

Ceremonies at Arbeia Roman Fort

Be a part of history and have your unique civil celebrant led ceremony at Arbeia Roman Fort.

The Commanding Officers House

Step back in time with up to 30 guests and experience your ceremony at the Commanding officers House, this 4th century house has been partially rebuilt and includes some of the original foundations and floor.

Ceremony hire includes chairs and registrar tables.
Ceremony only hire for up to 30 guests £500 +VAT

The top of the West Gate

Join us for an intimate ceremony at the on top of the iconic West Gate, one of the finest reconstructed Roman buildings. Say “I do” while taking in the magnificent views of the excavated fort below.
Standing ceremony only hire for up to 10 guests £300 +VAT

Ceremony only venue hire is available from Monday to Saturday between the times of 11am - 3pm and Sunday between the times of 1pm - 3pm, for a hire time of 1.5 hours.

After your ceremony you will have the opportunity to roam the fort with your guests and take some very memorable wedding photographs.

Why not make the day unforgettable by booking a Roman re-enactment group, or by asking your guests to dress as the Romans did.



Important information

You will have exclusive hire of the West Gate or the Commanding Officers House during your ceremony, however please be aware that the rest of the site will still be open to the public.

Civil celebrant information

At Arbeia, ceremonies must be performed by civil celebrants, as the site does not hold an approved premise licence for Marriages and Civil Partnerships.

Civil Celebrant led ceremonies give you the flexibility to create a ceremony and 'order of service' that is just as unique as you are.

What to do

You will need to arrange for an official registration of your marriage, where you will legally become a married couple. You will need to fill out a marriage application, and arrange a basic ceremony including two witnesses at your local registry office.

More information about marriages and civil partnership can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/marriages-civil-partnerships/overview>

Once you have booked the venue you will then need to choose a civil celebrant. You will need to meet with your chosen celebrant to set the date for your ceremony, define the overall structure and programme, how you want to enter the venue, the vows, other readings, speeches, music, flow and timings. Your celebrant will draft your vows for you and review and finalise the 'order of service'.

You must book your own civil celebrant, the civil celebrant's fee is not included in your venue hire fee.

Wedding ceremonies carried out by civil celebrants are not legally binding.

Decorations

Arbeia cannot remove any exhibits or change lighting due to the exhibitions on display. We cannot attach any decorations to the walls of the buildings. The top of the West Gate and the Commanding Officers House may be able to accommodate a little more decoration than we would usually expect in a gallery such as free standing or table top floral displays.

Strictly no naked flames or red wine throughout.
No confetti is allowed to be thrown on the site.

We advise that you take the time to visit the site with a member of staff before making any bookings with musicians, photographers etc. or placing any orders with florists etc.

Photography

Photographs cannot be taken inside the museum and shop. Please ask a member of staff for more details.

AV equipment and entertainment

Should you provide your own equipment or entertainment, a copy of your supplier's liability insurance certificate for up to £5 million is required prior to arrival along with PAT certificates.

Parking information

Street parking is available but can be busy around school run times as we are situated opposite Hadrian Primary School. There are two coaching bays on Baring Street. Coaches and taxis can drop off at the main gates.

Hazard information guide

Arbeia is an archaeological site, so we want to make sure that you have all of the information you need before you book your special day with us. Please request a hazard identification form from a member of staff.

Payment information

We require a deposit of 10% to be paid within two weeks of booking your event. The remaining 90% is required to be paid four weeks before the day of your event.

Capacity guide

Capacities	Standing ceremony	Seated ceremony
Top of West Gate	10	Not available
Commanding Officers House	30	20

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