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Weddings at Greyfriars Kirk Edinburgh


GREYFRIARS
an inspiring community

www.greyfriarskirk.com

Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh, Church of Scotland:
SC003761
Greyfriars Outreach Ltd: SC016736



Weddings at Greyfriars Kirk Edinburgh

KIRK OFFICE

Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, Edinburgh, EH1 2QQ
Tel: (0131) 225 1900 | contact@greyfriarskirk.com

MINISTER

Reverend Dr Richard Frazer
Tel: (0131) 225 1900
email: minister@greyfriarskirk.com

ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

Reverend Ken Luscombe
Tel: (0131) 225 1900
email: associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com

Reverend Ruth Halley
Tel: (0131) 225 1900
email: associate.minister@greyfriarskirk.com

ORGANIST

Henry Wallace
organist@greyfriarskirk.com

FLOWER CONVENORS

Mary Macpherson & Clem Bradley

UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH CHAPLAIN

Reverend Harriet Harris
(0131) 650 2595

MAIN REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

253 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YP
(0131) 529 2600 | registrars.lothianchambers@edinburgh.gov.uk



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PROVISIONAL BOOKING FORM

(Please complete using BLOCK CAPITALS)
Please note, submission of this form does not constitute a formal booking.



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Couple's Details

	Bride		Groom
Surname		Surname	
First Name		First Name	
Middle Name(s)		Middle Name(s)	
Address		Address	
Postcode		Postcode	
Telephone		Telephone	
Email		Email	

Availability for vestry appointment with Revd Dr Richard Frazer or Rev Ken Luscombe (Parish Ministers):

Please give general details of when you are both available in a typical week.

Please note that even if another minister is to perform the ceremony, the couple must meet with Richard before a booking can be confirmed.

Wedding Date

Once Completed, please return this form to the Kirk office.

Proposed Date of Wedding:



Kirk Office, Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, EDINBURGH, EH1 2QQ.
contact@greyfriarskirk.com



The Grassmarket Centre, at the foot of Greyfriars Kirkyard, is available to hire for private functions, parties, weddings and all types of celebrations. The Centre Hall is equipped with state of the art sound and lighting equipment for which a technician can also be supplied at their discretionary day rate. Please contact the Buildings Manager to discuss your requirements and obtain a quote for your event.

The hall can seat up to 90 guests (7 tables of 10 plus a top table of 10) and up to 200 for a Ceilidh or dance.

Full catering services are provided by the Grassmarket Community Project (parties are not permitted to bring in outside catering to consume on the premises).

Menus for canapés, hot buffet, up to 5 course lunches/dinners can be made available and discussed with the Catering Manager. The Centre carries a Temporary Alcohol Licence.

All profits from using the Centre go towards our on-going work to support many of Edinburgh's most vulnerable.

Please contact:

Catherine Jones
Catering & Events Manager
on (0131) 225 3626 or
catherine@grassmarket.org
www.grassmarketweddings.com



Congratulations on your Engagement

Thank you for considering Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh for your wedding. We hope that this booklet will provide you with all the details you need, to help you decide if you would like to have your wedding service with us.

The Ministry Team and the Kirk Session are pleased to make the services and facilities of Greyfriars Kirk available to any couple who sincerely wish to have a Christian Service rather than a civil ceremony to celebrate their marriage.

We hope these notes will be helpful but if you have any questions or ideas you would like to discuss, do not hesitate to contact the Communications and Administration Coordinator in the Kirk Office.



Getting Started

We recommend you begin by making an informal inquiry as to the availability of the Kirk on your preferred dates and times. Simply phone or email the Kirk Office (all contact details located on the inside front cover) and, assuming we can find a date that is suitable, you will be asked to complete the 'Provisional Booking Form' (see inside back cover) to organise a vestry appointment. Please note that your booking is not finalised until you have met with the Minister or Associate Minister and a deposit has been paid.

Minister

It is entirely at the discretion of a Minister to decide if they will marry a couple. For this reason, we ask you to contact the person you would like to conduct the ceremony at an early stage. Greyfriars Kirk is an open community which is keen to support genuinely committed relationships and who wish to profess their love in a Christian setting. Couples should be open about their circumstances without fear of exclusion.

An initial meeting with one of our ministers, can be arranged by contacting the Kirk Office. Rev Dr Richard Frazer or the Associate Minister Rev Ken Luscombe conduct most weddings at the Kirk and even those conducted by other ministers require their permission.

It is also possible to be married at Greyfriars by the University of Edinburgh Chaplain. Please contact the Chaplain directly if you are considering such an arrangement.

Another minister may conduct the ceremony and you should discuss this with the Kirk at an early stage of your planning.

Scheduling

Subject to availability, weddings can be booked for any day of the week except a Sunday.

The time of a wedding is often arranged according to availability and in conjunction with you reception plans.

The Kirk is available to set up flowers and other arrangements the day before the ceremony. We can arrange for set up on the day of your wedding but this may incur extra management fees.

Legal Requirements

It is the responsibility of the couple to obtain a fully valid Marriage Schedule from the Main Registrar's Office and present it to the Minister at the rehearsal.

Orders of Service

Couples often wish to have printed Orders of Service. Please make sure you check the content with the Minister before going to print to avoid any issues.

Frequently Asked Questions



Can we have a piper?

Yes. We cannot supply a piper but you are welcome to arrange for one to pipe at your wedding. Just be aware that, as the acoustics in the Kirk are excellent, bagpipes inside can be too loud for some tastes.

Do you ring the church bell?

Greyfriars has a single bell. Again, whether it is rung is at the discretion of the couple. It is not done by default, but if you speak to the Kirk Office, we should be able to arrange it.

Can we book extra rehearsals?

If you require extra rehearsals, for example when there are visiting musicians taking part, time can be booked subject to availability. Please note that extra charges may be incurred for these sessions and they should be scheduled with the Operations Manager via the Kirk Office.

Can we have some refreshments after the ceremony?

Yes. Greyfriars has facilities to allow for a gathering for light refreshments at the rear of the Kirk after a Service. Please note that this attracts an additional charge.

Can we have more than the wedding ceremony at the Kirk?

Greyfriars is also available as a reception venue. However, it is generally not possible to hold both your service and reception in the Kirk on the same day.

Please see the website (greyfriarskirk.com) for details or discuss with the Operations Manager. Our Grassmarket Centre is another options for receptions - please see overleaf.

If you have any other questions which this booklet does not address, please do not hesitate to contact the Kirk Office.



Fees for Weddings

		2021	2022
Wedding Ceremony (including Kirk hire, the services of a Minister, Beadle's fees, 1 hr for a celebratory reception & photo opportunity at the rear of the Kirk)	Deposit	£200	£200
	For Congregation Member / Regular Attender	£480 (including deposit)	£500 (including deposit)
	For Non-Congregation Member	£750 (including deposit)	£770 (including deposit)
Music	Organ with Kirk Organist	£300	£360
	Organ & Piano with Kirk Organist	£410	£430
	Organ	£240	£260
	Piano	£180	£200
	Organ & Piano	£360	£400
	Choir	£500	£500
	Additional Audio/visual Recording Permission	£125	£140

Wedding Vows

The Church of Scotland's marriage vows:

I, ... , take you, ... , to be my wedded husband/wife, and, in the presence of God and before this congregation, I promise and covenant to be a loving, faithful and dutiful husband/wife to you for as long as we both shall live. This is my solemn vow.

There are other suitable forms of vows available and this can be discussed with the Minister

Rehearsal

The rehearsal for the ceremony is typically held the afternoon before the Service. (Alternative arrangements can be made where this is not suitable). It consists of a walk-through, final checks and a chance for any last minute questions. In addition to the Bride and Groom, it is useful if the best man, bridesmaids and the bride's escort to the church can be present.

Confetti

Greyfriars asks that confetti not be used inside the Kirk. The Kirkyard is the property of The City of Edinburgh Council and they stipulate that only biodegradable options, such as rose petals, are permitted for use outside.

Booking the Kirk

A deposit is required to formalise a booking. Please do not make additional arrangements, such as vehicle hire, until your booking has been confirmed in writing. The balance of your payment will be due approximately 6 weeks before the ceremony date. An invoice will be issued at this time.

Any cancellations must be made at least 3 months prior to the ceremony date or your deposit cannot be refunded.



Flowers

The Greyfriars Flower Team can provide excellent flower arrangements for weddings in the Kirk. You are welcome to hire your own florist, but we suggest you speak to the Flower Convenors about the space – their advice is invaluable. They can be reached at greyfriarsflowers@greyfriarskirk.com.



A selection of arrangements by the Greyfriars Flower Team. Displays will be designed to personal tastes.



Music

Organ & Organist

Greyfriars is home to an impressive Peter Collins Organ. Our organist or assistant organists can be booked for a wedding ceremony for a fee. They are also available to advise on music choices. If you would like to invite your own organist, please let the Kirk Office know.

Concert Grand Piano

The Kirk also has a C6X Yamaha concert grand piano, which is available for hire. This can be hired with or without our pianist. Again, if you would like to invite a guest pianist, please let the Kirk Office know.



Choir

The Kirk has a talented choir who, if available, may be hired for wedding services. To ensure you get the best from our choir, a minimum of three months notice is required to allow for rehearsals.



Visiting Musicians

You are welcome to arrange external musicians & instruments for example a guitarist, harp, piper or your own choir. We request that all guest musicians contact information is submitted to the Kirk Office so that our Organist, Henry Wallace, can be consulted and offer his expertise where required.

Audio System

The Kirk has a state of the art sound system which ensures everyone can hear the spoken word and pre-recorded music. This means CDs and MP3s can be used to allow your ceremony to reflect your tastes.

NB. Not suitable for instrument mixing/amplification.

