

GWRYCH CASTLE

Wedding Brochure



AN IDYLIC VENUE FOR YOUR SPECIAL DAY

Gwrych Castle is now licensed to hold civil ceremonies in seven of the principal areas inside the castle, and its gardens. The Castle is the ideal wedding venue for couples who are looking to get married in a place which they will never forget, surrounded by history and expansive views.

Renowned for being one of the largest castles in Europe, it also has an intimate and relaxed atmosphere. Located near the town of Abergele in North Wales, Gwrych Castle is a Grade 1 listed country house set within 300 acres of private parkland and overlooking the Irish Sea. Its frontage is 1,500 feet in length, and it has 18 battlemented towers inspired by the great medieval castles of Wales.

Gwrych Castle is one of the most important buildings of its type in Europe, and has a history going back over several hundred years. In recent years, it has been world famous as the UK home of "I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here!"







Gwrych Castle provides an idyllic setting to make your day memorable. We understand how important it is that your wedding day becomes one of the most memorable, special and happiest days of your life. Our experienced and friendly staff will be on hand throughout the day – our professional yet relaxed style of service will help your day to run smoothly whilst you and your guests are made to feel at home. Please be advised we do not offer any assistance with planning or other services, simply the hire of the venue.

We have seven spaces available for hire:

- » Conservatory
- » East Lawn
- » West Terrace
- » The Chapel
- » Coach House
- » Dining Room
- » Entrance Hall

Our on-site car park can accommodate up to 80 cars, and the largest outdoor marquees, from our preferred supplier, can house up to 400 guests on the West Terrace.

While you are not obligated to use our preferred vendors list, it is a directory of dedicated suppliers who are sympathetic to the historic nature of the castle, and know it well.

A 20% deposit is required upon booking to secure your venue hire date.

CHOOSE YOUR PREFERRED LOCATION

Entrance Hall

Originally the principal access into the castle, the Entrance Hall is one of the oldest sections of the house, and provides a unique space as the room is under restoration. A full-height stone fireplace flanks the south wall and is lit by a magnificent gothic window designed in 1816 by Thomas Rickman. The arches at end of the room peer into the remains of the Inner Hall.

The Entrance Hall can hold 30 seated guests comfortably.

Dining Room

The Dining Room was originally built in the early-1820s by Lloyd Hesketh Bamford-Hesketh and overlooks the East Lawn and Formal Gardens. It has three magnificent full-height cast iron windows and is entered via a balcony from the East Lawn. Access can be provided from the Dining Room to the Marble Staircase for wedding photographs by prior agreement with the Castle.

The Dining Room can hold 60 seated guests comfortably.

The Chapel

The Chapel was originally built by Lloyd in the 1820s as a carpenter's workshop. In 1870, it was converted into a chapel by Ellen Bamford-Hesketh to the designs of George Edmund Street. It was not in use for long as a chapel, and seems to have gone out of use during the ownership of the Countess. It is lit by a large, ornate north-facing window, which is exceptionally high and provides a spectacular vista across the East Lawn, Park, and the Vale of Clwyd.

The Chapel can hold up to 40 seated guests comfortably.





Coach House

Situated on the north side of the Coach House Court, this indoor space is suitable for disabled access. It is the most recently restored building and is slightly larger than the chapel. The Coachman's Lodgings provide a smaller and more intimate space adjacent to the main Coach House.

The Coach House can hold 40 seated guests comfortably.

West Terrace

As one of the most spectacular backdrops for any event, the main building at Gwrych Castle was built between c.1812 and 1822 by Lloyd Hesketh Bamford-Hesketh in memory of his maternal ancestors, the Lloyds of Gwrych. The views from the Main Terrace afford some of the most expansive and dramatic of any country house in North Wales. The castle looks out towards the 13th century fortress of Rhuddlan Castle and the medieval tower of St. Michael's Church, Abergele, as well as the magnificent sweep of the Vale of Clwyd.

Marquees can be erected on the Main Terrace.

Formal Gardens, Conservatory and East Lawn

The Formal Gardens, aligned east-west, were designed in the 1830s by Lloyd Hesketh Bamford-Hesketh and were inspired by Queen Eleanor's garden at Conwy Castle. The central raised beds, which radiate from the circular pool, are constructed out of handmade nineteenth-century Welsh bricks. Lloyd also incorporated into his design that the garden be viewed by moonlight, so the planting featured many white and silver plants.

The original conservatory was built during the 1830s out of cast iron. Following bomb damage sustained during World War II, it was partly demolished. What does survive is the Gardener's Tower, which is based on the Water Tower at Rhuddlan Castle. It is built over two storeys and was restored in 2015, together with the Georgian log store. The first floor contains the 'Countess's Writing Room' which was originally a formal sitting room built for Lady Emily Hesketh to retire to from the conservatory, but was used principally by her granddaughter, the Countess of Dundonald, as a private retreat.



CEREMONY HIRE (2024 - 2025)

ROOMS	SUN - THURS	FRI - SAT
ENTRANCE HALL	£500	£600
DINING ROOM	£525	£625
THE CHAPEL	£450	£550
COACH HOUSE	£450	£550
EAST LAWN	£550	£650
WEST TERRACE	£550	£650

- The price provided doesn't include the registrar. We have more information under 'Booking Your Wedding'.
- Maximum duration of 2 hours for the civil ceremony, to include ceremony and photos (or an agreed time period)
- A table and 2 chairs for the couple to sign are provided from the Castle's collections.
- Room dressing is additional and to be arranged by the customer.



EVENING HIRE (2024 - 2025)

MONTHS (SEASON)	SUN - THURS	FRI	SAT
JAN - MAR	£1,000	£1,100	£1,200
APR - MAY; SEP - DEC	£1,100	£1,200	£1,300
JUN - AUG	£1,200	£1,300	£1,400

We have several spaces to use for you to dress and use as you wish, providing the perfect end to your special day.

- Maximum duration of 5 hours from 6pm (or an agreed time)
- Room dressing is additional and to be arranged by the customer
- We have available space on the West Terrace for marquee hire

FULL VENUE HIRE (2024 - 2025)

MONTHS (SEASON)	SUN - THURS	FRI	SAT
JAN - MAR	£3,000	£3,250	£3,500
APR - MAY; SEP - DEC	£3,500	£3,750	£4,000
JUN - AUG	£3,750	£4,000	£4,250

Exclusive use will give you the opportunity to use the castle for the ceremony, reception, and evening celebrations

- The castle will be available from 10am onwards
- Room dressing is additional and to be arranged by the customer, we do have chairs and tables available*
- The prices provided are for the venue only, venue dressing to be arranged by the customer





TAN-YR-OGO LODGE

Tan-yr-Ogo Lodge is a castle conceived as one of a series of lodges to serve Gwrych Castle and was originally the principal and ceremonial entrance to the estate. Tan-yr-Ogo or more correctly, Tan yr Ogof, translates to 'beneath the cave', and is nestled below Lady Emily's Tower and the great cave of Cefn yr Ogof, all part of the Gwrych Castle Estate. A private drive over a mile long connects the lodge to the castle.

The lodge has been lovingly restored and is now a holiday-let available for hire. Every person wants to get ready for their big day in a relaxed atmosphere with close family and friends around. The lodge can be hired from 10am on the day of your civil ceremony (if not already hired by the wedding party) and is the perfect place to spend some quality time preparing for your wedding day whilst being surrounded by the beauty of Gwrych Castle.

Please get in touch for more information on costs.

INFORMATION FOR CIVIL CEREMONIES

This information has been compiled to assist you in making your wedding day a truly memorable occasion. If you require any further assistance, or would like to discuss your requirements in more detail, please email us weddings@gwrychcastle.co.uk

We would like to make your wedding a unique and memorable occasion at Gwrych Castle and Gardens, and we invite you to consider this fairy-tale venue for your special day.

On The Day

Gwrych Castle will be open an hour prior to the time of your wedding, with staff on duty to greet and direct your guests. Your guests must park in the main Visitor Car Park, however, if the weather is poor or guests have walking difficulties, they may be dropped off closer to main building where possible.

Family Addmision Pass

Free entry to Gwrych Castle for two adults and up to three children is gifted to couples holding their wedding ceremony at Gwrych Castle.

Photography

Use of the Buildings, Gardens and Grounds may be available for photographs depending on the type of hire you choose.

Viewing

If you are considering Gwrych Castle for your ceremony, we recommend a preliminary visit. Our team would be delighted to discuss the requirements for your special day.



A FEW FINAL POINTS..

- Smoking is not permitted inside the Castle or in any adjacent building. Please use the designated terracotta pots provided in the grounds.
- We only permit the throwing of biodegradable confetti. Bubbles make a delightful alternative.
- If you have guests with disabilities, please contact us for advice on how we can assist.
- You may provide your own minibus, or similar, to transport guests from the car park.
- All mobile phones should be switched off prior to entry.
- Photography and video filming is permitted by an official wedding photographer and your guests.
- Suppliers can access the Castle from 9am on the morning of the wedding.
- Please be reminded that the marshalling of your guests is the responsibility of you and your ushers.
- Gwrych Castle cannot be held responsible for damage or loss of property by persons attending an event or function at the property.
- Persons attending an event at the property do so at their own risk and neither Gwrych Castle nor its representatives accept liability for death or personal injury. It is essential that public liability insurance is purchased, and that the certificate is provided a minimum of eight weeks prior to your wedding day. Cover of up to £2million is required for accidents/damage within Gwrych Castle & Gardens.

BOOKING YOUR WEDDING AT GWRYCH CASTLE

Check your preferred date and time with our team, then contact the Superintendent Registrar at Registration Services, Town Hall, Lloyd Street, Llandudno, LL30 2UP.

Telephone: (01492) 576525 to be advised of the appropriate fees (payable separately) and availability before confirming your booking with Gwrych Castle.

Approximately six weeks prior to your wedding you will be invited to attend your final venue meeting, where we will discuss your day in detail. If you have any questions before then with regard to the venue, please do not hesitate to contact us.

To conclude, you are respectfully reminded that the Castle is a historically important building. As such, it is your responsibility to ensure that all your guests respect and enjoy the unique atmosphere of the building and its grounds.





CONTACT US

Telephone Number: 01745 826023

In Writing: Gwrych Castle Estate Office, Gwrych Castle,
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WITH THANKS TO

Nathan Roberts Photography

Steve Hale Photography

<https://www.gwrychcastle.co.uk/weddings>