



Birdsall House

Weddings & Receptions

Yorkshire Heritage. Unforgettable Experiences.





Welcome

"What an amazing day! We were made to feel at home from the first time we visited. The house and the setting speak for themselves, but it's the people that make this place truly magical. Every single person has had an impact on our perfect day. Thank you all!"

Ellie & John

We're so excited that you're considering Birdsall House for your wedding.

Birdsall is a beautiful, historic venue which, at its heart, remains a family home and this is what makes it so special. Whether you're planning a formal Church ceremony, a civil service in one of our gorgeous licensed rooms, or a more laid-back blessing among our 12th-century ruins, we'll go above and beyond to make your dream wedding a reality.

We're passionate about helping couples bring their unique visions to life. Every wedding here is completely tailored to you and the entire house is exclusively yours for your big day. Want to chat more about your ideas? Get in touch, and we'd love to help make it happen.

Best of luck with the planning – we can't wait to meet you!

Lady Cara Willoughby

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Our History

The Willoughby family has long been home to pioneering figures whose achievements shape the character of Birdsall House. Hugh Willoughby lost his life in 1553 while seeking the North East Passage, embodying the family's spirit of exploration. Francis Willoughby (1635–1672), a naturalist and early member of the Royal Society, catalogued hundreds of plant and animal species, anticipating Darwin's work by two centuries. Nesbit Willoughby (1777–1849), one of the boldest officers in British naval history, is even said to have inspired characters in the Hornblower novels. Their stories, alongside collections of art, antiques and furniture, form the rich heritage of the estate.

Birdsall House stands on the site of an ancient monastic settlement and has evolved through centuries of family stewardship by one family. Birdsall House was first built as a Tudor dwelling by the Sotheby family. A chance snowstorm in 1719 found Thomas Willoughby seeking shelter at Birdsall and subsequently marrying the heiress daughter Elizabeth. Together they transformed the house into a Georgian residence which later grew through additions ranging from 18th century State Rooms to Victorian work by Anthony Salvin. Having weathered the challenges of the post war era, Birdsall emerged as the family's principal home and remains so today. Under the stewardship of the Willoughby family the estate continues to thrive, welcoming guests for weddings, filming, country pursuits and more, ensuring that Birdsall's remarkable history remains a living, breathing story.



Planning your day



At Birdsall, we're all about creating a totally bespoke experience for your wedding day. No two weddings here are the same, and we're here to work with you to create something that's all about your style, ideas and budget. We want you to enjoy every moment of your wedding planning without feeling overwhelmed, all while soaking in the beauty of our venue.

Planning Service

We're thrilled to include a planning service in the cost of booking Birdsall House. Harriet Morris-Baumber (pictured) and our fantastic event planning team, will be with you for your entire journey. However, couples are very welcome to use a Wedding Planner of their choice too if they so wish.

Our Trusted Suppliers

From florists to photographers, caterers to bakers, we have a fantastic list of trusted suppliers ready to help make your day extra special. We'll make sure everything reflects your personalities, from the smallest details to the biggest moments.



Staying at Birdsall

Birdsall is the perfect weekend wedding venue, with exclusive use for your entire stay. Enjoy a pre-wedding dinner with your closest family and friends, or a post-wedding brunch. Our Bridal Suite is perfect for getting ready, complete with a spacious dressing room and large bathroom. Plus, we have five stunning en-suite bedrooms for your guests.

Need more space? We work closely with Langton Hall (just two miles away), which offers exclusive self-catering accommodation for 56 guests. A minibus can be available to transport guests between the two venues.

The picturesque market town of Malton, 4 miles away, is also host to several hotels and there is also plenty of accommodation available nearby through AirB'n'B.

The Dining Room

Capacity | 150 Seated (Ceremony)
80 Seated (Dining)

A perfect room for a stunning ceremony, a drinks reception or mid size wedding breakfast. Alternatively, you can use the Dining Room on the night before your wedding for a family dinner or the day after your wedding for a survival brunch.



The Long Hall

Capacity | 50 Standing

The Long Hall is the room where guests enter the house and the perfect place to gather before indoor ceremonies or host receptions, especially if it is cold outside. Grand but relaxed it exudes the warmth of our family home.



The Ballroom

Capacity | 150 Seated (Ceremony)
110 Seated (Dining)

Our grandest reception room, filled with natural light, is ideal for large ceremonies, receptions, or your wedding breakfast. When paired with the Oval Room, we can seat up to 150 guests for a spectacular feast.



The Oval Room

Capacity | 60 Seated (Ceremony)
48 Seated (Dining)

This impressive reception room with family collected paintings and furniture is perfect for smaller ceremonies, cosy receptions or wedding breakfasts. The piano is tuned and ready to play!



The Verandah

Capacity | 300 Seated (In Front of House)

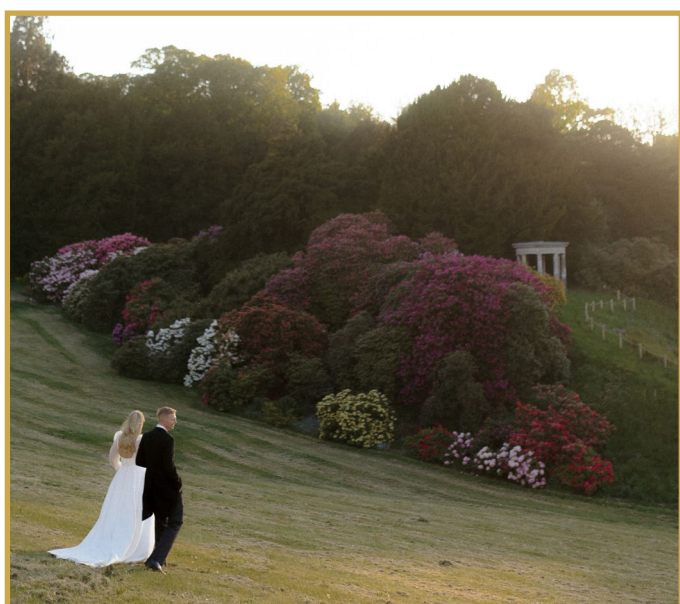
Our Verandah, on the front of the house, is a spectacular site for ceremonies as well as for receptions in inclement weather, giving shelter to guests from sun and showers.



The Gardens

Capacity | 300 Seated (On The Lawns or Within a Marquee)

The gardens surrounding the house are very extensive and can cater for quintessentially English garden receptions or host magnificent marquees, as well as being the perfect backdrop for your photos.



The Old Kitchens

The best parties always happen in the kitchen and Birdsall House takes that to heart. After the formalities in the elegant rooms upstairs, the celebration shifts up a gear as you and your guests head down to The Old Kitchens, the house's atmospheric, prohibition-style nightclub and bar hidden beneath the house.



This characterful warren of rooms offers something for everyone. Guests can wander to the cocktail bar, sink into comfortable sofas to catch up with friends, help themselves to grazing platters in The Pantry, or head straight to the dancefloor to shimmy the night away.

A striking contrast to the refined elegance above, The Old Kitchens were once the bustling working core of the estate. Today, they have been transformed into an opulent speakeasy, rich with velvet textures, moody lighting and intriguing secret spaces. The result is an immersive, intimate and high-energy setting - an unforgettable backdrop for the part of the day where the celebrations really begin.

[View The Old Kitchen floor plan](#)



Your Ceremony

Whether you're dreaming of a religious ceremony in St. Mary's Church, a relaxed outdoor civil service in the 12th-century ruins, or something completely unique in one of our classical Georgian reception rooms, we've got you covered.



01

St. Mary's Church

Set within Birdsall's rolling parkland, St Mary's Church offers a timeless, sacred setting. Part of the Parish of West Buckrose, it welcomes ceremonies of up to 200 guests in serene surroundings

02

The Dining Room

Framed by the beautiful interiors of Birdsall House, the Dining Room hosts ceremonies for up to 150 guests, with smaller gatherings held before the fireplace or Georgian windows overlooking the front lawn and The Old Ruins.



03

The Old Ruins

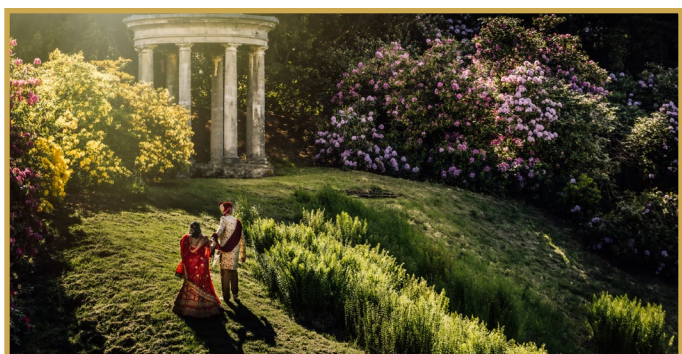
Set on the front lawns of Birdsall, the Old Ruins offer a striking ceremony setting within the remains of an 11th-century Church. Surrounded by the original arched walls and bell tower, this unique venue can host up to 300 guests.



04

The Little Temple

Overlooking Birdsall's lakes and Capability Brown-designed lawns, the Little Temple offers a beautifully intimate ceremony setting. Perfect for smaller gatherings, it hosts up to 10 guests in a truly peaceful and romantic location.



Your Wedding Day

Example Timeline

08:30 ●

Guests Breakfast & Getting Ready

You and your bridal party drift downstairs into the intimate dining room to enjoy a light breakfast of avocado on toast or scrambled eggs with smoked salmon, accompanied by pots of tea and coffee, before returning upstairs to the elegant, light-filled bridal suite to begin getting ready for your big day.

14:00 ●

Wedding Ceremony

Once you are ready, you and your bridal party come downstairs for photographs with your family, capturing quiet, meaningful moments together before heading off to be married in one of our beautiful ceremonial settings — from the historic ruins, to St Mary's Church, or within the timeless elegance of Birdsall itself.

15:00 ●

Drinks Reception

After the ceremony, as newlyweds, you return to your friends and family for celebratory drinks on the lawn. While your wedding photographs are being taken, guests are free to relax, mingle and enjoy a leisurely game of croquet in the sunshine.

17:00 ●

Wedding Breakfast

You then gather your guests for the wedding breakfast, held either in the elegant ballroom, surrounded by exquisite portraiture, or within your beautifully erected marquee beside the verandah, overlooking the exquisite gardens, thoughtfully designed by Capability Brown.

19:30 ●

Cocktail Hour

Following the wedding breakfast and speeches, guests are guided outside for a relaxed cocktail hour and a welcome breath of fresh air. It is the perfect moment for your photographer to take golden hour photos within the grounds, while friends and family mingle and enjoy the beautiful views.

20:30 ●

First Dance

As evening falls, you and your groom make your way to the Old Kitchens to party the night away, beginning with your first dance and continuing into an unforgettable celebration with music, free-flowing drinks and dancing long into the night.

00:30 ●

Carriages

Essential Information

At Birdsall, everything is thoughtfully considered and entirely yours for the weekend. Below you will find a selection of key details about celebrating your wedding with us. There is much more we would be delighted to share, so please do not hesitate to get in touch.



- Bars are expertly run by Fusion Events & Hospitality, with corkage offered for the reception and wedding breakfast (excluding the Old Kitchens).
- Catering is selected from our carefully curated list of recommended suppliers.
- Licensed until 12.30am, with the option to extend.
- Additional evening guests are welcomed at no extra venue cost.
- Six elegant bedrooms sleep up to 12 guests, with further accommodation nearby in Langton, Malton and York.
- Excellent transport links, with Malton and York stations close by, and cars may be left overnight.
- Complete exclusivity across the estate the day before, the day of and the day after your wedding.
- Only a small number of weddings are hosted each year.
- An on-site church and multiple options for ceremonies, receptions and wedding breakfasts.
- A small, dedicated team to guide you throughout your planning journey.
- Every wedding at Birdsall is individual, elegant and entirely bespoke.

Testimonials



A & M

2025

"We are so grateful to the Birdsall House team for creating the most magical wedding experience. From our very first visit, we felt genuinely welcomed, supported and completely at ease. Every detail was handled with such care, and the day itself flowed seamlessly. Our guests are still talking about the exceptional service and joyful atmosphere. The ceremony, celebrations and evening party were everything we had hoped for and more. Birdsall will always hold a very special place in our hearts."

A & O

2025

"It was a fantastic occasion and thank you for allowing us to share your beautiful home as the backdrop to a very special day. No occasion such as this is as successful without all the hard work and dedication that goes on behind the scenes. The marketing strapline for Birdsall should be "Our baseline is magnificent", it was certainly that...and more!!"



R & A

2025

"We wanted to drop you a card to say an incredible thank you for our daughters wedding, it was MAGNIFICENT! Genuinely, the organisation, the setting, the staff, the house, the nightclub were all tremendous. Alice and Matt were thrilled with the day and gives us the greatest pleasure. The Peroni ponies were a huge hit! It was all flawless end to end and you both deserve massive credit for this, you created very happy and joyful memories for us all!"



Come & See Us



BIRDSALL EVENTS OFFICE

Birdsall House, Birdsall, Malton, North Yorkshire, YO17 9NR

Events Office: 01944 316 003

Website: BirdsallEstates.com

BY CAR

Birdsall is 20 miles east of York and 4.5 miles south of Malton, YO17. There is plenty of parking at Birdsall House for events and visits. Please let us know in advance if you would like spaces reserved for accessible parking. Navigate to us using the map here, or by using the platform [What3words://brothers.dustbin.expecting](https://www.what3words.com/brothers.dustbin.expecting)

BY TRAIN

Malton is the nearest train station to Birdsall and York is the closest major train station. Taxis are also available from both stations but should be booked in advance. There is very little mobile phone reception at Birdsall so please book taxi's in advance of arrival and departure.

Station Taxis Malton: 01653 696969

Station Taxis York: 01904 623332

BY AIR

Our nearest airports are Leeds Bradford and Humberside Airport. Larger airports for long haul flights are Manchester and Newcastle. Private aircraft can arrive at Leeds East Airport which can deal with European flights and passport control. Helicopters can land at Birdsall House and we can give pilots landing information.

