

Porthgwidden

Beach Café



Wedding

Our friendly beach café is available for marriage and civil partnership blessings, receptions and private hire. It's a unique and memorable setting for relaxed celebrations, overlooking an idyllic, sheltered corner of St Ives bay.

The café is perfect for smaller weddings, and for intimate events for groups of up to about 60 people. Unfortunately, we don't hire the cafe during the Easter holidays, July or August, Christmas week or over Bank Holidays.

The Location

Celebrate in breath-taking surroundings

There can be few other places in the UK where your guests will want to kick off their shoes and enjoy a paddle, where the wedding couple can indulge in a game of beach cricket, and where seals and dolphins might drop by to join in the fun.

Porthgwidden Beach Café is in the historic heart of St Ives and is surrounded by old fishing cottages and artists' studios. Winding, cobbled streets lead to our sandy, sheltered bay, which is popular with families in the summer.

Despite being right in the thick of things we have a car park just behind the café, which is very useful for the arrival and departure of the wedding party and guests.



The Space

Let the sand, sea and sky be your wedding décor

With a view like this you'll need very few embellishments to create an impression. Whether you dream of a simple elopement-style wedding with just the two of you and a few special guests, or a larger gathering of family and friends, the view from our venue has the ultimate wow factor. Whatever the weather, the backdrop is a wedding photographer's dream!

You will have exclusive use of the café during your time with us, whether you opt for whole day or just evening use.

Inside is a bar area, cosy seating and a huge picture window overlooking the beach. This leads on to our fully-enclosed glass terrace, which can be heated in cooler weather or opened up to become a beautiful sun deck; it's a flexible space which allows you to get the most out of this special beach-side location.

We also have a decking area downstairs which leads onto the beach itself. Welcome drinks are usually served here, weather permitting.



The Planning

Friendly but professional

Despite the casual vibe, you can be assured that all aspects of your wedding day will be given close attention by our professional team. As part of your package you will receive the services of our dedicated, highly experienced wedding planner, Dianne, who will be your point of contact and ensure that everything runs smoothly, so that you can relax and make the most of every precious moment.

Our wedding planner can help you personalise all the details of your wedding package, recommend local services and suppliers should you require, and help get everything set-up to your specifications on the day itself.

Dianne will be on-hand for you and your guests throughout the event, to deliver a day that is as special and unique as you.





The Food and Drink

A fresh take on wedding food

Our talented team of chefs take enormous pride in crafting inventive wedding menus and presenting guests with vibrant dishes packed with fresh flavours. The food will always have a seasonal feel and feature local produce, so you're guaranteed to enjoy Cornwall's famously good food and drink.

We have three broad food offerings available (a buffet, a barbeque buffet, and a more formal three-course meal) but whichever option you choose can be adjusted depending on your individual preferences and requirements. Most couples choose to have an early evening meal followed by a light snack later in the evening.

The kitchen team lavish thought and care when creating vegetarian and vegan options, and children are also well looked after.

We have a great choice of bubbles, wine, beers, ciders and cocktails; if there is something specific you'd like to drink on your wedding day please let us know so that we can source it for you.

Start planning your unique Cornish beach wedding today...

Email our wedding planner diannesmith@outlook.com to discuss dates and packages.

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Prices

Venue hire - this includes exclusive use of the café and terrace area during the hire times.

Full day - 10.00am-12.00am Full day £4000 + VAT

Evening - 5.00pm-12.00am Evening £2000 + VAT

Food - we have three menus and these are all priced at £40.00 per person.

Not all our menu's include canapés, desserts or cheese, if you would like to add these they are priced at the following:

Canapes - £7.50 per person

Desserts - £6.50 per person

Cheese - £5.50 per person

Evening food

We can offer a variety of options for evening food, but the most popular option is a Cornish pasty (vegetarian option available) which is priced at £3.50 per person.

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FAQ

Please find below the answers to some frequently asked questions about marriage and civil partnerships ceremonies at Porthgwidden Beach Café. We hope this answers some of your initial questions.

License

Porthgwidden Beach Café has a full license to hold legal Wedding Ceremonies (Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships) as granted by Cornwall Council. We also host Celebratory Ceremonies (non-legal ceremonies) and renewals of vows. Couples will need to book the Registrar or Celebrant themselves.

Venue Capacities

Porthgwidden Café is an exclusive, intimate venue which is perfect for smaller celebrations with close family and friends. The numbers we can accommodate for the various types of event are as follows:

Blessing/Marriage on the terrace - 68 people

Blessing/Marriage in the café - 50 people

Sit down meal in the café - 36 people

Sit down meal using the terrace - 48 people

Sit down meal using the café and the terrace - 70 people

BBQ Buffet or Buffet using the café and the terrace- 70 people

Decorations

We encourage couples to decorate the Café to suit their theme, and are quite flexible with regards to the type and quantity of decorating you arrange to undertake in the café or on the terrace. Our wedding planner and her team will put up the decorations on the morning of the wedding as per your instructions. Given the beach-side setting, we often find couples choose minimal decoration so the view can take centre-stage, but we can also recommend local wedding stylists if you really want to make an impact with your decorative theme.

We provide white linen tablecloths and napkins if required.



Local suppliers

We have a good relationship with local photographers, florists, cake makers, hairdressers and make up artists. Please feel free to speak to Dianne and she can give you their information.

Food & Drinks

Porthgwidden Beach Café must provide all the food and drink consumed in the café or on the beach with the exception of the wedding cake.

We have three menu types that you can choose from, and our Head Chef is more than happy to adapt these to suit your wishes. We can also cater for special dietary requirements.

We do not offer corkage on any drinks.

Accommodation

Although we don't have accommodation at Porthgwidden Beach Café, our sister restaurant Porthminster Kitchen on the harbour front has two luxury apartments available. These can be booked through Luxury St Ives who also have other accommodation available within St Ives.

Music

We have a sound system that can play background music but is not suitable for the evening party. We suggest couples hire a PA system and play their own music or hire a DJ/Band.

Car Parking

There is a Cornwall Council long stay car park (The Island Car Park) just above the Café. This provides a handy drop-off point for you and your guests. However, St Ives is very busy in the summer (the car park is often full) and we do recommend that you make careful plans for parking and transport on the day for you and your guests.

For all other questions please get in touch with Dianne diannesmith@outlook.com and we look forward to hearing from you.

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