Aran Islands
Ostán Árann Hotel

Unique Island Weddings

Photo by Dee Organ Photography

The Venue

Unique Wedding Venue

Your Unique Wedding at The Aran Islands Hotel will be one your guests will never forget. Our island oasis, in the middle of The Wild Atlantic Way, is the perfect venue for your guests to unwind, disconnect from the day-to-day and to truly immerse themselves in your wedding celebrations. Couples & guests often comment that the wedding feels more like a holiday with friends and family.

Accommodation

Our NEW Seaview Bedroom Chalets are the talk of the island... it has been christened 'The Village' by locals! The Village @ The Aran Islands Hotel is a collection of beautiful chalets with a large glass front and decking area so guests can take in the breathtaking island and sea views.

With a total of 62 bedrooms at the hotel, along with superb locally-run Guest Houses and B&Bs, Inis Mór can comfortably accommodate both intimate and larger wedding celebrations.

Wedding Celebrations

Our stunning Wedding Marquee has floor to ceiling glass panels so you and your guests can absorb the sea views while you dine, drink and dance the night away. We can host wedding ceremonies for up to 110 guests and wedding receptions for up to 280 wedding guests.

Wedding Ceremonies

Whether you've dreamed of walking down the aisle in a beautiful church, climbing Dun Aonghasa Fort for a blessing or having your union blessed on the shoreline with the waves lapping at your feet, Inis Mór can cater for whatever weddings ideas you have, to make this day unique for you and your loved ones.

Photo by Dara Molloy

Choose from:

- Marquee Ceremony
- Church Ceremony
- Beach Ceremony
- Cliff Top Ceremony

Inis Mór's Local Legal Wedding Celebrant

Dara Molloy is a local Celtic Priest & Monk living on Inis Mór. Dara can legally marry couples and register the marriage with the Irish State.

Dara specialises in symbolic Celtic Ceremonies at the hotel or at your chosen location on the island and is a popular choice for couples looking for a ceremony that reflects their relationship.

Photo by Tony Clancy

A few words from a Wedding Couple

"Well what can we say except WOW!! Thank you to Niall & the entire team at The Aran Islands Hotel for the most amazing weekend in such a special place. Choosing the Aran Islands for our wedding was perfect for us, as we wanted to be able to really be present, have time to connect with our loved ones and soak up all the love. The fact we were on an island made the weekend feel like a magical holiday.

Niall, the Wedding Co-ordinator, is a legend! We were completely at ease in the lead up to our big day and over the weekend itself, we didn't need to think about anything except enjoying the celebrations, Niall had everything sorted.

Over the weekend we did yoga overlooking the sea, went on tours of the island, went for sea dips, explored the lovely little nooks on the island, laughed, sang, ate and danced. It was the perfect mix of fun, precious quality time, adventure, memories and laughter, so much laughter!!"

Dorothy & Padraig McDonagh, September 2019

Photo by Dee Organ

Exclusive Items

Included in all our
Island Wedding Packages

Your very own dedicated Island Wedding Co-ordinator, Niall Madigan, who has 15 years+ Wedding Planning experience

Our beautifully draped Wedding Marquee, complete with floor to ceiling glass panels, for your Wedding Reception for up to 280 guests

Complimentary use of the Wedding Marquee for your wedding ceremony for up to 110 guests, including ceremony set up of your choice

Stunning chiavari chairs for your ceremony and reception

Red carpet arrival and a welcome drink for the Bride & Groom

Prosecco, Tea/Coffee and snacks welcome reception for your guests

Complimentary overnight stay on wedding night in our Superior Balcony Room, with breathtaking views of the Wild Atlantic

Reduced accommodation rates for the weekend for your wedding guests

Table numbers, personalised menus and decorated Table Plan Easel

Microphone & PA system available for your speeches

Bar Extension until 2am

Cake stand, pillars and silver cake knife

Complimentary Champagne Breakfast in bed the following morning

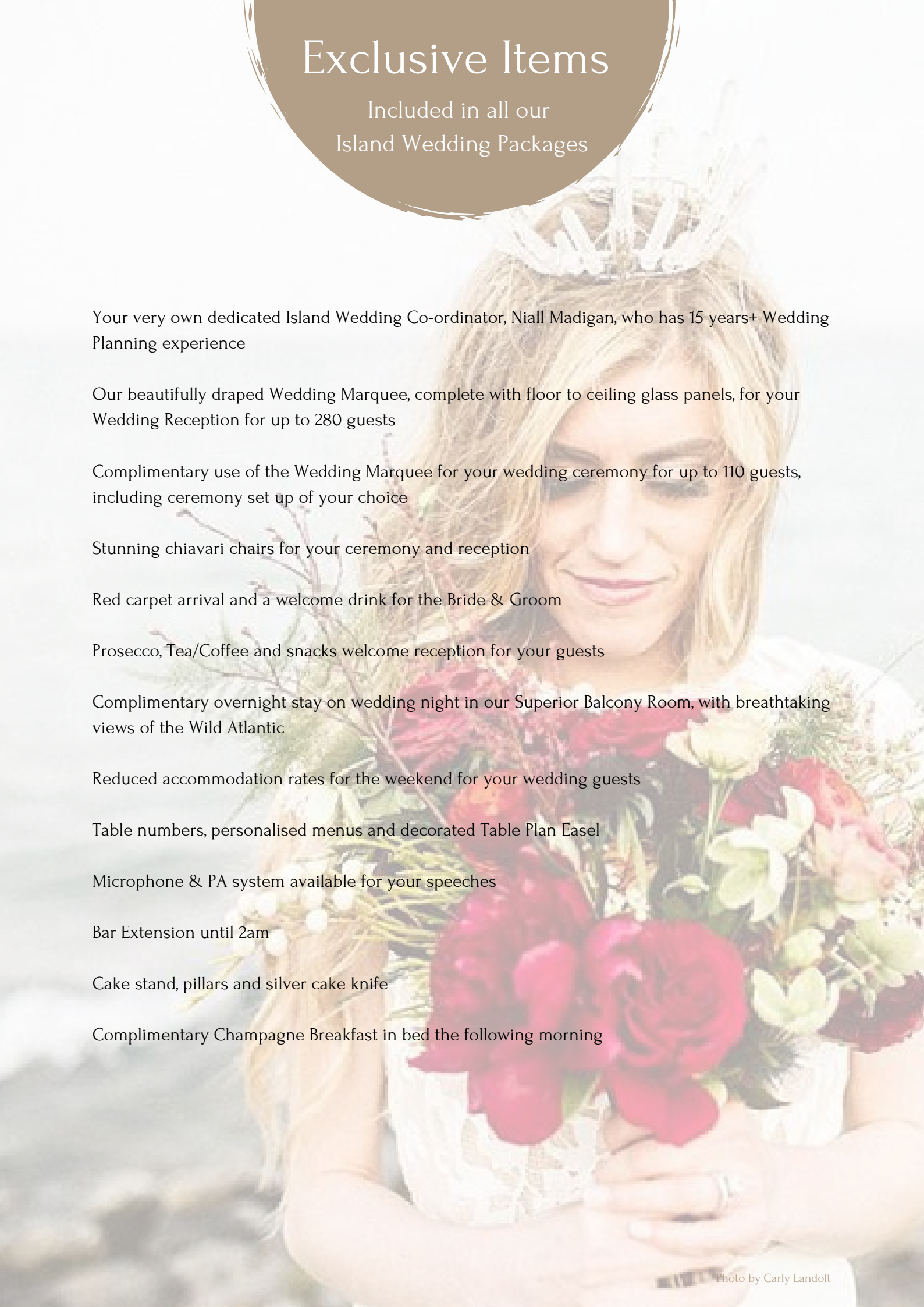

Photo by Carly Landolt

Kilmurvey Beach Wedding

Welcome & Drinks Reception

Red Carpet Arrival
Drink of choice for the Wedding Couple
Prosecco* on arrival for your guests
Tea and ground Coffee with a selection of tasty Sandwiches, Canapés & Biscuits
Beer Barrow* - decorated wheelbarrow with beer bottles on ice

Five Course Banquet

See Sample Menus
2 Choice of Main course
&
2 Pours of Wine

Evening Nibbles

Choose from a selection of Hot Nibbles

€75
per person

*Reception drinks allocated based on number of confirmed guests and at a ratio of 50% Prosecco and 50% Beer Barrow

Dun Aonghasa Wedding

Welcome & Drinks Reception

Horse & Cart arrival for the Wedding Couple
Pre-Dinner Reception Music for your guests
Drink of choice for the Wedding Couple
Prosecco* on arrival for your guests
Display of Meat & Cheeses including Aran Islands Goats Cheese
with relishes, fruits and rustic crackers
Tea and ground Coffee with a selection of tasty Sandwiches, Canapés & Biscuits
Quirky Gin Bar**
Beer Barrow* - decorated wheelbarrow with beer bottles on ice

Five Course Banquet

See Sample Menus
Starter
2 Choice of Main Course
&
2 Pours of Wine

Evening Nibbles

Choose from a selection of Hot Nibbles
Retro Tayto Crisp Sambo Table

€90
per person

**Gin Bar allocated to half of your final guest numbers
*Reception drinks allocated based on number of confirmed guests and at a ratio of 50% Prosecco and 50% Beer Barrow

A Weekend to Remember

With all your loved ones on the island, what better time to explore ... the ultimate holiday vibe!

BBQ Buffet

Regroup after a day of exploring at the hotel and experience our famous BBQ Buffet with Live music afterwards in the hotel bar.

Relax

Chill out at the hotel, by the fire in the bar or wrapped up in a blanket on the decking of your bedroom chalet while breathing in the island & sea views.

Swim

Make your way to the beach for a dip in the Atlantic Ocean or trek to nature's own swimming pool, 'The Wormhole'.

Explore

Explore the island with your guests on foot, by bike, bus or horse and cart. Visit gems such as; the white sands of Kilmurvey Beach, the dizzy heights of Dun Aonghasa Fort or our famous Rabbit Fields.

Taste the Island

Go on an Island Food Tour where you can sample Aran Islands Goats Cheese, Bláth na Mara Seaweed, Man of Aran Fudge and many more delicacies.

Yoga

Enjoy yoga on the grass overlooking the sea or on the beach. Suitable for all levels.

Island Wedding Experts

Aran Islands Hotel

Photographers

Dee Organ www.deeorgan.com
Tony Clancy www.tonyclancyphotography.ie
Mike Patterson www.mikepatterson.com
Paul Duane www.paulduanephotography.ie

Video

Richard Speedie www.bigday.ie
Dreamcatcher www.dreamcatcherproductions.ie
Keith Malone www.keithmalone.ie

DJ

Dj Dan www.facebook.com/djdanlimerick
Paudie Walsh www.paudiewalshmusic.ie

Ceremony Music

Sinead Nic Gabhann www.sineadnicgabhann.com
Brenda Grealis www.musicbybrenda.com

Band

Face Value www.facevalue.ie
Harlequin www.harlequinband.ie
Gossip Band www.GossipBand.ie
Who Knows www.whoknows.ie

Hair / Make-Up

Pauline Fletcher - Make-Up www.paulinefletcher.com
Grainne O' Doherty - Hair & Make-Up www.makeupmatters.ie
Sharon D - Hair & Make up www.sharond.com
Amy O Donnell – Make up 00353 87 2056182
Oksana the Hairdresser www.facebook.com/InisMorHairdresser/

Flowers / Decor

Balla Florists www.ballaflorists.com
I do candle lighting www.idocandlelighting.com
Blathanna agus Bronntanais www.facebook.com/blathannaagusbronntanais.charoline

Celebrant

Dara Molloy www.daramolloy.com
Inis Mór Parish Church aranislesparish@gmail.com
Cathy Melia www.cathymeliaweddings.com

Cake

Áine Dear www.thecakeemporium.ie
Niall Diviney www.SimplyDivineCakes.ie

Wedding FAQs

Aran Islands Hotel

099 61104

GETTING HERE

How do I get to The Aran Islands Hotel?

Inis Mór can be reached by ferry using Aran Islands Ferries from Rossaveal, Co. Galway (www.aranislandferries.com), or from Doolin, Co. Clare (www.doolinferries.com). You can also get an 8 minute flight from Connemara Regional Airport in Inverin with Aer Arann (www.aerarannislands.ie)

How do our guests get up to the Hotel from the boat/plane?

Your guests will be collected by shuttle bus from the Harbour at a cost of just €2 per person. There is a similar shuttle bus from the airport that will drop your guests at the Hotel at a cost of just €2.50 per person.

Is there a discount for my guests to travel to Inis Mór?

Yes there is a special Wedding discount rate available with most transport companies, contact them directly.

Will it be easy to get wedding suppliers for Inis Mór?

We have a list of expert wedding suppliers for you to choose from. Each supplier is a super fan of Inis Mór and has done weddings here before, so they know the story! Your wedding suppliers can also avail of the discounted wedding travel rate most transport companies.

How do I get props or any larger items out to the Hotel?

Should you or your suppliers require to send out large items, there is a cargo vessel which leaves from Galway Harbour a few days every week. The team in Lasta Mara, the cargo company, are very helpful and it is very inexpensive to ship large items to Inis Mór. Once it is put on the cargo vessel, you don't need to worry about it, we get it delivered safely direct to our door within a few hours.
Check their website on www.lastamarateo.com or phone them on 091 562 900

How do we get around the island?

On Inis Mór you don't need to worry about how to get around. The islanders and especially the business owners are well used to visitors and we treat all visitors just like our friends. To that end, all the B&Bs and local businesses are always happy to give a lift to any destination on the island. Plus for any pre-booked activities you book, you can arrange to be picked up at the Hotel or a location of your choice.

ACCOMMODATION

How many people can The Aran Islands Hotel accommodate overnight?

In total, we can accommodate up to a max of 130 guests (if all rooms are used to full capacity). For additional guests we can recommend some superb locally owned Guest Houses and B&Bs that are close by. At The Aran Islands Hotel we have 22 hotel bedrooms, including 5 balcony rooms overlooking the Wild Atlantic. In addition we have 40 Seaview Bedroom Chalets, most of which have stunning views of the sea and rocky landscape. We currently have four family bedrooms which can accommodate up to five people each.

Is there a special rate for wedding guests?

Yes, we will provide you with a special discount code which your guests can use to book online. In order to avail of the discounted rate and to secure their booking, guests will pay 30% for their accommodation on booking & the balance on the morning of arrival.

Photo by Dee Organ

ACCOMMODATION CONTINUED

Do we have to fill all the rooms?

Weddings will have a minimum of 130 guests and given that most of your guests will require accommodation in order to enjoy your wedding reception, you will fill the hotel in no time at all. There are many excellent Guest Houses and B&Bs on the island if you require any further accommodation.

What are your check-in and check-out times?

Check in is 3pm and check out is 11am. We prioritise check in for guests arriving on your wedding day, however we cannot guarantee they will be able to check in before 3pm. We will make every effort to accommodate your guests wishing to get ready before the ceremony, by making other areas available to them.

Is breakfast included for our guests?

Yes breakfast is included for all guests staying in the Hotel and our Seaview Bedroom Chalets.

Will my wedding suppliers have to stay overnight?

It will depend on the supplier. Any of the expert suppliers on our list will be able to help answer that question for you and confirm the extra cost if any.

Who pays for the guest & wedding suppliers' rooms?

Each guest will pay for their own accommodation online using the special discount code allocated to your wedding.
In relation to suppliers' bedrooms, the wedding couple normally pay for these. Get in touch with our list of expert wedding suppliers, they are all fans of Inis Mór and love doing weddings here. Some have good value packages for the island that include all of these costs.

WEDDING RECEPTION

How long is the drinks reception?

Usually the drinks reception is 2.5 - 3 hrs

What time is the bell called for the main meal?

5.30pm is the usual time which we call for the meal, your guests will be seated and their orders taken by 6pm. Your wedding dinner will normally be completed by 8.30pm.

When can we have speeches?

To ensure food quality and time management, speeches can only be conducted after dessert has been served.

Is there a separate menu for children?

Yes, we have a children's meal which is priced at €8, this is available for guests under 12 years, there is also the option of ½ portions of the main meal.

Can we bring our own wine?

We are happy for you to arrange to bring your own wine, and there will be a corkage charge of €8 per bottle.

May we serve our own wine after the wedding meal all through the night?

No, you are welcome to bring your own wine to be served during the wedding meal only. There will be a corkage charge of €8 per bottle.

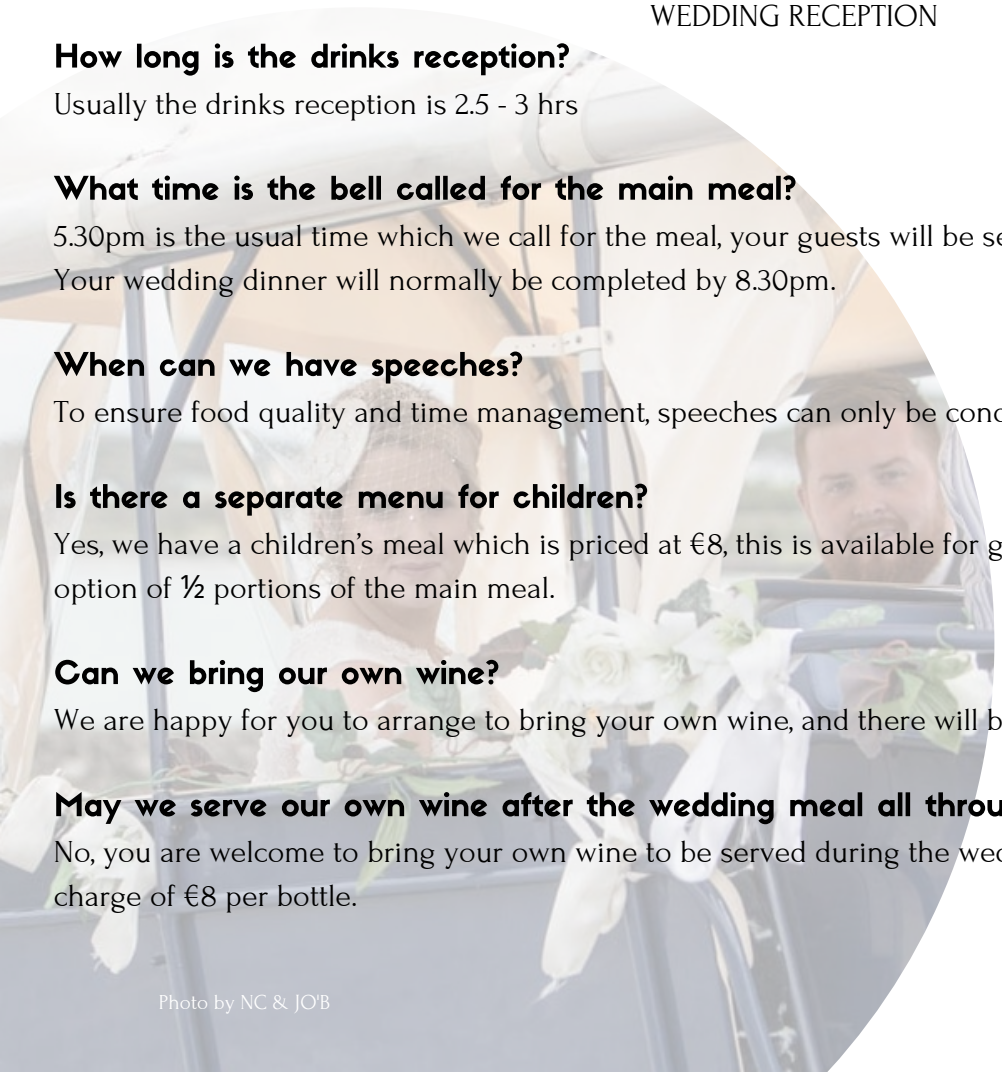

Photo by NC & JO'B

WEDDING RECEPTION CONTINUED

What is the minimum number of guests?

The minimum number of guests 130.

Can we stay the night before the wedding, and/or the night after?

We have superb options for an extended stay and recommend you avail of the 3 night option to have the best possible experience of a wedding at The Aran Island Hotel (subject to availability).

Can we have a party the days before and after the Wedding?

Absolutely, we love a party at The Aran Islands Hotel and we are famous on the island for our BBQ Buffet parties, ideal for a relaxed day after celebration. In addition, you may choose to have a family sit down meal the night before your wedding to get everyone in the mood for the weekend ahead. (subject to availability).

May we have a choice for each course on our menu?

All of our wedding packages already have a choice for the main course, these choices are based on one meat and one fish dish. Our most popular Wedding Package, Dun Aonghasa, has no choice on starter.

How many people can you accommodate in the Marquee?

The maximum numbers that we can accommodate for the wedding meal is 280. We can host your ceremony in the Marquee if you wish for up to 110 guests.

What time is the bar open until?

The main bar is open until 2am (subject to licence). The residents bar is then open at the manager's discretion.

BOOKING

When we place a provisional booking, how long before we need to pay the booking fee?

Provisional wedding dates can be held for 7 days.

What is the booking fee?

The booking fee of €10 a head is due to secure the date, this payment is non-refundable and non-transferable.

Is there a menu tasting we can attend?

Yes you can book in a personal menu tasting, no later than 90 days before the wedding date, ideally 180 days (subject to hotel opening times). Menu tasting must be booked 4 weeks in advance and can take place Mon - Wed, April to September, depending on availability. You can avail of a special reduced accommodation rate.

When do we have to confirm final numbers?

Final numbers are to be submitted 1 month in advance of the reception.

When do we have to make final payment?

Remaining balance of the anticipated bill is payable 30 days prior to the wedding date and is non -refundable, with the final account (after adjustments) to be settled on departure.

Photo by Tony Clancy

Is there a church nearby?

Yes there is a Catholic church a 5 minute walk from the church. It is advised to have your preferred priest, perhaps a relation or your local priest to perform your ceremony on the island.

What other ceremony options are there available on the Island?

There are a few different options available.

Dara Molloy is our resident Celtic Monk who can legally marry couples, any day of the week, at the hotel or a location of your choice on the island (www.daramolloy.com).

The HSE can provide civil ceremonies Mon - Fri (www.hse.ie).

Spiritual Ceremonies Ireland provide a number of celebrants for personalised spiritual ceremonies (www.spiritualceremonies.ie).

Cathy Melia is a Galway based celebrant who loves performing unique ceremonies on Inis Mór (www.cathymeliaweddings.com)

What do we need in order to have our ceremony to be held in The Aran Islands Hotel?

Each couple must apply to the Civil Registration Office themselves within 3 months of the Wedding date. It is always best to apply for this sooner than 3 months as there may be a waiting time for an appointment, Visit www.hse.ie for more information.

What time can a ceremony be held in The Aran Islands Hotel?

In order to accommodate guests arriving on the day of the wedding, we recommend that you hold your ceremony at 2pm. Alternative times and options can be discussed directly with your celebrant and Hotel Wedding Coordinator

What is the maximum number of people we can have at our ceremony?

The maximum number of people for a ceremony at the Hotel in the Wedding Marquee is 110. Other ceremony locations on the island, including the church, will have a capacity limit. Your celebrant will be able to advise best.

How long does a wedding ceremony last?

Each type of ceremony differs in style and length, so it is best to consult with your chosen celebrant on this matter. Ceremonies can last anything from 15mins to 1hr, depending on personalisation.

Is there a room set up fee for a ceremony at the Aran Islands Hotel?

Ceremony room set up is complimentary with each Wedding Package, including use of our decor items. We can host ceremonies in the Wedding Marquee for up to 110 guests.

Is it possible to have an outdoor ceremony?

Yes it is possible, weather permitting. The Hotel Wedding Coordinator can give you advice on your options.

Are Christmas weddings possible at The Aran Islands Hotel?

Unfortunately the Hotel is closed from November to February, so we cannot host Christmas Weddings.

Can I arrive early the morning of the wedding to get ready?

You can do this, but we find that couples much more comfortable arriving the day (or a few days) before the Wedding in order to settle in and start to relax into the surroundings and enjoy the lead up to the big day.

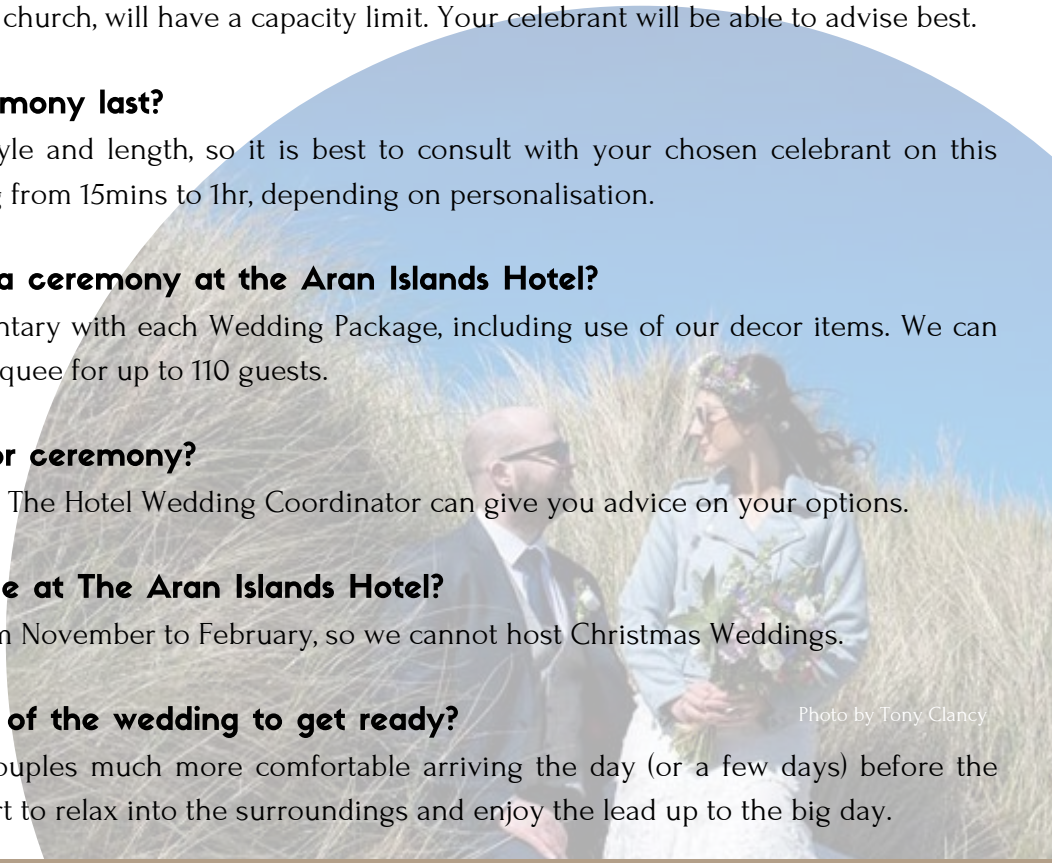

Photo by Tony Clancy

Terms & Conditions

Booking Fees and Balances

- The booking fee of €10 a head is due to secure the date, this fee is non-refundable and non-transferable.
- 50% of the anticipated remaining bill is payable in January prior to Wedding date which is non-refundable.
- Remaining balance of the anticipated bill is payable 30 days prior to the wedding date and is non -refundable, with the final account (after adjustments) to be settled on departure.
- All cancellations must be in writing and all booking fees and payments are non-refundable and non-transferable.
- If due to COVID 19 your wedding has to be postponed all deposits and reservations will be honoured for a future date.

Wedding Ceremony

- The Aran Islands Hotel is an approved venue for Civil Ceremonies.

Wedding Reception

- All packages are based on a minimum of 130 paying adults for Weddings
- In the event that the number of adult guests is less than stated Minimum numbers then a marquee/room hire charge of €1,000 will apply.
- Children aged 0-2 years are complimentary. Children aged between 3 and 12 years (dining from the children's menu) are charged on consumption. Children aged 13 years and over are charged as adults (excluding alcohol prices from package)
- Prices quoted include VAT and service charge is at your own discretion.
- All prices quoted may vary depending on increases in food or labour costs, taxes, or any other unforeseen circumstances.
- No food or Drink (other than the Wedding Cake or agreed Wine charged at Corkage €8 may be brought into the Hotel for consumption on the premises.

Accommodation

- A maximum of 7 rooms will be held for the wedding night on request. The balance of these rooms must be paid in full 90 days in advance of the wedding date, these rooms can be released without notice after this date.
- Upon receipt of the initial booking fee a Promo code will be given to the Couple for discounted rooms for their wedding guests. These rooms must be paid for in full by your guests at the time of booking to avail of this special discount. These room rates are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Timings

- The bar in the function room will be closed at standard licencing hours and live and/or recorded music must finish at this time, unless a licence extension has been applied for and granted.
- The hotel reserves the right to close the bar and terminate the music prior to the stated times, if the situation demands it.
- The resident's bar is strictly residents only and will be closed at 2.00am or at the Managers discretion.
- In order for us to provide you with our high standard of service, the prearranged times must be adhered to i.e. agreed 'time of arrival', 'drinks reception' and 'dinner sit-down time'.
- To ensure the quality of service, we recommend that speeches commence only after dessert is served.

Menu Tasting

- The wedding reception menu & wine choices must be agreed and signed off by both parties at least 90 days prior to the wedding date.
- Menu tasting must take place no later than 90 days before the wedding date, ideally 180 days (subject to hotel opening times) Menu tasting must be booked 4 weeks in advance and can take place Mon - Wed, April to September, depending on availability. Couple may avail of special reduced accommodation rate on this occasion.
- The hotel reserves the right to amend menu choices dependent on market price and availability.

Final Numbers

- Final numbers are to be submitted 30 days in advance of the reception.
- If final numbers are below the outlined Minimum numbers, then a marquee/room hire of €1,000 will apply.
- The final invoice will be based on these numbers or the minimum numbers agreed, whichever is greater. Should numbers increase on the day itself, the invoice will be adjusted accordingly.

Lost Property

- We do not accept responsibility for any gifts or cards given to the Hotel. Please direct to a nominated person of your party.
- We do not accept responsibility for any items left behind by any of the wedding party.

Entertainment

- All Wedding Suppliers on site (Photographers/Videographers/Hair Stylists/ Musicians/ Entertainers, DJs Etc.) must have professional indemnity insurance and must provide a copy of their Public Liability Insurance to the Hotel.
- We do not take responsibility for the entertainment or equipment required by entertainers. The hotel however must be informed of and approve any entertainment.
- All entertainment must end at standard licencing hours, unless a licence extension has been applied for and granted.

Final Notes

- The hotel may cancel the event in the following circumstances: where it has reason to believe the booking might be prejudicial to the reputation of the hotel or should any guests attending the event behave in any way considered to be detrimental, offensive or contrary to normal expected standards of behaviour.
- The wedding contract must be signed by the couple. Third party signatures will not be accepted.
- Due to any unforeseen circumstances or accidents, the venue reserves the right to cancel any booking and refund any deposit at any time.
- Although all reasonable care will be taken, The Aran Islands Hotel cannot accept any responsibility for property lost or damaged prior to, during or after the function. The client will be financially responsible for any loss or damage sustained to the property during their function.
- All rates are quoted in Euro and are non-commissionable.
- All rates are inclusive of VAT. Future changes in taxes will affect all rates accordingly.
- Bar Tabs on the night of the event must be individually negotiated in advance and accompanied with credit card/debit card details. Please be advised all credit cards are pre authorised for the agreed amount prior to event. If credit card details are not available, a debit card must be provided and will be charged the full amount of the bar tab prior to the event. Payment for the account bar facility can be made on the day by cash or credit / debit card. In the event that full payment is not made on the day of the event, then the card given will be charged to make payment.

Please read these Terms & Conditions carefully. Please sign below and return to confirm that you accept the contents of these terms and conditions relating to your Meeting.

Date of booking:

Names of Couple:

Signatures of Couple:

Date of Signature:

Name of Member of The Aran Islands Management Team:

Signature of Member of The Aran Islands Management Team:

Date of Signature:

Photo by Paul Duane