



ROSARIO
Resort & Spa

Frequently Asked Questions

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Rosario Resort & Spa on Orcas Island has long been a popular Pacific Northwest destination wedding location. These “Frequently Asked Questions” and associated answers should be quite helpful in planning your special day. Do not hesitate to call or email should you have any further questions.

**Please note that, due to seasonal changes & the very broad spectrum of information contained in this document, some items are subject to change without notice, unless otherwise noted in your contract.*

WEDDING FACILITIES

WHAT DOES THE WEDDING VENUE RENTAL INCLUDE?

Rosario Weddings include the wedding ceremony site with chairs (set up), weather alternative space, one-hour ceremony, and one-hour rehearsal.

WHAT DOES THE RECEPTION RENTAL INCLUDE?

Rosario Receptions include the Beachhouse Reception Hall, tables, chairs standard white linens, table settings and dance floor. It does not include any tables, chairs, and/or tents needed for outdoor receptions.

HOW LONG DO I HAVE THE RECEPTION SPACE UNTIL?

It depends on what times are contracted. Generally speaking, for evening weddings the Beachhouse is available until Midnight. A 10 p.m. noise ordinance for all of San Juan County is in place for all outdoor receptions.

WHAT SERVICES DO YOU OFFER?

We offer ceremony and reception facility rentals and catering only. If you decide to hire a wedding coordinator, they can help facilitate design, photography, flowers, music, wedding day schedule, etc., to meet your specific needs. Or you may hire one just for "day-of" coordination. Rosario Resort is pleased to offer a list of preferred local vendors.

CAN I BRING IN MY OWN CATERER/ FOOD? WHAT ABOUT ALCOHOL?

As a fully licensed resort, we do not allow any outside food or drink to be served/consumed in our Event Spaces, nor anywhere on the property, except in your own guest room or on your boat. All event food, cocktails, wine, cake, late night snacks etc. must be provided and served by the resort.

IS THERE A CLEAN-UP FEE?

All table, chair and dance floor set-up, as well as ballroom clean-up are covered in our reception rental.

BOOKING MY WEDDING

HOW DO I BOOK THE SPACE AND MAKE MY WEDDING DEFINITE?

Rosario Resort & Spa will confirm all space requirements for your wedding ceremony and reception upon receipt of your signed contract and initial deposit. A fully executed copy of your contract with confirmed information will be returned to you by mail after the deposit has been posted.

HOW MUCH IS THE DEPOSIT?

Typically, a \$2000 deposit must be sent with the signed contract. This deposit is nonrefundable.

HOW MAY I PAY MY DEPOSITS?

You may make deposit payments by mailing in checks or calling in a credit card number. You may elect, upon signing your wedding contract, to have your deposit payments automatically charged to a credit card number kept on file, as they become due.

HOW FAR IN ADVANCE DO WE NEED TO BOOK OUR WEDDING?

As soon as possible. Popular dates fill fast, but we often have availability on alternative dates.

WHAT LOCATIONS CAN WE GET MARRIED?

Rosario offers various indoor and outdoor venues for your wedding spanning 30+ acres. With its stunning panoramic view of mountains and Cascade Bay, the Beachhouse Lawn is the perfect outside setting of choice for the ceremony. Inside, The Moran Music Room strikes the perfect note. Reception options include the Beachhouse with waterfront deck or the Figure 8 Pond Lawn (tent required).

HOW CAN I SAVE SOME MONEY?

Many dates may have discounts available, including mid-week and off-season dates, as well as other special circumstance dates.

WHEN IS MY FINAL PAYMENT DUE?

All payments are required by Rosario Resort a minimum of thirty (30) business days in advance of the wedding date. Payments may be made by credit card or by personal check. A customized deposit schedule will be provided with your contract.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I CHOOSE TO CANCEL MY EVENT?

Cancellations made less than three days prior to the event will be charged in full. Cancellations made less than 31 days prior to the event will be charged 75% of the estimated charges and the initial 50% deposit is non-refundable. Your contract will detail these policies clearly for you to read prior to signing.

WEDDING DETAILS

HOW DO I OBTAIN A MARRIAGE LICENSE?

There is a mandatory three-business day waiting period between issue of license and marriage ceremony. Licenses issued in other counties within the State of Washington are valid. Licenses issued in other states are not valid in Washington. License can be processed through the mail. For San Juan County, contact the county auditor in Friday Harbor at (360)378-2161.

IS THERE A WEATHER ALTERNATIVE FOR OUTDOOR CEREMONIES?

We offer a complimentary hold of a weather alternative space for your ceremony. The beautiful, historic Moran Music Room or other suitable spots will automatically be reserved for the same hour as your ceremony. We offer a very flexible way to “work with the weather.” You can decide up to two hours before the ceremony if you would like to be indoors or outdoors.

ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON MUSIC FOR THE WEDDING?

Yes, all outdoor music must conclude by 10:00pm. All indoor music must conclude by midnight.

HOW EARLY CAN I SET UP?

Two hours will automatically be set aside prior to the ceremony start time for set up. The reception area will be available at 9 a.m. on the morning of your wedding. It will be your responsibility to advise your contracted providers such as florists, DJ’s and bands of the time that is allowed for set up. You are often able to set up the day before, but we cannot guarantee this more than one month in advance and an additional rental fee may apply.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT DECORATIONS?

Large rental items may be delivered to Rosario Resort a day before your function. Smaller items such as flowers, place cards and favors (no glitter or confetti, please) will be the responsibility of your wedding party or planner to place to your personal preferences. Nothing creating holes or markings may be attached to the walls or ceiling of your banquet room. Votive type candles may be used for table decor. All decorations and personal items must be removed the following day, unless specified by your catering manager. If there is another function booked the following day, we can help you with temporary storage, if needed Rosario Resort and its staff will not be responsible for any items left behind. Without prior special arrangements, any items left behind may be subject to a storage fee.

WEDDING DETAILS

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DO YOU HAVE A DANCE FLOOR?

Yes, we offer one 15' x15' indoor dance floor for the Beachhouse Reception Hall. Rosario does not own an outdoor dance floor for tented events. We are happy to assist you in renting from a separate rental company. Additional delivery fees will be assessed by the rental company.

DO YOU KNOW A GOOD OFFICIANT, PHOTOGRAPHER, OR FLORIST?

Orcas Island has a wealth of talented vendors; however, they book quickly. A list of our "Island Vendors" is available. These vendors have proven responsible action, professional timeliness, and are very talented. Most are very familiar with our property, adding a welcome level of convenience on your special day.

CAN I USE SPARKLERS ON ROSARIO GROUNDS?

No. All fireworks, including sparklers are illegal in San Juan County.

CAN WE DO A REHEARSAL FOR THE WEDDING CEREMONY?

Our Wedding Rental includes a one-hour rehearsal at no additional cost. This will be provided at a time that does not interfere with other booked events. If your request is for a Friday or Saturday, our staff will confirm the day for you immediately; however, the specified time will be confirmed no earlier than 45 days prior to the wedding.

MAY WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE VARIOUS PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES IN THE RESORT GROUNDS?

Please do! We have 30+ amazing acres to wander about, with unparalleled photographic opportunity. Be sure to check with us for availability of photo shoots on the grounds outside of your contracted ceremony and reception time.

CAN I SHIP MY DRESS AND OTHER ITEMS IN ADVANCE?

Yes. Please print your wedding name and date clearly on the mailing label. Please notify us in advance of any arriving items. The Resort is not responsible for the loss or theft of any items.

GUEST ROOMS

WHERE CAN MY GUESTS STAY?

Guest rooms are located in three areas of our 30+ acre waterfront property – the Bayside Rooms, including the historic Roundhouse Suite and Cliffhouse Honeymoon Suite, are located near the historic Moran Mansion at the water's edge on Cascade Bay. The Harborside Rooms are also located directly on Cascade Bay and offer spectacular waterfront views toward the Moran Mansion and Rosario Marina. The Hillside rooms are perched dramatically high on a hillside, each with a spectacular view of Cascade Bay and distant islands. The Hillside two king suites, two beautifully appointed two bedroom suites, are located on the hillside as well.

IS THERE A TWO-NIGHT MINIMUM?

Please inquire, based on your event date. A two-night minimum is required on weekends and during the busier season (Memorial Day through September).

HOW DO WE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR ROSARIO'S ROOMS?

When booking a room at the resort, guests will be required to make a deposit equal to one night's room and tax. credit and debit cards are accepted for advance deposits. Guests will be charged one night's room and tax for any room reservation which is not cancelled seven (7) days prior to the individual's arrival, or if they fail to arrive.

WHEN CAN WE CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT?

Check-in time is after 4:00 P.M., check-out time is before 11:00 A.M.

ARE THERE RENTAL HOMES ON THE ISLAND?

Please feel free to inquire with local real estate agents. There are multiple listings within walking distance of the resort. You can also check out the website "VRBO" for Orcas Island, as well as AirB&B.

ACTIVITIES

- Rosario Resort Activity Center: Tetherball, Volleyball, Badminton, Bocce Ball, Heated Pool with changing rooms and showers.
- Cascade Bay Grill and Dockside General Store: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, Snacks, Wine and Beer, Coffee, Grocery Items, Gifts, etc.
- The Spa at Rosario offers a variety of relaxation and rejuvenation services to refresh your body and soul.
- Whale Watch/Wildlife Tours with Deer Harbor Charters from our dock (offered seasonally)
- Kayaking from our beach, daily or by private bookings (offered seasonally)
- Hiking: Moran State Park, 30 miles of hiking trails
- Fishing Charter offered from Rosario Marina (offered seasonally)
- Golf at the Orcas Island Golf Club
- Pottery Studios/Art Galleries/Shopping

Please visit our website for more information on these activities.

<http://rosarioresort.com/activities/>

TRANSPORTATION

HOW DO I GET TO ROSARIO?

Please visit our website at www.rosarioresort.com for directions and transportation information. Options include the Washington State Ferry system (arriving at the Washington State Ferry Terminal, 30 minutes from Rosario), float planes arriving at our marina, and private charter boats out of Anacortes. Additional options include water taxis from Bellingham or Seattle that can come to our dock right in the heart of Rosario property. Small plane service is also available to the Eastsound airport 15 minutes away from Rosario. Most wedding guests use a combination of all transportation methods depending on budget and time constraints. If you privately charter a vessel to service your wedding guests for arrival or departure, or day cruise excursions to/from Rosario's marina, the berthing must be reserved and organized with the marina department.

WHAT TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE?

OFF-SITE TRANSPORTATION:

San Juan Transit (www.sanjuantransit.com) provides set schedule transportation. Please advise your wedding guests that they must individually secure off property transportation while visiting Orcas Island. From late June through Labor Day, San Juan Transit is pleased to offer service to 10 stops around the island. Passengers may get on or off the bus anywhere along the route. 1-360-378-8887, <http://www.sanjuantransit.com>

WHERE CAN GUESTS GET RENTAL CARS?

Cars may be rented from Orcas Island Shuttle by calling (360) 376-7433. Advance reservations are recommended.