

Frequently Asked Questions

Can we have a civil wedding? Yes. We are licensed for 100 guests in the beautiful Great Barn.

Who is the local registrar? The Herefordshire Registration Service Ceremony Coordinator can be contacted on: Tel: 01452 425060 www.herefordshire.gov.uk

Can we have a church wedding? Yes. There are many beautiful churches local to Hellens, and if you choose to get married in a church, you can still use Hellens as the venue for your reception, wedding breakfast and evening party.

What is your closing time? The bar is open until 11.30pm. Carriages for guests should be organised for 11.45. There are only a few taxi services in Ledbury and Ross, so it's essential you book well in advance.

What is the dining capacity? The Great Barn will accommodate up to 100 people.

Can we invite additional evening guests? There is room for an additional 40 guests for your evening celebrations.

Do you have on-site accommodation? We can provide accommodation in the Georgian Stables which sleeps 16 in 3 doubles, 7 singles and 1 triple room.

How soon before our wedding can we set up? The Great Barn is available to you the day before to set everything up.

What do we do about music? Our own sound system works well for music during the ceremony or the wedding breakfast. If you want something louder for the evening reception then we can clear a space after the wedding breakfast for a DJ or live band plus plenty of room for dancing.

Can we bring our own flowers & decorations? The Great Barn is effectively a blank canvas and looks stunning as it is. You are welcome to personalise it with flowers, props, lights, bunting, decorations, etc. We can provide advice and guidance on sustainable alternatives to plastics. We ask that you don't use balloons, Chinese lanterns, sparklers or fireworks.

Are there catering facilities? We have a catering kitchen, equipped with a large gas cooker, warming oven, 2 freezers, 2 fridges and a Lincat boiler. If you are holding your ceremony in the barn, your caterer should be aware that noise can carry from the kitchen.

Can we bring our own wine? We have a reasonably priced wine list to choose from. If you

prefer, you may supply your own wines and champagne for the wedding breakfast for which there will be a corkage charge of £5.50 per person. We can suggest local suppliers and producers such as Greggs Pitt, Westons, Wye Valley brewery, Three Choirs vineyard and Ledbury real ale.

Can we use our own caterers? We have a list of approved caterers for your wedding. If you wish to use a different caterer we will work with you to ensure that they meet our standards for food that is sustainably, ethically, and locally produced.

Can we change details after we have booked our date? We understand that plans and numbers can change and we will work closely with you to accommodate any changes.

Is there a bar? The Haywain is a beautiful barn adjacent to the Great Barn and is fully licensed. Hellens holds the license for the bar and our staff will run this. The bar closes at 11.30pm

Car Parking We have plenty of space for you and your wedding guests' vehicles.

Is Hellens dog friendly? Pets are very welcome. For their sake, and for the sake of our donkeys, we ask that you do not have fireworks or confetti cannons.

What are your terms and conditions? Your booking is confirmed on receipt of a non-refundable deposit of 20% of the venue hire fee. The full balance should be paid one month before the event. There is a cancellation fee of 50% should you cancel within 30 days of the event.

Why should we choose Hellens for our big day? Hellens is an historic English manor house, one of the oldest in the country. This, combined with the rustic charm of the Great Barn and splendid gardens, makes it a unique venue for your wedding. We limit the number of weddings at Hellens to just eight per year, and the space is exclusively yours on your wedding day. Our friendly, supportive and experienced staff will want you to have the wedding that you dream of.

We will work with you to ensure that the decisions you make on each aspect of your wedding take into consideration the impact on Hellens, its wider community, and the planet. We will help you find choices that are sustainable and ethical.