

Mains of Scotstown *The Parkway* thewhitecockade



RESTAURANTS
ABERDEEN

YOUR 9 MONTH WEDDING CHECKLIST



PHM Limited | Restaurants Aberdeen

Your 9 month countdown checklist

We would love to think that everything is on the checklist but we know it covers all the basics.

9 months before

- Select a date.
- Agree on a budget with your family and partner.
- Book the church or register office. If you are getting married in a licensed venue, you will need to provisionally book the registrar and then confirm with them three months before the wedding date.
- Decide if you're going to use a wedding co-ordinator.

BOOK the church

8 months before

- Check the legal requirements for your type of wedding ceremony and any documents that will be required (birth certificate, decree absolute certificate etc.)
- Compile your guest list, consulting both families.
- Choose best man, bridesmaids, pageboys and ushers.
- Book reception venue and then confirm in writing.

BOOK

the registrar

7 months before

- Consider taking out wedding insurance before paying any deposits etc.
- Decide on the type of catering you want; start looking at reception menus and book the caterers.
- Order the cake. The final design and colours can be decided on later.
- Select and book your photographer and video company.
- Book the honeymoon particularly if you are travelling in peak season.
- Decide on the type of music and entertainment you want for your ceremony and reception. Before booking musicians, band and/or DJ, check them out first!
- Book transport to and from the ceremony and reception for the bridal party.
- Start thinking about your wedding dress. Cut out any magazine pictures that appeal to you and decide if you want a designer gown, an 'off the peg' dress or a local dressmaker or friend to make one. Also consider buying second hand or hiring.

Book your **Honeymoon**

6 months before

- Meet and confirm arrangements with the minister. Discuss the service, any readings and your choice of music.
- Make sure all bridal attire is ordered and fittings booked in.
- Choose outfits for the groom, chief bridesmaid (or matron of honour), bridesmaids, best man, ushers and pageboys.
- Have both mothers coordinate and select their outfits.
- Choose and order your wedding rings.
- Order your wedding stationery such as invitations (day and evening), orders of service, place cards etc. Make sure you obtain your minister or registrar's final approval for your order of service before going to print!

Choose

your *wedding* rings

5 months before

- Decide on the style of flowers you want and the amount of arrangements required to include bouquets, buttonholes, venue and ceremony displays etc.
- Visit florists for quotes and discuss your requirements. Book preferred florist.
- If you have invited any very young children, book entertainment or crèche facilities.

Book your

wedding night hotel

4 months before

- Go shopping and compile your gift list.
- Finalise wedding cake design and colours.
- Start experimenting with your hair and make-up.

Finalise the *cake design*

3 months before

- Send out your invitations and have your gift list ready for those who ask for it. Remember, it is best to include this in an information pack sent out accepted invitation.
- Choose your going away outfits.
- The bride needs to apply for her passport if she wishes to travel in her married name.
- Arrange for any necessary visas to be issued.
- Consult your doctor about any vaccinations needed for your honeymoon.
- Bride to visit hairdresser to discuss what style is required and to book final appointment. Don't forget to take wedding headdress if appropriate. Confirm whether you will be going to the salon or having stylists to your home.
- Arrange for a trial run for your make-up.

Send out your invitations

2 months before

- Best man and chief bridesmaid to arrange stag and hen parties.
- Make sure that guests have somewhere to stay and book rooms where necessary.
- Once you have received an acceptance from a guest, send out an information pack containing maps and directions to your venues, local accommodation information, details of your gift list and any other relevant information.
- If you are changing your name upon marriage, arrange for new credit cards.
- Book make-up artist if you are having one.

Arrange

stag & hen parties

1 month before

- Have a final fitting for bridal outfit and bridesmaids' dresses.
- Chase up guests who have not replied and finalise guest list.
- Work out the reception seating plan and write out the place cards.
- Send final number of guests to the caterer and the reception venue.
- Prepare speeches and start practicing!
- Check that the wedding clothes will be ready on time (ready at least one week before)
- Finalise all the transport details and check the journey time to the church.
- Choose and buy presents for the best man, bridesmaids, ushers and mothers.
- Make sure you have bought all of your accessories and shoes.
- Keep a careful record of all gifts received and try to write thank you notes at once rather than let them pile up.
- Notify banks, utility companies etc if bride planning to change her name.

Final **bridal**

outfit **fitting**

1 to 2 weeks before

- Final rehearsal at the venue for the ceremony. Check that the wedding 'orders of service' have been given to the best man or ushers.
- Check wedding dress accessories and the morning suits have been collected (try them to make sure they all still fit!)
- Wear in any shoes that are new.
- Make sure your order of service sheets, menus, place cards and thank-you cards have been delivered.
- Final checks on the honeymoon arrangements. Order local currency and traveller's cheques.
- Enjoy your hen and stag parties!
- Put together a list of telephone numbers in case of an on-the-day emergency to include local cab firm and all the suppliers that will be attending or delivering items on your wedding day.

Enjoy your *hen* & stag parties

On the day

- Prepare yourself in plenty of time so you don't feel rushed.
- Have a relaxing bath.
- Make sure you eat breakfast.
- Your honeymoon case needs to be sent to your overnight hotel.
- If you are going to a salon to have your hair done, don't forget to take along your headdress, veil or flowers.
- Above all, relax and enjoy yourselves!

Call The Parkway and ask to speak to our wedding co-ordinators Martin Young or Laura Hamill (01224 702460) or send an enquiry (parkway@restaurantsaberdeen.com) for more details of our wedding planning service.

As one of Aberdeen's up and coming wedding spots, we are confident you are in good hands.