



## WEDDING CONTRACT: FAQ

*At Owlpen we understand that contracts can seem over-bearing and unwelcoming, but it is necessary to clarify all of the little points in one place. To help you digest it, we have addressed some of the most common questions below, to help you as you read through the document.*

### Clause 9:

Please state below which site you have chosen, either the Manor Gardens venue or Cyder Barn site or Cyder Barn and Pole Barn site. Once this contract has been signed you are unable to change venue location, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

*Don't worry we never use more than one site at any one time so your exclusivity is not affected. As we do large marquee weddings, and weddings in the barns, we ask you to choose in advance: if you need marquees etc we have to order them in a long time in advance.*

### Clause 12: Force Majeure

The Force Majeure clause is set in stone by the lawyers. It is a very specific area of the law and they insist on the wording as stated, so sadly we are not able to amend it. With apologies!

### Clause 15: wedding insurance

This is for your benefit, not ours. We strongly advise that you cover yourselves by taking it out, which is why we include it as a clause in the contract. If you plan to bring in food such as cake, or your own drinks for the staff to serve, you must have private liability insurance or we shall be unable to provide that service.

### Clause 16: additional costs

We have never asked anyone for additional costs, apart from one broken window. It covers us again a worst-case scenario, but is very unlikely to occur.

#### Clause 18: additional seating

We hire out beechwood folding chairs at the rate of £3 per chair (inc. VAT). This includes setting them out, putting them away, and, when different chairs are required, we also take care of deliveries, collections and alternative weather plans on the day.

#### Clause 20 - 23: external caterers

It adds a significant amount of work when outside caterers are used for the main service of the day, which is why we charge a higher commission rate. We oblige caterers to come here first, otherwise they turn up on the day without knowing where they are going, staff are not briefed, and it has a detrimental affect on your guests' experience of the day. This is why we need to plan it all in advance. When it comes to evening food (vans etc) we do not charge a commission but we do ask them to handle rubbish collection, and sometimes ask for a small fee for heat light and power etc.

#### Clause 33: Dogs

We welcome dogs here but it is important that they are looked after, and on leads. If guests are bringing a dog, and they are staying at a holiday cottage, they can always take them back to the cottage when appropriate. We can advise about dog-sitters if required.

#### Clause 37: Dancing

Sadly we can only offer dancing in the Cyder Barn, for a number of reasons. When it comes to the party itself, after experiencing a great number of events we believe that it makes for a much better experience to have the dancing and the bar in the same place, so that you create an intimate atmosphere like a night club. The pole barn can then be used for conversation and relaxation!

#### Clause 40: swimming

This is very much an insurance issue. Sorry! Whilst we welcome swimming for our paying guests, it has to be done responsibly and never alone! We can provide you with our wild swimming risk assessment if required.

#### Clause 46: alcohol on the premises

This does not apply to holiday cottage gardens, where you can do what you want, eat what you want, drink what you want. It's only on the licensed premises, which includes the barns, marquees, gardens and grounds.

#### Clause 47 and 48: alcohol service charge

We rarely have weddings where the full service charge fee is required, as it is very time-consuming and expensive to stock a full bar!

Clause 52: clean-up

We can provide black bin bags etc for this if it helps: just ask in advance.

Clause 55: Cottages

As these houses are so close to the venue, they must be rented out. If other cottages are not required then that is less of a problem, and you wouldn't notice if other people were staying in them.

Clause 58: check-out

It is unlikely that cottages are required by other guests on the day of your departure, but if you want to be absolutely sure that you retain the accommodation – for a bbq etc – then it's best to take it for an extra night.