



Weddings at the Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden



We are delighted you are interested in the garden as your wedding venue. In such a beautiful environment, it won't be difficult to create a meaningful experience for you and your partner, and your family and friends will feel like you have given them a gift by inviting them to this special place.

The rental fee entitles you to the unique privacy of having the entire two-acre property to yourselves as if it were your own. The exquisite teahouse is available for you and your guests to enjoy during your event and there are two changing suites for you to use in the house on the property.

Catering, decorations and rentals of equipment such as tables and chairs are all additional costs. You may have as many as 150 guests.

At night there is lovely lighting which you may enhance with lanterns or little white lights but additional lighting is not necessary and decorations can be kept to a minimum because the beauty is everywhere.

Nothing adds magic to a celebration like wonderful food. A recent survey of guests by Wedding Wire found that 64% of those surveyed said that good food was the most important thing for them to have a good time,

Our preferred caterers have decades of experience, creative cuisine and service that is always professional and friendly. They offer a wide range of choices, including ethnic foods, and will work with you to craft a menu that you will be proud of while being careful to stay within your budget. They can also take care of all of the rentals you need, simplifying your decision making.

Our caterers are [Jay's Catering](#) and [The Kitchen for Exploring Foods](#) and [Little Lily's](#). You may use an outside caterer approved by the venue for a fee of \$500. We will provide you with a list of already approved caterers or you may submit your own caterer for approval.

You will have three-hours for set-up, five hours for your ceremony and reception and one hour for clean up. Reception-only celebrations are four hours. You may purchase an additional hour for either the set-up or event. Because we are in a residential neighborhood we end all of our events at 10:00 p.m. or earlier.



Ceremony Only Weddings

The beauty and serenity of the garden make it a particularly wonderful setting for this expression of commitment. There are numerous options for places to stand in the garden, and you may begin your ceremony anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

For a ceremony-only wedding, you will have two hours for setup, two hours for your ceremony and an

hour for clean up. Rental of chairs is an additional fee but the venue will handle the arrangements for you at no charge and you may choose any chair from the catalog of our preferred rental company.

Additional Costs

A Site Manager will be on the property throughout your rental period and security may be required depending on your plans and the number of guests. Security for ceremony-only weddings is optional.

Valet service or shuttle service is required for over 25 guests. Cars are parked in a lot we share with a local business.

We require “day-of” wedding coordination which really begins about a month before your date. We have recommendations for coordinators offering a wide range of services and fees for you to consider. Your choice doesn’t have to come from this list but must be a professional who is working as such and must be approved by the venue.

For larger events, a professional sound system will be designed specifically by our preferred audio engineer and priced according to your needs. Multiple speakers around the event space ensure that all of your guests will be able to hear your ceremony and toasts. If you have dancing, a speaker system creates volume for your dance floor. Couples having a ceremony-

only wedding may choose to have our limited professional system, their DJ or use our small amplifier for very small groups.

In case of rain! The garden is actually its most beautiful in the rain and the paths are covered with DG (decomposed granite) which usually stays firm. We will set aside \$1,000 of your rental fee for your use in case it appears you will need to tent the event spaces. We know the sizes needed and will assist you in making those plans. There has only been one wedding in the rain in the seven years we have been having events and it was a success with the tents.

Property Rental

The rental fee for a ceremony and reception on a Saturday or Sunday is \$4,700. For a reception only, it is \$4,000. There is a \$500 discount for 50 guests or fewer. An additional hour for the event is \$500. A ceremony-only wedding is \$2,750.

The rental fee includes:

- A special event insurance policy purchased for you
- A 1½-hour rehearsal
- Enjoyment of the entire 2-acre property with complete privacy for your wedding.
- Use of the teahouse as a special experience for your guests.
- Wheelchair accessible bathrooms for guests.
- Two lovely changing suites, each with an attached bathroom.
- Use of the house on the property for family members and wedding party before and during your wedding.
- A 1½-hour walkthrough 30 - 60 days before your wedding with the venue representative, your coordinator, caterer and anyone else you want there for planning purposes.
- Numerous additional opportunities to see and enjoy the garden during Open Days, always with complimentary admission.

A signed agreement with a deposit of \$1,500, or \$1,000 for a ceremony-only, will secure your date. There is also a refundable security deposit of \$1,000 due with your final payment 60 days before your wedding day.

I hope this introduction answers many of your questions. We are proud to share in the happiness of the couples who choose the garden for this important day.

All the best,
Deanie Nyman

