## **ODD**FELLOWS

CHESTER | ON THE PARK

Weddings



## WEDDINGS

From intimate gatherings to gala dinners, casual barbecues to moonlight romance... we can do it all.

## **HOTELS**

Set within charming period properties in idyllic locations, Oddfellows Hotels are wonderful venues.

## **SEASONS**

Perfect settings whatever the season, grand and characterful interior spaces for winter and outdoor spaces for the glorious British summertime.

## LOCATION

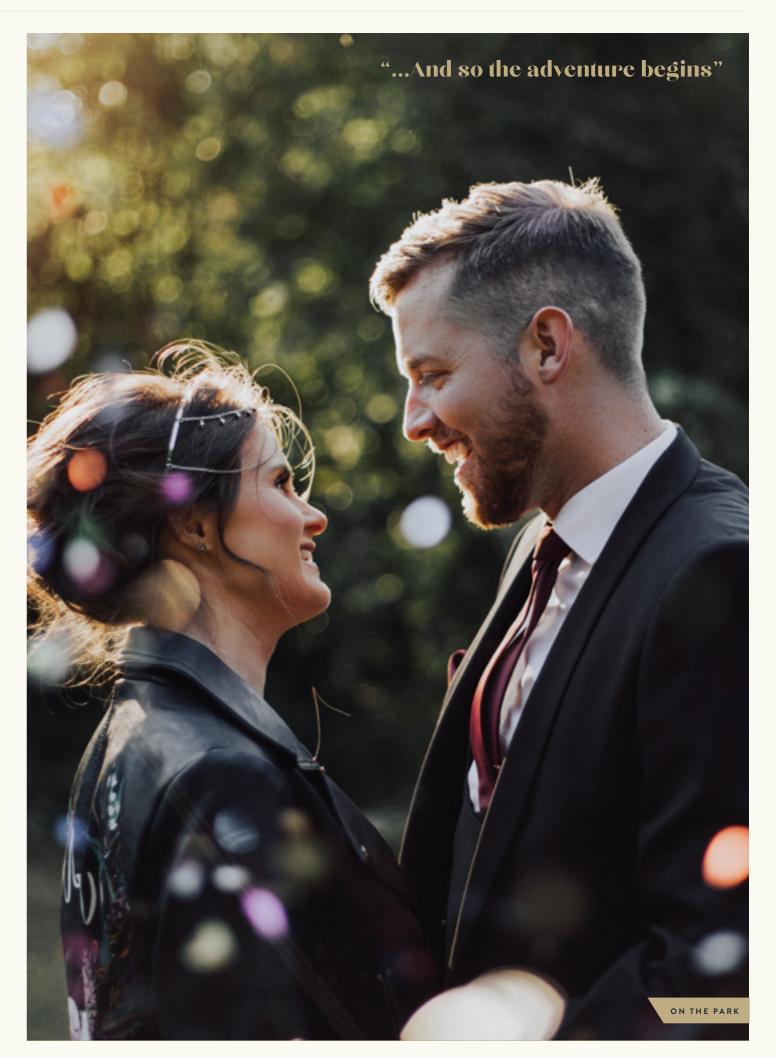
Chester and Cheadle are brilliantly located and hugely accessible from Wales, the North and London.

## Welcome

W E L C O M E T O O D D F E L L O W S

The Oddfellows was traditionally a historical society. Sometimes known as the society of misfits, they provided a place for those who didn't fit into a professional box. They were not the lawyers, the doctors or accountants. Instead Oddfellows embraced the philosophers, dreamers and idealists – and still do today.

As a hotel collection, we are inspired by the very British sense of eccentric creativity and joyful Oddfellows society's ethos. This can be felt by our guests through the quirky design, the atmosphere and celebration of our building's unique history and character.



## **Our Hotels**

CHESTER

Oddfellows Chester is housed within a beautiful example of an Oddfellows Hall where the society would once meet. The frieze inscribed with Oddfellows Hall still stands above the doorway today. Thus began the wonderful association with this society for dreamers with both sister hotels; Oddfellows and Oddfellows On The Park.

Oddfellows Chester inhabits a wonderful Georgian townhouse first owned and built by Lady Mary Calverley in 1676. Lower Bridge Street, the wide avenue that links the River Dee to the main shopping cross, was previously, as much of the rest of the city, built in Medieval rows. Lady Mary had friends that were demolishing these historic homes to create something ever so much more fashionable and she was definitely the type to keep up with the Joneses!

As a result, her grand Georgian townhouse became the first in the city to be designed in classical style. One of our individually-designed loft rooms is named The Lady Mary and we like to suppose this is where this very strong and determined lady might have laid her head. We have two gorgeous rolltop baths in that room as homage to the Lady that would always make sure she had the best and the most of everything!















ON THE PARK

Oddfellows On The Park has an entirely different history. A Victorian mansion, fashioned in Gothic style, it was built by John Douglas, a stuff merchant. His wife was Scottish and it was rumoured they modelled the house on a Scottish mansion they admired. The Scottish connection can be seen in the original thistle detailing in the Stud Room Bar and in the bespoke carpets in many of the bedrooms.

The second owner of Bruntwood Hall used the parkland as an equestrian stud. Major James Platt was known locally as The Galloping Major as he was most often seen on horseback around the village – sporting his fantastic handlebar moustache. Local history tells us he was an inimitable character, who was a social animal with a very playful personality. He extended the original Bruntwood Hall to include the sprung ballroom which now holds The Galloping Major restaurant. The ballroom was said to have cost almost as much as the Hall itself!

Since then, Bruntwood Hall has had a number of uses – as the town hall during the second world war, headquarters for a fashion designer and a recording studio amongst them!

Both hotels have been restored with their history and narrative involved in the design journey. And this is why Oddfellows is different. We don't just make hotels – we restore buildings back to their former glory, breathing life into them again and telling their stories to our customers.

"A true love story never ends"



ON THE PARK







## **Event Spaces**

T H E A V E R A G E
H O T E L F U N C T I O N
R O O M I S N O T F O R U S

Our event spaces are the crowning glory of our hotels.

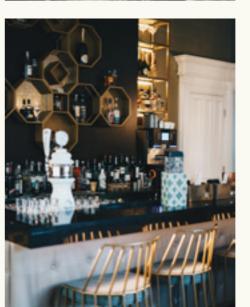
The first floor at Oddfellows Chester is where the drawing rooms would have once sat that received the grandest of visitors and offered the ultimate in Georgian luxury. The whole of the first floor is private and reached by a fabulous grand staircase that provides the ultimate in dramatic entrances. High ceilings, sash windows and lovely large room dimensions highlight this space that includes a woodland themed bar, complete with dramatic boxing hare willow sculptures. There is also the modern addition of a roof terrace offering a private outdoor space that overlooks the Mary Poppins-esque chimney tops of Chester.



The Parlor Rooms in Cheadle were also the place where, in times gone by, the most important guests would be received. With the sweeping views over the parkland that these rooms command, it's easy to understand why. The rooms have been kept to their original dimensions with concessions made to provide flexibility for events with dividers to separate when necessary. The beautiful hexagonal Parlor Bar mirrors the original patterns found in much of the ceiling detailing and provides a private bar for events, with direct access on to the beautiful spacious terrace... which is just the most perfect place for a champagne reception!



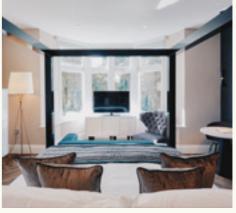










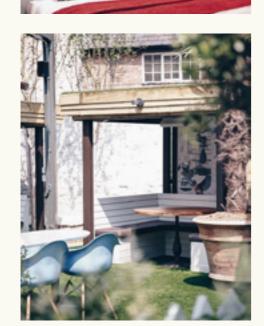




















"Look at the stars, look how they shine for you"

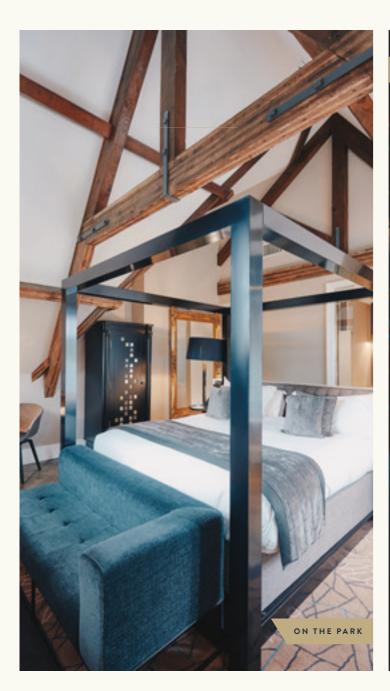


## Beds you can sink into...

## THE SUNDAY TIMES

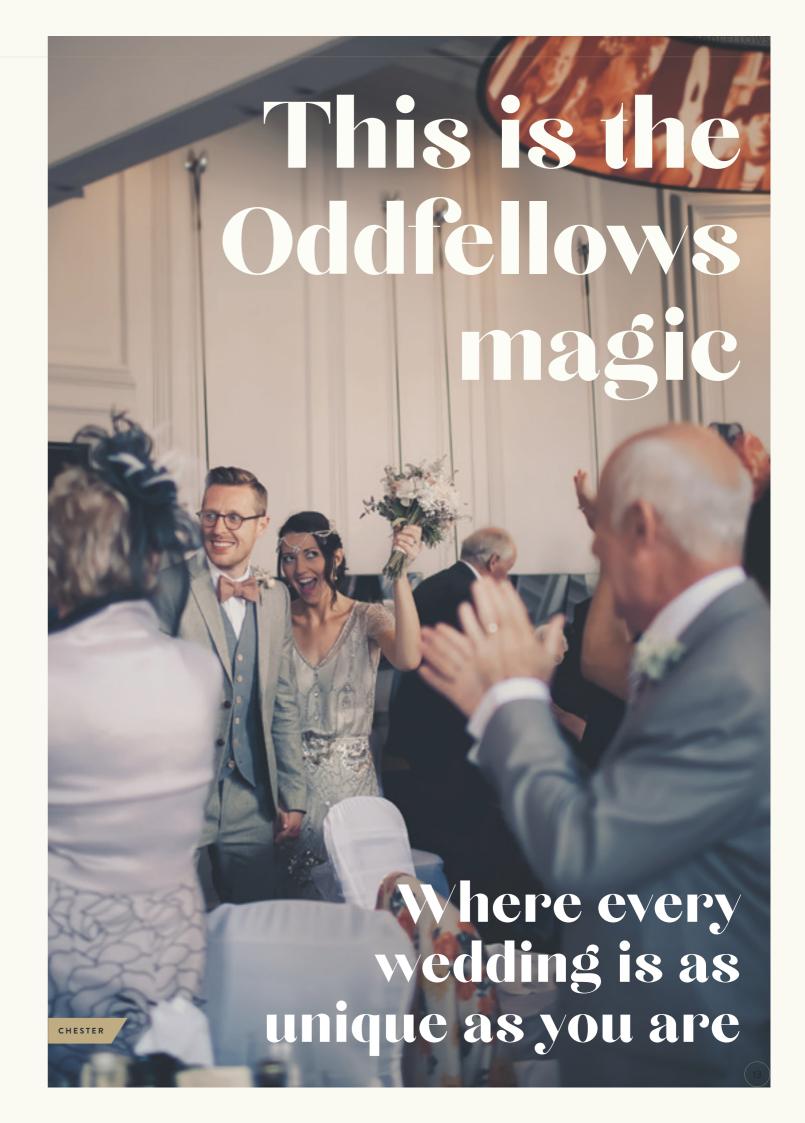
O N E O F T H E 1 0 0

B E S T P L A C E S T O S T A Y

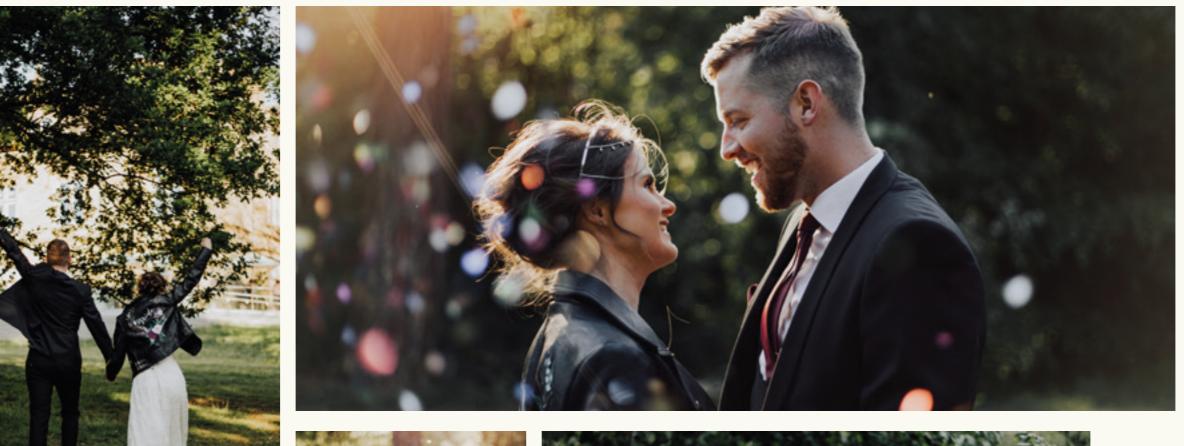




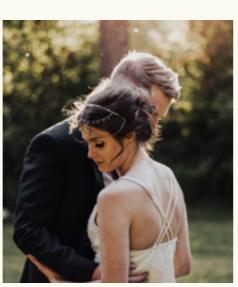
## Bags of room to hang your dress

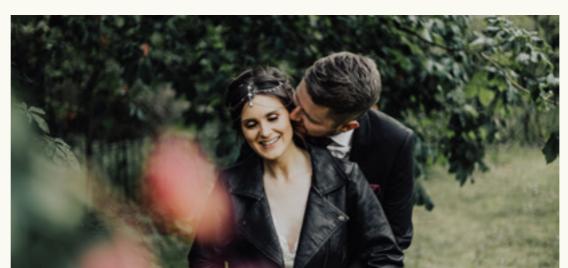


**ODD**FELLOWS









"How wonderful life is while you're in the world"



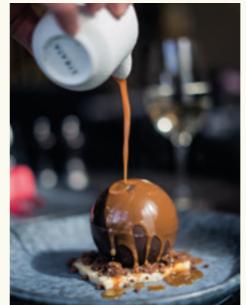


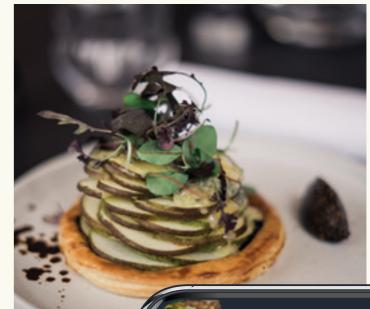
## Food Glorious Food

 $\hbox{W H A T } \hbox{C U T S } \hbox{T H E } \hbox{M U S T A R D } ? \\$ 

Food is at the heart of every wonderful occasion! The Oddfellows team are unashamed foodies with our chefs creating award-winning food that has led to brilliant national reviews. Unlike many wedding venues, your menu will be personally designed by the head chef at each hotel. He will meet with you to get to know you as individuals - giving you a chance to discuss your favourite dishes and how we can make your personality as a couple shine through into the menu. As with everything else, we are flexible in our approach to dining. Fancy a black-tie cocktail party with elegant canapés? No problem! Or a rustic, country-style BBQ on the terrace? Our chefs will work to any brief. We have had weddings that have had a Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea for the wedding breakfast or street-style bowl food - all the way through to grand gala style events with a five course tasting menu and absolutely everything in between.



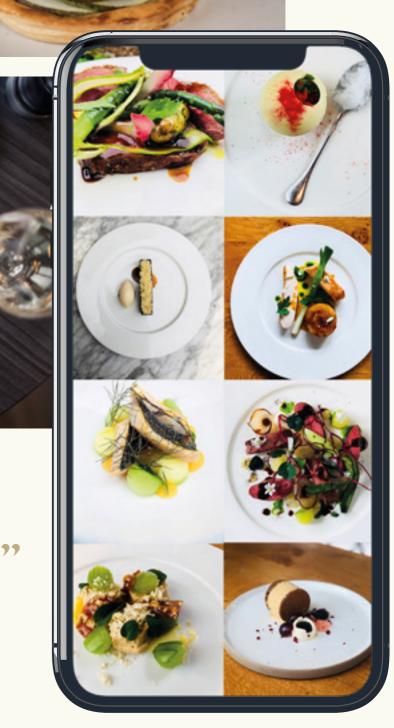






"The most Instagrammable food I have ever seen at a wedding!"

WEDDING GUEST AT ODDFELLOWS CHESTER





YOU DON'T POP YOUR CORK FOR EVERY GUY YOU MEET..

Here at Oddfellows, we believe that no good story starts with a salad... Our mixologists and our beverage team will advise the perfect wine, bubbly and cocktails to help you celebrate your special day and dance the night away.

Most people like to toast their vows with fizz or champagne and with a choice of everything from Italian prosecco to vintage French champagne we will make sure your fizz of choice pops your cork! Fancy something a little different? For those gorgeous crisp winter weddings, Kir Royale is a popular choice, whilst in the heat of the summer a Bellini can really refresh.

All our wedding couples are invited in for a wine tasting, usually combined with a food tasting with our head chef so that wine choices can be paired up according to the flavours in the food. Wine is something we do extraordinarily well, even if we do say so ourselves. Our senior team love wine and we have relationships across the globe from California to Italy. We know small family vineyards who create vegan, organic wines and we also have relationships with the famous names who have created fabulous wines for centuries. We have over 180 bins (or different wines in non-merchant speak) to choose from. They are new world and old world and even include up-and-coming wine producers from Lebanon and the UK!

Some couples like to create a cocktail for their special day, sometimes something that matches their theme or just named after people or places that are important to them. Our mixologists can dream up bespoke creations or just add a twist to your favourite cocktails. You can even create a mini-cocktail menu for the day for your guests to choose from, or include our Oddfellows Gin, created especially for Oddfellows using English botanicals and herbs.





## Let me entertain you..

Wedding parties are notoriously good fun so here's a few ideas to make your party go with a bang! From quirky to classic, and whimsical to sophisticated, this is the area in which you can show some flair and originality. Our wedding coordinators will assist you, making your wedding day exceptional and unique.

## Live music

Create a rip-roaring welcome with a band at the entrance to the hotel. The sights and sounds of musicians as guests arrive will be a lasting memory.

## Vocalists

Singing waiters or acapella vocalists can transform a traditional drinks reception into a rousing sing song of anything from pop to opera.

## Horse racing

Chester has the oldest racecourse in England still in use today. With events from May to September, take the opportunity to have a flutter on a horse. Whether you organise a sweepstake, or place bets for guests in advance, they are sure to partake in the fun of following the race and seeing who comes in first.

## Casino

Certainly, an icebreaker amongst guests, a casino table is a superb way of engaging your friends and family. When everyone has complimentary chips to play with, the competition remains light-hearted. Set a challenge for the table with the most winnings to receive a glass of something as they sit down for dinner.

## Jukebox

Let guests take on the role of DJ... Include a section on your RSVP cards for favourite songs and fill the jukebox with these suggestions. As they choose the music during the reception, the favourites will quickly be revealed.

## Cocktails

Greet your guests with a series of mini cocktails and see who could pass as a mixologist by determining the ingredients of each one. The aesthetics of a decadent cocktail can be as intoxicating as the alcohol content!

Complete Exclusive

use

A T
O D D F E L L O W S
O N T H E

Imagine the scene... you and your guests arrive through the tree-lined drive of beautiful Bruntwood Park where you will enjoy the most private and luxurious of weddings. Bruntwood Hall was once a private home, and you will enjoy a taste of what it would be like to be the Lady and Lord of the manor! You'll have freerein over the whole hotel, choosing to dine in the glorious surroundings of The Galloping Major, sup cocktails in The Stud Room or enjoy the most delectable salon treatments.

"Love is a beautiful ride"





The winter months are cold and dark but also perfect for creating the most magical and dramatic atmosphere for your wedding celebrations - giving you and your guests a wonderful event that illuminates the darker months.

Winter has a unique way of enhancing the beauty in surroundings and the ability to paint a striking backdrop. Think bold reds and rich purples, silver, gold and creams and let us help you design a naturally romantic setting with low lighting, candles and twinkling lights.

If Christmas is your favourite time of the year, let the holiday spirit of togetherness enhance the happiest day of your life and throw a festive celebration. Why not choose a Twixmas wedding or even tie the knot on Christmas or New Year's Eve? It makes for a fabulous celebration and means you will have your own personal connection to these memorable dates. There is also no excuse for forgetting your anniversary!

Don't forget, the November to January season offers some of the best choices for travel, opening up a whole new world of honeymoon possibilities...







## Before the Wedding

"Hook at you and see the rest of my life"



The pressure can be huge for a bride to look amazing on her wedding day. As soon as outfits are sourced, and colour schemes are confirmed, beauty becomes the focus. With a little planning, your skin, hair and nails can all be made to look sensational...

## Here's The Pigsty Team's Top Tips...

## Start now...

Drink water, skin is thirsty! Carry a bottle wherever you go and fill it up regularly, this soon becomes second nature and you will quickly see and feel a difference.

Start each day by applying an SPF to your face. Factor 15 or higher is recommended, just put it next to your toothbrush and it will become part of your daily routine.

Remove make up at the end of the day before applying a good moisturiser to your face and neck before your head hits the pillow.

## A few months to go...

Exfoliate once or twice a week to keep skin glowing.

Now is the time to try out different facials or nail techniques – to see which bring the best out of your skin.

It is important at this stage to settle on a hair colour and cut and nail techniques that you will maintain in the run up to the wedding.

Be sure to book your appointment times with our team for the week before and the day of the wedding.

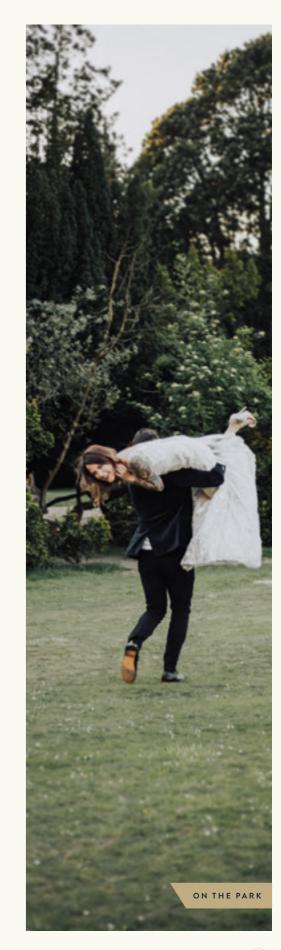
## The week of...

Stay calm and clock up those hours of beauty sleep.

Make a checklist and note the appointments you have arranged so that you can keep on track for the week.

Relax and indulge yourself for at least an hour or so at a time at the salon. This is the time to enjoy massages and invigorating body treatments.

Consider incorporating our pre bridal journey as part of your bridal celebrations. Our team will prepare a bespoke plan for you with a schedule of facials, massages, beauty appointments, use of the mud room and more. Truly indulgent!





## Top Tips

FROM A WEDDING PLANNER

Break in your shoes: They're no doubt brand new and you'll be wearing them for a while on the big day. Wear them for a short period of time each day around the house and walk around on a few different surfaces. Clean your ring - head to your jewellery store to get your engagement ring professionally cleaned so it's extra sparkly on your wedding day.

It's your day and you should celebrate it in a way that's personal to you. Go to bed early the night before. With excitement and nerves running high, it may take you a little bit longer to drift off so head to bed a little earlier than normal to get a good night's sleep.

Although many brides say they feel too anxious or excited to eat in the morning, it really is important to have a hearty breakfast to get you through the day.

If you can, prolong the day as long as possible, arrange a get together the night before or the following day! You spend so long planning the occasion, you want it to last forever!

Hire a make-up artist and hairdresser - you want to spend the morning relaxing so let someone else run around for you and give you that all important wedding look!

Take time out of the day to spend with your husband-to-be. It might sound obvious, but with all your guests wanting to spend time with you it's easy for time to run away.

# The Twid Bits

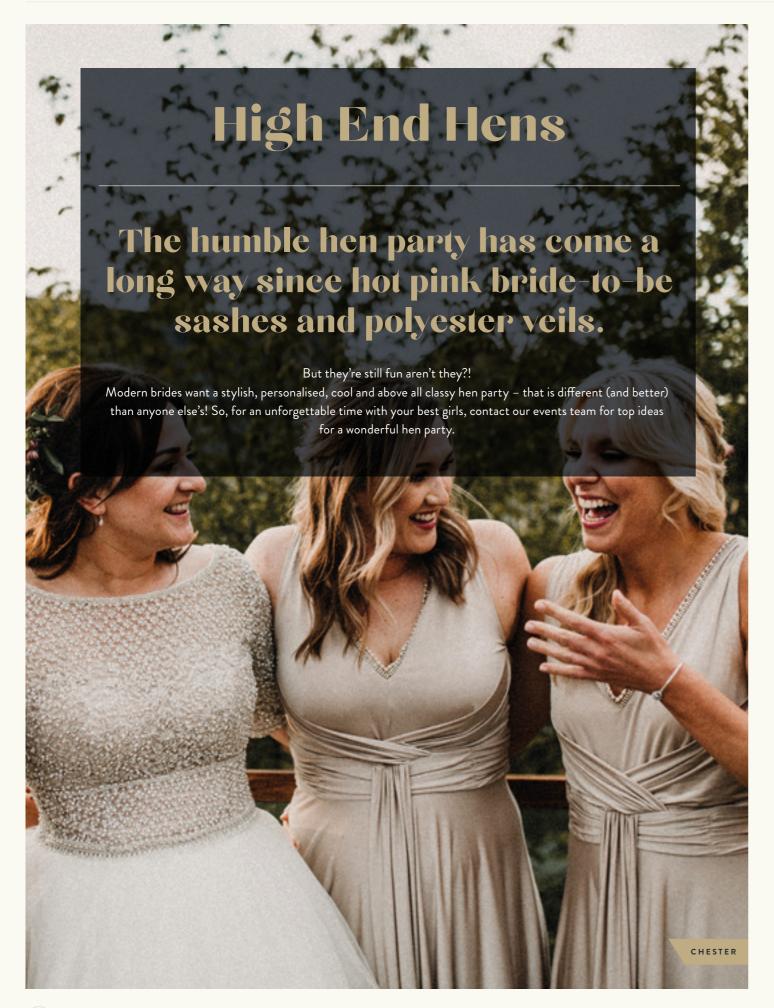
Pre-wedding at Oddfellows is all about treats and fun – we have a rule that jitters are not allowed on the premises!

Start the build up to the wedding by hosting your hen party at Oddfellows – you can either hold it at the venue you'll be married in to showcase it to your hens or mix it up by holding it at the sister hotel

Enjoy pampering, cocktail masterclasses and allow our event planning team to make lots of other suggestions to make your hen party a night or weekend to cherish. From stylish, sophisticated swan parties to a good old-fashioned kneesup, we can plan an event that will make the celebrations unforgettable.

Closer to the date, we can host a rehearsal dinner for some of your wedding party, whether you'd like an informal BBQ get-together or a more formal affair. And some of our brides like to host a bridesmaids brunch on the day of the wedding – combined with a pampering session!







## WHO HOSTS THE PARTY

Traditionally, the bride's parents host the engagement party, but nowadays it's more common for the couple to organise the bash themselves or for friends of the bride and groom to volunteer and get involved. You could host two — the first for relatives and close family friends, and the second for your own friends.

### WHO TO INVITE

The engagement party used to be a more intimate event for the couple's nearest and dearest, but nowadays more couples are using it as an excuse to invite people that might not necessarily be included in the wedding — such as newer friends, colleagues, parents' friends — or people who can't travel far to the wedding. This is particularly true for informal parties hosted by the couple's friends for example.

For a traditional and more formal party, guests who are invited to the engagement party should also be invited to the wedding as a rule of thumb, so it's best to organise your wedding guest list before you throw the engagement party.

## WHEN TO HAVE IT

Ideally the engagement party will come reasonably soon after the proposal, while the excitement is still fresh and before the stress of serious wedding planning kicks in. Give guests about a month's notice and schedule the party for about nine to eleven months before the wedding.

# Wedding Planning "Every love of the provides lasting memories. There are no better hands to be in than those of our wedding co-ordinators. Organised, efficient, caring, they will support you throughout all the important decisions you might make for this very special of days.

It's important to remember that we are an

independent hotel collection and with that comes great freedom of choice for our brides and grooms. Menus can absolutely

be bespoke and every little detail can be individually planned. We offer the ultimate flexibility so that your day can be as special

and as distinctive as you are and this is

something that makes us very proud!

but yours

is our

favourite!"

## Wedding Planner

With so many steps to take in planning your dream wedding, you're no doubt wondering how long it takes to plan a wedding. According to a wedding industry survey company, the average couple spends 14 months planning their Big Day.

Use our guide to help you schedule your planning.

## 12+ Months

NO WORRIES. YOU GOT THIS!

- ☐ Have fun announcing your engagement!
- ☐ Talk budget and decide who's contributing what
- ☐ Discover your wedding style (spend time on Pinterest.com!)
- ☐ Choose your wedding party:
  - maid of honour, bridesmaids, best man, groomsmen, etc
- $\square$  Begin compiling a guest list
- ☐ Start assembling a team of wedding pros:
  - planner, photographer, videographer, caterer, musicians
- ☐ Order your save the dates

## 10-11 Months

YOU'RE ON A ROLL...

- ☐ Choose bridal party attire and accessories
- ☐ Book your officiant
- ☐ Purchase wedding dress, veil and undergarments
- ☐ Establish a skin care/beauty routine with the Pigsty
- ☐ Hire photographer, videographer, caterer, DJ/band, florist, and planner
- ☐ Mail your save the dates



## 8-9 Months

GET YOUR COLOURS ON!

- ☐ Browse wedding invitation designs and coordinating stationery (enclosures, programmes, menus, thank yous, favours)
- ☐ Begin planning honeymoon

## 6-7 Months

GOOD JOB! WHAT'S NEXT?

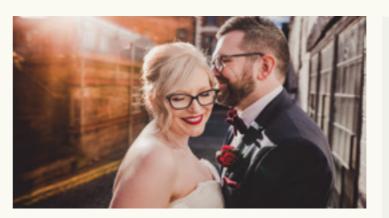
- ☐ Explore wedding day hair and make up styles
- ☐ Meet with officiant to discuss plans for ceremony
- ☐ Choose cake style and schedule tastings
- ☐ Decide on groomsmen's attire
- ☐ Purchase wedding rings
- $\ \square$  Order wedding invitations
- ☐ Hire musicians

## 4-5 Months

THE EXTRA TOUCHES...

- ☐ Choose flowers for:
  - wedding party, attendants, venues, cake, etc.
- ☐ Schedule dress fittings
- ☐ Book room for wedding night
- ☐ Order wedding cake
- ☐ Prepare {play/do not play} lists for DJ/band

'The best thing to hold onto in life is each other"



## 3 Months

YOU'RE GETTING CLOSE!

- ☐ Plan ceremony and reception seating
- ☐ Experiment with hair and veil with stylist
- □ Order wedding favours

## 2 Months

CRUNCH TIME

- ☐ Visit venue for tasting
- ☐ Begin writing vows
- ☐ Review ceremony details with officiant
- ☐ Finalise playlists with musicians
- ☐ Book any beauty treatments for you and your party
- ☐ Book the night before

## 1 Month

CRUNCH TIME

- □ Pick up wedding rings
- ☐ Final dress fitting (with shoes & undergarments)

## 2 Weeks

DOWN TO THE WIRE

- ☐ Begin breaking in wedding shoes
- ☐ Send playlists to DJ/band/ceremony musicians
- ☐ Get final haircut and colour
- ☐ Delegate wedding day duties: qift table, questbook, etc
- ☐ Delegate someone to return tuxes, rentals and tend to wedding dress

## 1 Week

RELAX, ALMOST THERE!

- ☐ Give readers their scripts
- ☐ Give photographer and videographer your image and video requests
- ☐ Lay out wedding clothes
- ☐ Prepare wedding day emergency kit
- $\hfill \Box$  Get spa treatments for you and the bridal party in the Pigsty

## The Day Before

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

- ☐ Have a girls/guys night in
- ☐ Pre-wedding dinner/BBQ
- ☐ Get mani/pedi/massage
- $\hfill \Box$  Get to bed at a decent hour!

## **Wedding Day**

ENJOY YOUR DAY!

- ☐ Eat a good breakfast!
- ☐ Allow yourself plenty of time to get ready
- ☐ Give wedding rings to best man
- ☐ Relax, smile, and soak in every incredible moment

## **Post Wedding**

...AND BREATHE

- ☐ Send thank you notes
- ☐ Don't forget to review Oddfellows on TripAdvisor



CEREMONY/VENUE

Cake

ESTIMATED ACTUAL

DEPOSIT PAID

FULL PAID

NOTE

## **Budget Planner**

It's important to keep track of your spend, deposits you have already paid, when your next payments are due and your total spend to date to ensure you stay on track with your wedding budget.

ESTIMATED ACTUAL

ESTIMATED ACTUAL

ESTIMATED ACTUAL

ESTIMATED ACTUAL

ESTIMATED ACTUAL

£120.00

£100.00

DEPOSIT PAID

**DEPOSIT PAID** 

DEPOSIT PAID

**DEPOSIT PAID** 

**DEPOSIT PAID** 

DEPOSIT PAID

£50.00 01/01/19

**FULL PAID** 

**FULL PAID** 

**FULL PAID** 

**FULL PAID** 

FULL PAID

FULL PAID

£70.00 02/02/19

**ENGAGEMENT** 

Entertainment

EXAMPLE

Drink

Food Venue

BRIDE

Bouquet Dress Ring

Jewellery Lingerie Shoes Veil

GROOM

Wedding suit Shoes

Button hole Ring

Dresses/shoes Suits/shoes

Hair Make up

Gifts

Night before First night

HEN/STAG

Outfits/accessories

Venue/food/drink

Jewellery/accessories

Bouquets/Buttonholes

ACCOMMODATION

Cufflinks/accessories

BRIDESMAIDS/USHERS ESTIMATED ACTUAL

Hair Accessories

Hairdresser / Make-up artist



NOTE

NOTE

NOTE

NOTE

NOTE

NOTE

PAYMENT REF. 1234

Ceremony decorations Ceremony venue Chair covers Drink Drinks after ceremony					
ENTERTAINMENT Favours Food Marriage certificate Photographer Reception decorations Reception venue Registrar Table decorations Videography	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	DEPOSIT PAID	FULL PAID	NOTE
Wedding insurance  FLOWERS  Bride's bouquet  Bridesmaids' posies  Table centres  Buttonholes  Venue flowers  Floral gifts for mums  Transport	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	DEPOSIT PAID	FULL PAID	NOTE
Bride to ceremony Car decorations Mother/bridesmaids Groom/best man  STATIONERY Save the dates Invitations and RSVPs Menus Order of service Place cards	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	DEPOSIT PAID	FULL PAID	NOTE
Postage Table names/numbers Table plan Thank you cards  HONEYMOON Honeymoon package Hotel stay Travel Spending money	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	DEPOSIT PAID	FULL PAID	NOTE

34

Travel

## **Recommended Partners**

We have worked with hundreds of suppliers and local businesses. We have chosen a few that we love to work with.



## Wyldbee Photography

I'm a story teller by heart and a romantic by nature. My favourite part of photographing weddings is getting to know my brides and grooms, you guys are the best and you two are the sole reason I love doing my job so much. wyldbee.com hello@wyldbee.com FB/IN:@wyldbeephotography





## Wild Floral Design

At Wild we specialise in wedding flowers and work together with all our brides to find their own personal style. Through wedding themes, budgets, locations and colour schemes, whether it be classic, romantic or alternative, we will create and install a look that will perfectly compliment the bride and groom on their special day.





16-18 Lower Bridge Street, Chester, Cheshire CH1 1RS enquiries@wildfloraldesign.co.uk 01244 321233

## Richard Smith Bespoke

RICHARD SMITH Bespoke

Come and visit our gentleman's boutique, perfect for the groom to create his own bespoke look for his special day!

Relax and peruse through designs and cloths in the comfort of our tweed chairs over a whisky or a glass of fizz with your fiancé. Over the years Richard Smith Bespoke has created wedding suits in countless different styles and materials. Each creation is utterly unique.



0161 832 1995



## Maria Morris Couture

Maria's luxurious and exclusive Bespoke designs are chosen by Brides and Mothers of Brides and Grooms for their most magical of days. She offers every client the unique opportunity to design their own design, and this luxurious Couture service ensures a once in a lifetime experience.

Every Bride has a unique and completely individual result and is a beautiful alternative to mass produced 'off the peg' dresses.







## Soirée Stylists

The Soirée Stylists is a boutique event styling company based in Cheadle, on the border of the vibrant city of Manchester and beautiful countryside of Cheshire.

- · Venue styling and décor guidance for weddings, parties, and more.
- Prop hire such as menu boards and ceiling or wall decorations
- Bespoke design, including calligraphy sign writing and table plans

thesoireestylists.com hello@thesoireestylists.com 07841185577



## WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

## Princess & The Cupcake Bespoke wedding cake designer theprincessandthecupcake.com 07588 893611

Tie The Knot Music For all your music needs tietheknotmusic.com 07960 741747

Love Lights The Way

Wedding lighting and dressing lovelightstheway.co.uk 07939 032447



