

Venue & General FAQs



Which entrance should our guests use?

Guests should enter through the main entrance that is directly off the Military Road. There are signposts at the entrance for Vallum.

Can we provide a coach for our guests to be dropped off and picked up?

Yes! A lot of people like to have a bus to bring everyone to the wedding and then another one on the night to pick everyone up.

Can guests park at Vallum?

Yes, they can park in the separate car park and also in the field next to the marquee if more space is needed. Guests may also leave cars overnight but do so at their own risk. Guests should collect cars by 11:30am the next day... Or join us for Lunch in the restaurant or tearoom!

Do we have exclusive use of the site?

Vallum Farm is a working farm and has a tearoom, restaurant, shop & ice cream parlour. The site is open 7 days a week however the wedding venue is private and has its own lawn and decking area.

What is included in the Venue Hire price?

Included in the venue hire are 6' round tables, rustic cream Chiavari chairs, white table linen and napkins, crockery, cutlery, glassware, our garden games, fire pit with logs for the evening, bales, barrels, outdoor sofas, table for gifts, wooden dance floor.

Can we hold our Ceremony at Vallum?

Yes! We have a license to hold ceremonies on site and as our marquee is built within a permanent structure you can get married in the marquee overlooking the country views. If you would like to confirm Vallum as your wedding venue with a deposit, please ensure that you speak to the registrar first to make sure the date and time that you would like is available and then let us know. To hold your ceremony on site we charge £250.00

What is the capacity for the marquee?

The marquee can seat up to 150 guests but can hold more for the evening party. The marquee works well with 50 – 150 guests

Can we have long tables?

Yes, if you would like long tables instead of round we can hire these, which would be at an additional cost.

Can we have confetti?

Unfortunately not - whilst we would make every effort to clear this up, it would be a shame for one of our brides to arrive and see the remnants of someone else's confetti.

What garden games do you have?

We have giant jenga, giant connect 4 & quoits. You are also welcome to bring you own.

What are the toilet facilities?

The Marquee has private facilities for men, women, disabled and baby changing. You can enter directly from the marquee so no need to go outside if the weather isn't great! There are also long mirrors within the toilets to check yourself out!

Will the marquee be warm/cool enough?

The marquee sits within our old Straw Barn so it is sheltered and shaded – the 3 sets of glass doors can be opened if it gets warm. The marquee is also double lined, so it keeps the warmth in the evening (with all those bodies dancing!) We have marquee heaters too if needed.

Is there anywhere to get some photos on the day?

Yes, we have a lake just down the track, which is lovely to capture some photos of your wedding party by the water, you might even see the swans! If the weather isn't great, don't let that stop you, you could bring your wellies and get some country welly shots for your wedding album!

Do you have any decorations that we can use?

Yes, we have lots of bunting which you are welcome to use (for free), it is all mixed pastel colours. We also have some fairy lights. The marquee is filled with festoon lights, so on the evening the big lights go off and the room is filled with lots of pretty festoon lights for the evening.

Are there heaters outside if it is cold?

There aren't heaters but there will be a fire pit with logs for the evening, which is great to sit around on the bales of hay that are covered with hessian and have a drink!

How many people can fit around a table?

Our 6' round tables can fit between 8 to 12 guests on each one.

Do you have a cloakroom we can use?

Yes, we have an area where coats and wraps can be hung for the evening.

Do you have a sound system for the speeches or background music?

Yes – we have a cordless microphone with built in sound system. We can also play your music during the meal – just bring your iPod along and we can connect it for you.

Is there enough electricity for extra things?

Yes – there is plenty! Any doubts, get in touch.

Do we need 'Marquee Cover' included in our Wedding insurance?

No. We own the marquee - and so it is covered for fire damage under our insurance. Naturally if there was severe damage and we could no longer host your wedding, we would refund all the money you have paid us
Your own wedding insurance might cover the money you had paid to other suppliers (ie, florist, photographer, band etc).

Can we set up a gift/guest book table?

Of course!

Is there a children's play area?

Yes, in the play paddock near the wedding lawn we have a children's play area, which is open to other customers, but children are welcome to play. Adult supervision is needed.

Can we use Fireworks or Sky Lanterns?

Unfortunately not - with livestock close by, fireworks sends them into a mad rush, and sky lanterns can cause all sorts of problems.

Have you thought about low-level silent fireworks, like Catherine Wheels?

What are the bar and music end times?

We have a license to play music until 11pm, and to serve at the bar until 11:00pm.

Can we decorate the marquee ourselves?

Yes, you are welcome to come the day before between 3pm and 5pm and drop any drinks or decorations off that you may have or if you would like to put bits out yourselves that's not a problem to do that either.

How do I confirm/how does it work?

We will put together your Wedding Notes for you with your wedding details and food, drink choices etc.. And send them to you. If you are happy with everything and would like to go ahead, we ask for £1,500.00 to secure the date.

16 weeks before your Big Day we ask for 50% of the remaining estimated total.

8 weeks before your Big Day we will have our '2-month to go meeting' where we will finalise details and then 6 weeks before your Big Day the final balance is due.

What is the 2-month to go meeting?

In this meeting we will go through the running order and times for the day, final numbers, final menu choices, any dietary requirements and any other details that you wish to go through.

Do you have Terms & Conditions?

Yes, they are on our website www.vallumfarm.co.uk/weddings and have a tab on the left hand side.

When do guests have to vacate the premises?

All guests should vacate the premises by 11.45pm at the latest.

Food FAQs

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Can you provide something that isn't mentioned in your brochure?

Yes, if you have something in mind that you can't see in our brochure as a menu choice, just ask! We are flexible and can cost it up for you if you wish. We can also cater to any intolerances or allergies that your guests may have!

Can we taste the menu?

We designed our prices to be as competitive as possible, so we did not build in a free tasting.

If you are particularly keen, this can be arranged.

The tasting itself is for 4 people, and then we add the equivalent of 8 people onto the food charge for the wedding day to cover the cost of the tasting (the cost per person of making 4 meals is much higher than the cost per person when making 100 meals). If you would like more people to join the tasting, they are charged at the normal per head rate.

When do I need to confirm final numbers and choices?

In your '2 months to go' meeting we will finalise the details and then any changes will be amended. The remaining balance is then paid 6 weeks before the big day.

In the notes, what is the difference between a 'Baby' and a 'Child'?

Normally a baby will receive a high chair and have food from their parents - and are not charged for. A child (usually under 12) will receive a normal chair, and a child sized portion - charged at half the normal price.

Do you have a cake knife?

We have a decorative silver knife you can use.
We also have a giant barrel you could use to display your cake if you would like!

Do you cater for our suppliers?

Yes! You can either pay for them to enjoy your wedding breakfast menu choice or we can arrange a plate of sandwiches, cakes, tea & coffee for £10/head. Just let us know if you would like us to cater for your band/DJ/photographer.

Can we have a chocolate fountain?

Unfortunately we can't allow chocolate fountains in the marquee because of the carpet and lining.

Do you allow outside catering?

We don't allow outside caterers to come in and use our kitchens but if there is something you would like to have on your wedding day that you don't see in our brochure, please just ask!

Drink FAQs

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Can we have tea and coffee after the meal?

We can either serve everyone tea and coffee to the tables at £2.50pp
Or have a Tea & Coffee station for half an hour after the meal at £2.00pp

How does your corkage work? (And what about the evening?)

So that you know exactly how much you are spending, we charge corkage per person, rather than per bottle.
The number of bottles you get through is not counted - the corkage is paid for that 'service'
(ie, arrival, table, toast)
Once that service section is finished, any remaining bottles you have provided will be stored for you to collect following your wedding.

Can we use any left over drink that we have provided for the daytime, on the evening?

No, once your arrival drinks have finished, any left over drinks will be stored ready for you to collect the following day. The same applies to any toasting drinks and table drinks so any bottles of wine, champagne and Prosecco will come off the tables after the wedding breakfast and speeches have finished. No drinks that you have provided for the daytime can be served after this.
The bar will then continue serving for the rest of the day.

What can we provide for drinks if we are paying corkage?

You could provide Wine, Prosecco, Champagne or Pimms with lemonade and fruit such as mint, cucumber and strawberries. If you would like to provide bottles of beer for the arrival drinks you may do this for this part of the day too. We also have a range of local ales from Wylam & Allendale Breweries including our very own Vallum Pale Ale from Allendale Brewery, if you would like to provide a great local ale at your wedding, just ask! We can't allow kegs of beer or bottled spirits within the corkage prices.
You can also bring a non-alcoholic choice of drink for any non-drinkers or children, such as fruit juice or fruity sparkling water for example

How does the bar work?

We have a fully stocked bar that will be open all day (except before and during the ceremony, if you are holding one on site). The bar shuts at 11pm in accordance with our late license. There will be soft drinks, spirits, local ales and other beers available also.

If you are unsure or have any other questions please don't hesitate to contact us:
weddings@vallumfarm.co.uk or 01434 672323