH COURSE</b>			
<b>Cheese Platter</b> <i>Mature cheddar, goats' cheese, Dorset Blue Vinny</i>		♥	♥
<b>Cheeseboard</b> <i>Our Chef's selection of local premium cheeses</i>			♥



## CANAPÉS

3 for £10.50 / 5 for £12.50

Prawn Cocktail Shots  
Chicken Caesar Salad Shots  
Mini Cheddar Rarebit  
Mini Cone of Blanchbait  
Mini Fish & Chips  
Mini Ham Hock & Cheddar Toasts  
Homemade Mackerel Pâté Toasts  
Duck Pâté Toasts  
Cured Ham & Fig Parcel

Ratatouille Toasts  
Goats' Cheese Toasts  
Tartlet of Salmon Tartare  
Tartlet of Coronation Chicken  
Mini Yorkshire, Rare Roast Beef & Horseradish  
Mini Scone, Strawberry Jam & Cream  
Chocolate Brownie Finger  
A Selection of Strawberries Dipped in  
Milk & White Chocolate

## BUFFET OPTIONS...

### EVENING FINGER BUFFET

Starting from £15 per person

Selection of freshly made sandwiches  
on white & wholemeal bread

#### And your choice from below:

Homemade Scotch Egg double mustard mayonnaise v  
Lamb Kofte coconut tzatziki, pomegranate & chilli  
Confit Duck & Mushroom Tart thyme, egg, truffle oil,  
mushroom ketchup & winter leaves  
Sticky Hoisin Chicken Wings chilli, coriander, sesame  
& lime  
Homemade Sausage Roll homemade brown sauce  
Homemade Mushroom Sausage Roll spiced plum  
ketchup vg  
Hummus & Flatbread vg  
Garlic Flatbread vg  
Goats Cheese & Shallot Tart with watercress &  
pickled walnuts v

V = Vegetarian, VG = Vegan

Cranborne Poacher Rarebit on sourdough, with  
parsley  
Chipotle Mushroom BBQ Tacos pickled chilli, salsa,  
coriander, avocado, yoghurt, lime v  
Forum Battered Crispy Cauliflower coronation mayo  
with sultanas & coriander v  
Butternut Squash Fritters carrot, onion, potato,  
cardamom, tomato & coriander mayo vg  
Deep Fried Calamari pickled carrot, paprika  
mayonnaise, lemon

*Options such as hot fork buffet, bacon butties & BBQ  
available on request.*

# CHECKLIST...

## KEEP YOURSELF ORGANISED

### 12-18 Months

- ☐ Compile your guest list
- ☐ Book church / registrar
- ☐ Book venue & bedrooms
- ☐ Send 'Save the Date' cards
- ☐ Choose your bridesmaids / ushers / best man
- ☐ Find your perfect bridal gown
- ☐ Book photographer
- ☐ Book entertainment for drinks reception & evening reception
- ☐ Book wedding car(s)
- ☐ Start planning your honeymoon

### 6-12 Months

- ☐ Select bridesmaid dresses
- ☐ Arrange suit hire for groomsmen
- ☐ Order the wedding cake
- ☐ Order stationery, including invitations
- ☐ Meet with hotel florist to discuss table flowers / arrangements
- ☐ Order favours
- ☐ Book chair covers / room dressing
- ☐ Book hairdresser & make-up artist

### 6 Months

- ☐ Compile your wedding gift list
- ☐ Send out wedding invites (*remember to ask about dietary requirements*)
- ☐ Select your wedding rings
- ☐ Shopping for mother of the bride & mother of the groom outfits
- ☐ Plan hen & stag parties

### 3 Months

- ☐ Your wedding planner will be in contact to arrange a 'final details' appointment
- ☐ Look at wedding menus & make your selections
- ☐ Send out evening invites
- ☐ Finalise all other stationery
- ☐ Choose presents for bridesmaids & best man
- ☐ Hold hen & stag parties
- ☐ Apply for new passport in married name

### 6 Weeks

- ☐ Ensure all RSVPs are back & you have final numbers
- ☐ Plan your table layout
- ☐ Final detail appointment with your wedding planner to discuss arrangements for the big day!

## CHECKLIST...

## 4 Weeks

- ☐ Finalise table plan details & send to your wedding planner
- ☐ Final dress fittings
- ☐ Wear-in your wedding shoes
- ☐ Make final payment

## 10 Days

- ☐ Organise all stationery, favours, table decorations & presents into boxes / bags per table, ready to drop off at your wedding venue
- ☐ Organise an emergency wedding kit, containing make-up & a repair kit, so you can be ready for any minor hiccups on the day

## The Day Before

- ☐ Deliver cake, table plan, place cards, favours etc. to the venue
- ☐ Speak to your wedding planner regarding any last minute changes or queries
- ☐ Take the day off, check into your room, relax... & try to get a good night's sleep!

## Notes



# TRADITIONS...

## WEDDING CUSTOMS & SUPERSTITIONS

### **Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue & a Silver Sixpence in her Shoe**

This rhyme originated in Victorian times. 'Something Old' signifies that the couple's friends will stay with them. In one version of the tradition the 'Something Old' was an old garter which was given to the bride by a happily married woman so that the new bride would also enjoy a happy marriage. 'Something New' looks to the future for health, happiness & success.

'Something Borrowed' is an opportunity for the Bride's family to give her something as a token of their love (it must be returned to ensure good luck), & 'Something Blue' is thought lucky because blue represents fidelity & constancy. The custom began in ancient Israel where brides wore a blue ribbon in their hair to symbolise their fidelity. A sixpence was placed in the shoe to bring the couple wealth in their married life. Some brides still place a penny in their shoe during the marriage ceremony.

### **Flower Power**

Flowers have always featured strongly at weddings. The Groom is supposed to wear a flower that appears in the Bridal Bouquet in his button-hole. This stems from the Medieval tradition of a Knight wearing his Lady's colours, as a declaration of his love.

Each flower has its own meaning & can display a special message. Orange Blossom, for instance, signifies chastity, purity & loveliness, while red chrysanthemums mean 'I love you'.

### **The Bouquet Toss**

The Bouquet toss is rumoured to date back to the 14th Century. Guests desired to take home some of the bride's luck so they would attempt to tear the dress. Naturally the brides did not welcome this & the bouquet toss created an inviting distraction.

### **Dressing Up**

Many brides today choose to marry in white, which symbolises maidenhood. This tradition was started by rich families in the 16th Century & was given a boost by Queen Victoria who chose to marry in white, rather than silver, which was the traditional colour of Royal brides. Prior to this time, brides simply wore their best dress & the colour was a matter of preference.

### **The Veil**

Historically, brides have been thought of as particularly vulnerable to evil spirits & many of the customs & traditions associated with weddings are to provide protection. The veil was originally worn by Roman brides. It was thought that it would disguise the bride & therefore outwit malevolent spirits.

The veil became popular in Britain in the 19th Century. In this country it is associated with modesty & chastity.

### **The Wedding Cake**

Cutting the wedding cake is now a traditional part of the wedding celebrations. The couple make the first cut together to symbolise their shared future.

In Britain, early cakes were flat & round & contained fruit & nuts which symbolise fertility.

An old English custom was to place a ring in the wedding cake. The guest who found the ring in his or her piece of cake would be ensured happiness for the next year.

The top tier of the cake is often kept by couples for the christening of their first child.

# DUTIES...

## LET YOUR PARTY KNOW WHAT TO DO

### **Best Man's Duties**

Arrange a stag night.

Assist with clothing hire & arrange collection & return.

Liaise with the ushers, ensure they know about any clothing they need to provide.

Attend the wedding rehearsal.

Organise, oversee & brief the ushers.

Stay with the groom on the eve of the wedding.

Organise umbrellas in wet weather.

Accompany the groom to the ceremony at least 45 minutes before it is due to start.

Look after the wedding ring(s).

Escort the chief bridesmaid to the reception.

Join the reception receiving line to welcome guests (if he is family).

Take charge of the gift display & arrange delivery following the wedding.

Act as Master of Ceremonies if there is no official Toastmaster.

Make a speech & read telegrams, emails & cards.

### **Chief Bridesmaid's Duties**

Attend wedding dress fittings & know how to assist the bride with her dress on the day.

Help choose the bridesmaids' outfits & ensure they know about anything they need to organise / purchase themselves.

Rally the adult bridesmaids & keep them informed of their duties.

Organise a fabulous hen party.

Collect any hired outfits & accessories & return after the wedding.

Attend the rehearsal.

Be with the bride on the morning of the wedding & help her dress.

Meet the bride at the ceremony & arrange her dress & veil.

Oversee the bridesmaids, flower girls & pageboys.

Take the bride's bouquet during the ceremony.

Join the reception receiving line to welcome guests (if she is family).

Take to the dance floor at the earliest possible opportunity!

### **Ushers' Duties**

Help best man organise the stag night.

Ensure correct clothing on the day (including anything you are providing yourself).

Collect hire suit (liaise with best man).

Agree where you are returning it to & when.

Arrive at the ceremony at least 45 minutes before it is due to start for photographs & briefing.

Understand your duties in seating guests.

Have an umbrella at hand if raining.

Distribute buttonholes, corsages & orders of service.

Ensure guests all have transport & directions to the reception.

Clear away orders of service after the ceremony.

Check for items left behind at the ceremony & take to the reception venue.

Escort bridesmaids to the reception.

Take gifts from guests & place in designated gift area.

Hit the dance floor with enthusiasm & invite singletons to dance.

## RECOMMENDED SUPPLIERS...

### FLORISTS

#### **Sweetpea**

[www.sweetpeablandford.co.uk](http://www.sweetpeablandford.co.uk)

#### **Florabunda**

Tel: 01258 451824

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

#### **Lionel Mumford**

[www.lionelmumford.com](http://www.lionelmumford.com)

#### **Louise Emily Photography**

[www.louiseemilyphotography.com](http://www.louiseemilyphotography.com)

#### **Pictures of You**

[www.pictures-of-you.co.uk](http://www.pictures-of-you.co.uk)

### DRESSES & SUITS

#### **Courtyard Bridal**

Tel: 01202 625494

[www.courtyardbridal.co.uk](http://www.courtyardbridal.co.uk)

#### **Ragtags**

Tel: 01258 455707

[www.ragtags.co.uk](http://www.ragtags.co.uk)

### CAKES

#### **Bethellbridge Bakery**

[www.bethellbridge.co.uk](http://www.bethellbridge.co.uk)

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### **Whaley Entertainment Ltd**

[www.whaleyents.com](http://www.whaleyents.com)

#### **Pegasus Discos**

[www.pegasusdisco.co.uk](http://www.pegasusdisco.co.uk)

### BEAUTY

#### **Blandford Health & Beauty**

Tel: 01258 450545

[www.blandfordbeauty.co.uk](http://www.blandfordbeauty.co.uk)

#### **Beauty Workshop (includes hair)**

Tel: 01258 480319

[www.thebeautyworkshop.co.uk](http://www.thebeautyworkshop.co.uk)

### JEWELLERY

#### **Horrocks & Webb – Jewellery**

Tel: 01258 452618

[www.horrocksandwebb.co.uk](http://www.horrocksandwebb.co.uk)

### VENUE DECORATION

#### **Novia Events**

Tel: 07811 789125

[noviaevents@gmail.com](mailto:noviaevents@gmail.com)

#### **Love By Design**

[www.lovebydesignweddings.co.uk](http://www.lovebydesignweddings.co.uk)

### TRANSPORT

#### **Dorset Dub Hire**

Tel: 01202 848857

[www.dorsetdubhire.com](http://www.dorsetdubhire.com)





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