



*Unforgettable* **weddings, receptions** *and* **after parties**



The image is a composite of two photographs. The top photograph shows a close-up of a large bouquet of white roses and greenery, with a rustic wooden building and trees in the background. The bottom photograph shows a stone-paved path leading towards a building, decorated with white lanterns and floral arrangements in white planters. A semi-transparent grey banner with white text is centered across the middle of the image.

Giving *you* the memorable wedding  
you deserve at a unique venue



# Welcome to *your* wedding venue



**N**estling beneath the old stone bridge at Halfway House, and set against a background of historical buildings, Jack Meade's Bar and Beer Garden offers the perfect respite from the hectic pace of everyday life. Even though it's a mere 4 miles from Waterford City centre, it is situated in the heart of farmland and woodland area. Its proximity to Faithlegg Golf Course, Waterford Castle Golf Course, Woodstown beach and Passage East car ferry make it a very popular destination for both locals and visitors.

The pub dates back to 1705 and has been in the present family since 1857. While having up to date facilities its old character has been retained. However, 300 years later a whole new dimension was added with our bar and beer garden. The large indoor bar and extensive beer garden is suitable for everyone with barbecue, rest rooms, baby changing facilities and of course our playground and pet farm area for kids too.

The extensive grounds are a combination of heritage and environmental harmony. The old ice house and the lime kiln have been restored and a walk has been created along the tidal stream around the perimeter of the grounds back to the old agricultural museum, which takes you back to the days of the working horse.



# *Your* wedding at Jack Meade's

No matter what size of wedding you are planning Jack Meade's is the perfect venue.

We have two main areas in which groups of all sizes can be catered for.

The *Newer Bar* and beer garden are suitable for both large and small wedding parties. Where as the *Loft Bar* can cater for smaller parties, functions and weddings.

## Outdoor ceremonies

Hold your ceremony outdoors with our stunning gardens and lawns as a backdrop. Floral arches can be arranged by our resident local florist as well as other venue dressing options, please ask for details

## Indoor ceremonies

Exchange vows in one of our newly constructed conservatories.

## Civil ceremonies, Blessings & Renewals

We are an approved and licensed venue for Civil Ceremonies and are delighted to accommodate all types of ceremonies either inside the building or on the lawns.

## Your wedding menu

We tailor our wedding and special occasions packages according to your needs, with menus starting from just €22.50 we have mouth watering food to suit all tastes.

Our €27.50 set menu is shown right.

For more information and to see all our menus please visit our website: [www.jackmeades.com/menus](http://www.jackmeades.com/menus)





# Entertaining *your* guests



Jack Meade's is a must for musical lovers with live music every weekend. As a result we have access to many musicians and bands so we can book the perfect music for your celebrations.

We can also offer more unusual entertainment to keep your guests amused while your photographs are being taken, such as archery on the lawns, a magician or caricature artist.

For younger guests we can recommend some excellent children's entertainers.

## Photographs

Jack Meade's gardens provide a stunning backdrop to your ceremony and photographs. Our newly constructed conservatory gives you ample light for photography should you need to take photos indoors and the venue and tables can be dressed according to your requirements



## Outdoor fun

- Undercover patio area for BBQ.
- Beautifully landscaped gardens and stream for stunning photographs.
- Outdoor bar and ice cream for your guests on hotter days.
- Children's play area for the younger guests.

## Indoor fun

- Photo booth for inside entertainment\*.
- Dance area for your guests and a DJ provides the entertainment (ask for details).\*

## Continue the party the day after

Finish your wedding ceremony the a day after party with carvery BBQ inside or outside.

See our menus on our website ([www.jackmeades.com/menus](http://www.jackmeades.com/menus)) or call Liam Hartley for details.

# Top Tips



Outline your budget and to-do-list and **stick to them**.

Give yourself **one or two tasks to achieve each week**, and leave the final two weeks relatively clear.

**Take time out.** Have at least one or two evenings each week where you don't talk about the wedding.

Only **plan a wedding you can afford**, and a wedding that you're going to enjoy.

**Write a schedule of the day** outlining everything you need to do before you walk up the aisle, leaving yourself enough time to relax. If you're rushing you'll get flustered and won't enjoy the day so much.

**Eat Breakfast!** Start your wedding day with healthy and filling nourishment. Since most brides don't get to enjoy the meal served at the reception, you really should consider having something to eat before the wedding. While food may be the last thing on your mind on your wedding day, it's nonetheless important that you start the day with some healthy and filling nourishment. It's going to be a long (and wonderful) day and you'll want to have plenty of energy so you can keep dancing and socializing for hours!

**Consider making a speech** if you're the bride. It doesn't need to be long but can be immensely rewarding.

**Get your bridesmaids to carry your make up** in a bag for you and tell you if your mascara's run or you need another coat of lipstick.

**Wear white gloves** when you put on your dress to prevent marks.

Create an **emergency kit** filled with items you may need on your wedding day. Consider an "emergency kit" filled with items you may need on your wedding day. Fill a small bag with items such as a travel size sewing kit (you'd be amazed at the magic tricks just one safety pin can perform), clear nail polish (for panty hose/stocking runs), an extra set of panty hose or stockings, throat lozenges, and aspirin. Other ideas for the "emergency kit" include throat lozenges, aspirin, tissues, breath mints and plasters.

Resign yourself to the fact that **some things (usually tiny things) may go wrong** and be prepared to brush them aside. Whatever happens you need to take it in your stride – don't dwell on minor mishaps, but laugh at them and enjoy yourself. Never lose sight of the reason you are there – to become husband and wife.

Stop at various intervals during the day and look around you. **Savour the moment** – it will go quickly!





# Wedding etiquette

## The key players of your wedding day

### The Best Man

The Best Man traditionally is responsible for his own and the Groom's attire. He sees to the transport for himself and the Groom and he also arranges the 'Stag Night'; preferably several days or weeks before the make sure he gets the Groom to the ceremony on time!

On the day, the Best Man ensures the whole day runs smoothly, including keeping the rings safe.

### The Chief Bridesmaid

The Chief Bridesmaid is chosen by the Bride to assist during the preparations. On the actual day it is her job to ensure all the other attendants are in place. She will put the final touches to the Bride's dress and veil ready for her entry into the ceremony. During the service she will hold the Bride's bouquet; she will also sign the register along with the Best Man.

### Ushers

The Ushers will greet the guests as they arrive. They will distribute the service sheets and show the guests to their seats. If it is raining they will be on hand with umbrellas for the bridal party.

### The Parents

Traditionally the bride's parents used to pay for the majority of the wedding, but this is no longer the case in most modern marriages. Now, both parents usually contribute towards the cost.

## The Receiving Line

A Receiving Line is where all the Wedding Guests are introduced by the Toastmaster to the parents of the Bride and Bridegroom together with the Bride and Bridegroom. The order of a Receiving Line would normally be: Brides Father, Bridegrooms Mother, Bridegroom, Bride, Bridegrooms Father, Brides Mother; or as advised by the Bride and Bridegroom. It is your day and therefore any request about your receiving line is completely down to the Bride & Bridegroom.

## Speeches and Toasts

The first speech is given by the bride's father, godfather, family friend or relation. This speech introduces the bride to the groom's family, usually with praise and tender memories.

The groom's speech is given on behalf of the groom and his new wife. The groom thanks the various people who have helped with the wedding, and adds some personal and loving comments about his new wife.

The best man will make the famous speech and read out greetings from people unable to attend the wedding.

Usually there are three toasts. Firstly to the Bride & Bridegroom, proposed by the Brides Father or whoever has been appointed in his place. The second toast should be to the Bridesmaids and Best Man, proposed by the Bridegroom, and then the Best Man propose the final toast to the parents of the Bride & Bridegroom.

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# Planning *your* wedding

## The first thing to think about

On your very special day you will want and deserve the best of everything, so planning carefully will ensure you achieve this. Now that your wedding date has been set, reception venue and ceremony booked there are a few things you can do straight away;

- Set your budget and speak to family if they are contributing financially
- Write a guest list so you have an idea of numbers
- Organise wedding insurance
- Decide on your chief bridesmaid and best man
- Send 'save the date' cards
- Think about colour schemes for the wedding day

## Choose & book your suppliers;

- Start looking for your perfect wedding dress!
- Photographer and videographer
- Florist
- Transport
- Entertainment
- Stationery
- Wedding cake

The framework for an excellent day is now set.

## The countdown

### 9 - 12 months

Time to have some fun!

- Organise the wedding present list; lots of department stores will help you with this.
- Choose your wedding rings
- Visit hairdressers and beauticians
- Once you have decided on your colour scheme you can shop for bridesmaids dresses and suit hire
- Look for accessories such as shoes, jewellery, tiara, veil and underwear!
- Book your honeymoon (check your passports are in date and arrange inoculations if necessary)

### 6 Months

You have found the perfect dress, now to make it fit to perfection.

**Top tip** – *ensure that you have the correct underwear and shoes with you when you go for your fitting!*

### 4-5 months

Now is the time to be sending out the wedding invitations (you ideally want the RSVP date to be six weeks before your big day).

### 3 Months

- Book your final details meeting with Liam Hartley – this will go through all information for the day such as timings, numbers, menus, suppliers.
- Arrange the order of service sheets to be printed.
- Arrange a second meeting with your minister/officiant. Choose your hymns (church ceremony), music and readings (non-biblical for civil ceremonies).

### 6 Weeks

You should now be fairly well organised and able to relax for the next couple of weeks, happy in the knowledge that other people are now working on your behalf. Now might be a good time to pick out the presents for the wedding party.

### 4 Weeks

The pace is really hotting up! It's time to check final details with your suppliers.

Now that all your replies are back you can arrange the seating plan. A variety of seating options are available; our wedding coordinators can advise on the most suitable.

### 7 to 10 days

Arrange a rehearsal; now would be a good time to finalise arrangements and responsibilities. Send a rough copy of your table plan to your Wedding Co-ordinator.

**Top Tip** – *wear in your wedding shoes at home*

### Two days

Give final numbers to Jack Meade's. Also bring in your table plan, favours and other decorations and information for the day.



## One day

**Top Tip** – try to delegate as much as possible. Have your beauty treatment, finish off any packing, lay out your wedding gown and going away outfits. Then eat a light supper, put your feet up, relax and have an early night!

## Timings of Events

Think about the time and length of your ceremony to help with your time table for the day;

- Church of England (45 minutes), Catholic (30 minutes to 1 hour), Baptist (30 minutes), Methodist (30 minutes to 1 hour), Civil Ceremony (30 minutes).
- Photographs at the church – approximately half an hour
- Travel time to the venue
- Photographs at the venue – approximately one and a half hours
- Wedding Breakfast and Speeches – two hours
- Time between meal and evening reception – allow at least an hour so that you can have a well deserved rest!
- Evening reception to start between 7:30pm and 8pm
- Buffet served at 9:30pm
- Function Bar closes at 12:30 (Friday & Saturday)
- Dancing finishes at 1am (Friday & Saturday)
- Resident bar available upon request

*“Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue and a silver sixpence in her shoe.”*

Each item in this poem represents a good-luck token for the bride. If she carries all of them on her wedding day, her marriage will be happy. “Something old” symbolizes continuity with the bride’s family and the past. “Something new” means optimism and hope for the bride’s new life ahead. “Something borrowed” is usually an item from a happily married friend or family member. As for the colourful item, blue has been connected to weddings for centuries. Before the late 19th century, blue was a popular colour for wedding gowns, as evidenced in proverbs like, “Marry in blue, lover be true.”

## Silver Sixpence

The silver sixpence is traditionally placed in the brides left shoe. The coin was originally brought into circulation during the reign of Edward VI and became part of wedding tradition since Victorian times. It was customary for the bride to be presented with a sixpence by the Lord of the Manor as a wedding gift. As time passed it became more popular for fathers to give their daughter a sixpence. The bride or her father would place the coin in her left shoe in the hope it will bring her marriage a lifetime of wealth.

# Award Winning Cake Design

*By Erma Barlow*

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WEDDINGS - ANNIVERSARIES - CHRISTENINGS



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- City & Guilds diploma
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Erma Barlow who owns and manages Exclusive Cakes has cultivated a track record in the wedding cake and confectionery business globally over the past number of years. Erma personally caters for all tastes, flavours, and dietary needs (organic, gluten free etc.) Her cake range can be tailored to suit a wide variety of styles and budgets including our amazing Afternoon Tea and Dessert tables. With many years of experience Erma has specialised in exclusive handmade sugar craft flowers specifically designed to suit individual wedding themes.

Erma only uses the finest of Irish ingredients in each and every one of her rich and luxurious traditional and modern cakes. All cakes are handmade using free range eggs and full fat butter. Many brides return again and again for Christening, Anniversary and other occasion cakes. Each cake is personally handmade by Erma with her full attention and is completed to perfection. Erma pays great attention to detail and takes pride in each and every single cake to create exactly what is requested from her clients.

Erma takes time to get to know each new client, discussing themes and ideas enabling her to make dreams come through on your special day.



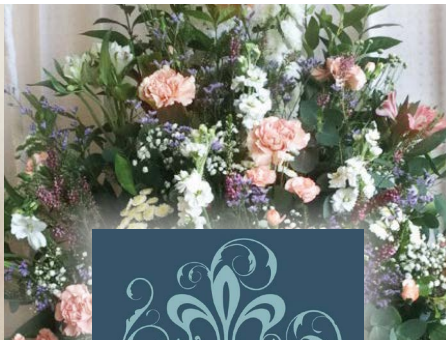
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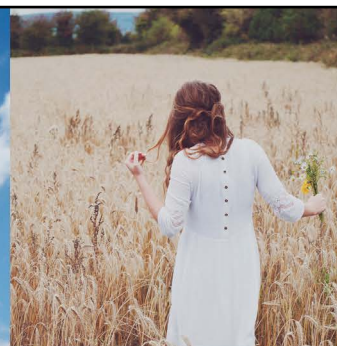
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## KIRSTY O' KEEFFE

PHOTOGRAPHY

Kirsty O' Keffe is an award winning photographer, based in the South-East, with over twelve years experience in the industry. Kirsty specialises in creative wedding photography and portraiture.

*"I love to make beautiful, relaxed and creative images, capturing all the special little moments that tell your story. I feel that photography should be a fun, relaxed and stress free experience, resulting in beautiful photographs that you will love forever and be proud to show to your family and friends for years to come!"*

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