



# Ceremony Choices

Your Ceremony, Your Choice

# Ceremony Choices

We pride ourselves on the flexibility and support we offer for your ceremony.

You're welcome to have the ceremony of your choice in a location of your choice\*

The use of our ceremony areas is included in your venue hire. There are no additional fees to use the spaces.

We have years of experience hosting ceremonies. Our dedicated team will be responsible for timings, support and attention to detail, ensuring a smooth running ceremony from start to finish.

Ceremonies are usually held at 2pm. This allows time for preparations in the morning and time for your guests to arrive. We have a guide timeline in the portal which incorporates a full wedding day.

Some ceremony choices may differ from the recommended 2pm, we'll confirm this with you during your enquiry.

\*weather & season permitting

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## LICENSED CEREMONIES (ON SITE)

*The most frequent ceremonies held at the barn are Civil Ceremonies.*

This is a legal marriage on-site, either inside the New Barn or outside in the Garden Ceremony area.

We'll be responsible for booking your ceremony date and time.

Once booked, you'll have direct contact with the ceremonies team regarding your ceremony booking.

**The Kentish Ceremonies at TOKB guide [click here](#)**





## CELEBRANT LED WEDDINGS

*Choosing a celebrant led wedding allows you to have a personal, fun ceremony without restrictions.*

Celebrants will write a unique ceremony, personal to you both. You'll have the opportunity to write vows to each other (if you'd like).

Celebrant led weddings are also perfect for couples who've married before the day and vow renewals too.

Celebrant led weddings are not currently licensed. If you'd like your marriage legally recognised, legalities can be performed at your local registry office before or after the wedding.

**[Click here for a list of recommended celebrants](#)**





## **BLESSINGS & VOW RENEWAL**

*Celebrants, ministers, relatives or friends are great for blessings and vow renewals.*

You can have a personalised ceremony to celebrate your commitment and love for each other.







## SAME SEX

*We're proudly proud at The Old Kent Barn.  
Love is for all.*

We've been fortunate to witness and be part of many same-sex unions. We're experienced in hosting same sex weddings and ceremonies. This includes preparation spaces for both partners with dedicated coordinators. There are lots of opportunities to personalise your ceremony with your choices for you both including timeline, aisle and music.





# RELIGIOUS (OFF SITE)

## *Church Weddings*

### *(Church of England and Catholic)*

If you're wishing to marry in church, there's a choice of locations close to the barn. To marry locally, you'll need to speak to your parish church and the local church you're considering for your wedding. Your banns (preliminary legalities) often need to be read in both churches.

You're most welcome to prepare in the dressing spaces and leave for the church from the barn. You'll need to consider transport for you and your wedding party. We'll assist by tailoring your timeline to factor in preparation time, transport time, ceremony and returning for your reception.

You may wish to prepare closer to your local church and arrive at the barn for your reception following your church ceremony. If this is your preferred plan, we can update you/a family member or friend during the morning of our progress of the set-up and be available for any questions too.

### **Click here for Local Church Information**

For other denominations speak to your local religious leader or church





The Old Kent Barn

## RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES & CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS (ON-SITE)

*It's important to know we are licensed for civil ceremonies (Council). Religious weddings can only be legalised in ordained buildings.*

Your religious leader is welcome to perform ceremonies and blessings at the barn. We'll adapt your timeline for the length of your ceremony.

If you'd like to incorporate your religion and cultural celebrations throughout the day, chat to the team who can offer their advice and experience.





## **BAPTIST**

*You'll have an order of service, held in your preferred ceremony location.*

We have space for live music in both locations. We'll create a personalised timeline for your service.





## **JEHOVAH'S WITNESS**

*Your minister will perform your ceremony in your  
chosen ceremony location.*

We can create a personalised timeline for this time.



## PASTORAL

*We've hosted many Pastor led ceremonies, including South African and Nigerian ceremonies.*

We'll discuss timings with you to ensure your wedding day runs smoothly.

You may wish, later in the day, to change into traditional dress. We'll be on hand to support you.





## **HINDU**

*Asian Hindu couples may wish to have a Mundap and fire pit ceremony\**

Sri Lankan ceremonies centre around the Poruwa.

The New Barn stage is a good location for ceremony installations.

We welcome ceremonial dancers, music and performers.

Often couples will also choose to have a civil ceremony, before or after their Hindu ceremony.

It is possible to have both a civil and cultural ceremony during the day and include time for changing. We will create a timeline for your day to incorporate your plans and ceremony locations.

\*Firepits permitted, supervised at all times



## LEBANESE ZAFFEH

*You may wish to have a Zaffeh, an exciting warm-up to a big party!*

You'll make your grand entrance as the zaffe dancers make their way into the main dance floor surrounded by drummers. They then continue to dance on the floor, while your guests are around them clapping and being entertained.





## **CHINESE TEA CEREMONY**

*It is customary in Chinese tradition to have a tea ceremony during the wedding day.*

This can be arranged and included in the timeline of your day, including outfit changes.



# CEREMONY LOCATIONS

## *Garden Ceremonies*

The barn's Garden Ceremony area is nestled in beautiful Kent countryside.

The Wisteria covered aisle leads you to the Victorian gazebo. The barn has one of the largest gazebos in Kent and includes seating inside.

Speakers are hidden in the garden beds, with discreet microphones in the ceiling of the gazebo. This ensures your guests can hear the ceremony and music clearly wherever they are sat.

The glass pergolas cover the guest seating throughout the seasons. Ornate wooden benches form guest seating, with capacity for up to 150 guests.

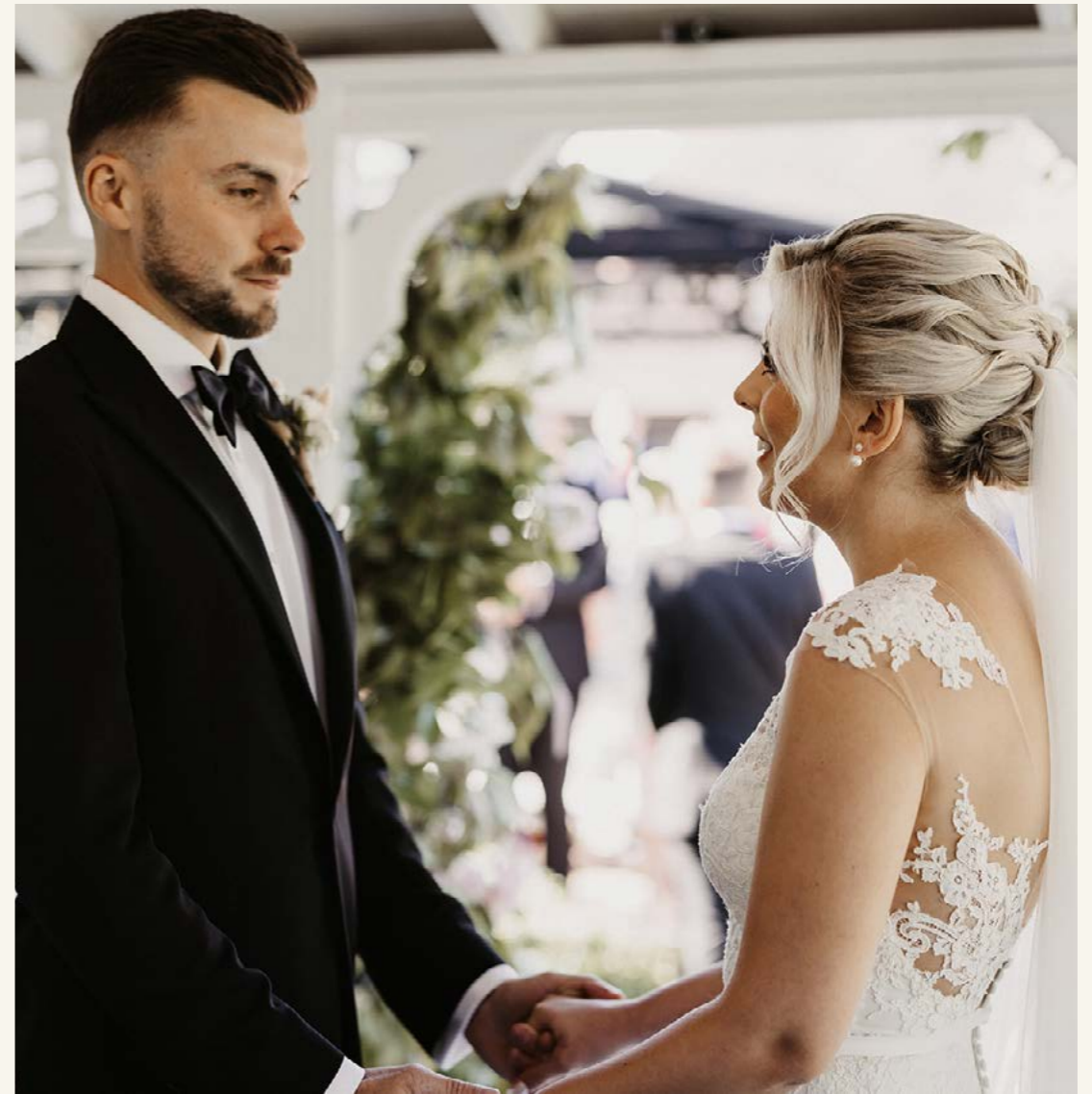
Beautiful beds are filled with seasonal planting blooming from Spring through into late Autumn. The sea of roses across the beds are spectacular. Naturally beautiful you'll not need to add decorations. You're welcome to enhance the natural space with the addition of foliage and floristry.

From British Summer Time (weather permitting) we're able to host civil ceremonies in the Garden Ceremony area

If you're choosing an alternative ceremony to a civil ceremony, you're not required to hold ceremonies during British Summer Time (late March - late October). Note the outdoor area does not have heaters.









# CEREMONY LOCATIONS

## *Barn Ceremonies*

The light and airy barn lends itself for beautiful ceremonies year-round.

The intimate ceremony area with romantic draping and twinkling lights is a beautiful space for your ceremonies.

Oak benches are positioned for seating facing the stage area for your ceremony. The barn can host ceremonies for up to 150 guests.

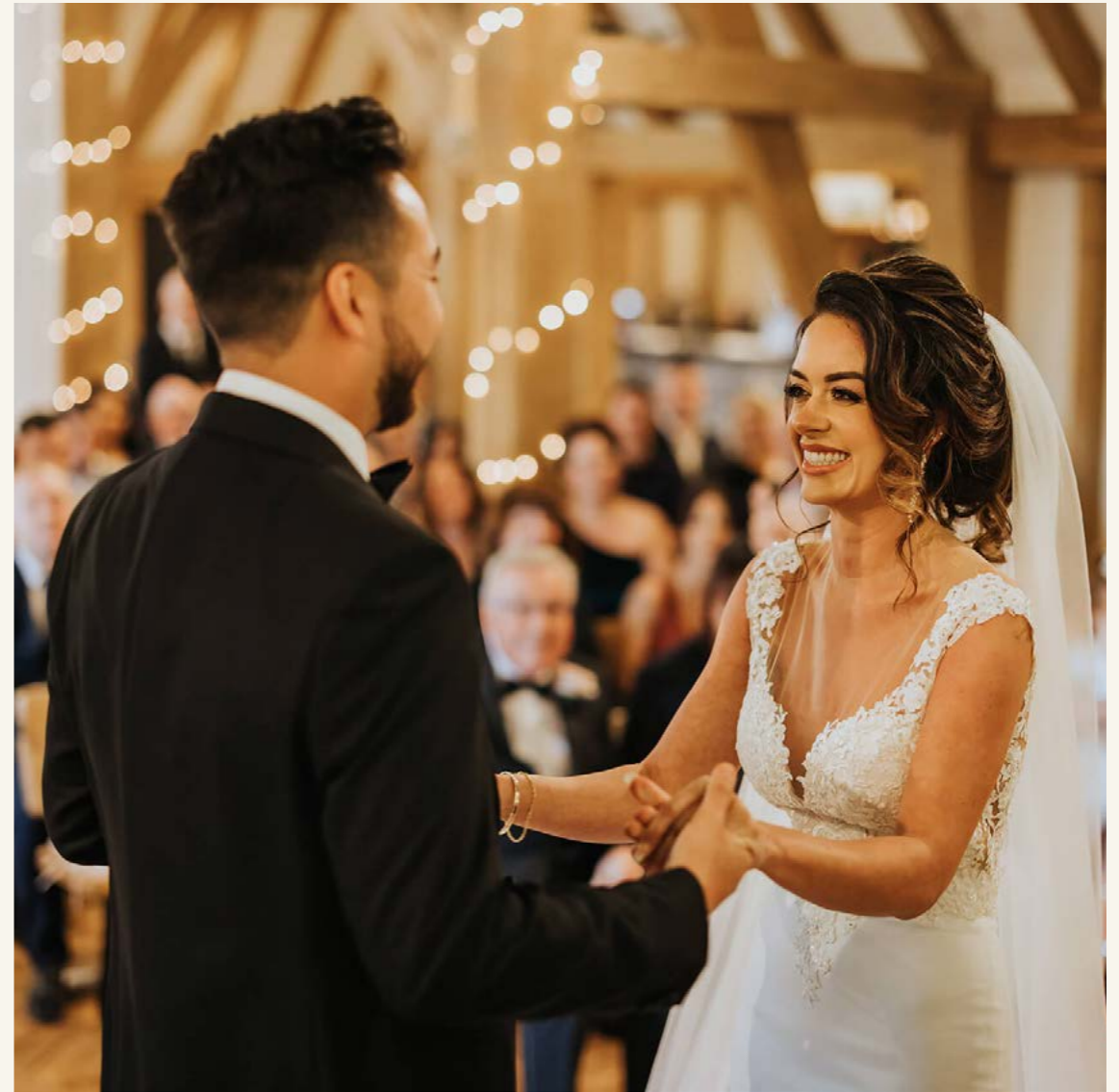
The space can be transformed with props, florals and lighting. We can use your reception decorations for the ceremony and return them to position before the meal – a great way to get good value from your decorations.

The barn has an internal speaker system for recorded music. Microphones are placed discreetly in the stage area for all guests to hear your ceremony clearly. We also have a hearing aid loop.











# CEREMONY SEATING

*You'll have a ceremony seating plan to reserve seats for your VIP's*

## **Accessibility**

Both ceremony areas are accessible\* via paved pathways.

Ceremony seating plans include options to include spaces for guests that may have mobility and require accessibility

\*The gazebo and stage will require assistance for wheelchair users.





## **WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED**

*The weather can sometimes appear uncertain, we have you covered.*

If you are opting for a garden ceremony, we'll be reviewing the weather conditions throughout the morning.

If we're uncertain, we'll prepare both indoors and outdoor ceremony areas. We can then make the final decision with you close to the wedding (1.30pm approx). If the indoor (barn) ceremony area is not needed, it will be dismantled during your ceremony.

If you're having a civil ceremony and the weather conditions are uncertain, the registrars will have the final say on location. They are very supportive of your choices and will endeavour to be in your preferred location. They're onsite an hour before your ceremony so we'll chat with them as soon as possible to discuss the options.

If you have chosen a barn ceremony, the team will ensure you're covered on your way to the ceremony in the event of unkind weather. We have umbrellas on site.



## **SUPER SUNNY**

*During the Summer your wedding can be super sunny!*

The glass pergolas in the garden ceremony area have a UV filter for sunny days.

Both Gazebo and Wisteria aisle are shaded, covering you during the ceremony in all weathers.

The barn is air temperature controlled keeping you and your guests cool throughout the day and evening. The team will have iced water available.

Perhaps consider fans and sunglasses for guests if super sunny weather is forecast.





## CEREMONY MUSIC

*You'll choose the music for your ceremony. We have an in-house system for recorded music.*

*The team will coordinate this for you.*

If you'd like to incorporate live music or speciality performers, all are welcome. You'll add this information into your portal.

If you're choosing a civil ceremony, please refer to their guidance for your music choices without religion, e.g. no hymns or religious music.

If you're having an alternative ceremony at the barn, you can choose any style of music you wish.





## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Is it possible to Facetime or 'live stream' to family and friends?*

Yes, it's possible to Facetime or Live Stream to guests.

*Can we have fewer guests for our ceremony and more later on for dinner?*

Yes, you can choose those present for your ceremony. If having a licensed ceremony, you'll need a minimum of 2 witnesses present.

*Can guests come to the ceremony only and leave before dinner?*

Yes, we can accommodate up to 150 guests for ceremonies.



# 3 STEPS TO YOUR CEREMONY

## Book Your Tour

Explore the barn and grounds, meet the team and discover how we'll look after you and your wedding.

[Click here to book a visit](#)

## Save The Date?

Choose from the days available and hold a special date while you're considering your options following your venue tour.

[Click here to save a date!](#)

## Choose Your Ceremony Style

Questions about your ceremony choices?

[Click here to email the team.](#)

