



Weddings

Houghton Lodge & Gardens

Nr STOCKBRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE, SO20 6LQ



Houghton Lodge
& Gardens



Welcome

Houghton Lodge is a stunning location for weddings and is one of the most romantic Historic Houses in Hampshire. Overlooking the famous chalk stream of The River Test, with panoramic views over the water meadows and along the Test Valley. There is no other house in sight and no where else could offer such picturesque views, such tranquillity for your dream day.

Built in 1793 and probably intended as a fishing lodge, Houghton Lodge is one of the earliest examples of a Cottage Orn  or Rural Retreat. Designed by John Plaw, both the House and the Gardens are in the special category of Grade II* and being built on a hill overlooking the River Test, a more magical position would be hard to find.

The house is a private family home where the owners offer a welcoming, friendly and amazingly special venue for couples who are looking for a unique and exclusive wedding ceremony and reception.

With two exquisite ceremony rooms and a choice of outside structures including a woodland grotto and a riverside fishing hut, plus formal and informal gardens, acres of meadows and ample space for a marquee by the river, Houghton Lodge & Gardens can accommodate small and intimate or larger wedding parties.



*Undoubtedly one of the most beautiful private house and gardens in
Hampshire... Let it be yours for your most special day.*

Ceremony rooms

Houghton Lodge & Gardens holds a wedding licence allowing civil ceremonies to take place in two stunning rooms and five outside structures.

Alternatively, All Saints' Church in Houghton is within walking distance.





The Music Room

Licensed for 38 guests.

This stunning circular room with a domed ceiling is the central feature of the house. Wonderfully light and airy, the walls are stylishly decorated with Trompe L'Oeil butterflies, flowers, swallows and clouds which adorn the ceiling. Beautiful mirrors line the walls, and french windows open directly to the garden where musicians can play on the lawn beyond. A more romantic and beautiful room to be married in - would be hard to find.

After you have been married in this heavenly room walk out through the french windows and on to the lawn with its panoramic views over the river and the water meadows.



The Chinese Dining Room

Licensed for 54 guests.

Stunningly decorated in silk wallpaper which was hand painted in China. The exotic birds and exuberant peonies tell a symbolic story of friendship, peace, love and luck. Whilst the arched windows provide beautiful views across the rose border, veranda and across the lawn down to the river.



The Walled Garden Orangery

Licensed for 110 guests.

Overlooking the Walled Garden which is famous for the widest espaliered pear tree. The abundance of flowers glimpsed out of the windows mean there is an ever-changing vista of flowers and whatever the season you choose to get married, your guests can wander round the Garden and enjoy paths and seats, a well and raised flowerbeds.



The Walled Garden Conservatory

Licensed for 30 guests.

Ideal for more intimate weddings and parties. The light and airy feel is retained with a glass roof and is adjacent to the Orchid House.



The Woodland Grotto

Set at the far end of a private pathway, this venue is ideal for a quiet wedding for nature lovers with room for only 10 guests. Situated in our small wood, the grotto is an exquisite flint and brick structure, completely devoid of ornament other than the leaves of the trees which surround it. It is so different to anything you will have seen before.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white long-sleeved dress, is fishing in a pond. She is holding a fishing rod and reel. The pond is surrounded by lush green grass and tall reeds. In the background, there are large, leafy trees and a wooden bench. The sky is overcast.

Our outside structures include:

The Walled Garden Conservatory,
The Walled Garden Orangery,
The Woodland Grotto,
The Riverside Summer House
and The Riverside Fishing Hut.

The choice is yours, the pleasure is all ours.



The Riverside Fishing Hut

An ideal place for a tiny wedding of 6 guests, whose passion may be fishing or the River. It may be that you wish to get married in a location where all you hear is the lap of the water, the sound of a bird or the distinctive plop of the fish.



The Riverside Summer House

Our quiet summerhouse seats just 6 and is decorated with posters of butterflies and birds. With a tranquillity all of its own it is ideal for weddings where the intimacy is more vital than importance. You reach it past the topiary dragon and can wander along to the Landing Stage afterwards for photographs of your special, private and essentially quiet wedding.



Any of these structures can be hired in addition to the gardens at Houghton Lodge for your Reception. It may be that you wish to have your wedding totally private and then join your guests with a Humanist to celebrate in a non-religious ceremony. It may well be that you want your entire event here but you wish to have the formal official ceremony elsewhere. You are free to elect to have your wedding in one of our specially designed structures and then walk along the riverbank to join your guests in what is known as a Renewal of Wedding vows.

Riverside Receptions



Houghton Lodge & Gardens provides the most romantic and unsurpassable position for your marquee. Overlooking the River Test, with tables on the lawn between the marquee and the river. Flowers adorning the entrance and festooning the pier, Swans gently gliding by, the water vole busily going about its daily business, the trout rising for a quick gulp of a plump and delicious mayfly. A riverside marquee with floodlit paths and the river bathed in evening mists and moonlight have provided the venue for such glorious memories.

Houghton Lodge & Gardens work with preferred catering suppliers, McCrimmon & Reid who provide an impeccable service and sublime food allowing you to relax and savor every moment.



Entertaining in The Walled Garden

Imagine enjoying drinks al fresco in our magnificent walled garden, before a leisurely walk through the ancient gates, past the glorious herbaceous border, and down the steps to your marquee next to the river. Surround yourself in the quintessentially English walled garden, with its evocative colours and scents. There is the beautiful herb garden to sit within, a magnificent rose arbour to walk through, a buddleia border full of butterflies, the apple walk to gaze upon, and even a Well to make wishes in! All this is contained within the privacy of the giant chalk cob walls bedecked with their ancient espaliered fruit trees.





Bespoke Service and Personal Wedding Coordinator

We can provide you with an idyllic setting, wonderful food and faultless organisation. If you want to use Houghton Lodge purely as a venue then you have the flexibility to organise your own catering, marquee, decorations, music etc Alternatively if you would like us to help take all the stress away, then the team from McCrimmond and Reid can create something simple or a wedding fit for the highest society. Whatever your dream wedding, they can supply you with everything to make your day bespoke and special to you.

We can provide an excellent list of local suppliers.



Capturing the moment

Houghton Lodge & Gardens is a photographer's paradise. There are endless opportunities for the most memorable wedding photographs that you will want to treasure forever: perhaps on the terrace in front of this magical house, in the formality of the Topiary Garden, sitting on the pier next to the river, standing on the bridge, against the apple blossom, next to the peony walk, under the rose arbour, or even sitting on the Well.... Whatever time of year you choose to be married there will always be something stunning in bloom.







Location

Houghton Lodge is in the heart of the Test Valley, only an hour and a half from Central London, a simple journey straight down the M3 and the A30. We are five minutes from the local town of Stockbridge. Follow the signs to Houghton Lodge Gardens. Winchester and Andover are our nearest mainline train stations (to/from London, Waterloo) and Southampton our nearest airport. There is a local landing strip for small aeroplanes and we can welcome helicopters and wonderful departures by hot air balloon!



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Images courtesy of: Graham Smith, Simon Ridgway Photography, Jessica Kate Photography, Sienna Wedding Photography, Simpson Wedding photography, Angela Ward-Brown Photography, ASR Photography, Sophia Schorr-Kon, Stephen Duncan, Pure You Photography, Robin Ball Photography. See website for full portfolio.