



BALLYFIN



Weddings at Ballyfin

May your neighbours respect you, trouble neglect you, the angels protect you, and heaven accept you. May the Irish hills caress you. May her lakes and rivers bless you. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you.
(Traditional Irish Wedding Toast)

Set in the heart of Ireland, where romance is part of the scenery, Ballyfin has been a byword for grace and luxury since the eighteenth century. The 600-acre estate with a church, lake, fountains and century-old trees provides a stunning backdrop, ideal for your ceremony, perfect for photography and tailor-made to provide the perfect romantic venue for a wedding or honeymoon.

'Happily ever after' begins with a wedding at Ballyfin Demesne. The house has long been admired as the most lavish Regency mansion in Ireland, and after eight years of restoration, Ballyfin reopened in May 2011 as a small country house hotel like no other. It offers the very best of Irish hospitality in the most romantic surroundings imaginable.

There are no interruptions or distractions – just you surrounded by the people you love on your special day. The beautiful and relaxing surroundings, the privacy, the luxuriously comfortable accommodation, and the fine food and wine that will be provided by our superb chefs and our sommelier, make Ballyfin the perfect place for your perfect day.





Your Wedding at Ballyfin

There are no packages, as each wedding is unique. This brochure is designed to give you an indication of the services we provide and an idea of the relative costs. A full quote will be prepared following an initial consultation with you or your wedding planner.

We have several unique locations at Ballyfin where you can host your celebrations. Our team will work with you to choose what suits you best and to ensure you create memories to last a lifetime.

At Ballyfin formality is blended with ease and enjoyment. Guests are invited to enjoy the splendid interiors, decorated with Irish art and antiques from around the world, in the same spirit of refined elegance as visitors to the house did in the 1820s when Ballyfin was built.

We hope we convey the spirit of Ballyfin in this material. However, its uniqueness, character and charm can only be felt, not described. Therefore we invite you to come and experience it for yourself and look forward to welcoming you. The following ideas are suggested to give an indication of how our facilities might be used.

Before the Wedding Day

Coming together on the eve of your wedding is a very special occasion, as you spend time with those closest to you and prepare for new beginnings.

Depending on your numbers, you might have a quiet drinks reception in the Saloon, an intimate supper in the Van Der Hagen Dining Room, a candlelit dinner in the Conservatory or a formal dinner in the State Dining Room.

Our team are on hand to help with all of the last minute details so that you can relax and look forward to your wedding day.



Your Wedding Day

Getting ready is made easy with two treatment rooms at your disposal – beauty therapists and hairdressers can be arranged, or you are welcome to bring your own and we will place our facilities at their disposal.

Before setting out for the ceremony, refreshments and light food can be served to the wedding party. The Gold Drawing Room is the perfect venue for the bridal party to gather to greet the bride, with a stunning backdrop for family photographs.

The Ceremony

A civil ceremony or blessing can be arranged either in the house itself or, weather permitting, outside in the beautiful gardens or by the lake. For the intimate wedding ceremony the Conservatory offers a stunning location with views of our Water Cascade and Pleasure Grounds. There are many churches locally, including the Church of St. John the Baptist at Ballyfin Demesne (Church of Ireland) and St. Fintans at Ballyfin (Catholic).

The Reception

There are so many locations to choose from for drinks receptions – on the lawn with spectacular views across the lake, or in the conservatory with guests spilling out into the gardens in front of the romantic water cascade. Inside, you can use the magnificent Saloon with the grand piano or the Library overlooking the fountain and lawns.





The Wedding Dinner

There are many options, depending on the style of wedding and your numbers – the State Dining Rooms will hold 70, the Ballroom will accommodate 130 guests. Maybe you will opt for a formal gourmet dinner, or a more informal buffet or completely informal barbeque – the choice is yours. For the intimate wedding celebration the Van der Hagen Room or State Dining Room offers the perfect setting looking out to the Water Cascade.



The Party

Ballyfin was built for entertaining and there are many possibilities. The Ballroom with full dance floor provides the ideal venue for a grand celebration. Afterwards guests can continue the celebrations in the more intimate Ballyfin Bar.

The Wedding Night

Ballyfin has a stunning choice of bedrooms including some with four-poster beds; all benefit from luxurious furnishings and beautiful views.



The Day After

On the day after the ceremony celebrations continue at Ballyfin – breakfast is served as late as you want, group activities can be arranged or maybe guests will choose to explore and enjoy the estate on their own. Coming together can take place over a grand picnic, a barbeque in the courtyard or lunch on the terrace overlooking the water cascade. Winding down on the second evening could be with a light supper in the Dining Room followed by entertainment in many of the reception rooms.



Key Information and facilities

We are delighted to host your wedding when you book the house for exclusive use for a minimum of two nights. Please contact us for rates and further details.

Facilities

Reception Rooms: 6 reception rooms – one with grand piano

Bedrooms: There are 20 bedrooms in total which accommodate 39 guests (3 suites, 5 twins, 11 doubles and 1 single).

Should extra accommodation be required, wedding parties can avail of a cottage on the grounds to accommodate an extra 5 persons.

Dining: There are several dining options available and Ballyfin is perfect for the small intimate wedding to a larger wedding for up to 130 guests.

The Van Der Hagen Room will accommodate up to 20 guests.

The State Dining Room will accommodate up to 70 guests.

The Ballroom will accommodate 130 guests.

The Ballyfin Bar and courtyard with upright piano is perfect for informal get-togethers.

Conservatory for ceremony up to 80 guests.

Gardens: Stone walls enclose 614 acres of parkland, a lake and ancient woods, water cascade, delightful garden buildings, follies and grottoes.

Activities: There is a wide array of activities available for pre- and post-wedding get-togethers with friends and family, including fishing on the lake, boating, tennis, croquet, clay pigeon and air rifle shooting, archery and falconry. Indoors try wine tasting, Irish whiskey tasting and art and history tours of the house, or visit our costume department and select costumes for a fun afternoon tea or gala dinner.

Leisure: Fully equipped fitness room, plus a beautiful 14-metre swimming pool and two treatment rooms with highly trained therapists.

Entertainment: Our Wedding Specialist is pleased to recommend entertainment services to enhance your wedding celebration, such as string quartets, harpists, pianists and bands.

Ambience: Candle-lit tables and rugs and wraps are provided in the garden for those preferring to remain outdoors until the early hours. To add a bit of extra drama and romance, torchères or fireworks can be organised in the evening in the garden overlooking the lake.

Linens and tabletop décor: Ballyfin offers superior linen, cutlery, china and glassware for all banquet tables.

Transport and accommodation: We provide a list of alternative accommodation (hotels and bed and breakfasts) for those not staying at Ballyfin. Coach transfer or taxis can easily be arranged.

Booking Procedure: On initial enquiry we can provisionally hold a date for up to two weeks, after which the booking should be confirmed by deposit with signed terms and conditions.

Honeymoons & Romance

Before jetting off on honeymoon enjoy the first days of marriage in the seclusion and privacy of Ballyfin.

Romance is part of the scenery and since the eighteenth century Ballyfin has been a place of history and romance, of tranquillity and great natural beauty.



Ballyfin Demesne, Ballyfin, County Laois, Ireland

tel: +353 (0)5787 55866 fax: +353 (0)5787 55883
info@ballyfin.com www.ballyfin.com

