

FAQ for Weddings & Receptions

Q: When is the barn available for weddings?

A: The barn can be rented from April through July for weekend weddings.

Q: Is the barn available for fall weddings?

A: No. Our sunflower field, corn maze and pumpkin patch are open August - October. The barn is rented for maze related parties at that time. We can't provide a private environment for weddings when we are open to the public.

Q: How many people can the barn accommodate?

A: The maximum seating capacity is 250.

Q: What is the fee to rent the barn?

A: A current price sheet with package options is available upon request.

Q: What does the barn rental fee include?

A: The fee includes use of the barn, barn lot and parking lot: the day before the event for set up (8 am – 10pm), the day of the wedding (8 am – midnight), and the day after for tear down (8am –Noon). Use of existing fans, folding tables and chairs (seating for up to 250) are included. An on site supervisor will be available to review barn policies and help with deliveries that require a forklift. A dumpster is also included for trash disposal.

Q: Is a deposit required and is it refundable?

A: We require a barn rental deposit of \$400 and a refundable damage deposit of \$200 to reserve a date. A signed rental agreement is also required. Refunds will be paid according to the cancellation terms in the rental agreement. We accept cash, credit cards and checks.

Q: What is the payment plan for the entire bill?

A: The rental balance for the barn and all extras must be paid three weeks prior to the wedding date. An electronic invoice will be emailed and partial payments may be paid at anytime, prior to the balance due date.

Q: Is the barn handicap accessible?

A: The ground level of the barn is accessible. The loft areas are not.

Q: Is there an additional fee to have the wedding ceremony in the barn?

A: No. Outdoor weddings are available for a fee and include bench seating for up to 250.

Q: Is there a changing area for the bride?

A: Yes. The country store is available for \$250. It includes a room with a full height mirror and clothes rack. It also has an attached warming kitchen with hot and cold water.

Q: How much time is allocated for the rehearsal?

A: Rehearsals must be done by 10 pm on Friday evening.

Q: Can the barn be used for a rehearsal dinner?

A: Yes. We charge \$100. If the barn is not vacated by 10 pm Friday night, there will be an additional \$50 fee for each hour. All trash and food must be removed from the barn at the end of the evening.

Q: What is the weather contingency plan for outdoor ceremonies?

A: The renter must plan on using the barn in the event of adverse weather conditions or provide a tent at their expense. We do not refund the rental fee for ceremonies that have already been staged in the outdoors.

Q: Is there a fee for receptions that run past midnight?

A: Yes. We charge \$100 per hour.

Q: Are there decoration guidelines / restrictions?

A: Yes. We provide every renter a barn policy document. In general, the existing barn may not be defaced or damaged by using nails, staples or paint. Fabric, lights and other accessories are allowed as long as they are hung with twine, wire or fishing line. Tape is not allowed on walls.

Q: Is the barn already decorated with light strands?

A: No. We have installed outlets for light strands if you want to wrap beams and posts. You must purchase your own lights.

Q: Can candles be used in the barn?

A: Yes. Candles must be used in enclosed containers like ball jars or on stands with glass chimneys, to protect the flames from wind, and accidentally igniting combustible materials.

Q: When can vendors start setting up?

A: Vendors may set up any time after 8 am on Friday or Saturday. If a vendor wants to set up earlier, they must make special arrangements with Exploration Acres and pay a \$100 early set up fee.

Q: When can deliveries be made?

A: Deliveries may be made on Thursday or Friday, prior to the wedding. Exploration Acres must be notified of deliveries in advance.

Q: Does the venue assist with set up and tear down?

A: We will provide forklift assistance moving crates and pallets. Ladders are also available at no charge. It is the renter's responsibility to provide labor during set up and tear down. The renter must dispose of all trash in the dumpster, sweep the floors and mop up all spills. The full damage deposit may not be refunded if the barn is not clean when vacated.

Q: Can the barn be heated or air-conditioned?

A vented heater can be rented to warm the barn during the spring. We do not allow the barn to be air conditioned because of the difficulty running and concealing flexible tubing. Also, closed doors are a violation of the fire code.

Q: Is there a separate indoor socializing space?

A: The barn is the only building that we rent for that purpose.

Q: Do you have an in-house caterer or "preferred" caterers list?

A: We do not have an in-house caterer. We do have a list of suggested vendors that have been to our venue posted on Pinterest. You are welcome to work with a caterer of your choice.

Q: Do you have an in house cake maker?

A: No. You may use any cake maker of your choice. We do have a suggested list of vendors that are familiar with our venue.

Q: Do you provide cake-cutting utensils?

A: No. Ask your cake maker if they can provide them.

Q: Can I serve my own beer and wine?

A: Yes, but you will need to apply and pay for a one day beer and wine permit. Visit the Indiana State Website for instructions on how to obtain a permit.

Q: Can I serve mixed drinks or have a bar at the wedding?

A: Yes, but you must hire a licensed bartender or caterer that has the proper permits. We require copies of their licenses.

Q: Does the venue have liability insurance?

A: We carry liability insurance for agritourism, not weddings. We require all renters to purchase a one-day special event liability policy protecting them for their wedding. Exploration Acres must be listed as an additional insured. The amount of coverage should be one million dollars.

Q: Can the venue accommodate a DJ or live band?

A: Yes. We have a dedicated space with separate outlets available. We do not have our own speaker system.

Q: Does the venue have access to WIFI?

A: Yes. It is only available for meetings or vendor use. A guest login is available upon request.

Q: How late can a DJ or band perform?

A: The venue must be vacated by midnight. The DJ or band must end their session with enough time to tear down their equipment by midnight. We charge a \$100 fee for every hour past midnight.

Q: Does the venue have plenty of parking?

A: Yes. We have space for 900 cars.

Q: Can shuttle service be arranged to and from the venue?

A: Yes. Several local hotels can arrange shuttle service if you book a block of rooms. There are also local vendors that can provide a shuttle service for a fee.

Q: Will there be any other events at the same time?

A: No. We are renting the venue to you for your private event.

Q: Are you planning any changes to the venue?

A: Yes. We are always making improvements to the structures and property. We schedule construction outside of our wedding and corn maze season.

Q: What kind of restrooms do you have?

A: We have climate controlled, modern, restrooms for men and women inside grain bins that are adjacent to the wedding barn. The restrooms have several stalls with flushing toilets, sinks with hot and cold water. They are DA compliant.

Q: Do you have on-site wedding coordinators?

A: No. We do not provide that service. We do have a list of wedding planners and coordinators who have been to our venue.

Q: Does the venue have a kitchen?

A: We have a warming kitchen that is not designed for food preparation. It may be rented if you need access to hot and cold water or refrigeration. It is also equipped with a couple microwaves that can be used for reheating.

Q: Is water available?

A: Yes. We have a hydrant near the barn that may be used by you and vendors. Potable water is available in our warming kitchen.

Q: Is an electrical outlet available for woods weddings?

A: Yes. You will need to run extension cords from a source near the woods.

Q: Is smoking allowed in the barn?

A: We do not allow smoking in the barn or surrounding property. Smoking is only permitted in the parking lot. You may want to consider putting a pop up tent with some chairs, in the parking lot, for guests who need to smoke.

Q: Do you provide trash containers and liners?

A: Yes.

Q: Do you provide any cleaning supplies?

A: The barn has a maintenance closet with brooms, a mop, a blower, a shop vacuum, trash bags and miscellaneous supplies. You are encouraged to use them.