



# Downham Hall

Home For Your Special Day

Wedding Brochure





## HISTORY, CHARM AND ROMANCE

Surrounded by open countryside in the heart of Essex, our boutique Georgian Manor House will instantly make you feel like you are escaping the hustle and bustle of life to be welcomed to a tranquil gem tucked away amidst rolling hills and fields. With panoramic views as far as the eye can see, our venue is impressive yet also inviting and intimate in its' care, interest and pride in looking after you to give you the perfect day in stunning surroundings.

As a family run venue we hold our couples wishes and vision at the heart of our endeavours, every effort has been made to provide you with the perfect romantic setting as the backdrop for the wedding of your dreams.

The Hall is fortunate in that it offers a plethora of features and spaces to take advantage of and enjoy for your special day. From original features within the venue itself, including our 400 year old fireplace, to the eye catching red brick wall which dates back to the installation of the Hall itself. The beauty of the Hall, including use of our elegant reception rooms and bedrooms, provides the most magical setting for you to use as you wish.

Natural, lovingly tended and immaculately kept lawns, our grounds play a very important role in the making of your wedding day. Be it a winter wonderland wedding, an autumnal splash of colour or the delights of spring and summer, our grounds are always a joy to behold and form the setting for magnificent wedding photographs to cherish forever.





## OUR STORY

"Congratulations on your engagement, we are sure you have plenty to do and plan but here at Downham Hall we aim to make your day as easy, care free and relaxed as possible.

The Hall is a very unique venue which is hugely appreciated by all who come here for its' versatility in being able to host intimate weddings, yet also having the ability to hold larger weddings within the grounds and our luxurious marquee looking out over the moat.

We are delighted to offer our venue as a stunning setting to relax and enjoy, spending those unforgettable moments with your loved one, family and friends whilst our dedicated team look after every fine detail by providing excellent service and hospitality which remains at the forefront of all that we do. We feel so fortunate in being able to open up the beautiful and lovingly restored Downham Hall to wedding couples and guests and take great satisfaction from seeing so many happy memories being created here.

As a newer venue, our biggest asset is our wonderful team of experienced and successful individuals working together to offer a very personal service throughout the planning phase right through to the wedding day itself. It really does make the day that little bit more special, with every single member of the team looking to make your wedding journey a truly memorable one.

We are a family owned, professionally run venue which loves what it does and this is evident in all that we do here. We very much hope you will share your day here with us".

*Christina & Andrew Metcalfe*



*Downham Hall*





## YOUR DAY YOUR WAY

The day of your wedding will be exciting, yet our goal is always for you to be calm and relaxed in the knowledge that all the details you have been planning for months will be executed professionally and seamlessly by our dedicated Wedding Coordinator and her team. From the moment that you arrive, until the time that you leave, we will make sure all your wishes are catered for so that you can enjoy making a lifetime of memories with your loved one, family and friends.

Downham Hall prides itself on creating bespoke wedding celebrations, working closely in partnership with each wedding couple to ensure dreams of your perfect wedding can be achieved within budget.

Whether you prefer an intimate private dinner celebration, twilight ceremony and reception or a full day extravaganza from beginning to end, Downham Hall has the space and amenities to meet your vision.





## GET READY IN STYLE

### The Bridal Dressing Room

Not to be overlooked, your day begins in our charming bridal dressing room and this sets the tone for the day. Gather your closest group of friends and family to get ready in style with views overlooking the grounds, sipping a glass of bubbly and enjoying a tasty breakfast to set you up for the day. Light and airy, our room offers a photographers dream for those perfect getting ready photos to capture those very special moments. The room has been specifically designed and laid out with meticulous attention to detail and every possible need has been carefully considered and planned for.

### Luxury Accommodation

Downham Hall has five beautifully appointed en suite double rooms featuring classic yet modern designs. The Bridal Suite has been designed to provide a luxurious stay for the wedding couple incorporating a large bathroom with bath and double walk-in shower, super king bed and beautiful views of the Halls gardens and surrounding countryside. Our four guest rooms are complete with king size beds, luxurious decor and furnishings and with the added benefit of one room being available as a twin or family room, you can keep your nearest and dearest close by overnight and complete your wedding celebrations with a delicious breakfast together the following morning.

Dogs are also welcome to stay.



## A HOME FROM HOME

Your dreams will become reality as you enjoy Downham Hall as your home for the day, to create those picture-perfect memories surrounded by all of your loved ones. The De Beauvoir suite, Orangery and picturesque grounds are the perfect setting for the most romantic of ceremonies, followed by elegant champagne and canapé receptions and our beautiful marquee is the perfect space for a wonderful wedding breakfast and evening party. Downham Hall really does have every part of your day covered, however you wish it to be.



*Downham Hall*



## CEREMONIES

At Downham Hall we have both the elegant De Beauvoir Suite and Beautiful Orangery licensed for civil ceremonies and also welcome celebrant led ceremonies anywhere within the venue and grounds.

The Orangery is perfect for Spring and Summer weddings, seating up to 36 guests inside and up to 100 guests outside on the lawn. Our Orangery perfectly captures the surroundings of Downham Hall, boasting uninterrupted views across the picturesque Essex countryside.

The De Beauvoir Suite offers a timeless and elegant backdrop for a wedding ceremony of up to 60 people. With a beautiful bay window, framing wonderful views across the fields to the church beyond, it is the perfect, year-round ceremony location. Another popular option for local couples, or those with family ties to the area, is holding their wedding ceremony at our neighbouring parish church, St. Margaret's, which sits atop the hill, just across the field from Downham Hall. The Church is a stunning setting, which has strong links to Downham Hall dating back to the 15th century.





## RECEPTION ROOMS

Downham Hall offers a choice of elegant and versatile spaces for your wedding celebration, suitable for the most exquisite intimate wedding to a large extravaganza, offering use of the whole venue and marquee or the choice of individual spaces for smaller weddings. Each room has been designed with elegance, whilst also providing a blank canvas to suit your personal style and vision. Your guests can also relax in our stunning grounds, enjoying comfortable seating with a choice of patio and decking areas specifically designed to maximise the views.

Downham Hall can accommodate intimate weddings with as few as 4 guests, up to large celebrations with 180 guests for an evening reception and everything in between.



*De Beauvoir*

*The De Beauvoir Suite is an elegant Georgian dining room situated within Downham Hall, enjoying views of the long drive and surrounding countryside.*

*It is ideal for hosting your ceremony, wedding breakfast and intimate reception. The room has been styled to accommodate any wedding theme and is perfect for up to 60 guests for a ceremony and 36 dining.*



*Marquee*

*The marquee enjoys beautiful views of the grounds and surrounding countryside and boasts luxury draping, wooden floors, a starlit ceiling canopy over the dance floor area and is adorned with chandeliers and twinkling fairy lights for the most magical atmosphere. The marquee boasts it's own bar and soft seating area and is perfect for weddings seating up to 110 for a wedding breakfast and 180 for an evening reception.*



*Orangery*

*Enjoying an abundance of natural light and breathtaking views, the Orangery at the back of Downham Hall is perfect for ceremonies, reception drinks and intimate dinners. Seating up to 40 for an indoor ceremony, 100 with outdoor seating or up to 20 for an intimate wedding breakfast, it is a particularly versatile space and one that is always incredibly popular with wedding couples and their guests.*



A CELEBRATIONAL FEAST



## EAT

Our outstanding head chef leads a talented in-house team, complimented by select local suppliers of the finest meats and produce. Our wedding menus provide our couples with a wide range of freshly prepared, delicious menu choices.

We are proud to offer flexibility, meaning that bespoke menu requests are also welcome and you will have the opportunity to work together with our catering team and wedding co-ordinator to create a tailor-made menu for your wedding day, should you wish.

Our wedding couples are always invited to attend a food tasting to help you decide on the menu for your special day.

Downham Hall

## DRINK

Our experienced catering team will work closely with you to ensure that your drinks menu offers refreshing reception choices and the best wines to compliment your food along with champagne and sparkling wines for your toasts. Downham Hall is fully licensed and well stocked with dedicated bar areas both in the Hall and marquee. Our bars are run by our professionally trained staff with extensive drinks knowledge to deliver you and your guests with the best experience possible.



## SAMPLE MENU

Here is just a small selection of dishes from our extensive wedding menu

### CANAPES

- Mini spiced lamb or chicken filo parcels with a curried aubergine purée
- Pulled pork sliders in a mini brioche bun
- Thai fish cakes with sweet chilli dip
- Goat's cheese crostini topped with caramelised red onion jam

### STARTERS

- Chicken liver parfait with homemade brioche, pickled apples & crispy bacon
- Goat's cheese and roasted vegetable tart with balsamic dressed leaves
- Hanningfield reservoir smoked salmon, gin-spiked cucumber, ginger and fresh wasabi
- Lamb croquette with crushed peas, goat's cheese and a tomato vinaigrette

### MAINS

- Traditional roast sirloin of beef with all the trimmings
- Mushroom and chestnut wellington on a parsnip and vanilla purée
- Pancetta wrapped chicken with stilton pomme purée, tenderstem broccoli and chicken jus
- Mediterranean sea bass with saffron potatoes and roasted vegetables

### DESSERTS

- Local apple and cinnamon tatin with homemade caramel and vanilla ice cream
- Chocolate torte with fresh raspberries and vanilla Chantilly cream
- Traditional sticky toffee pudding with homemade vanilla custard
- Trio of mini desserts – chocolate brownie, lemon tart and Eton Mess

### EVENING BITES

- Traditional fish and chips served in miniature cones with skin on fries and homemade tartare sauce
- Grazing table – A selection of the finest meats, cheeses, antipasti, breads and sweet bites



## DANCING UNDER THE STARS

Downham Hall transforms into a magical place after sunset, each room taking on a different ambience as evening comes. Chandeliers, mood lighting and your special touches added along with music, create a fantastic party environment or the perfect setting for your evening dining experience. In the marquee you can enjoy the twinkle of the chandeliers and your first dance under a canopy of star lights and the impressive grounds are lit with fairy and festoon lights to bring some extra sparkle to your evening celebration.





## FINISHING TOUCHES

It's all in the detail! Our wedding team spend time researching ideas and details to bring that extra magic and personality to your day, helping you to add the finishing touches that complete the styling for your celebration in a way that perfectly suits you. A group of specialist suppliers, familiar with the venue and from across a wide range of services, have been specially selected to assist you with your vision to further compliment the already beautiful character of Downham Hall.





## VENUE AMENITIES

Whole or part venue hire	✓
Private dining	✓
Civil Ceremony License	✓
Church within walking distance	✓
Celebrant ceremonies	✓
Indoor ceremony capacity	60
Outdoor ceremony capacity	100
Dining capacity	110
Evening capacity	180
In house bespoke catering	✓
Sampling menu session	✓
Table linen and napkins	✓
Extensive drinks and wine menu	✓
Bridal dressing room	✓
Bridal suite	✓
Four luxury double en suite rooms (one twin or family room)	✓
DJ - included with venue hire	✓
Dance floor area with starlit canopy	✓
Live bands allowed	✓
Cake stand and knife	✓
Fireworks - if provided by an insured professional	✓
Candles (enclosed)	✓
Disabled facilities	✓
Ample and overnight parking	✓
Dedicated wedding coordinator	✓
Select partner providers for all supporting services	✓
Breakfast for staying and returning guests	✓
Finish time 12 midnight	✓



## PRICING

*At Downham Hall we don't believe in a "one size fits all" approach to wedding packages.*

*We believe that every couple is unique in what they imagine their perfect wedding day to be and thereby pride ourselves in providing bespoke packages developed to meet every taste and budget.*

## WEDDING PLANNING SUPPORT

*Our Wedding Coordinator and dedicated small team of staff will work closely with you throughout your wedding journey, from the moment you book, planning and coordinating your requirements right through to your special day. With extensive wedding experience and a comprehensive network of suppliers you can be confident that your wedding dreams will be met, allowing you to relax and enjoy your day, in the knowledge that absolutely everything is taken care of.*

# Some Kind Words

We take much pride in the feedback we receive from our wedding couples.



Tade & Tom

*The service provided was exceptional and all of the staff were so attentive, not only in the lead up to our special day but also during the day itself. They ensured everything ran smoothly and it was so lovely to see that every one of the staff also enjoyed our day with us. All of this was made possible due to the hardworking staff at Downham Hall. Due to the second lockdown we moved our wedding forward by two days and without Downham Hall being so accommodating, our day wouldn't have been able to go ahead. Downham Hall went above and beyond for us, we cannot thank them enough and we cannot wait to come back!*

*We would recommend Downham Hall to anyone looking for a personalised and unique wedding venue. From their decor, food and picturesque settings - you really can't beat it!*



Coral & Danny

*Our day was absolutely magical and we have to give thanks to everyone at Downham Hall for making the day run seamlessly, we could not fault anything. On our first visit we completely fell in love with the venue and the wonderful family run business. We had Dawn as our wedding coordinator and she is just fabulous! Absolutely wonderful lady who helped me so much throughout the whole process, always made me feel calm and always took time to reply to any mad or little questions I had. Every single one of our guests thought that the venue was stunning, it really is beautiful. There is no other place I could ever dream of having that would be more perfect than Downham Hall.*



Courtney & James

*We would like to thank Downham Hall for giving us our dream wedding day. It was perfect and our guests enjoyed every minute! The venue and grounds are absolutely stunning, our family and friends are still talking about how beautiful Downham Hall is. You completely forget where you are, even though you are so close to local towns and easy transport links, you feel like you're miles away, surrounded by all the beautiful countryside! Our bedrooms were lovely, we had everything we could ever want. Thank you to Dawn, who played a big part in giving us our dream day, always friendly and kept in touch all of the time. We would recommend Downham Hall to anyone looking for a perfect venue for their dream wedding!*



Hayley & Spencer

*We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone at Downham Hall for helping us with our Wedding Day which was perfect. Special thanks to Downham Hall's fantastic Wedding Coordinator who helped to make the planning of the day so easy. We loved how personal the venue was knowing it was just our family and friends, was so important to us. All the staff were so professional but extremely friendly, always asking if we needed any help through the weeks leading up to the big day. The rooms were amazing and the food was brilliant.*

*We can't thank you enough for our special day at Downham Hall.*

Being such an intimate venue, at Downham Hall we really do cherish the wonderful relationships we get to build with the couples that celebrate their most special of days with us. Our wedding couples really do become part of the Downham Hall family and we love nothing more than when our happy couples continue to visit after their wedding.





## DIRECTIONS



Downham Hall is located just 10 minutes from the A127, Wickford junction and 25 minutes from the M25 serving the major motorway network. Wickford and Billericay train stations are both less than 3 miles from Downham Hall, served by Greater Anglia, London Liverpool Street to Southend Victoria line



DOWNHAM  
HALL

WEDDINGS - ACCOMODATION - DINING - EVENTS

[www.downhamhall.com](http://www.downhamhall.com)

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