

# *Best Western Manor House Hotel*

## *The Ideal Wedding Venue*

*May we take this opportunity to offer you our congratulations on your forthcoming marriage and introduce you to The Best Western Manor House Hotel. We believe our Hotel is the ideal venue to accommodate your wedding reception as we offer an uncomplicated start to married life with comfort, style, ambiance and convenience all rolled into one.*

*Situated on the outskirts of the village of Alsager, on the Cheshire / Staffordshire border, The Best Western Manor House was originally a farmhouse and dates back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The hotel has retained much of the original character and has also been tastefully extended to offer all the modern facilities within a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.*

*Our emphasis is firmly built around quality of service. Our knowledgeable and professional staff are here to help you and to ensure your most special day is truly one to remember.*

*We can accommodate up to 150 guests for the Wedding Breakfast, and up to 150 guests for the evening reception. The Hotel is also a licensed venue to host Civil Marriage ceremonies.*

*Hotel facilities include 57 en-suite bedrooms, an award winning restaurant and an indoor heated swimming pool with Jacuzzi. Our Bridal Suite is offered complimentary to the Bride and Groom on your wedding night when holding both your Wedding Breakfast and Evening Reception with us.*

*Our central atrium is perfect for welcoming guests with a glass of Bucks Fizz and along with picturesque surroundings, offers ideal photograph opportunities.*

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## Planning Your Wedding

*Organising a wedding can be quite a daunting task. With this in mind, our Wedding Co-ordinator will be only too pleased to assist in planning your day from the moment you arrive, right through to your departure, to ensure your day is truly one to remember.*

*Throughout the months leading up to your wedding, we will be on hand to offer advice, from the seating plan, menus and drinks packages to recommending brides dresses, photographers and flowers.*

*With many years of experience, we at The Best Western Manor House Hotel never forget that this is your day, and as such, our flexibility will enable you to explore all possible options. Please remember that if you would like anything that is not included in this brochure, then please ask and we will endeavor to oblige.*

*On the day itself, a senior member of our management staff, along with our resident Toastmaster if requested, will be on hand to personally oversee the days' events.*

*As previously mentioned, we are a recognised venue for Civil Marriage ceremonies and as from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 we will unfortunately have to make a Charge of £50.00 for this service due to increase in license fees. Registrar Charges will be payable directly to the registrars. Please contact Crewe Registry Office on 01270 375138 for further information. Please bear in mind that a Notice of Marriage is valid for 24 months, so you will be unable to book the registrar more than 2 years in advance.*

*If you have not already done so, please feel free to contact us to arrange a show-round, where our Wedding Co-ordinator will be able to show you our facilities and answer any questions you may have.*

*Provisional bookings will be held for two weeks, unless we receive an alternative enquiry for your date whereupon you will be contacted. To confirm your booking, we request a non-refundable deposit of £500.00.*

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## *Hotel Accommodation*

*The Best Western Manor House offers 57 en-suite bedrooms including the Bridal Suite and two Executive rooms, all decorated to a high standard and all offering colour television with satellite connection, direct dial telephone with modem point, trouser press and tea and coffee making facilities.*

*The Bridal Suite is, of course, complimentary inclusive of English or Continental breakfast, to the Bride & Groom on your wedding night in the terms already mentioned.*

*For a supplement of £20.00, a bottle of Duval Leroy Champagne will be put on ice in your Bridal Suite at a time of your choosing.*

### *Additional Guests*

*We offer a discounted accommodation rate of £37.50 per person, inclusive of English or Continental breakfast to those staying with the wedding party.*

*All accommodation is subject to availability, so please make sure you book any rooms you may require well in advance.*

*Check in time is from 2.30pm onwards. If you require an early check in, please notify us well in advance. While we cannot guarantee this, we will try our utmost to oblige.*

### *Anniversary Offer*

*If you hold your Wedding Breakfast and Evening Reception at The Best Western Manor House Hotel, we would be delighted to welcome you back for a complimentary dinner for 2 on your first anniversary, or nearest Friday or Saturday night if preferred, subject to availability. Please contact the Hotel to make your booking. There is a discounted accommodation offer of £25.00 per person, bed and breakfast, available should you wish to make this a truly special evening.*

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## BEST WESTERN Your Wedding Day

Once you have decided to hold your reception with us and the menus and drinks packages have all been chosen, the following services are included with our compliments:

- Bridal Suite for your wedding night, if holding your wedding breakfast and evening reception at the Hotel. (Minimum numbers apply)
- The services of our experienced Toastmaster on parties of 50 Adults or more – a charge of £250.00 is made on parties of less than 50
- Hire of the banqueting room in all months, other than those listed below, for the duration of your reception for parties of 50 Adults or more – there may be a room hire charge on parties of less than 50.
- Red Carpet on arrival
- Use of our cake stand
- An engraved cake knife to take away with you

During the months of May, June, July and August, on a Friday or Saturday there will be a Room Hire charge applied of £500.00, if your wedding breakfast numbers are less than 70 Adults and Evening Buffet less than 120 Adults.

Please note Buffet only Functions are subject to a room hire charge

### Additional Services

We will be happy to offer advice with florists, photographers, cake makers and bridal dresses. The final decision, however, must be your own as we cannot accept any liability for businesses out of our direct control.

### Entertainment

We will be happy to supply a disco for your evening entertainment. The cost for this service is currently £190.00, a direct charge made from the Disc Jockey to us. We can also assist with cabaret artists or a live band, if you wish. Alternatively, you are welcome to arrange your own entertainment.

### Entertainment License

Our entertainment licence allows your evening function to finish at 12.30am, with the bar closing at midnight. A resident only bar is available for the rest of the night if you wish to carry on your celebrations.

### Sunday Offer

We offer a 10% Discount on your Wedding Breakfast package price when holding both your Wedding Breakfast & Evening Reception on a Sunday.

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# Menus & Drinks Packages

## Menus

Listed below are a number of sample menus for your perusal. If you cannot find anything to suit, we will be happy to tailor something for your needs. All menu prices are inclusive of the drinks package listed after the menu samples.

### *Menu A @ £39.95 per person*

*Fanned Honeydew Melon  
With Strawberries & wafers of Parma Ham*

*oo0oo*

*Creamed Leek & Potato Soup*

*oo0oo*

*Roast Local Turkey*

*With Stuffing & Cranberry Sauce*

*Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes*

*oo0oo*

*Orange & Whisky Roulade*

*With Belgium Chocolate Sauce*

*oo0oo*

*Freshly Brewed Coffee*

### *Menu B @ £41.50 per person*

*Prawn Cocktail*

*With Fresh Granary Bread*

*oo0oo*

*Roast Plum Tomato Soup with Basil*

*oo0oo*

*Supreme of Chicken*

*Filled with Asparagus, wrapped in bacon with Creamed Leek Sauce*

*Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes*

*oo0oo*

*Lemon Tart with Orange Flavoured Sauce*

*oo0oo*

*Freshly Brewed Coffee*

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**Menu C @ £42.50 per person**

*Smooth Chicken Liver & Brandy Pâté  
With Red Onion Marmalade & Oatcakes*

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*Cream of Broccoli & Stilton Soup*

00000

*Roast Loin of Pork*

*With Pork and Apricot Stuffing  
& Bramley Apple Sauce*

*Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes*

00000

*Vanilla Cheesecake with mixed Fruit*

*Compote*

00000

*Freshly Brewed Coffee*

**Menu E @ £44.50 per person**

*Shaved Parma Ham with Beef Tomato  
& Buffalo Mozzarella with Wild Rocket Salad*

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*Seasonal Vegetable Soup*

*Served with Croutons*

00000

*Roast Sirloin of Beef served with  
Yorkshire Pudding & Roast Gravy*

*Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes*

00000

*Raspberry Brulee with Shortbread Biscuit*

00000

*Freshly Brewed Coffee*

**Menu D @ £43.50 per person**

*Prawn & Salmon Timbale  
Bound with a Marie Rose Sauce*

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*Carrot & Lentil Soup*

*With Coriander*

00000

*Roast Leg of Lamb*

*With Rosemary & Redcurrant Sauce*

*Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes*

00000

*Profiteroles filled with Cream & served with a*

*Warm Chocolate Sauce*

00000

*Freshly Brewed Coffee*

**Menu F @ £45.50 per person**

*Smoked Salmon Cornets filled with Creamed  
Cheese & Chives*

00000

*Champagne Sorbet*

00000

*Seared Medallions of Beef with a  
Bourguignon Sauce*

*Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes*

00000

*Chocolate Truffle Torte with Belgium Chocolate Sauce  
& Fresh Cream*

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*Freshly Brewed Coffee*

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## Dietary Requirements

Please notify us of any dietary requirements you may require. Listed below are just 4 examples of a Vegetarian Main Course.

*Filo Purse with Stir Fried Vegetables, served with a Tomato & Basil Sauce*

*oo0oo*

*Braised Leek & Mushroom Suet Pudding with Vegetable & Stout Gravy*

*oo0oo*

*Tagliatelli Pasta, Sun Blushed Tomato & Wild Mushroom Creamed Cheese & Herb Sauce*

*oo0oo*

*Hazelnut Roast with Puy Lentil Ragout & Fresh Tomato & Basil Sauce*

## Evening Reception

A choice of finger buffets is available to choose from for the evening reception:

### **Option A @ £13.50 per person**

*Assorted Sandwiches*

*Chicken Drumsticks*

*Cheese & Tomato Pizza Fingers*

*Sausage Rolls*

*Thyme & Garlic Roasted New Potatoes*

*Staffordshire Oatcakes with Cheese*

### **Option B @ £14.50 per person**

*Assorted Open & Closed Sandwiches*

*Cajun Chicken Drumsticks*

*Mini Onion Bhajis*

*Mini Pork Pies*

*French Bread Pizza*

*Cheese & Bacon Staffordshire Oatcakes*

*Potato Wedges*

### **Option C @ £17.50 per person**

*Sliced Turkey, Ham & Beef*

*Salmon & Seafood Platter*

*Vegetable Samosas*

*Skewered Chicken Tikka*

*Tomato & Mozzarella*

*Pasta Salad*

*Potato & Chive*

*Coleslaw*

*Mixed Green Salad*

*Minted New Potatoes*

*Assorted Bread*

**A choice of desserts can be added at an additional cost of £2.50 per person**

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## Canapés

A choice of Canapés can be offered, priced at £3.95 per person:

*Cream Cheese & Chive*  
*Pate & Onion Marmalade*  
*Smoked Salmon & Creamed Cheese*  
*Parma Ham with Asparagus*

## Tapas

*Goats Cheese & Onion*  
*Courgette, Tomato & Pesto*  
*Chorizo, Tomato & Bean*

## Crolines

*Mushroom & Vegetable*  
*Stilton & Apple*

## Drinks Packages

All of the above wedding breakfast menus are inclusive of our standard drinks package. This includes:

- Bucks Fizz made with Sparkling Wine, or Pimms on Arrival (choice of 1)
- 2 Glasses of Red or White House Wine served during the Wedding Breakfast
- Sparkling Wine Toast

## Alternative Drinks Packages:

We can offer alternative packages should you wish. Please ask our Wedding Co-Ordinator for further details.

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**Please Note:** All prices listed in this brochure are correct at the time of printing, and are inclusive of VAT at the current rate. This is subject to change without notice.

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**MANOR HOUSE (ALSAGER) LIMITED**  
**T/a The Best Western Manor House Hotel**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF BUSINESS**  
**FOR WEDDINGS AND FUNCTIONS**

1 **The Best Western Manor House Hotel**, Audley Road, Alsager, Cheshire, ST7 2QQ is part of the Compass Hotels Ltd Group. In this document, “Company” means Manor House (Alsager) Ltd; “Hotel” means The Best Western Manor House Hotel, Alsager, “You” means the client and “Event” means the wedding, function, party or gathering to be held at the hotel.

The following are the Terms and Conditions of Business of the Company which need to be agreed and signed by You and returned to the Hotel General Manager.

2 **Bookings:**

A provisional booking will be held for 14 days, but puts neither You nor the Hotel under any obligation. The Hotel will release the booking unless You confirm in writing within 14 days. A non-returnable deposit of £500.00 will be treated by the Hotel as confirmation of your booking, together with your letter of confirmation and a signed copy of these terms and conditions. Payment of the deposit denotes your acceptance of the terms and conditions of booking in the event that these are not signed and returned to the Hotel.

3 **Prices:**

Bookings taken for the following calendar year or 8 months in advance, may be subject to price increases from those stated in this brochure. All prices will be quoted inclusive of V.A.T at the current rate, which may be subject to Government change without prior notice. Changes in duty on alcoholic beverages may occur between the time of booking and the date of the Event. We reserve the right to pass on duty increases and VAT increases as they occur.

4 **Number of guests:**

An indication of numbers attending the Event(s) will be required at the time of booking. These numbers should be confirmed or amended by you, in writing, 12 weeks prior to the Event to enable the second deposit to be calculated.

Four weeks prior to the Event, You should advise final numbers. On this occasion You may reduce the numbers advised at 12 weeks prior to the Event by up to 15% without penalty. A reduction in numbers over 15% will be charged at 25% of the agreed value per person.

On the day of the Event, the total number attending or the numbers confirmed to attend at 4 weeks prior, which ever is the greater, will be the number charged.

5 **Deposit Requests/Payment:**

5.1 Six calendar months prior to the date of the Event, a further £500.00 deposit will be required. This sum is non-returnable.

5.2 12 weeks prior to the date of the Event, 50% of the remaining anticipated full value of the event(s) will be payable. The outstanding balance will be payable in full 4 weeks prior to the Event taking place. Please make note of clause 6.2 with reference to cancellation by the hotel.

5.3 Any additional business during the Event, not previously paid for, must be settled prior to departure.

6 **Cancellation:**

6.1 If You cancel the Event(s), the following scale of cancellation charges will apply:

▪ Within 12 weeks of the date of the Event(s)	60% of the anticipated full value
▪ Within 8 weeks of the date of the Event(s)	75% of the anticipated full value
▪ Within 4 weeks of the date of the Event(s)	100% of the anticipated full value

The cancellation date will be the date the written notification of cancellation arrives at the Hotel.

In every case the Hotel will try to re-let the accommodation and, if successful, any income received from the re-let will be fully deducted from the cancellation charge. If re-letting of the accommodation does not fully cover the cancellation charge, an account for the remaining amount will be sent immediately after the scheduled day of the Event.

6.2 Cancellation by the Hotel:

The Hotel may cancel the booking at any time and without any obligation to You in any of the following circumstances:

- If the Hotel or any part of the Hotel is closed due to circumstances beyond the Hotel’s control;
- If You become bankrupt or insolvent or enter into liquidation or have an administrator or receiver appointed over all or a substantial part of your assets;
- If You fail to meet the deposit requirements for the reservation;
- If the Company or the Hotel in its sole discretion believes the booked event, or You, might prejudice the reputation of the Hotel.

- If the Hotel is sold or ceases to be operated by Manor House (Alsager) Ltd or Compass Hotels Ltd.

If the hotel cancels the booking, a full refund of any monies paid in respect of the Event(s) will be given, issued in the form of a cheque through the Company registered office.

6.3 Any disputed item or price contained in an invoice must be raised in writing with the Hotel within 7 days of receipt of the invoice. Disputed items will be dealt with separately from the remainder of the monies due, which must still be paid when due.

**7 Use of the Hotel:**

7.1 The costs of repairing any damage You or your guests have caused to the property, furnishings or equipment will be charged to You as the client organising and paying for the Event(s).

7.2 The hotel cannot accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to, guests' property however caused.

7.3 Licensing and Statutory Control –  
Please remember that You, as well as the Hotel, are subject to statutory controls including those related to fire, licensing and entertainment, which must be strictly observed.

7.4 The Hotel reserves the right to approve any externally arranged entertainment, services or activities that You have arranged and cannot be held liable for any resultant costs. Any such costs will be added to the client's account.

7.5 No wines, spirits or foods brought into the Hotel may be consumed without prior written consent of the Hotel General Manager.

8 As defined above, it is agreed that You are the client who will settle the account and not acting on behalf of a third party.

9 These terms and the agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law.

Signed: _____	Print Name: _____
Position: _____	Company: _____
Date: _____	Date of function: _____

- 1 copy to be signed and kept for the Client's files
- 1 copy to be signed and returned for the attention of The General Manager, Best Western Manor House Hotel, Alsager, ST7 2QQ

10/09

Manor House (Alsager) Ltd T/a Best Western Manor House Hotel, Registered number 1807725  
Registered Office:  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Suite 2, Tollgate House, 69 – 71 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SL

**MANOR HOUSE HOTEL**

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Thank all the staff for a wonderful day with excellent food and drink. We had a most relaxed and easy day which took away all the stress of a hectic morning and complications in travel plans due to traffic. Your staff should be proud of the efficient and quiet way they conduct themselves, as we were never aware of them "hovering around", but the meal was hot and beautifully presented. I can honestly say it was the best meal on a large scale I have had for a long time. The evening Buffet was superb and well catered, enough but not over facing. Everyone has commented on the food and presentation. You have all given us a day to remember, and once again may I say  
Thank you!  
Rachel & Rob (25/04/09)  
Carry on the good work!

To All the staff at the Manor House  
"A Perfect Wedding Venue"

Just a short note to say a massive "Thank You" for making our wedding day so perfect. You all worked so hard and everything was handled so professionally, we could relax knowing everything was in safe hands; the wedding breakfast was excellent, especially the Raspberry Brulee!! The evening buffet was described by some of the guests as the best they'd ever had, especially the oatcakes.

A special thanks to Joanne, each phone call or meeting was a pleasure and I was so pleased to see you on the day, and to Stacey for looking after us so well on the day, nothing was too much trouble, you all contributed to a wonderful day.

Best Wishes  
Love Rachel & Jon (06/06/09)

To Joanne, Stacey & the Team,  
Thank you so much for your help and support in the run up to our wedding day and on the day itself.

It was a lovely day and everything ran smoothly.

We would recommend your hotel to anyone thinking of getting married.

Yours Sincerely  
Andy & Dawn (11/07/09)

Dear Joanne, Stacey & Jayne

Simon and I just wanted to drop you a note & say an ENORMOUS THANKYOU for all your hard work, care and thoughtfulness that went into making our wedding day the most memorable, magical and beautiful occasion. We had such a fantastic day and we would not have changed a minute – it was all perfect.

Please, please pass on our thoughts and thanks to all the staff working on the day as they were a really fabulous group – so caring and considerate and nothing was too much to ask.

We will definitely be recommending the Manor House wherever we go as I'm sure will all our guests as they have nothing but praise for you, your staff and the venue.

Thank you so much  
Love and best wishes  
Rachel & Simon (19/07/09)

Dear Joanne,

We just wanted to thank you so much for helping to make our wedding day extra special. Our whole day was absolutely fantastic and we enjoyed every moment of it. We want to thank you Joanne for all the help you gave in the preparation for the wedding. You and all the staff involved on the day are to be congratulated and sincerely thanked for the excellent services you all gave, which resulted in the smooth running of the day.

Thank you all very much.

We would not hesitate in recommending your hotel as an excellent wedding venue, and we had lots of positive comments from the guests about the hotel services

Yours Sincerely  
Paul & Barbra (03/05/09)

To Joanne and all the Team at the  
Manor House

Thank you for making our wedding day a fantastic one, we had such a relaxed (after the service!) day and felt very well looked after.

All the best  
Gemma and David (21/12/08)

Dear Jo, Stacey and all the staff at the hotel,  
Just a note to say a big thank you to you all, especially Jo & Stacey for making the Ladies Evening No. 533 a big success. Everything was perfect and ran smoothly and the evening was enjoyed by everyone. Nothing was too much trouble to you and the staff.

Thanks again  
Love  
Guy and Sharon

## The Reception

When the Ceremony is over and you are Husband and Wife, you will then be able to relax and enjoy your reception with your guests! You may wish to have a formal or informal reception, either way it is a good idea to have a receiving line. This ensures you and both of your families have the chance to speak to all of your guests. The usual receiving line order is as follows:

*The Brides Parents*

*The Grooms Parents*

*The Bridesmaid*

*The Best Man*

*The Bride and Groom*

For the reception, there is normally a Top Table for members of the Wedding Party, who sit along side one side of a long table facing the guests, ensuring that all of your guests can view the top table. Bridesmaids, Pageboys and Ushers usually sit at the tables closest to the Top Table. The Bride & Groom sit in the middle of the Top Table with the Bridegroom on the right of his Bride. Your guests will sit on round tables, made up of usually 8 guests (this is just an average). It is a good idea to place seating cards on the tables so that all the guests know where they are sitting, alternating male and female. Do this in a way that allows each person to be near someone they know, but also give them an opportunity to meet new people.

### Suggested Top Table:

<i>Bridesmaid</i>	<i>Grooms Father</i>	<i>Brides Mother</i>	<i>Groom</i>	<i>Bride</i>	<i>Brides Father</i>	<i>Grooms Mother</i>	<i>Best Man</i>
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### Toasts and Speeches:

These normally take place at the end of the Wedding Breakfast, in the following order:

The Brides Father will Toast "To the Bride and Groom"

The Bridegroom will respond to the first toast, usually to his beautiful wife and thanking both the bride's and his own parents, he thanks the Best Man and the Bridesmaids and will toast 'The Bridesmaids'

The Final toast is made by the Best Man, who responds for the bridesmaids, he may read out any special greeting cards and tell some anecdotes about the Groom!

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## Who Organises.....

### *Chief Bridesmaid*

Assists Bride in planning of wedding  
Helps choose wedding dress & bridesmaids' outfits  
Arranges Hen Night  
Help Bride get ready on the day  
Lifts Brides veil and holds bouquet on the wedding day  
Will be on hand all day to assist the Bride

### *Bride*

Decide on her Bridesmaids  
Choose her Wedding Gown  
Order Flowers  
Make a 'gift list'  
Pick Hymns/songs  
Make arrangements for hair/makeup etc

### *Groom*

Book Church/Registrar & Venue  
Decide on his Best Man & Ushers  
Arrange Honeymoon  
Wedding Rings  
Flowers/Gifts for Bride, Both Mothers, Bridesmaids & Best Man  
Write a Speech!!

### *Bride's Mother*

Help the Bride to arrange clothes and dress on the day  
Looks after the Brides Flowers during the day  
Hand out portioned wedding cake at the Reception

### *Bride's Father*

Order the Suits  
Make travel arrangements for the Bridal Party  
Organise the family Buttonholes  
Write a Speech!

### *Best Man*

Plan a Stag Party  
Look after the Wedding Rings  
Make travel arrangements from the Church  
Return Suits  
Write a Speech!

# Wedding Traditions

## Something old, new, borrowed and blue

*The full wording of this popular bridal attire rhyme, which dates back to the Victorian times, is 'something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue and a silver sixpence in your shoe'.*

*Something old refers to wearing something that represents a link with the bride's family and her old life.*

*Something new represents good fortune and success in the bride's new life.*

*Something borrowed, which has already been worn by a happy bride at her wedding, is meant to bring good luck to the marriage.*

*Something blue dates back to biblical times when the colour blue was considered to represent purity and fidelity.*

*Silver sixpence in your shoe; placing a silver sixpence in the bride's left shoe is a symbol of wealth. This is not just to bring the bride financial wealth but also wealth and happiness and joy throughout her married life.*

## The Dress

*Most brides marry today in white which symbolises maidenhood. A tradition started by the rich in the sixteenth century. The tradition was given a boost by Queen Victoria who chose to marry in white instead of silver which was the traditional colour of Royal brides.*

## The Veil

*Traditionally, brides have been thought to be particularly vulnerable to evil spirits and many of the customs and traditions associated with weddings are to provide protection. The veil was originally worn by Roman brides. It was thought that it would disguise the bride and therefore outwit malevolent spirits.*

## Why the Bride stands on the left

*During the marriage ceremony, the bride stands on the left and the groom on the right. The origin of this goes back to the days when a groom would capture his bride by kidnapping her. If the groom had to fight off other men who also wanted her as their bride, he would hold his bride to be with his left hand allowing his right hand to be free to use his sword.*

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# Wedding Traditions

## Bouquet

*After the reception the bride throws her bouquet back over her shoulder where the unmarried female guests group together. Tradition holds that the one who catches the bouquet will be the next one of those present to marry.*

## The Wedding Cake

*Cutting the Wedding cake is now part of the ritual celebrations at the reception. The couple make the first cut together to symbolise their shared future.*

*The shape of the modern three tiered iced cake is believed to have been inspired by the spire of Saint Bride's Church in the City of London. It is said that unmarried guests who place a piece of wedding cake under their pillow before sleeping will increase their prospects of finding a partner and bridesmaids who do likewise will dream of their future husbands.*

*The top tier of the cake is often kept by couples for the christening of their first child.*

## Wedding Favours

*The tradition of giving your guests something to remember the day by in the form of favours has been around for hundred of years. Today, the tradition has evolved to giving each guest five sugar coated almonds to symbolise health, wealth, fertility, happiness and long-life.*

## Confetti

*Believing that newly weds brought good luck; they were showered with nuts and grains to ensure a bountiful harvest. This has now become the throwing of the confetti.*

## The Honeymoon

*Centuries ago, it was customary for the Bride and Bridegroom to drink wine made from honey for a month after the wedding. A month was known as "moon" – consequently it was called honeymoon.*

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# Wedding Day Planner

Successful weddings need a lot of good planning and organisation, so with this in mind we have created a simple checklist which you can refer to in the countdown to your Big Day!

## *The Wedding Countdown*

Once you have decided on the date and booked the venue for your wedding it is important to begin the arrangements in plenty of time.

### **12 Months...**

Decide on Bestman, bridesmaids, and ushers etc Arrange appointment with wedding planner at Hotel to discuss

Book Florist

Book Photographer and Videographer

Order your Wedding cake

Find out about local Wedding Shows and plan visits

Start thinking about your ideas/themes and colour schemes for

Your reception and catering plans

Create a file and keep all receipts, ideas, pictures to help your planning

Book Stationary provider

Book Transport (if required between ceremony and reception)

Book Honeymoon and apply for passports

Book evening entertainment

### **6 Months...**

Choose Wedding Dress

Choose Bridesmaids dresses

Draw up guest list

Choose wedding rings

Decide if you are having favours and order them

Choose Music and readings

Design on Invitation Designs and other stationary

Draw up wedding Gift list

Re-confirm details with Photographer, car hire etc

### **4 Months....**

Send out invitations

### **3 Months...**

menus, table decorations etc

Discuss Flowers with florist

Book Hairdresser and make up artist if required

### **4 Weeks...**

Confirm final number with Hotel for wedding breakfast & evening function

Confirm details with florist

Buy thank you gifts for attendants

Check Photographer/Videographer etc

Check Transport

Finalise arrangements with entertainers

### **2 Weeks to go**

Draw up seating list for Hotel/ write place cards

Pick up wedding rings

Provide list of music required for evening reception

### **1 Week to go**

Double check all arrangements/ Hold wedding rehearsal

Start packing for honeymoon

Go over wedding timetable with attendants

### **The Day before**

Have a manicure, false tan and any other pampering treatments

relax and have an early nigh

**YOUR WEDDING DAY!!!**

Relax and remain calm

Enjoy every minute!!

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