Wedding Rentals

Chesterwood is a historic site that makes for a unique, beautiful, and memorable backdrop for a Berkshires wedding. Renowned American artist, Daniel Chester French, masterfully combined the elegance of his European-inspired gardens with the natural rural landscape. Chesterwood can accommodate wedding ceremonies, receptions, and dinner parties from small, intimate gatherings to large events of up to 275 guests.

After the ceremony, perhaps during a cocktail reception while photographs are being taken, we invite your guests to have their own private viewing of the historic Studio where Daniel Chester French created his renowned monumental sculptures.

Chesterwood is an entirely outdoor venue. We have a selection of approved vendors that you can choose to work with for the tent, rentals, and catering. A non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your wedding date.

Our wedding and event rental fees include a tax deductible contribution to support Chesterwood’s continued preservation efforts in order to maintain the legacy of this treasured site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation for future generations.
Locations for Your Special Event

The panoramic views, historic terraces, hydrangea walk, perennial gardens and sweeping lawns make gracious settings for your wedding ceremony, celebrations, and photographs.

WEDDING CEREMONIES:

There are several lovely areas that are very fitting for wedding ceremonies at Chesterwood. While the following four locations are the most often used, the client is welcome to explore the use of other areas of the property that may suit their needs.

Studio Garden Straight Walk
This Straight Walk, bordered by standard hydrangeas, peonies, and annuals in season, provides a natural procession aisle. The ceremony may be held beneath a wrought iron and stucco arch at the north end with the forest and nature trail as a backdrop, or at the fountain at the south end. Florists may decorate the archway with fresh flowers and silks, or float flower petals in the fountain. The archway can serve as a chuppah, or a florist can install one for the ceremony.

Studio Garden Pergola
This handsome architectural landscape feature was used by Daniel Chester French to grow grapes for use at the table or making wine. It also served as a bower for garden parties. Situated along the south edge of the garden, it affords a breathtaking view of historic Monument Mountain. Wedding ceremonies are performed in front of the pergola with guests seated on Fish Pond Lawn that runs parallel to the long-border perennial flower bed. This area will accommodate a 30’x80’ tent. Capacity: 150 people. *

Residence Terrace and South Lawn
This area, designed by Daniel Chester French, features a manicured lawn, bordered with trees and shrubs, that gently slope to a broad vista of Monument Mountain and Mount Everett to the south. This quintessential Berkshire view provides a majestic backdrop for a wedding ceremony. Alternatively, by setting guest seating so that guests are facing Residence, the façade of the historic home makes for another lovely backdrop option for ceremonies.

Studio Fountain and Exedra
This area designed by Daniel Chester French, features a sculpted fountain bordered by an Italian marble bench (exedra) and formal English long border perennial gardens.

RECEPTIONS AND DINNER PARTIES:

*Note: Capacity notations are estimates. Tent layout and specific styles of rented tables, chairs, dance floor, bar, etc. may impact the capacity limit. Please work with your tent and rentals provider to determine what will be most comfortable for you and your guests.
**Studio Field**

This site boasts beautiful views of Monument Mountain, and on clear days Mount Everest can be seen in the distance to the south. This area will accommodate tents up to 80'x150'. Capacity: 275 people*. Due to its location relevant to the main campus buildings, all events in studio field will need to plan for a generator and restroom trailer to be sited near the event tent.

**Residence Terrace and Lawn**

The terrace is a graveled area, 17'x75' that stretches across the south face of French's elegant stucco Residence (1901). It is enclosed by a barberry hedge punctuated with boxwood trees in terra cotta jardinières resting on stone piers. The terrace provides a beautiful view of Monument Mountain and Mount Everett to the south. A 20'x60' frame tent can be erected on the Terrace. Capacity: approx. 50 people*.

Adjacent to the terrace on the south lawn, a 40'x60' tent can be installed. When installed on a diagonal axis, larger tents of up to 51’x 71’ are an option. Capacity: 120-150 people*. The terrace and south lawn can be used together or separately, depending on number of guests or event functions.

**VERY SPECIAL SITES**

**Studio Piazza**

This broad, 13'x50' porch extends along the full south side of the historic Chesterwood Studio and affords a breathtaking vista of historic Monument Mountain. The Piazza can be used for small, intimate parties, receptions and hors d’oeuvres. Capacity: 75 people standing or 40 people seated.

**Studio Garden Fish Pond Lawn for Reception/Dinner**

This lawn measures 40’x80’ and can accommodate a 30’x80’ tent. This lawn is generally used for ceremonies and cocktail hour, though it can be rented for sit down dinner receptions as well. Use of this area for receptions is limited to 4 times per season and is contingent on weather and availability. Capacity: 150 people*.
Chesterwood is the country estate of Daniel Chester French (1850-1931), America's foremost public sculptor who created the Minute Man in Concord, MA and the Abraham Lincoln for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.
Pricing and Additional Information

LOCATION RENTAL FEES:

Wedding Ceremony, Cocktail Hour, & Reception, up to 150 Guest
*includes $2,000 tax deductible Chesterwood Preservation Contribution* $9,500

Wedding Ceremony, Cocktail Hour, & Reception, 150-250 Guests
*includes $2,000 tax deductible Chesterwood Preservation Contribution* $10,500

Wedding Ceremony, Cocktail Hour, &Reception, 250+ guests
*includes $2,000 tax deductible Chesterwood Preservation Contribution* $11,500

Wedding Ceremony Only (up to 2 hours of site use)
*includes $1,000 tax deductible Chesterwood Preservation Contribution* $3,500

Wedding Ceremony & Cocktail Hour Only (up to 3 hours of site use) $4,500
*includes $1,000 tax deductible Chesterwood Preservation Contribution*

*This all-inclusive fee above includes:*

- A complimentary tour of Chesterwood and unlimited site visits
- A walk-through with Chesterwood staff, your wedding coordinator, and your caterer
- Rehearsal time the afternoon before the wedding
- Chesterwood’s public restrooms
- Non-potable water and electricity at the reception tent site
- Chesterwood event staff member during your event to handle any site-specific needs
- Removal of trash and recyclables at the completion of your event
- Complimentary admission to Chesterwood for all wedding guests all weekend
- French’s sculpture studio open for viewing with a tour guide after the ceremony (1 hour)

**Elective extras:**

- Extended hour (past 11pm and up to 12am; must ensure other vendor staff are able to stay the extra time as well.) $1,000
- Early site closure (pricing based on average general admissions Visitation for similar time of year & current adult admission rate.) TBD

PRESERVATION CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT:
The rental of the Chesterwood grounds, gardens and studio piazza requires a contribution to Chesterwood to help support the preservation of this beloved historic site. This tax-deductible contribution is made with your down-payment and submitted with your signed Contract.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:
1) Required with signed contract
   - Applicable Chesterwood Preservation Contribution (tax deductable, non-refundable)
   - $500 Date Reservation Fee (non-refundable)
   - 50% of Site Rental Rate
2) Final balance - due 30 days prior to event date
   - 50% Balance Due of Site Rental Rate
   - $1,000 Security Deposit (refundable, subject to conditions stated in contract)

CANCELLATION POLICY:
The full amount of the Site Rental Rate and Security Deposit (less the $500 Date Reservation Fee and the Chesterwood Preservation Contribution) shall be returned to the Contracting Party if Chesterwood is notified of the cancellation at least six months prior to the contracted event date. Between six and five months 1/2 of the Site Rental Rate and the Security Deposit will be returned. Five months before the event date, there will be no refund.
**PRE-APPROVED VENDORS** – This is a list of professional, local vendors who have local relationships with other vendors and have produced successful, beautiful weddings and other events at Chesterwood. They know the lay of the land and have all been approved by our Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds. Your rental company, event planner & caterer are also excellent sources for all the other details such as flowers, cakes, music, etc. As we do not provide any event planning services, we do require you work with a wedding coordinator, for at least “day of” support (if not “full-on” planning), who can handle all the details and help facilitate your event so it runs smoothly. Please mention to each vendor that they were recommended by Chesterwood.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Planning/Coordination</th>
<th>Tara Consolati</th>
<th><a href="http://www.taraconsolati.com">www.taraconsolati.com</a></th>
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<td>for full Alcohol</td>
<td>Kelly’s Package Store &amp; Catering</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kellyspackagestore.com/weddings">www.kellyspackagestore.com/weddings</a></td>
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*MA State issued

12C Alcohol Catering

License required
Photographers

- Dear Edith & Lily: www.dearedithandlily.com
- Eric Limon: www.maweddingphotographers.com
- EKRW Creative: www.ekrwcreative.com
- Trisha McCormick: www.triciamccormack.com
- Christopher Duggan: www.christopherduggan.com

Natural Bug

- Sean Gilpatrick/The Mosquito Authority: 413-854-1273

Spraying

Generators

- Limelight Productions: www.limelightproductions.com
- Or your Tent/Rental Provider

Restrooms

- White Wolf: www.whitewolfexcavating.com
- Yankee Restrooms: www.yankeerestrooms.com

Transportation

- Bianco’s Limo/Car Service: www.biancoslimousineandliveryservice.com
- Dufour Bus: www.dufourtours.com
- Premiere Transportation: www.ridepremiere.com
- Transport the People: www.ttplimos.com