

Oasis Farm Waterloo Event FAQ's

Barn

How big is the Barn?

The outside walls of the barn are 23m x 12m. There is a classroom space in the east corner of the barn and a large storage cupboard across from it however and they take out some space. Oasis Farm Waterloo can supply you with a scale floorplan to help you work out arrangements.

Are there rules on decorating?

We don't allow non-organic confetti (so flower-petals and paper is fine but glitter (even bio-glitter) is not). There may be an extra cleaning charge if you use non-organic confetti. Outside of that there are not very many rules, if you'd like to affix something to a beam or a wall we just ask that you check with us first, usually it's totally fine we just might recommend which fixing you use.

Do tables and chairs come with the hire?

We have 15 tables (240cm x 88cm) and 150 chairs. You can easily get 8 people around a table, 10 if they're happy being a little closer together.

Do hay bales come with the hire?

We pretty much always have bales of straw and hay in the barn. These have been used at lots of events to create seating and as decoration. The exact number we have depends on how much the goats and sheep eat, however, if you'd particularly like to have a certain number at your event we can usually order a few extra to facilitate that. We need 2 weeks notice to work in with our order cycle.

Does lighting come with the hire?

There are ambient downlights in the barn. If you'd like to add your own lights to this you are more than welcome to, we can provide you with a map of the power outlets in the barn to assist your planning.

What is the capacity of the barn?

The barn holds 150 people seated, 200 standing. These numbers don't account for social distancing guidelines, please check in with the farm events co-ordinator to confirm current COVID-safe capacities in the space.

Are there any other spaces, beyond the barn, that my group could use to break out into smaller groups?

The barn is our main space, and it is BIG, we think if you wanted to break out into smaller groups it could be managed by moving to different corners of the barn. If it's a good day there's also space in our garden that you could use. However, we don't have any additional smaller rooms.

Is the barn licensed to conduct legal weddings?

The barn is not. Couples who celebrate their wedding with us also have to visit a registry office to conduct the legal part of the wedding. Some couples do this a few days before, some the morning of their celebration with us. This gives you the freedom to have exactly the ceremony you want in the barn though, with only the vows you want and conducted by whoever feels right for you.

Sound

As mentioned in our brochure, we have a 10pm hard cut off for amplified music due to our residential neighbours.

Are there work-arounds for the noise cut off?

Not really. In order to stay friends with our neighbours we are pretty serious about this one. We also monitor sound levels during the event to make sure we're running sociably. However, there are creative options around this. Previous events have run a silent disco at 10pm or led a procession to an after party in a local pub.

Can I have a Spotify playlist after 10pm?

We don't want the vibe to die at 10pm, so yes. A playlist that is at a level that people can talk over after 10pm is totally fine. This means you keep your

atmosphere going and usually this is the part of the night where people drift out to the fire pit.

What AV/sound equipment do you have on site?

We have a small PA system, that can easily handle a playlist from a phone or laptop. We also have a couple of microphones to help with speeches/presentations. There is a large screen TV (HDMI or USB connection) which is included in the hire, if you have slides or photos you would like to present.

Bar

Can I bring my own drinks to serve to my friends?

Sure! We charge a corkage fee of £3 per head. You're welcome to use our bar set up. (high bar & drinks fridge) and either set out drinks or co-opt a friend into serving them for you. If you'd like to have a member of the farm team serve drinks we can organise that, staffing costs are outlined below. The only thing you can't do is set up and run your own cash bar.

We call last drinks at 10pm. We then have licensed drinking up time until 11pm.

Firepit

Is the fire pit included in the hire?

It sure is. Quite a few events like to just light the fire and hand out marshmallows rather than doing a big dessert.

Do I have to bring my own firewood?

Usually no. One of the activities we do in our outreach programmes with young people is firewood chopping so usually there is plenty ready to go. However this can be seasonal so we don't guarantee it. Check with your event co-ordinator once you have a date locked in to be sure.

Garden

Are my guests allowed to explore the garden?

They sure are. We usually have signs up explaining what's growing and staff members are happy to answer questions about how the garden is getting on.

Are there wet weather options in the garden?

There are not. If it is raining the only place that can keep a decent amount of people out of the wet is the barn. If you'd like you are welcome to hire marquees to cover over the picnic area.

Animals

Can my guests meet the animals?

Absolutely! Our animals are all pretty used to interacting with humans and will happily come up to the gates for a scratch or a treat. The venue supervisor can also help introduce smaller guests (and bigger ones!) to the animals during a quieter point in the event.

Which animals do you have on site?

We always have chickens, guinea pigs and goats. Other animals cycle in from time to time from our partner Jamies' Farms. Sometimes there are sheep, or pigs, or even piglets!

Toilets

How many toilets are on site?

We have one compost system toilet on site. For events of 80 people or more we need to hire in additional portable toilets so the queues don't get too big. Basic portable toilets are £250 for one, £350 for two. If you'd like the posher trailer style portable toilets we can arrange these at an extra cost.

Kitchen

Can I use the kitchen to cook for my guests?

Our kitchen is largely set up for our outreach groups to work in. It's not a commercial kitchen and can't cope with being the main kitchen for a large event. However, you are welcome to use it as a space to finish off/plate up dishes as

long as it's returned clean to us at the end of the night. Caterers have also previously brought in additional equipment in order to work large scale cooking on site and we're happy to talk to whoever is doing your catering to see if we can support this for your event.

Can I keep this cheeseboard in your fridge?

On the day of your event you definitely can! We have a lot of groups and volunteers moving through the space during the week so it's not good to leave things here during that time however we're more than happy to help out with space where we can.

Can I keep this ice in your freezer?

Depending on how much ice, sure you can. We have a large domestic freezer on site and there's usually room for a couple of bags of ice.

Timings/ drop offs

What time can I come in to set up?

Most hires start at either 9am or 4pm. You can come in to set up as soon as your hire period starts. Occasionally we can negotiate early access, we're very happy to chat through what your specific event needs are.

What time do we have to be off-site by?

Most hires finish at either 4pm or Midnight. That's the time you need to be offsite by.

Can we extend the booking?

Only by prior arrangement. There is a £50 fee per half hour you run over your agreed hire period. We're very open to working out a specific booking period for you if our standard slots don't fit your event.

Can I get something delivered in the week before the event?

Usually yes. During the week our priority is our outreach programmes which run through school hours. If you want to drop something off yourself it's usually pretty easy to fit it in when a staff member is on site and free. Deliveries can be a

little trickier to work but we will do our best to facilitate it for you. Anything stored on site will be at your own risk (though we will look after it with the same care as we look after our own equipment.)

Can I pick up something the day after the event?

Generally this is fine. As long as it's stored out of the way after the event and it doesn't contain any food.

Staff

How many Oasis staff will be there on the day?

Every hire has a dedicated venue supervisor at it. Their first responsibility is the health and safety of you, your guests and the animals. Provided everything is going smoothly, they're also on hand to introduce the animals, answer gardening questions and help with set up/pack down.

Can I hire more staff?

You can! We have a number of event staff who are available to help out with your event. They can run the bar, help check guests in at the door, assist with technical set ups and assist with set ups, pack downs, and change overs. Our staff cost £16.50 per hour and can be hired for a minimum of 2 hours. We just add the cost onto your final invoice.

Can the staff serve drinks/ food to my guests?

Absolutely. If you're looking at ordering your own bar stock you can just hire our staff to make sure all your guest's glasses are kept topped up. They're also very happy to assist with serving canapés.

Catering

Do I have to use specific caterers?

Not at all. We've hosted everything from food trucks to full scale dinners and even once a massive Dominos order. We're happy for you to organise whatever food best suits your event.

Do you recommend caterers?

We can if you would like, there's a few companies we've worked with that we reckon are really awesome. They also come with the bonus of already knowing how to work easily on our site. Just let us know if you'd like a recommendation.

Can I have a food truck?

You sure can! There's a good pitch for them on our driveway or a food stall usually fits well on our patio area. It is important though, that you connect us with your food truck beforehand. That way we can make sure we've got the clearance for them on site as well as checking power needs.

Access

Is your site wheelchair accessible?

We are designed to be fully wheelchair accessible. We have ramps to enter the barn on both sides and the spacing of our garden beds has been worked out so everyone is able to enjoy them. Our toilet is also designed to be accessible, with space to turn and handrails. If you'd like pictures of anything ahead of time to assist any guests with access needs we're more than happy to get them to you.

Help! My question isn't here!

No troubles, just email farm@oasiswaterloo.org and we'll get an answer to you as soon as we can.