



Wedding budget guidelines

It is important to give some idea of the cost of a wedding at Villa Prati, and the following should be used as an approximate guideline only. However, it is extremely difficult to give an accurate budget for a wedding before holding detailed discussions, as the requirements of each couple differ.

Accommodation

Villa Prati is a property that will sleep 14 in 7 double bedded rooms. Two of the bedrooms are communicating with a shared bathroom and therefore suitable for a family with children. There are 5 bath or shower rooms in total - 4 ensuite, and one larger bathroom with bath and shower cabin on the first floor which is shared by guests staying in the 2 double bedrooms

The property has been designed to cater for the exclusive market, and is furnished to a very high standard including many antique pieces. Included in the price is a weekly clean, gardening and pool services but extra cleaning can be arranged at an extra cost.

The cost of your wedding includes one week's rental of Villa Prati for up to 14 people. The price is determined by the season, and ranges from €2500 in the low season to € 3950 in the high season months of July and August.

Wedding Location

The wedding itself can take place in the chiesa (chapel) - although could be held anywhere in the grounds if preferred. Alternatively you could choose the town hall in Mogliano (a beautiful ornate room). The wedding meal can take place in a number of areas of the grounds or the house, to be agreed in advance. We have a separate charge for the venue which covers a range of items:

- Preparation of the house and grounds to an appropriate standard for a wedding

- Wear and tear on the property as a result of hosting a wedding (guests, caterers, etc)
- Additional services used - water, electricity, gas for cooking
- Organisation of suppliers - caterers, gazebo company, florists, etc - all may arrive the day before to deliver, and return a day or so later to remove their property.
- Lighting options for the gazebo and grounds (such as oil torches, candles, fairy lights, etc)

The venue charge only covers the day of the wedding. If additional parties are required where the number of guests is likely to exceed the number of people staying at the villa, please ask us for a quotation. This will depend largely on numbers and the type of event.

The venue charge may be adjusted according to the number of guests, but will normally be between £700 -£1000

Wedding Planning

There are a number of costs associated with a wedding in Italy, and the planning and administration costs vary according to the needs of the couple. For example, if the couple speaks fluent Italian, there will be no need for an interpreter at the ceremony that will result in a reduced cost.

Our wedding planner Daniela De Luca will personally liaise with you to understand what your requirements are and provide a personalized quote for you based on your requirements.

Wedding dinner

This is obviously a very flexible part of the budget, and much depends on personal preferences. Wedding dinners in Italy are very elaborate affairs, with menus that take several hours to eat your way through. At the top end, therefore, we have the typical Italian wedding dinner, with finger antipasti immediately following the ceremony outside the front of the house. This is served with Champagne or Prosecco.

The main antipasti course is served on the pool terrace, with guests able to choose for themselves from a vast array of choices of cold meats, fish, vegetables and salads. This part of the meal is normally eaten informally at tables around the grounds, swimming pool and lawns.

Dinner is usually served about 2 hours after the ceremony ends (in the height of summer, the best time for the ceremony is late afternoon / early evening), and is served at beautifully laid tables on the main terrace at the back of the property. This is a far more formal part of the meal, with silver service throughout. There are normally at least another 4 or 5 courses during this part of the meal.

The cost for a meal such as the one described above would be around £75-100 per head, all wine included. If you require any particular wines, or French Champagne (as opposed to the very good Italian equivalent), there would be an extra charge.

The above price is for the ultimate wedding dinner, and there are lots of alternative and cheaper options that we can discuss. For example, dinner could be a much simpler but equally formal meal (fewer courses) for around £60 per head, or could be a buffet, a barbecue or a simple pasta meal. There are no hidden costs in the quote, and prices include all table settings, waiter service, etc.

Entertainment

You may be interested in music during the ceremony, during dinner, or dancing in the evening. Again, there are numerous choices to be made. But in terms of examples, you should budget around £700 if you would like a string quartet to play during the ceremony and dinner, and a further £6-700 for evening entertainment with a live band and disco. Just a disco would be a lower price, and some people prefer to record all their favorite tracks onto an i-pod which can simply be connected to speakers.

Flowers

Flowers will normally be needed for the church and for table decorations, plus any bouquets for the bride and bridesmaids, buttonholes for the groom, best man, ushers etc. Depending on the choice of flowers and the number of bouquets and buttonholes, a budget of around £700-£9000 would be sufficient. Again, there are lower cost options, depending on the type of flowers required, the number of table decorations, etc.

Photographer

This covers such a wide range of options that it is difficult to give an accurate cost here. There is an excellent local photographer, who creates lovely and unusual albums. Depending on your requirements, he would cost from £1000. Of course, it depends whether you want the photographer for the whole day or just for the ceremony, the style and type of photographs that you will require after the wedding, including album and enlargements etc. It also depends whether a video is required. With so many options to choose from it is better that we discuss this with you first, and then offer a range of prices. We can also arrange for a photographer to come from England, and the costs would be similar.

Marque

The weather in Italy during the summer months is usually pretty reliable. However, it does normally rain once or twice a month even in the hottest months of the year. If you are having quite a large party of people, we would recommend getting a marquee - or gazebo as they call them here.

These are quite elegant, and not at all like the English version with the frilly pink drapes. The sides can be tied back throughout the meal if the weather is good - so it also gives protection from the sun, and in the evening it is lit inside so makes the dinner a more romantic affair.

A gazebo costs around £15 per square metre for the basic design, and normally the minimum size would be around 64 square metres (8 x 8), which is fine for up to 40 people, but a gazebo that will seat 100 people can also be accommodated. If there are less people than this, we can always set up alternative eating locations within the house in the unlikely event of bad weather.

Additional considerations

If some of your guests are staying at local hotels, you may want to consider arranging transport to and from the wedding. Taxis and small minibuses can be arranged. If they do wish to find accommodation at hotels, prices vary but are still very reasonable. You should allow about £50 per couple per night for a local small hotel, to around £80 per couple per night for somewhere with more facilities.

Similarly, some of your guests who are staying at villa Prati may not wish to hire a car, and transport will need to be arranged from the airport. We can organize transport from any airport – but it does become expensive if people are arriving at destinations other than Ancona. Transport from Ancona airport via taxi is currently about £80 per trip with 3–4 passengers. The taxi company does have a larger vehicle that will seat 8 plus driver. The cost is around £10 extra for this vehicle.

If you would like to have dinner on the eve of the wedding, a good local restaurant can be booked, or dinner could be arranged here at Villa Prati. Costs vary considerably (from pizzas to a gourmet meal) but you should allow anything from £15 to £50 per head – depending on the choice of event.

An Italian custom is to give each guest a *bomboniera* – a small gift box usually containing sugared almonds. These normally cost under £1.50 each – but of course, you can have very elaborate ones in cut glass!

During dinner, drinks will be provided.

If, however, you want additional drinks to be available after dinner, you will need to consider the cost of these drinks. We are not able to have a paid bar, but we can provide the drinks and people to serve them to your guests. In this instance, we will just charge for the cost of the drinks, plus one or two staff to serve (around £75 per waiter for the night).

Exchange rate

The above prices are all quoted in Sterling as we have converted them from the Euro equivalent. However, current fluctuations in the exchange rate may have some impact on the prices quoted.

When we issue a formal quotation, we will calculate the exchange rate at that time in order to give you the most up to date price, and will also quote in Euros for your information.

Other services

There may be other services that you require, such as a beautician, hairdresser, printing of orders of service, place names, Champagne breakfast on the day of the wedding, etc. A list of things to consider is included in our questionnaire. However, we hope that the above outline helps you to identify an approximate budget, and make some of the many decisions involved in planning your perfect wedding.