



Could we have our reception in the church hall?

Yes, although alcohol is not available. It is for example possible to have a catered tea party, or a meal before or after the wedding, so that later a smaller number of guests might gather in a licensed establishment.

Do we have to invite the minister to our reception?

The Minister does not normally attend the reception, so will not be offended if you don't invite him! If, exceptionally, you would like the Minister to attend, please send him an invitation in the normal way so he can check his availability.

Are church weddings only conducted in church?

The Minister normally conducts weddings in the church itself, because the church is a great place to be married and seek God's blessing on a couple's lives. If there are reasons why this is not possible, and couples still seek God's blessing, we are happy to consider other venues.

What about help regarding organizing the wedding?

We are happy to help and share our knowledge and experience of local suppliers and services.



If you would like to find out more about having your wedding in either of our churches please contact:

Rev David Locke

Tel: 01261 818207

Email: davidlockerev@yahoo.co.uk

Or Church Office

Tel: 01261 818211

Email:

janetsimpson@banffparishchurchofscotland.co.uk

Other Contact Numbers

Stephen Pratt, Banff Organist 01261 833113

Eleanor Wilson, K.E. Organist 01261 818240

Gordon Mustard 01261 861545

Banff Church Officer

Frank Schapitz 01261 821123

K.E. Church Officer



Banff & King Edward Parish Churches



WEDDINGS

What does a church wedding involve?

Church is a place where you can together seek God's blessing on your special day but as importantly on the rest of your lives, and on any children you have. It's a mixture of time-honoured tradition in a lovely setting with a deep spiritual meaning, through readings, singing and prayers, and of course special vows. Some guidance about how marriages succeed, may be offered typically with a good balance of informality and humour; often the service will include powerpoint presentations which those attending have always enjoyed.

How long does the service last?

A typical service might last about half an hour depending on the structure we agree.

Are all church weddings the same or can our service be made special to us?

Church weddings don't have to be the same. They can be a great balancing of tradition and individual choice. We are happy to offer choices so that your wedding day is personal but also reflects the tradition and meaning of church. The minister will be pleased to chat through the possibilities with you.

I've been married before; can I still get married in church?

Yes. The Church of Scotland marries a lot of people who are getting married the second time around. Church is a really good place for a fresh and meaningful start in life. Please inform the minister of your situation when you first discuss your wedding, and he will be happy to explore what we can do.

We've never been to church before, can we still get married in church?

Yes. The church is here for all people, and we are delighted to help and explore how God can bless your relationship.



A church wedding is a good way to start exploring what you believe. A church wedding at its heart is about asking God to bless your wedding day and your marriage, so it would be good to come to church before the wedding so that you are comfortable with what church involves. The fact that you are considering a church wedding probably means you feel you want God to bless your relationship and marriage in some way. If you are unsure, the Minister will be happy to discuss this with you.



How much does it cost?

The total fee for Banff is £420 which includes the fee for the church, heating, organist, projectionist and church officer. There is no fee for the services of the Minister.

The total fee for King Edward is £230.

There is an extra fee of £40 if the ceremony is being video recorded.

Can we get married in church if we are living together? If we have children?

Yes, that is quite often the case. We often see couples who have been together wanting to move to a deeper and fuller level of commitment and asking God's blessing on a fresh start together in church can be just right for that. Children can also be blessed by finding their parents taking that extra commitment in church; it can be an opportunity for children themselves to start seeking God's help through for example Christening at a later point.

We are getting married abroad but would like a church blessing. Is this possible?

Yes. The Minister will happily chat through the possibilities for a blessing service.

Can we book our wedding on a particular date?

Probably. Weddings typically occur on a Saturday although some are on Fridays. It is best to confirm the date you would like is free before you book your reception. Please chat to the Minister about this.



Do we have choices about music, hymns or songs?

The church organist and minister will happily discuss choices with you; the organists are usually available straight after a church services on Sunday mornings.

We want a small wedding but would still like to be married in church?

It makes no difference whether there are five, fifty or five hundred present—you do need a bride, a bridegroom, the Minister and two witnesses! For very small wedding you may wish to consider the Trinity Chapel area at the entrance to Banff Church.

What about same sex marriages?

The Church of Scotland's traditional view is that marriage is a union between one man and one woman. Church Ministers are not able to solemnize same-sex marriages.

