

RANCHO CHIQUITA WEDDINGS - FAQ's

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

May we have our ceremony as well as our reception at Rancho Chiquita?

Absolutely! Rancho Chiquita is the most beautiful and romantic location for your celebration. Our ceremony site overlooks a spectacular panoramic ocean view and acres of rolling mountains. Gently winding steps lead from the garden terrace down to the wedding gazebo, offering a unique and lovely new meaning to 'walking down the aisle'.

How many guests can you accommodate?

The grounds of Rancho Chiquita are spacious and multi-tiered, and we are rarely limited with regard to guest count. We typically host up to 250 guests at the ceremony sight and for seated service on the Lawn Terrace; 150 guests for seated service at the Fountain; 125 guests for seated service on the upper terrace; and we regularly accommodate 400 guests for wedding or fundraising events serving cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Do we have access to the house?

You may arrange the use of one or two of our private suites, each with a queen sized bed, small seating arrangement, separate make-up area and bathroom; there is no showering facility available. The suites share a private Palapa typically used for photographs, primping, private conversations or resting. The Palapa is furnished with outdoor Mexican leather furniture, with privacy ensured by a large wrought iron gate. Rancho Chiquita is a private home and there is no access to the main residence.

What are the site rental fees?

Fees to lease the estate range from \$6,000.00* daily, and are determined by the type of event and the number of guests.

What do you need to hold our date?

A signed contract and a 50% non-refundable deposit for the site fee and site logistics fee are required to hold the date. The balance, along with a \$3,000.00 refundable security deposit, is due 14 days prior to your event.

What hours can we be at Rancho Chiquita?

You may use the estate grounds for up to 10 hours on the day of your wedding and for up to 2 hours for your wedding rehearsal. Our bridal party will typically arrive at 12:00pm, with guests arriving at 3:30pm, the ceremony at 4:00pm and the wedding celebration continuing until 9:30pm. Guests will depart from the property no later than 10:15pm. For morning or mid-day weddings you may arrange access to the estate from 8:00am. Extended hours beyond 10 can be arranged for an additional hourly fee.

What kind of food do you serve?

No "wedding food" here! Renowned chef, restaurateur, and author, Geraldine Gilliland owns two highly acclaimed restaurants in Santa Monica and was nominated for the prestigious James Beard Culinary Award. As proprietor of Rancho Chiquita Events, LLC, she offers distinctive and exceptional gourmet cuisine, with a wide array of contemporary, cultural and international choices, including (but not limited to): California-Contemporary, Mexican, New-Southern, Chinese, Continental, Indian, Japanese, Vegetarian and Barbeque.

May we Taste-Test your food?

We are delighted to invite our brides and grooms to one of our restaurants for a complimentary, *and very fun*, Tasting. Any additional tastings are charged at the rate of \$100* per person.

Can we bring our own alcohol?

We offer very competitive pricing for all your Bar needs, including: *BaselineBar* (Beer, Wine, Champagne toast, Soft drinks); *WellBar* or *ExecutiveBar* (Well or Premium liquor in addition to the *BaselineBar*); and our famous *SignatureCocktails*. If you would like to bring your own alcohol you may do so with management approval and in accordance with some regulatory guidelines including but not limited to: alcohol may be brought onto the site on the day of the wedding and any unopened bottles must be removed from the site once the reception is over that same day. Corkage fees may apply. Standard bar service is up to 5 hours with service ceasing 30 minutes prior to the end of your event.

May we choose our own vendors?

Absolutely! We do have a list of Recommended and Required Vendors; tried and true professionals with successful, long-standing relationships with Rancho Chiquita, who offer excellent service, low fees and are

familiar with our estate and its requirements. You may, however, select your own vendors subject to management approval.

What kind of music may we have?

During the ceremony and cocktail hour you have the option of live acoustic music (with the exception of bagpipes) or a DJ. Due to the serenity of our surroundings and Malibu guidelines, we do not allow electronically amplified live performers, brass bands, or live drums after 5:30pm. Music and playlists must be approved by Rancho Chiquita in advance; we do not allow music that has been banned from public airwaves, or that includes overtly sexual lyrics, racial overtones, or may be considered offensive to guests.

May we use our own DJ?

A DJ must be selected from the Rancho Chiquita pre-approved list. In the event that Rancho Chiquita management agrees to an outside-DJ, said party(ies) are subject to all rules and regulations of the estate and the City of Malibu; must do a site walk-through with a Site representative prior to the event day; and management reserves the right to terminate performance at any time.

Do you help with the wedding planning?

To assist you with the special components of hosting a wedding at a private estate, and to ensure that your special day runs smoothly, Rancho Chiquita requires that you utilize our Site Logistics Coordinator to assist you during the month before your wedding. The coordinator will help you with regulations, permits, rentals and vendors, and will coordinate the site logistics on your wedding day. If you require additional wedding planning or assistance, we can provide you with a wide array of support to help you create your wedding event vision.

Are there other site fees?

There is a nominal cleaning fee and a site logistics coordination fee. Your catering fee (food, beverages, staff and rentals) will vary upon your event, guest count and culinary choices; once a catering contract is submitted to you for approval, it must be signed and returned with a 50% deposit. All balances are due 14 days prior to your event.

Are there other costs incurred in hosting our event at Rancho Chiquita?

An insurance policy estimated to be \$250*, must be obtained to cover liquor liability, vendors (valet parking, etc.), outside rentals, homeowners, event cancellation, or "Acts of God". Additional costs vary in accordance with your event needs and may include such items as valet parking, specialty lighting, or heat lamps in colder weather. Price estimates can be quoted for most items based on the rates charged by our Recommended Vendors.

Where do my out-of-town guests stay?

Malibu and Santa Monica are close to the Rancho Chiquita, with easy access to an array of tourist attractions, including our beautiful beaches. Slightly further from the estate, yet still on the west-side are Venice, Marina Del Rey, Playa Del Rey, and further in-land, Beverly Hills and Westwood (home to UCLA). Closer to the Valley and in-land are Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village and Agoura Hills.

What is your booking availability?

Weddings and special events may be booked from April 15th through November 15th.

When can we see Rancho Chiquita?

We show Rancho Chiquita by appointment only from Monday through Saturday.

*Prices may change without notice.

Please visit us at our website: <http://www.weddinginmalibu.com>

For a Virtual Tour, please go to: http://www.circlepix.com/tour.htm?id=289895&mls_tour=1

