

Questions to Ask a Wedding Venue in Montana

Micro Wedding Montana
microweddingmontana.com

Venue:

Date of tour:

Quoted total:

FIRST THREE QUESTIONS

- ☐ Is our date open, and is anything else booked on the property that day?
- ☐ What is the full price for our date, with every fee, tax and service charge?
- ☐ How many guests fit for the ceremony and reception, with everyone seated for dinner?

PRICE, FEES AND PAYMENTS

- ☐ What does the rental include: hours, setup, cleanup, tables and chairs?
- ☐ Is there a service charge, gratuity or tax on top, and what percent?
- ☐ How much is the deposit, and when is it refundable?
- ☐ What is the payment schedule, and is there a payment plan?
- ☐ Is there a food and beverage minimum?
- ☐ Is there a cake cutting fee, corkage fee, cleaning fee or overtime fee?
- ☐ Are food and drink prices locked when we sign, or can they rise later?

VENDORS, CATERING AND THE BAR

- ☐ Is there a house caterer or a preferred vendor list, and is it required?
- ☐ Can we bring outside vendors, like our own caterer, photography team or wedding planner? Is there a kitchen?
- ☐ Is catering full service, and can the caterer accommodate dietary restrictions?
- ☐ Does the venue or the caterer hold a Montana liquor license or catering endorsement for the bar?
- ☐ Can guests bring their own alcohol?
- ☐ When can vendors arrive to set up, and when must they leave?

WEATHER PLAN

- ☐ Where does the ceremony move if it rains, snows or blows?
- ☐ Who makes the call, and how many hours before?
- ☐ Is the backup space heated, and can we see a floor plan of it set for our guest list?
- ☐ Is a tent allowed, who pays for it, and how long does setup take?

MONTANA QUESTIONS

- ☐ What is your wildfire smoke plan?
- ☐ Are fire pits, candles and sparklers allowed?
- ☐ How do you keep food and trash away from bears?
- ☐ Are the roads plowed and safe in winter?
- ☐ Is the ceremony in Glacier National Park or on private land?
- ☐ How far is the airport, and do guests need a car?

HOUSE RULES

- ☐ What time must the music stop, and when must everyone leave? _____
- ☐ What are the noise restrictions, and can we have a live band or only a DJ? _____
- ☐ Are real flame candles allowed, or only candles in glass? _____
- ☐ What decor is not allowed, such as confetti, petals, nails or tape? _____
- ☐ Where is cocktail hour, and is there a dance floor? _____
- ☐ Is there a bridal suite or getting-ready room for the wedding party? _____

CONTRACT AND INSURANCE

- ☐ What is the cancellation and refund policy, for us and for the venue? _____
- ☐ Can we move the date, and what does that cost? _____
- ☐ What happens if smoke, fire or a road closure stops the event? _____
- ☐ Do we or our vendors need liability insurance? _____
- ☐ Who is our venue coordinator on the wedding day, and how many venue staff work the event? _____

GUESTS

- ☐ How many guests can sleep on the property, and is there a minimum stay? _____
- ☐ What is the parking situation, and can a shuttle get in? _____
- ☐ Is the site wheelchair and handicap accessible for older guests? _____
- ☐ How far is it to the nearest hotels and the airport? _____

REPUTATION CHECKS

- ☐ Read recent reviews on more than one site, including the bad ones. _____
- ☐ Ask for two couples who married there in the past year, and call them. _____
- ☐ Look up the business name on the Montana Secretary of State's business search (biz.sosmt.gov). _____
- ☐ Search prior complaints with the Montana Department of Justice Office of Consumer Protection (dojmt.gov). _____
- ☐ Visit at the same time of day and season as your wedding. _____

Montana alcohol rules: Montana Department of Revenue Event Venues and Catering Endorsement fact sheets. Road conditions: call 511 in Montana, 800-226-7623 outside Montana. Full guide with sources: microweddingmontana.com/guides/questions-to-ask-a-wedding-venue