Weddings

at THE TANK MUSEUM

THE TANK MUSEUM

The Events Team

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Registered Charity No: 1102661

Malthouse Photography

WHO WE ARE

A stone's throw from Dorset's stunning Jurassic Coast, The Tank Museum holds the world's finest and most historically significant collection of tanks.

For couples seeking something inimitable, The Tank Museum is among the latest and more unique wedding venues in the South.

As a registered charity, all revenue is reinvested back into the Museum, to develop our exhibitions and maintain this unique collection for future generations to enjoy.

Jim Johnson

WHAT WE OFFER

At The Tank Museum, we believe that every wedding is unique and we therefore have no set packages. Instead, we offer suggestions of how you can use each space and also provide a list of trusted suppliers to assist in designing the day that you desire.

For the purpose of providing inspiration within this brochure, we have included images highlighting a rustic 1940s vintage wedding and a classic contemporary white wedding design to demonstrate how versatile the spaces can be. These designs are not compulsory and our team will be more than pleased to work with you to curate something that is unique to your taste.

Access for suppliers and the wedding party is permitted to hired spaces from 14:00 until 17:00 on the eve of your big day (if you are having your ceremony with us) or from 08:00 on the day itself if we are only hosting the evening reception. This time is allocated for décor set up and a ceremony rehearsal if required.

Whilst the Museum is open daily to the general public from 10:00 until 17:00, your hired areas will be sectioned off from the public, with our staff managing access to ensure exclusivity for your guests. All venue hire quotes within this brochure give you use of the spaces until midnight on your wedding day. Your guests are welcome to explore the Museum within our opening hours prior to your reception.

Jim Johnson

THE COLD WAR HALL

The biggest space we have for hire, surrounded by a collection of Cold War tanks and situated next to the Battlegroup Afghanistan exhibition is the multi-functional Cold War Hall, which is an ideal space for the larger wedding ceremony or reception.

For couples with a smaller wedding guest list, this hall offers an alternative multifunctional use, allowing you to host the ceremony and evening reception in one space.

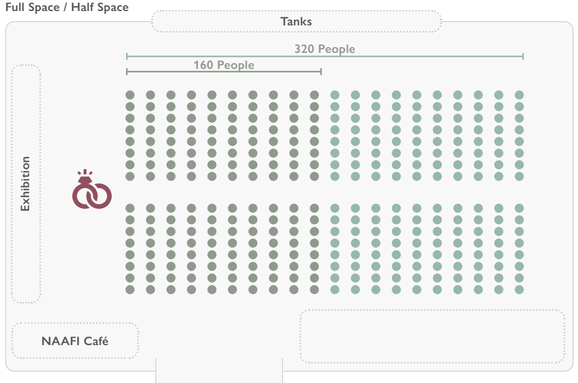
The Cold War Hall is also home to our NAAFI-themed café and bar which can be incorporated into your package, fully staffed by our in-house team.

Ceremony Theatre Style

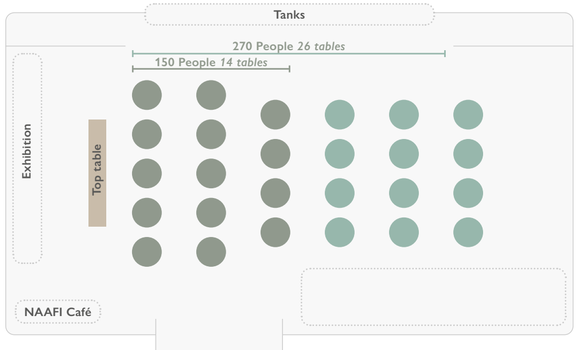
Full Space – 320 people (based on 20 rows of 8, on each side of the aisle)

Half Space – 160 people (based on 10 rows of 8 on each side of the aisle)

Full Space / Half Space



Full Space / Half Space

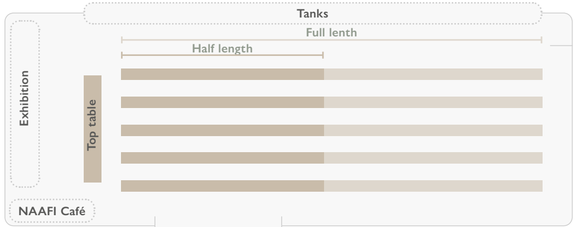


Reception Banquet

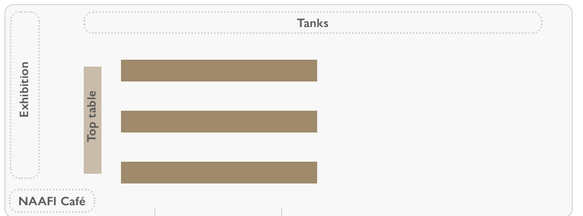
Full Space – 270 people (based on 26 x 6ft round tables with 10 people per table, plus a top table of 10)

Half Space – 150 people (based on 14 x 6ft round tables with 10 people per table, plus a top table of 10)

Full Space / Half Space – Trestle Tables



Half Space – Rustic Wooden Tables



Reception Long Table Dinner Service

Full Space with Trestle Tables – 310 people (based on 5 rows of 10 x trestle tables, 6 people per table, plus a top table of 3 trestle tables, 3 people per table)

Half Space with Trestle Tables – 162 people (based on 5 rows of 5 x trestle tables, 6 people per table, plus a top table of 3 trestle tables, 3 people per table)

Half Space with Rustic Wooden Tables – 54 people (based on 3 rows of 4 rustic tables, 4 people per table, plus a top table of 3 rustic tables, 2 per table)

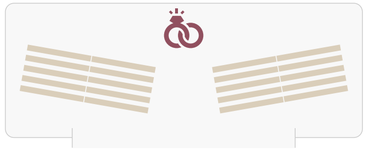
Jim Johnson

THE MEZZANINE

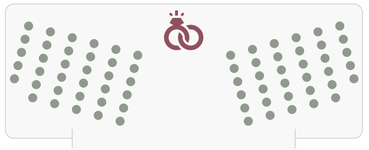
Overlooking the Purbeck hills on one side and our flagship exhibition, the Tank Story Hall, on the other, our balcony area is a wonderful space to hire for your wedding.

Another truly versatile space, this area can be hired for your ceremony, drinks and canapés or for your reception.

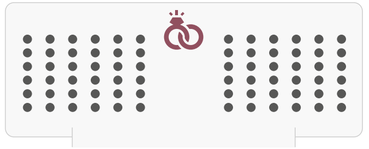
Rustic Benches



Wooden Chairs



Black Banquet Chairs



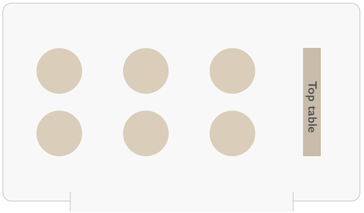
Ceremony Theatre Style

Rustic Benches – 80 People (Based on 5 rows of two benches, four people per bench)

Wooden Chairs – 70 People (Based on 5 rows of 6 plus 1 row of 5 chairs on each side, angled)

Black Banquet Chairs – 80 People (Based on 6 rows of 8 chairs on each side, straight)

Full Space with Top Table



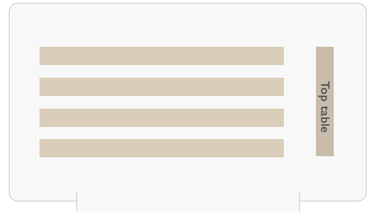
Full Space without Top Table

Reception Banquet

Full Space with Long Top Table – 69 People (based on 6 x 6ft rounds with 10 guests each plus a top table of 3 x trestle tables, up to three people per table)

Full Space without Top Table – 80 People (based on 8 x 6ft rounds with 10 guests each)

Full Space with Top Table



Full Space without Top Table

Reception Long Table Dinner Service

Full Space with Top Table – 105 (based on 4 rows of 4 trestle tables, 6 people per table plus a top table of 3 trestle tables, up to three people per table)

Full Space without Top Table – 120 (based on 4 rows of 5 trestle tables, 6 people per table)

OUTDOOR CEREMONIES

With our outdoor area licensed for ceremonies, we also offer an option to marry outside. In a canopy-covered area overlooking our display arena, your wedding party can look on from the gently sloped grass bank as you make your vows.

This space is well covered by our display PA system too, so no one will struggle to hear you say “I do”. We can easily accommodate 1,000 people on this banked area - so capacity restrictions will not be an issue here either.

OTHER SPACES

Sherman Suite

If you are hoping for a quieter and much more intimate service, the Sherman Suite is the ideal spaces.

- Private WC
- Wi-Fi
- Built in projector and PA system

Ceremony Theatre Style
42 people (based on a front 1 row of 3 seats, 4 x rows of 4 seats, with an additional row of 4 seats on one side)

Reception – Banquet Dinner Service
60 people (based on 6 x 10ft round tables, 10 people per table)

Reception – Long Table Dinner Service with Top Table – 54 people (based on 2 rows of 4 trestle tables, 6 people per table plus a top table of 2 trestle tables, 3 people per table)

Without Top Table
60 people (based on 2 rows of 5 trestle table, 6 people per table)

This room can also be hired for preparing before the ceremony and completing registrar meetings.

Specific Tanks

Subject to the tank’s location and your wedding date/time, we may be fulfil a special request of getting married in front of your favourite exhibit. If this is of interest, the Events Team can discuss the feasibility of this with you on request.

Photography Areas

The Tank Museum offers a large portfolio of one-of-a-kind backdrops for wedding photographs including that all important full-wedding-party shot. Your events planner will be happy to work with you and your photographer to plan these within your wedding schedule whilst ensuring minimum disruption to both yourselves and Museum guests simultaneously.

Jim Johnson

For couples seeking something inimitable,
the Tank Museum is among the latest and more
unique wedding venues in the South.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A dedicated event coordinator in the lead up to the day and on the day itself including 3 x pre-wedding meetings (in person or virtually as you prefer) and two meetings with our in-house catering team to discuss and choose your personal menu choices. Should you be using external suppliers, we ask that group meetings with these external parties are part of this 3 x pre-wedding meeting allocation.
- A comprehensive hand-over at least 6 weeks in advance of the wedding day.
- Regular check-ins via email to discuss progress.
- Exclusive use of the hired spaces 2pm until 5pm the day prior (ceremonies only) and 8am until midnight on the day of your wedding.
- Free parking for all guests - cars can be left overnight and collected the following morning.
- Free Museum entry for all guests on the day of the wedding.
- Use of our in-house furniture (6ft rounds, trestles, black banquet chairs, wooden chairs, rustic tables, rustic benches to quantities listed in the capacities enclosed).
- All catering linen - table cloths and napkins (white or black).
- Tank Museum crockery (branded), glassware and stainless steel cutlery.
- Cake knife and server.
- Museum staff managed access to hired areas.
- Fully stocked and staffed cash bar for reception bookings.
- Complimentary use of a conference suite or similar for deliveries, set up preparations and for pre-wedding registrar meetings.
- Table service / waiting staff in relation to all catering booked internally.
- PA hire (including 2 x mics).
- Permission to have photographs in front of exhibits in your wedding attire (some limitations may apply).
- Use of tall centre piece vases including candles (28).
- Use of bowl centre piece vases (8).
- Use of circular mirrors for centre pieces (30).
- Use of Tank Museum 'up lights' (4).
- Use of easel for table plan (1).
- Use of Tank Museum table numbers and holders (30).
- Use of coat rails (2) and hangers.

PRICING

THE TANK MUSEUM - WEDDING PRICING LIST	WEEKDAY INC VAT	WEEKEND INC VAT
Mezzanine & Cold War Hall	£5,900	£7,350
Cold War Wall Only	£4,950	£6,100
Mezzanine Only	£3,750	£4,000
Sherman Suite & Mezzanine	£4,100	£5,150
Sherman Suite & Cold War Hall	£5,100	£6,200
Canopy (outdoor) & Mezzanine	£3,900	£4,150

Although these are the most popular and suggested room hire combinations and arrangements we understand you may wish to discuss alternative options to fit your own individual requirements. If this applies, please do not hesitate to contact the events team and we will be more than happy to help.

Marquee choices are quoted individually based on individual requirements.

ACCOMMODATION

There are plenty of options for accommodation locally ranging from campsites and boutique B&Bs to nationwide hotel chains. These are available just a short drive or train ride away in varying directions dependant on what you and your guests are looking for. Head to Weymouth or Bournemouth for a seaside location or Wareham and Wimborne for a more country escape. Whatever your requirements, our team will be happy to point you in the right direction.

CATERING

Curated with locally-sourced and in-season ingredients in mind, The Tank Museum Catering Team holds years of experience developing high-end corporate menus for private functions. Aware that everyone wants something different for their special day, we have a diverse list detailing the options available for you to choose from. Once you have an idea as to what type of catering option you may want, our in-house team will be more than happy to work with you to design a menu specifically to your taste.

MENU OPTIONS	PER HEAD INC VAT
Afternoon tea	£16.75
Buffet menu	£26.50
Sit down dinner - Brigadier	£42
Sit down dinner - Major General	£48
Sit down dinner - Lieutenant General	£54
DRINKS / BAR PRICE LIST	**PER HEAD INC VAT**
Beer (Per 400ml bottle)	£4.50
Wine (per bottle)	£16.50*
Wine (per glass)	£4.50*
Prosecco (per bottle)	£19.50
Corkage	£12.95
Tea & coffee (per cup)	£3
Spirits 25ml	£3
Spirits 50ml	£3.50
Mixers	£1.25
Soft drinks (tap)	£2
Soft drinks (bottles/cans)	£2.50

*Varies depending on the wine chosen.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Gifts and Favours

We're aware that if you are having your wedding at the Museum, you may be looking for some unique additions to fit the tank theme. If this is of interest to you, we'd be more than happy to discuss and present options for Tank Museum favours, thank you gifts, branded alcohol or even cufflinks for those wearing a suit on the big day. For inspiration of what you could include, please visit our online shop here: **tankmuseumshop.org**

Tank Rides

Would you like your guests to enjoy a ride in a tracked vehicle in our arena? Or would they love a guided tour? We will be happy to consider arranging these or any similar requests you may have, subject to availability (…and practicality!)

All of these items are an additional cost and provided on an individual quote basis.

ACCESSIBILITY

Reduced Mobility

There is ample disabled parking on hard standing near to the entrance of the Museum. The majority of the Museum is on a single level, with ramps or lifts providing access to higher floors. Pathways and entrances are broad, and there are several disabled toilets around the Museum. There are wheelchair access points and viewing areas in our arena. There are a limited number of wheelchairs available for use at the Museum, which are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing

There are hearing induction loops on our newer interactives and subtitles on video content. These are also available in our conference suites if requested in advance to your hire.

Autism Spectrum Conditions

The Trench Experience and War Horse to Horsepower exhibition do use sound effects which can trigger sensory overload. The Museum's Special Events and rainy days during the school holidays are both very busy. If you would like to host your wedding at a quieter time, we would recommend either a week day or term-time.

Support Dogs

The Tank Museum welcomes working dogs, including guide dogs, hearing dogs and support dogs. These must be kept on a lead. Please inform the Events Team in advance if support dogs will be required for anyone attending or working your wedding.

GETTING HERE

Road

The Tank Museum is situated in South Dorset, and is clearly signposted from Dorchester, Blandford, Poole, Bere Regis and Wool. The Museum offers extensive, free overnight parking facilities to all guests. If you are parking here overnight, we'll be happy to work with you to plan group transport for both you and your guests.

Our satellite navigation postcode is **BH20 6JG**.

Rail

Dorset benefits from a well-connected rail network link. The Tank Museum is 2 miles from Wool station, which is on the mainline between London Waterloo and Weymouth, which reaches Southampton, Bournemouth, Poole, Wareham and Dorchester too. For train times, visit the South Western Railway website. There is a local taxi service that can take you to the Museum as an alternative to walking the final part of the journey.

Air

Bovington is within close travelling distance of both Bournemouth and Southampton International Airports via both rail and road.

Sea

Neighbouring locations Bournemouth, Poole and Southampton provide access via ferry from the continent and Channel Islands.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do we need a wedding planner?
Included in the price is a dedicated planner from the Events Team who will liaise with you and your suppliers in the lead up to, during and after the event to ensure it runs as smoothly as possible. Most clients who are actively involved in their own wedding planning feel this is sufficient, however please note that details such as sending invitations, organising seating plans, requesting dietary requirements and RSVPs will not be handled by the Museum.

Who is our main contact for the day?
Your planner will be your lead contact on-site supported by the wider Museum Team dedicated to your wedding.

Who is responsible for clearing up?
All suppliers are responsible for their own clear up. Generally speaking, this must take place between 08:00 and 10:00 the following day but requirements are discussed on a case-by-case basis.

What wines are available?
Our Catering Team have access to a wide variety and will be more than happy to help you select your preferred choice.

Can we have Tank Museum branded beers sold at the bar?
Yes, this is our standard offering for weddings.

Will you accept deliveries on our behalf?
Absolutely. Deliveries must occur between 09:30 and 16:00 any day of the week.

Is the Museum suitable for wheelchair users?
Yes, all areas used for wedding hire are accessible via ramps and have wide walkways. Accessible toilets are also located around the museum.

Can we hire the Museum exclusively all day?
Generally speaking, no. The Museum is primarily there to inform and educate visitors regarding the history of the tank and with that in mind, we aim to be open as many days of the year as possible in order to do this. Please do remember though that your areas are private and the main Museum will close at 17:00 to the general public.

Can we or our wedding party sit in or on a tank and/or any of the Museum's other vehicles for fun or for photos?
There is an opportunity for the happy couple to climb into our Chieftain tank (this must be pre-arranged) and if this of interest, we can discuss this with you.

Do you offer tank rides?
Generally speaking, no. The Museum is keen to preserve the tanks as much as possible and therefore tend to not move the vehicles outside of programming them for arena shows or developing exhibitions.

We do offer limited tank rides during our arena shows (Tanks In Action Crew Days) as advertised online. Exceptions for wedding days may be made should a considerable donation be made to the charity or if the wedding coincides with an arena show. If this is of interest, please notify your planner and they will enquire for you.

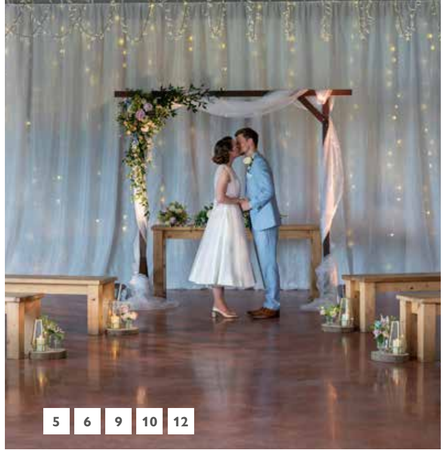
Do you supply accommodation?
The Tank Museum does not supply accommodation. However, there are plenty of independent, high-quality B&Bs and campsites near the museum. Furthermore, accommodation can be found in neighbouring towns Wareham and Dorchester as well as Poole, Bournemouth and Weymouth. Your planner will be happy to help you arrange transport where required prior to the day to ensure it's a stress free as possible.

Can I have the kids softplay open at my wedding?
Unfortunately the softplay will be closed for all weddings and private function hire.

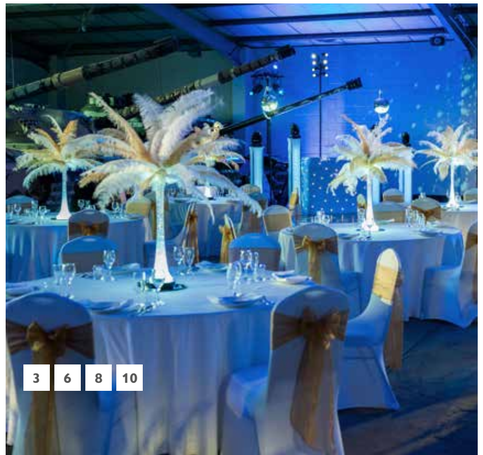
Can we use drones or conduct any 'air displays'?
The Tank Museum is surrounded by MOD land and under their guidance, the use of flying objects including drones, sky lanterns and balloon releases is strictly prohibited.

RECOMMENDED SUPPLIERS

We're pleased to be able to recommend high quality, friendly and personable suppliers that are local to The Tank Museum. Whilst using these businesses is not mandatory, we highly recommend them for your event should their services be of interest to you. Please see below their contact details and the following page showing just a small example of some of the services they can provide.



The Fifinellas	Jazz and Swing Vocal Trio	thefifinellas.com	**1**
Mon Bel Amour	Cake Craft	monbelamourcakecraft.co.uk	**2**
Pegasus Disco	Disco	pegasusdisco.co.uk	**3**
Wedding Time Dresses	Wedding Attire	wedding-time.com	**4**
Sweetpea Blandford	Florist	sweetpeablandford.co.uk	**5**
Cinemattag Productions	Lighting	cinemattag.com	**6**
Box Photo Booths	Photo Booth	boxphotobooths.co.uk	**7**
Jim Johnson	Photographer	photosbyjim.co.uk	**8**
Malthouse Photography	Photographer	malthousephotography.co.uk	**9**
Tiger Lily Occasions	Venue Stylist	tigerlilyoccasions.com	**10**
Perfect Day Wedding Services	Venue Stylist	perfectdayweddingservices.co.uk	**11**
Swingle Tree Vintage	Venue Stylist	swingletreeevents.co.uk	**12**
Western Marquees	Marquee and Dancefloor	westernmarquees.co.uk	**13**



WEDDING CHECKLIST

TO START

- [ ] Book ceremony venue and registrar
- [ ] Book reception venue
- [ ] Choose bridal party
- [ ] Begin guest list
- [ ] Send out save the dates
- [ ] Begin to think about colour scheme and wedding style

THE BITS

- [ ] Wedding insurance
- [ ] Stationery (invitations, order of services, tables numbers, names, etc)
- [ ] Wedding rings
- [ ] Transport for bridal party/coach for guests
- [ ] Flowers
- [ ] Wedding cake
- [ ] Your gift list
- [ ] Favours and thank you gifts
- [ ] Table plan/guest book

DRESS CODE

- [ ] Bridal dress, shoes and accessories
- [ ] Groom's suit/kilt/attire, shoes and accessories
- [ ] Bridal party dresses, shoes and accessories
- [ ] Groom's party suits, shoes and accessories
- [ ] Hairdresser, make-up artist, nails, etc

CEREMONY

- [ ] Confirm arrangements with registrar
- [ ] Music – played on CD, musician, etc
- [ ] Licence
- [ ] Readings/songs

WEDDING BREAKFAST & EVENING RECEPTION

- [ ] Venue styling
- [ ] Catering & drinks
- [ ] Entertainment
- [ ] First dance/group dance
- [ ] Evening accommodation
- [ ] Post box/card table/wishing well

Malthouse Photography

Jim Johnson

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any further questions, and/or you would like to organise a viewing please contact the Events Team, answering the following questions. We will be happy to assist you with your enquiries.

1. What are your preferred dates for your wedding to take place?
2. Are you hoping to have both your ceremony and reception here, or just one of the two?
3. What capacity are you currently considering?
4. Is there a particular room hire package that appeals to you currently?

The whole team at The Tank Museum would like to congratulate you on your engagement and we hope to be a part in making your wedding day a truly unique and treasured experience.

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