

# Unique Island Weddings

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Photo by Deirdre Langan Photography









## 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 locallyrun 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 150 guests and wedding receptions for up to 250 wedding guests.

# Wedding Ceremonies

Whether you've dreamed of walking down the aisle in a beautiful church, Inis Mór can cater for whatever wedding ideas you have, to make this day unique for you and your loved ones.

## Choose from:



Marquee Ceremony



Church 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 and is a popular choice for couples looking for a ceremony that reflects their relationship.







# 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 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

We were looking for a place to get married for ages and wanted something special and unique, the Aran islands was an obvious choice. But we only decided after meeting Niall and his team at the Aran Islands hotel. The set up for the ceremony and meal and of course the location and view is as amazing as the pictures make it look but it's the personal touch we got from the team that really made the day so incredibly special to us. Everyone on staff really went above and beyond. It's common enough for guests to comment on how lovely a venue for a wedding is but not only did our guests rave about the venue but we heard so many lovely things about the staff.

Our wedding last September at the Aran Islands hotel was beyond anything we could have ever dreamt up. We will never forget the incredible weekend we had there with all our friends and family. We look forward to going back for anniversaries and reminiscing about the best day of our life.

## Mandy & Rob 2022



# Exclusive Items

Included in all our Island Wedding Packages

Your very own dedicated Island Wedding Co-ordinator, Niall Madigan, has 20 years+ Wedding Planning experience

Our beautifully draped Wedding Marquee, complete with floor-to-ceiling glass panels, for your Wedding Reception for up to 250 guests

Complimentary use of the Wedding Marquee for your wedding ceremony for up to 150 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



# 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

1 Starter 1 Choice of Soup or Sorbet 2 Choice of Main Course 1 Dessert Tea/Coffee

2 Pours of Wine

## **Evening Nibbles**



Choose from a selection of Hot Nibbles



# 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 Gin Bar\*\* Beer Barrow\* - decorated wheelbarrow with beer bottles on ice

## **Five Course Banquet**

See Sample Menus

1 Starter 1 Choice of Soup or Sorbet 2 Choice of Main Course 1 Dessert Tea/Coffee

2 Pours of Wine

## **Evening Nibbles**

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



\*\*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.







# Island Wedding Experts Aran Islands Hotel

## Photographers

Dee Organ www.deeorgan.com Deirdre Langan www.deirdrelangan.com Tony Clancy www.tonyclancyphotography.ie Paul Duane www.paulduanephotography.ie Dave www.awakeanddreamingweddings.com

## Video

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

## DJ

Paudie Walsh www.paudiewalshmusic.ie

## **Ceremony Music**

Sinead Nic Gabhann www.sineadthesinger.ie

## Band

The Wilful www.thewilful.ie Electric Circus electriccircusweddings.ie Gossip Band www.GossipBand.ie Who Knows www.whoknows.ie

## Additional Entertainment

The Selfie Mirror Galway – Albert 087 7468440 / 0876884767

## 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/ Rocio Redondo 0892187454 info.lunartmakeup@gmail.com

## Flowers / Decor

Keane Florist 091 563433 www.keanesflorist.ie Balla Florists www.ballaflorists.com

## Celebrant

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

## Cake

Aran Islands Wedding Cakes – Justine 087 2406490 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 Galway City and 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 €10 per room. There is a similar shuttle bus from the airport that will drop your guests at the Hotel at a cost of just €10 per Room.

#### 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 and the balance on the morning of arrival.

#### 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 4 pm 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 4 pm. 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 €10, 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 €15 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 €15 per bottle.

#### 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 have a choice for the main course, these choices are based on one meat and one fish dish. Vegetarians and Vegans will be catered for.

#### How many people can you accommodate in the Marquee?

The maximum numbers that we can accommodate for the wedding meal is 250. We can host your ceremony in the Marquee if you wish for up to 150 guests.

#### What time is the bar open until?

The main bar is open until 2 am (subject to licence).

#### 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 €20 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 a personal menu tasting. Menu tasting must be booked 4 weeks in advance and can only take place weekends in April - Depending on availability. You can avail of a special reduced accommodation rates.

#### 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 the morning after the wedding.

#### Is there a church nearby?

Yes there is a Catholic church a 5 minute walk from the church.

#### 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 (www.daramolloy.com).

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

Spiritual Ceremonies Ireland provides 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 2 pm. 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 150. The church has a capacity limit of 250.

### 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 15 minutes to 1 hour, depending on personalisation.

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

The ceremony room set-up is complimentary with each Wedding Package, including the use of our decor items. We can host ceremonies in the Wedding Marquee for up to 150 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 are much more comfortable arriving the day (or a few days) before the Wedding in order to settle in and start to relax in the surroundings and enjoy the lead-up to the big day.

> Aran Islands Hotel 099 61104 www.aranislandshotel.com/weddings

Conditions

Terms &

#### **Booking Fees and Balances**

- The booking fee of €20 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 the morning after the wedding..
- All cancellations must be in writing and all booking fees and payments are nonrefundable and non-transferable.

#### 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 €15 may be brought into the Hotel for consumption on the premises.

#### Accommodation

 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 have 30% paid for by your guests at the time of booking to avail of this special discount. These room rates are non-refundable and non-transferable. The balance of these rooms must be booked by February in advance of the wedding date, these rooms can be released without notice after this date. We have a minimum 2-night stay policy for all room reservations.

#### 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 2.00 am or at the Manager's 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 sitdown 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 April the year of the wedding, depending on availability. Couples may avail of a 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 the 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.
- We strongly suggest wedding insurance in the event of any unforeseen circumstances.
- 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, 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 euros 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 by credit card details. Please be advised all credit cards are pre-authorised for the agreed amount prior to the 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 Wedding: Name 1 Name 2 Signatures of Couple:

orgination of ordering

Date of Signature:



## Starters

Chicken, Smoked Bacon & Wild Mushroom Vol Au Vent in a puff pastry case, filled with tarragon & white wine cream sauce

Classic Caesar Salad

Crisp romaine lettuce, garlic croutons, Parmesan cheese, bacon lardons & house Caesar dressing

Local Goats Cheese Salad Baby leaves, beetroot, toasted walnut, local feta & soft goat's cheese with balsamic honey dressing

Pressed Pork Belly slow-roasted & served with cider & Bramley apple purée

## Soups

Seasonal root vegetable soup, garnished with herb croutons

Roast red pepper &tomato soup with fresh basil

Cream of mushroom soup finished with Parmesan

Buttered leek, onion & potato Soup

## Sorbets

Lemon Champagne Orange

## Main Course

Braised Rolled Irish Lamb Marinated in fresh herbs & spices and served with a Moroccan-style gravy

Baked Fillet of HakeBaked in white wine, fresh dill & lemon zest, drizzled with citrus butter

Slow Roast Sirloin of Prime Irish Beef with roast garlic thyme, rosemary red wine & port reduction

Twice Cooked Loin of Bacon Loin of bacon finished in the oven with a sweet mustard glaze topped with leek-smoked bacon sauce

> Chicken Supreme with a morel tarragon & shallot mornay sauce

Traditional Stuffed Roast Turkey & Ham Potato & herb stuffing with homemade roast gravy

Fresh Fillets of Sea Bass Poached in white wine, fresh dill & lemon zest, drizzled with citrus butter

> Baked Irish Salmon with creamy lemon-scented seafood béchamel

Mild Spiced Vegetarian Curry Mediterranean wok fried vegetables with a mild tomato-based curry on a bed of saffron rice

Medley of Vegetable Risotto

A roasted medley of vegetables brought together in an Arborio rice garnished with grated Parmesan

## Dessert

Lemon Cheesecake served with mixed berry coulis

Apple Tartlet with fresh cream

White Chocolate & Raspberry Roulade

Vegan Gluten Free Chocolate Almond & Coconut Tart