

Holman Ranch

EST
1928

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



How Many Events Do You Host at a Time?

We host only one event at a time. This guarantees you a completely private, intimate, and exclusive experience for your special day.

What Equipment and Services Do You Provide?

Depending on the package, we provide 8-foot rectangular banquet tables for dining, bars, gift table, guestbook table, escort card table, etc. We have natural-wood folding chairs, enough for a ceremony and reception. For shade, we supply market umbrellas and stands. We supply propane heaters, including the fuel tank. We also have cocktail tables made from wine barrels. You are welcome to rent additional equipment to personalize your setup. Your caterer will normally supply the linens, china, glassware, and flatware for your event. There are six restrooms available for your use and plenty of access to electricity. Depending on the event, we supply you with parking attendants and on-site shuttling service for three hours. This includes three golf carts with drivers. There are many other amenities, but this short list should help to give you an idea of all the benefits we provide in our rental fee.

Do You Have Any Noise Restrictions?

Yes. As a legal outdoor facility in a residential neighborhood, all amplified music must end at 10:00pm sharp. There are no exceptions to this rule. An event can continue until 10:00pm and all vendors and guests must exit the property by 11:00pm. The majority of our clients choose to have an off-site after-party to continue the festivities. **Ask about our after party options at our Carmel Valley Village restaurant, Will's Fargo.** Maximum noise for Monterey County is 85 decibels at 50 feet.

Am I Allowed to Decorate the Facility?

One of the many great things about Holman Ranch is that you can personalize the venue by providing your own hand-selected vendors. You are also welcome to decorate. We just ask that all decorations are placed and removed within the rental time frame. Candles are allowed as long as flames are contained and you receive written management approval first. Additionally, since we're a newly restored historic property, the decorations cannot be secured with nails, screws, tacks, tape (unless painter's tape), etc.

Do I Have to Rent the Overnight Accommodations for My Event?

For weekend events during the high season (May-October), we do ask that you rent the newly remodeled overnight guest rooms, but payment options are flexible. Your guests can pay for their own rooms with a credit card to the office, you can subsidize a portion of the rooms, or you can host your guests entirely.

Are There Any Caterer or Vendor Restrictions?

You are welcome to bring any vendor, but we do ask that they all be licensed and insured. We do offer a preferred vendors list as a suggestion. The vendors on our list are familiar with our property, services and restrictions. Their knowledge coupled with their individual expertise will help reduce the planning workload for you so that you can enjoy the planning process. Any vendor not on our list needs written approval from Holman Ranch management.

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May I Serve Hard Alcohol? Can I Bring My Own Alcohol?

It all depends on your caterer. When you are choosing a caterer, be sure to let them know that you would like to purchase your own alcohol. There are also bartending/liquor services that will provide the alcohol and service. As a winder, we have a minimum required purchase of of Holman Ranch or Jarman wines or olive oil to waive corkage fees. Estate-grown wines from Holman Ranch Vineyards are available for bulk purchase. We do have a few restrictions at Homan Ranch for safety/liability purposes. We ask that no shots be served and that last call occur at least 15 minutes before the scheduled end time of the event.

What Kind of Facilities Do You Provide for Our Caterer?

We do have a prep kitchen available for the caterers. We provide a commercial fridge, freezer and ice maker. There are plenty of bar refrigerators as well as a hand sink, bar sink and mop sink. The caterer will need to bring all prep equipment and a heat source. When shopping for a caterer, we highly recommend choosing a full-service caterer. They will have the experience needed to cater at any location, no matter the kitchen scenario.

Are There Any Additional Expenses Outside of the Site Rental Fees?

Tax is included in the site rental fee. There is a 10.5% tax included in the room rental rates. We do not charge a service fee. We do not charge cake cutting or corkage fees. (Hint: Most off-site caterers don't charge those fees either.) You can even have rose petals at your ceremony without incurring a cleanup fee!

We do require all of our clients to carry day-of liability insurance. These policies can sometimes be obtained through your homeowner's insurance at no additional charge. Purchasing a policy through an event insurance company usually costs only \$150-\$200 for our requirements and provides a great amount of protection and peace of mind for you. The only time you would be charged over and above the site rental fee would be if your event required additional staff services rental hours or event equipment.

What is the Deposit Schedule?

To officially book an event, we require a signed contract and your first nonrefundable payment. Your payment is equal to one-third of your total event (rooms and site fee) balance. The second payment, equal to one-half of the total remaining, is due six (6) months before your event. The final payment is due 30 days before your event. All payments are nonrefundable.

What Happens if There is Inclement Weather on the Day of My Event?

We always work with you to determine a rain plan ahead of your event. The rain plan depends on your guest count, type of event and the severity of the weather. We are very fortunate in Carmel Valley to have 330 days covered in sunshine! We rarely experience the fog and enjoy temperatures about 10-15 degrees warmer than our coastal cousins. But it's important to be prepared. Tenting is the best rain plan. There are several areas that can be tented to accommodate almost any size and type of event. We are happy to discuss these options with you. We want you to be comfortable with the worst-case scenario, then you will have a spectacular day, no matter what.

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What Forms of Payment Do You Accept?

We accept all major credit cards, checks and money orders.

How Many Guests Can the Venue Accommodate?

The majority of our events host around 150-200 guests. We have hosted intimate events for two people and large affairs for 500.

Do I Need to Hire a Wedding Coordinator?

We do highly recommend hiring a wedding planner for at least day-of. Your site fee includes the services of a Facility Manager who will oversee the venue and all services provided by Holman Ranch. The management of outside vendors is the responsibility of the wedding couple. We find that many couples do not have the time or live close enough to the Monterey Peninsula to plan the special touches that will make their Wedding day the event they have envisioned (please feel free to ask about some of the bloopers that have occurred with couples who didn't have a planner; should it help you decide).

Is Childcare Required?

Although we don't require childcare, we highly recommend it. Holman Ranch is an elegant facility, but we are still a ranch. There are areas for children to get into trouble. We can make recommendations for licensed childcare companies.

What Does an Average Wedding Cost at Holman Ranch?

The average cost can vary greatly depending on the details and decisions made by the wedding couple. Day of the week, number of guests, time of year, type of food service and other decisions can all affect the budget. Since you are allowed to bring all your own vendors, you have a lot more control over your budget at Holman Ranch than at other venues. If you'd like to see a sample budget based on your ideal wedding investment, just ask!

Are Pets Allowed on Property?

We do welcome pets on property for your event. They do need to be on leash at all times directly supervised (i.e., not tied up somewhere) and cleaned up after. We do allow pets in the guest rooms for an additional fee.

When Do I Have Access to the Property?

Arrival time for vendors, wedding party and guests will depend on the package you've chosen. For the Wedding Retreat package, your vendors can arrive at 8AM along with your bridal party. This allows you time to get ready on property. Our staff will have all equipment we provide set up by 12PM. Your other vendors normally need 2 hours for set up, depending on details, so the earliest ceremony start time for a Wedding Retreat package is 2PM. Although keep in mind that this will push all your vendors into overtime and incorporate that decision into your budget. Guests can start to arrive 30 minutes before ceremony/event start time.

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When Do I Have Access to the Property? (continued)

For our Carpe Diem package, vendors and wedding party can arrive at 2PM. You will want to get ready off site, but can take pre-ceremony pictures on property from 2-4PM. Event can start at 4PM with guests arriving 30 minutes before ceremony/event start time. Since the Carpe Diem is a time limited package, please keep this in mind as you plan your event's decor, load in, etc... as you will only have 2 hours to get it all installed and 1 hour at the end of the evening to break it all down. This can especially get tricky during the off season for tent installs. For this reason, the Wedding Retreat is the best option as it has the greatest value, most amount of time and best array of amenities to truly make your wedding/event weekend a success!

What Time is Check in and Check out for the Guest Rooms?

Check in is at 4PM. Check out is at 12PM. Early check in and late check out might be available depending on our event schedule. We're happy to offer this for no additional charge if available. We would be able to confirm early check in and/or late check out 2 weeks before the event date.

I Love Holman Ranch! What's the Next Step?

We're so glad you've enjoyed what you've seen so far. The next step is to place an available date on a complimentary hold. The hold will last 10 days and we'll send you the contracts to review. Ask any and all questions, contact vendors for pricing and talk to family and friends. Once you're ready to move forward, sign the contracts and return with your first payment! Oh, and don't forget to check out our reviews on WeddingWire, Yelp, and TripAdvisor, and check out the great eye candy on Pinterest, Instagram, Facebook, and our website!

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