

# The best UK wedding venues

The most spectacular wedding venues in Britain, now that normal weddings are a thing again

The restrictions put in place as a result of the coronavirus pandemic meant that many weddings had to be postponed or cancelled – but it seems that there is finally a light at the end of the tunnel for those who've been waiting to book their dream day. Aside from the complications of cancellations, however, the events of the past two years have also prompted many couples to reconsider what their big day actually looks like.

## Wedding venue trends for 2022

"The pandemic has certainly fuelled a shift in the weddings industry," Francesca Reed, head of brand at [Unique Homestays](#), tells us. "Gone are the pressures so often associated with large exhibitions, as couples have had no choice but to opt for smaller celebrations, where conventionality and formality have fallen away in place of more personalised and intimate occasions with a real sense of individuality."

Indeed, many couples are now opting for micro-weddings by choice, and are looking for more intimate venues to match their reduced party size. This has also resulted in an increased emphasis on creativity and uniqueness, which is now central to the wedding-planning process.

"We are seeing British eccentricity at its finest; hand-written stationery, embroidered monogrammed napkins, home-grown floral arrangements, elopements in sideways Scottish rain and on flower-peppered mountain tops in Wales witnessed by a party of just 10," explains Reed. "Over the last 12 months, we have seen the number of enquiries for country home weddings triple – unique private house venues are really having a moment."

On the other end of the scale, those with the budgets and social inclination are making the most of the lifted restrictions. "We expect to see three-day celebrations strewn over a weekend, loose schedules of dinner parties, morning meditations, poolside sessions and long Monday morning good-byes all enjoyed around the all-important nuptials," says Reed. "The beauty of a private home is that there's rarely the rules and restrictions of a formal venue in place, meaning guests can dance under the moon and keep the firepit stoked until breakfast."

# How to find your dream venue

The location of your wedding is key for setting the tone of the day. When hunting for the all-important venue, the first thing to think about - alongside your budget - is the atmosphere you're hoping to create for your guests, and what best reflects you.

"Whether you are looking for an intimate occasion with your nearest and dearest, or an all-out party house, consider how you would like the event to be remembered, and opt for a venue that best fits with your combined personalities as a couple," says Reed.

"Think of the backdrop, from colour to natural lighting, and how it will enhance your day, as well as tell the story of your journey so far and welcome the next stage."

Whether you want to get married in a fairy-tale castle, a classic hotel, a private London club, a grand stately home, or something altogether more modern, our edit of the best UK wedding venues has it covered – including if you're in search of a more unusual event, such as saying 'I do' at Pinewood Studios or out on the Thames-facing deck of the National Theatre.

If you're done with postponing and keen to get booking, here's our edit of some of the most spectacular wedding venues in the UK for that party we've all been waiting for...

## *Anthology Farm*

**Where:** The Cotswolds.

**What:** A set of 18th-century barns near Cheltenham, transformed into the ultimate self-catering wedding venue for up to 18 overnight guests.

**Bonus points:** Cotswold stone walls, Moroccan tiles, a banquet table, 500 acres and an indoor pool (we could go on).

**Price:** Price on request.

**Visit:** [uniquehomestays.com](http://uniquehomestays.com)



## Charity

**Where:** Herefordshire.

**What:** A house made for a party, hidden amid the heather-covered hillsides of the Olchon Valley. There's space for 100 day guests, 12 of which can sleep over. The scattered farm buildings date back to the 15th century, but these days you're more likely to find a wood-fired hot tub and a snooker room than hoes and haystacks.

**Bonus points:** Just three hours from London. And you'll be able to enjoy views out across the Brecon Beacons and the Black Mountains in one direction, and the Herefordshire countryside in the other.

**Price:** From £5,350.

**Visit:** [uniquehomestays.com](http://uniquehomestays.com)



UNIQUE HOMESTAYS



| 10 |

## *Florin*

**Where:** Ceredigion.

**What:** A coastal country manor in Aberaeron in West Wales. Up to 14 lucky guests can stay overnight, with the capacity for day guests a hefty 250.

**Bonus points:** Five acres of gardens for extra photographic perfection.

**Price:** Price on request.

**Visit:** [uniquehomestays.com](http://uniquehomestays.com)