

8 Things Every Wedding Couple Should Know Before Booking A Venue

1. How “inclusive” is your package? Will you be charged for hidden extras like chair covers or cake-cutting and plating? Are you paying more for a wider bar selection?

These are all included in your package at the Sir William Mackenzie Inn.

2. Set-up, clean-up and facility fees? Will you be paying these additionally or are they included? Do you really want family and friends doing this at the end of the night?

These too are included in the package price.

3. Penalties? Many venues have hefty penalty costs if you don't arrive in time, or are late leaving. Your wedding and reception should be exciting but relaxed with a sense of ease and flow. Will you have the freedom to have the reception you truly want?

Truly, we pride ourselves on providing our couples and their guests with a tailored and flexible event. We host one wedding each weekend. You have the Inn to yourselves.

4. Candles, confetti, sparkles... many venues have strict rules and expensive penalties associated with these items. Make sure you and your guests know the policies.

Candles? Yes! They provide that special light and glow that you just can't beat for romance.

Confetti and sparkles? No! They cling and are difficult to clean... flower petals are so much lovelier!

5. Transportation, delivery & parking costs? You can save hundreds (or even thousands) of dollars if your ceremony is at the reception venue. Save the cost of one or two limousines, save on photographer costs if they normally charge a multiple site fee. Beware parking or valet fees at some venues. Will you have to rent specialty equipment or décor to create your vision? Are there delivery fees for this?

Our couples tell us that for the cost of a 10 hour wedding and ceremony in Toronto at two locations, they can have a whole weekend wedding with friends and family at The Sir William Mackenzie Inn.

6. “Exclusive Vendors” Does your venue insist you use their in-house services? You can often save a significant amount by sourcing connections through friends and family for many of these services. Increasingly we see smaller intimate receptions using a smartphone for music rather than a DJ.

At the Inn we work with a number of great professionals in their fields and can refer or coordinate these services for you, but we feel strongly that couples use whomever they prefer.

7. Wedding Planner? Who's the Quarterback? Some venues provide this service as part of an all-inclusive package. Choosing the right venue can save you that expense.

We specialize in weddings at the Inn. Sharon and Jeremy, the partners themselves, are your wedding coordinators. It is our privilege and passion to work closely with our couples to provide outstanding service and attention to detail. After all, we fell in love with the Inn in 2001 and were married there ourselves!

8. Set-up time? Most venues have strict requirements about arriving, set-up and adding décor and personal touches to the reception space. Will you feel rushed and stressed or welcomed and honoured? How is this process handled? Who is responsible for what?

Typically we will have the Inn ready for you on Thursday. With a Friday arrival and time to settle in, you and your closest family and friends are welcomed to enjoy this sacred time of personal touches and anticipation. We offer a Friday Rehearsal Dinner package to make this time even more special.