



A Victoria House Wedding...

Casual elegance is the very essence of Victoria House, an endless azure sea stretches over one of the world's great treasures; the magnificent barrier reef of Belize. Charming Palapa Casitas, plantation style rooms, beautiful suites and private villas all set amongst swaying palm trees and tropical gardens of bougainvillea, hibiscus and oleander await you. The ambiance is one of relaxation, privacy and barefoot elegance, free from the boundaries and pressures of day-to-day life. Be as laid back, as you desire or as adventurous as you dare with a bounty of activities to enjoy.

A basic wedding package would be \$1150.00 USD (plus 12.5% GTS tax) added on to the room charges. This includes license and minister's fee, small cake for 2-4 people, island bouquet, boutonniere and basic floral arrangements.

A late afternoon wedding may mean the minister/judge does not have time to return to Belize City - cost for accommodation & meals - \$100 .

Other possible costs (in U.S. dollars) - these prices are approximate and serve only as a basis to work with:

Flowers The cost depends on the quantity of arrangements and bouquets ordered as well as the kind of flower used. Arrangements made from indigenous flowers are \$ 45 USD and up per arrangement while arrangements made from roses are \$ 55 USD and up per arrangement. For the bride, there are a variety of bouquet options. As an example of some base pricing: the long cascade bouquet (\$ 75 USD), the round bouquet (\$ 50), and the roses bouquet (\$ 50). Boutonnieres are \$15 USD each while corsages are \$ 15 USD each.

Cakes begin at \$125 USD.

Music consists of a couple of options: A Caribbean band \$1,000 USD up to 4 hour (small band), or Pablo Callodo, Mayan flutist and classical guitarist (\$ 450 USD up to 3 hours). All music for the wedding reception ends at 9:30 pm.

Dinners are to be arranged with the chef and prices begin at \$ 65 - 75 USD per person plus 10% sales tax and 20% service charge.

Beach BBQ includes a variety of salads, ceviche, lobster, shrimp, chicken, fresh fruit and desserts, all of which is to be arranged with the chef. It is \$ 65 - 70 USD per person plus 10% sales tax and 20% service charge.

Fees for arrangement and decorating are \$ 300 USD and up.

Photographer There are a few of options for professional photography on the island. Basic packages start at \$300 USD up to \$600 USD. Please see Kay Scott, BeliColor Photography or Oli Rusa for local photographers.

Champagne and wine prices are per bottle and vary depending on the kind of wine. A sampling of champagnes includes Dom Perignon, Taittinger Brut La Francaise and Le Domaine Brut. White wines include Napa Ridge Chardonnay, Fume Blanc, Benziger, and Pouilly-Fuisse, J. Calver et Cie. Red wines include Cabernet Sauvignon, Vina Undurraga, Beaujolias-Villages, Louis Jadot, and Cabernet Sauvignon, Beringer. Wine list and prices subject to change with out notice.

All prices are subject to change without notice

Wedding Q & A

1) What is the initial cost to get married at Victoria House?

The initial cost to get married at Victoria House is \$1150.00 USD plus 10% GTS tax. The wedding package includes the license and minister's fee, a small cake for 2-4 people, island bouquet, boutonniere, and basic floral arrangements.

Upon arranging your wedding at Victoria House, a \$575.00 non-refundable deposit is required. The deposit is non-refundable if the wedding is to cancel for any reason. If the wedding takes place according to plan the \$575 deposit will be applied towards the cost of the basic wedding package.

2) How large of wedding can the Victoria House host?

During our high season, we can accommodate groups up to 20 people. During low season, we accept larger group up to 30 guests. If your guest list exceeds these amounts please call our U.S. Reservations Office at 800-247-5159 for availability and additional requirements.

3) How many of my wedding guests will need to stay at the Victoria House for me to host my wedding at the hotel?

Since the Victoria House is a small hotel with a high level of service we require that all of your guests (100%) must stay at the hotel in order to host your wedding.

4) Do you require the wedding guests to stay a minimum number of nights at Victoria House?

The hotel does have a minimum night stay for all guests staying at the hotel. During the hotels Low Season there is a 3 night minimum stay, High Season has a 4 night minimum stay and Peak Season requires a 5 night minimum stay.

5) Who should my guests contact to reserve their rooms at the hotel?

As our resort is small, 42 rooms, space does fill up quickly. We can arrange a courtesy hold on rooms while family and friends make their travel plans. The hotel has a US Reservation office that will work closely with the bride and groom in reserving rooms and answering any wedding questions you may have. To make a reservation please call them using the toll free number of 800.247.5159.

6) How many days will you hold my wedding guests room while they make their travel plans?

The reservation office will do a courtesy hold on rooms for 45 days. After 45 days we will release the rooms and will accept reservations from your guests

based on availability, but please remember that a majority of your guests must stay at the hotel to host your wedding.

7) What type of a room deposit is required for weddings guests staying at Victoria House?

The hotel requires a 1-night deposit for all room types and full payment will be due 45 days (high & low season) or 90 days (peak season) prior to arrival at the hotel. Our change and refund policies apply to all weddings and guests of the wedding.

8) What is the average cost for food and drinks for the wedding reception?

The average cost for the food for the wedding reception depends if you want a Beach BBQ or a sit down dinner. The Beach BBQ will cost approximately \$60 to \$75 USD per guests. A sit down dinner ranges anywhere between \$60 - \$75 the price will include a complete dinner of an appetizer, salad or up, an entrée and a selection of tea or coffee. Please add 10% sales tax and 20% service charge. Depending on the size of your group and the events that are planned, set up fees may apply.

9) What are the different music options for both the ceremony and reception?

There are a couple of different music options for your wedding and reception. There is a wonderful Mayan Flutist by the name of Pablo Collado who can either appear solo at your wedding or accompanied by one or two musicians. Another wonderful option for music is a group called Will and Dale; they can serenade the bride down the aisle and play fun entertaining music at the reception. They are a couple of more musical options including a rock-n-roll band to a band that plays Belizean Punta music all of which can be arranged through the hotel.

10) Is there a person on the island that can style my hair for the wedding? If so, what is the average cost?

There is a hairdresser in town that will come to the hotel and style the brides hair along with any other person hair in the wedding party. The approximate cost for this service is \$125 USD.

11) Also, is there a shop on the island to receive a manicure and pedicure? If so, what is the average cost?

There are a couple of small spas on the island that do offer manicures and pedicures. The approximate cost is \$25 USD for a manicure and \$30 USD for a pedicure.

12) How many days do I need to be in Belize before getting married?

One of the parties getting married (either the bride or the groom) MUST be in the country 4 days prior to filing the petition of the license.

13) What types of documents do my fiancée and I need to bring with us to get married in Belize?

There are a couple of legal requirements for non-resident marriages in Belize. If neither parties have been married previously, the couple must complete a marriage license application form notarized by a J.P., a photocopy of the front two pages of your passport and page showing arrival date in Belize, and one of the parties must be in the country 3 days prior to filling the petition of the license. If either or both have been previously married before, you must complete all the requirements above and have a certified original of a final divorce decree. If either or both parties are a widow or widower, you must complete the same requirements as the non-previously married couples as well as have a certified copy of the original death certificate.

14) Are there professional photographers on the island?

There are three professional photographers on the island. BeliColor (belicolor@hotmail.com), Kay Scott (www.kayscott.com) and Oli Rusa (www.oliverarusuphoto.com)

15) Is there a wedding coordinator at the Victoria House that we will be working with?

There is a wedding coordinator at the hotel that will work with you in planning your perfect day.

16) Do you have a recommendation for a florist on the island? What flowers will the Victoria House provide? Should we book the florist now? Can we see pictures of sample bouquets or wedding suggested florists have done in the past?

The basic wedding package includes the bride's bouquet, one boutonniere and one floral arrangement. We have an in-house florist and all additional floral arrangements should be made with the wedding coordinator. We prefer to do the arrangements with our florist since we travel to Mexico and import the flowers. The orchids and ginger available in Belize are beautiful but there is not a large variety of flowers available in country. Upon request we would be happy to email photos of past bridal flowers.

17) We want to have a beach BBQ for the wedding reception. What does the price on the website include?

The price of \$75 USD is ONLY for food and does not include any beverages (alcohol and non-alcohol) or any set up fees that would apply

18) We would like to have a cocktail hour before the actual sit down wedding dinner. How does this work (i.e. costs for alcohol, open bar, bartender, hors d'oeuvres)?

We offer a menu of passed hors d'oeuvres that can be passed by waiters and also have tables set up as well so guests can help themselves. Pricing for the hors

d'oeuvres can be priced per person or per tray. Our Executive Chef will work with you in your menu selection as well as with your budget.

For an open bar, the hotel prefers to track the number of drinks consumed and bill for the bar tab after the event. We have a full service bar that offers great wines and champagnes to delicious selections of batch drinks of rum punch and margaritas to local beer.

19) Can you please let me know about flower pricing and how this is done?

We base the pricing of flowers based on your desires, such as would you like orchids, roses or is there some other special flower you have in mind. The pricing is also based on how many arrangements you would like, i.e. center pieces, large floor arrangements, and flowers for the mother of the bride and groom, bridesmaids, boutonnieres, etc. Finally, we will work with in your budget. On average a small bouquet of orchids for the bridesmaids would run \$45 USD per person; a normal tabletop arrangement of orchids costs approximately \$50 USD. The cost of flowers will vary depending if flowers from Mexico will have to be imported and season.

20) Where are some ideas for the actual wedding ceremony? Is there a gazebo? Maybe on the pier? We want a very casual ceremony (probably not with chairs). Has this been done before?

Ceremonies at the Victoria House are always beautiful. Usually, the bride and groom will decided on a spot for the ceremony after meeting with our wedding coordinator. Past ceremonies have taken place on the beach under the swaying palm trees, on the large lawn area, by the beachfront pool, and even on the hotel pier. Just know that any place that you choose will be beautiful.

21) What are the chairs like for the dinner tables? What about the tablecloths?

The chairs for the dinner tables inside the dining room are white wooden chairs with an off white full covering and a cushion on the bottom. T

22) Does the hotel provide candles for the tables?

The hotel does have candles, they go inside lampshades but if you want some special type of candle to use for the tables, we suggest bringing them down with you to the island.

23) Is there a sound system, which will allow us to play CDs that we bring outside?

We have a CD player in the bar and dining room. These players can be used outside since the CD players are portable. Please note that it is not a professional DJ system.

24) A good friend of our family is a federal judge and he will be at our wedding. He would like to conduct the wedding ceremony. Is this a possibility or do we need someone from Belize to officiate the wedding?

Your friend is welcome to officiate the whole ceremony. We would arrange for a Belizean co-officiate to stand next to your friend and then help you in signing all the paper work required by the Belizean Government to make your marriage legal in both the US and Belize.

25) Can our guests use ATM cards on the island? What are the names of the banks and where are they located? What is the best form of money to bring? Traveler's checks? Credit cards? Belizean money?

Unfortunately, both banks on the island do not have international ATM machines. There are two banks in the center of town, Belize Bank, Ltd and Atlantic Bank Ltd. They do offer cash advance on your credit cards, there is 5% service fee on the total amount advanced. US cash, traveler's checks and credit cards are accepted throughout the island. There is an exchange rate of \$2 BZE to \$1 USD. The hotel will also change your cash and traveler's checks at the front desk.

26) Are there bicycles that our wedding guests can use at the Victoria House? If not, do you know where they can rent them?

Currently the hotel has 24 complimentary bicycles for our guests. The bicycles do not have lights on them so they can only be used from 6:00AM to 6:00PM daily.

27) How many golf carts are at the Victoria House? Are our guests free to use them? If not, do you know where they can rent golf carts?

The hotel has golf carts for rent. There is a fee for using the golf carts and the fee is based on length of time, either by the hour, day or week. If more carts are needed at the hotel we can request more from the rental company.

28) Does the Victoria House have Internet access for our guests?

The hotel does have Internet access inside and around Admiral Nelson's Bar and beachfront pool. Please bring your own laptops.

29) Are guests allowed to ask the vans to take them to town or other places during the day? Is there a VH shuttle?

The hotel does offer a courtesy shuttle that starts at 10:30AM and every two hours after. The last shuttle into town would be at 6:30PM. We also offer a return shuttle on the hour beginning at 11:00AM and ending at 5:00PM. Our shuttle is a large golf cart that seats six people and is available to drop guests anywhere in town.

30) How does the bride pay for flowers, wedding reception, music, etc? Is this done when they check in or on departure? Is there a separate folio set-up to keep all wedding items together?

Initially, the only wedding item that will be paid for in advance is the \$1150 for the wedding package. All other items for the wedding and reception, i.e. music, food, flowers are paid for upon checkout.

31) What is the cost for the table linens, china, etc?

The price of dinner includes all use of china, linens, silverware, etc.

32) Who do I talk to about our option for food and beverage for the wedding reception or rehearsal dinner?

About eight (8) weeks out from your wedding you will begin talking to our Executive Chef via email. At that time, you will be decided more on your wedding menu, rehearsal menu or even your welcome to the island menu. We have a variety of options that can work with most budgets.

33) What is the average cost for a wedding cake at the Victoria House?

The cost of the cake does vary depending on size and decoration. To get an approximate cost of the total wedding cake, figure it to be \$8.50 USD per slice. So, a wedding cake for twenty (20) guests would be \$170 USD plus tax and service charge.

34) Are there any other fees I should know about?

Yes, there are additional set up fees that can range anywhere from \$250 to \$500 for the wedding ceremony, reception, etc. There could also possibly be a fee for chair and table rentals. The price for the rental starts at \$12 a chair plus taxes and freight services. The hotel, when customizing your event, determines these fees.