

# HEVER CASTLE



## Weddings

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AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER

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## Introduction

Set in 125 acres of idyllic Kent countryside, Hever Castle's rich and varied history provides the perfect romantic back drop for wedding ceremonies and receptions. Tie the knot in style as the magic of this special place brings your wedding day dreams to life, creating treasured memories that you and your guests will cherish for a lifetime.

Discover centuries of history in the Castle once the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII and mother of Elizabeth I, later passing into the ownership of another of Henry's wives, Anne of Cleves.

Today however, much of what you will see is a result of the remarkable genius of William Waldorf Astor, America's wealthiest man at the turn of the 20th century, who moved to England and purchased the Castle in 1903. Astor invested vast amounts of time, money

and imagination into restoring the Castle, building the adjoining Tudor Village (now referred to as the Astor Wing) and developing the award-winning gardens.

The scope for wedding opportunities on the Estate is boundless. Whether it be the stately grandeur of the Castle itself, the country house atmosphere of the Astor Wing, or the stunning lakeside location of the Italian Garden, Hever Castle offers an enchanting venue to suit all of your wedding day dreams, throughout all of the seasons.

Romance, memories, magic, joy and love are the order of the day at Hever Castle! Discover more throughout the pages of this brochure and please do get in touch to discuss your requirements with one of our wedding coordinators who will be happy to answer any questions.



Images:  
1 Castle Ceremony, 2 Castle Dining, 3&4 Hever Castle Wedding

# Castle Weddings

If history is the order of the day, then what better place to celebrate your wedding than within the walls of the historic Castle itself. The magnificent wood panelling with richly carved columns made of Italian walnut, together with a fine collection of antique furniture dating from the 17th and 18th centuries, makes the Castle an unrivalled location for your wedding celebration.

Ceremonies take place in the Castle Inner Hall where panelled walls, beautifully carved columns and

an elaborate staircase gallery set the scene. There's a fine display of antique furniture and an exceptional collection of portraits depicting Tudor monarchs.

The wedding breakfast is hosted in the Castle Dining Hall, there is a stunning minstrels' gallery, fine wood panelling and an ornately carved stone fireplace. The solid oak tables and ancient tapestry enhance the Tudor atmosphere and create a regal setting for your wedding celebration.

CEREMONY: Castle Inner Hall  
 DRINKS RECEPTION: Courtyard or Tudor Suite  
 DINING: Castle Dining Hall  
 EVENING RECEPTION: Moat Restaurant

CAPACITY FOR:  
 CEREMONY: 60 (48 seated, 12 standing)

DRINKS RECEPTION: 60

WEDDING BREAKFAST: 40 \*For Castle weddings over 40, the Tudor Suite can accommodate up to 60 for the wedding breakfast.

EVENING RECEPTION: 120

ONSITE ACCOMMODATION ✓  
 SECURE AND PRIVATE PARKING ✓  
 DISABLED ACCESS ✓

AVAILABILITY: From midday on days when the Castle is closed to the public. From 6.30pm on days when the Castle is open to the public.

# Astor Wing Weddings

Created in the style of a Tudor Village, William Waldorf Astor commissioned the Astor Wing in 1903. Craftsman used traditional Tudor tools in order to retain the authenticity of the Tudor era. The result is a series of beautiful interconnecting Tudor style buildings joined to the Castle.

The function space within the Astor Wing is formed of three interconnecting rooms known as the Tudor Suite. Surrounded by private lawns and oak panelled throughout, the Tudor Suite has unparalleled views of the Castle, moat and gardens. Leaded windows fill the rooms with light, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Ceremonies take place in the Tudor Suite Sitting Room overlooking the Castle and moat. Drinks receptions can either be held in the Music Room or, weather permitting, outside on the private Tudor Suite lawns, overlooking the Castle.

Wedding breakfasts are held in the Tudor Suite Dining Room, a classic oak panelled

room offering stunning chandeliers and an ornately carved Clipsham stone working fireplace.

Should you wish to extend your celebration to an evening reception, this will be held in the Moat Restaurant. Only a short walk away and overlooking the Castle, the Moat Restaurant is licensed until midnight and offers bar facilities, an area for dancing to your live band or disco and an area for an evening buffet. There is also an outdoor seating area with views of the floodlit Castle as the evening draws in.

For the evening reception you may choose to opt for a sailcloth tent on the Winter Garden Lawn as an alternative to the Moat Restaurant. Adjacent to the Castle and Tudor Suite, this lawn is perfectly located just a short stroll from the Astor Wing.

There is also an opportunity to incorporate the function rooms within the Castle itself into an Astor Wing Wedding.



CEREMONY: Tudor Suite Sitting Room  
 DRINKS RECEPTION: Music Room or Tudor Suite Lawns  
 DINING: Tudor Suite Dining Room  
 EVENING RECEPTION: The Moat Restaurant

CAPACITY FOR:  
 CEREMONY: 60 (48 seated, 12 standing)  
 DRINKS RECEPTION: 60  
 WEDDING BREAKFAST: 60  
 EVENING RECEPTION: 120

ONSITE ACCOMMODATION ✓  
 SECURE AND PRIVATE PARKING ✓  
 AVAILABILITY: All year round

Images: 1 Tipi, 2 Tudor Suite Lawn, 3 Tudor Suite Dining Room, 4 Tudor Suite Sitting Room



1



2



3



4

Images: 1 Guthrie Pavilion,  
2 Loggia Ceremony, 3 Loggia Bar,  
4 Rose Garden

## Italian Garden Weddings

One of the most magnificent areas of the gardens at Hever Castle is the Italian Garden, which was created to display William Waldorf Astor's collection of Italian sculpture.

Summer months see this award winning garden come to life as ceremonies take place under the beautiful arched columns of the Italian Loggia overlooking the lake. This magical lakeside location can also be extended to your drinks reception where guests can take in the views from the stone piazza complete with its very own Trevi-inspired fountain.

The Loggia Bar adds another element of alfresco charm to the drinks reception.

There's an opportunity during the drinks reception for your photographer to capture some truly iconic Castle shots of the newly married couple in front of the Castle.

A short walk through the Rose Garden is the Guthrie Pavilion which plays host to an Italian Garden wedding reception. Extensively refurbished in Palladian style, the vaulted ceilings and full length arched windows make for a light and airy atmosphere from day into night without losing the romantic backdrop of the lake and gardens.

Licensed until 1.00am, the Guthrie Pavilion also hosts your evening reception accommodating an evening buffet, disco or live band and bar facilities.

CEREMONY: Loggia  
DRINKS RECEPTION: Loggia Terrace  
DINING: Guthrie Pavilion  
EVENING RECEPTION: Guthrie Pavilion

CAPACITY FOR:  
CEREMONY: 180  
DRINKS RECEPTION: 180  
WEDDING BREAKFAST: 180  
EVENING RECEPTION: 220

ONSITE ACCOMMODATION ✓  
SECURE AND PRIVATE PARKING ✓  
DISABLED ACCESS ✓

LOGGIA CEREMONY AVAILABILITY –  
4.30pm on all days excluding school holidays  
and bank holiday weekends.

GUTHRIE PAVILLION RECEPTION  
AVAILABILITY – on all days at  
6.30pm excluding school holidays  
and bank holiday weekends



Marquee Wedding on the Winter Garden Lawn

## Marquee Weddings

The beautiful gardens at Hever Castle were laid out between 1904 and 1908 turning what was then marshland into the spectacular gardens you see today.

For a marquee wedding reception, Hever Castle offers the beautiful Winter Garden Lawn, a private lawn located by the side of the moat with spectacular views overlooking the Castle.

The Winter Garden Lawn can accommodate a marquee for up to 600 guests.

We work closely with a number of nominated marquee suppliers who will create a bespoke quotation for a marquee to suit your numbers and requirements.

Catering is provided by our onsite caterers.

Please speak to the weddings team for further information.

# Ceremony-Only Weddings

Should you wish to book just a wedding ceremony and not a reception, we offer ceremony-only weddings.

## ASTOR WING CEREMONY-ONLY

An Astor Wing ceremony-only wedding takes place in the Astor Wing of Hever Castle in the oak panelled Tudor Suite Sitting Room overlooking the Castle and formal lawns.

Following the ceremony we request that the wedding party stays to enjoy a drinks reception either within the Tudor Suite or, if weather allows, on the private Tudor Suite lawns where the Castle provides a spectacular backdrop for photographs.

## ITALIAN GARDEN CEREMONY-ONLY

An Italian Garden ceremony-only wedding is available between April and October (excluding school holiday dates and bank holiday weekends). It is conducted under the beautiful arched columns of the Italian Loggia with views across the 38-acre lake.

This magical lakeside location can be extended to a drinks reception where guests can take in the views from the stone piazza complete with its very own Trevi-inspired fountain.

The availability for ceremony-only weddings for both venues is subject to the time of year, the booking lead-in time and other events taking place on the Estate.



Loggia Ceremony



Astor Wing

“THE JOY THAT  
I FEEL IN BEING  
LOVED BY A KING  
WHOM I ADORE,  
AND TO WHOM  
I WOULD WITH  
PLEASURE MAKE  
A SACRIFICE OF  
MY HEART”

Anne Boleyn to Henry VIII





## Food & Beverage

From the start of your wedding journey with us, the catering team at Hever Castle will be available to discuss menu opportunities, ensuring that all of your catering requirements are met.

From the eclectic canapé menu through to the extensive selection of wedding breakfast menus and evening reception options, our catering team will deliver a dining experience to suit your own personal tastes and preferences.

We welcome your own personal menu ideas and bespoke menus can be created where possible. We recognise the need to cater for a broad spectrum of catering requirements ranging from special dietary requirements, allergies, healthy options to all-out decadence!

Favourite cocktails can be supplied and to balance this we also offer a great selection of non-alcoholic beverages.

The use of local produce is important to us and features in our menus. We also recommend a selection of local and English wines.

Wedding couples will be offered a complimentary tasting ahead of the wedding day.\* This provides an opportunity to sample items from our seasonal menu and wine list, to meet the team and to discuss any questions you may have.

\*Subject to Terms and Conditions of booking and package selection

# Stay With Us

Hever Castle offers 28 five star luxury bedrooms, each with its own unique charm and character. All bedrooms combine traditional features with modern day luxuries.

Hever Castle has recently received a Five Star Gold Award for Guest Accommodation, the highest possible rating and accolade achievable. Each of the 28 en-suite bedrooms are unique in style, some offer four poster beds, some roll top baths.

Enjoy an abundance of antique furnishings, panelled walls, chaise longue and stunning views through leaded windows. Original features fused with more contemporary comforts create a perfect match for a luxurious stay.

Amongst the collection of rooms there are twin bedded rooms and single bedrooms, however, the majority are double.

The 28 bedrooms are located across the Astor Wing (x 19 rooms) and the Anne Boleyn Wing (x 9 rooms). Astor Wing accommodation is offered for Astor Wing and Castle weddings and the Anne Boleyn Wing accommodation for Italian Garden weddings. There is, however, an option to book all 28 bedrooms, our weddings team will be happy to discuss this option during the booking process.

In addition to these 28 bedrooms, or as an alternative, guests can choose to stay at Medley Court, a luxurious four bedroom property available on a self catering basis. It sleeps up to eight guests and is bookable for a minimum of two night stay.

