

Frequently Asked Questions

General

- **I am ready to book the John Oliver Michael House! How do I secure my wedding date?**
We require 1/3 of the total package price to secure the date plus a \$500 deposit to Twigs Catering. Two months prior to the event, the second payment is due. Ten days prior to the event the final payment is due. All payments are non-refundable. We also require a \$500 damage deposit, in the form of a separate check, due 10 days prior to your wedding. The damage deposit is refundable post-event. A signed contract, proposal and policies/procedures sheet must accompany your first payment. Twig's Catering requires a final guest count and 50% of your total 14 days prior and final payment on the day of your event.
- **I really want to book the John Oliver Michael House but was wondering if you could hold my date for me?**
We are not able to hold wedding dates for an extended amount of time. If we have already prepared a contract and proposal for you, we ask that you prepare to book your date within one week of receiving your paperwork via email.
- **How many weddings do you host per day?**
The JOMH hosts one wedding per day.
- **What is the maximum capacity of the John Oliver Michael House?**
The John Oliver Michael House can accommodate up to 300 guests for an outdoor wedding ceremony and reception. For weddings with more than 150 guests, the JOMH requires the rental of a tent and additional equipment to accommodate a guest list of over 150. We do not own tents, they are all rented from an outside company and added to your Basic Wedding Package.
- **I am having 150 guests or less. Do I have to rent a tent?**
No. For 150 guests or less, you are not required to rent a tent.
- **How many guests can you seat in "Oliver's"?**
We can seat up to 110 guests in "Oliver's" and still have room for a buffet, dance floor, cake, drink station, favor table, etc. We can also seat up to 32 guests on the patio of "Oliver's." Oliver's can seat up to 150 guests for a full sit-down dinner without an area for a dance floor.
- **What happens if it rains on my wedding day?**
If the weather forecast is calling for rain on the day of your event, and you are planning an outdoor ceremony, there are many "back up plans" that you can choose from in order to keep your guests happy and dry! Your Event Specialist will talk you through all of the options you may choose from and help you to make the best decision for your wedding day. Depending on the number of guests, you can either have your ceremony in front of our antique brick fireplace in "Oliver's" or outdoors under a tent.
- **What if I would like to have my ceremony offsite at another location?**
For receptions only, we take \$500 off of the total package price. If you would like our Event Specialist to coordinate your wedding ceremony offsite, we can do so for an additional fee.
- **Do you have any policies and procedures that we have to abide by when renting the JOMH?** Yes, our policies and procedures sheet must be signed and agreed upon at the time of booking.

Coordinating

- **Do you provide a wedding coordinator or do we need to provide one for our event?**
Yes. The JOMH provides an Event Specialist to work with you throughout your planning. The basic wedding package includes three planning consultations and direction on the wedding day and at the wedding rehearsal. We do offer Signature Weddings as well, which are described below.
- **What are the Event Specialist's business hours and when can we have our planning consultations?**
All planning consultations with your Event Specialist may be held Monday - Friday from 9 am to 5 pm, by appointment only. Saturday consultations are limited and are on a first come, first serve basis.. Sunday consultations are not available. All consultations must be scheduled at least one week in advance. Additional consultations may be added to the Basic Wedding Package for \$50.
- **What happens if the Event Specialist cannot be at my wedding due to unforeseen circumstances?**
If our Event Specialist cannot attend your event, the JOMH will provide you with another qualified professional who is an experienced wedding coordinator and who has coordinated weddings at the JOMH. You will meet this person at the final consultation.
- **Does the JOMH have a recommended vendor list or can I provide my own vendors?**
The JOMH will provide you with a list of recommended vendors at your first consultation with our Event Specialist; however, you are more than welcome to bring in vendors of your choice. If you choose to use an outside caterer, we charge a fee of \$250.00
- **What is a Signature Wedding?**
A Signature Wedding is an all-inclusive planning package for your wedding. Our Event Specialist will work very closely with you, our Signature Bride, to design a wedding based on your style, budget and personal desires. We use the relationships we have made with the very best wedding professionals to provide you with the wedding of your dreams! We can be in charge of one vendor or we can be in charge of everything. The more you give to us, the easier the planning is on you! Our Signature Brides will meet with their Event Specialist on a monthly basis, or as needed. We will take care of helping you choose, book and secure your vendors and will work with your vendors throughout the planning process to design the wedding of your dreams. We will save you time, money and most importantly stress!
- **How much does a Signature Wedding Cost?**
The cost of a Signature Wedding is different for every bride based on their personal preferences and the desires for their wedding. We charge a 20% service fee based on the total cost of the vendors we provide plus an additional coordinator fee to cover the additional consultations and time spent planning your wedding day.
- **What time can our vendors begin to arrive on the wedding day?**
We do not have a certain time that vendors can begin arriving on the wedding day. Because each timeline is different, we are very flexible in allowing your vendors to come at the time that is most appropriate for your wedding and convenient for all involved.

Catering

- **Does the JOMH have an in-house caterer?**
Yes, Twigs Catering is our in-house caterer. For menu options and for more information about Twigs Catering, please visit our website.
- **Can I have a tasting with Twig's Catering?**
Twigs Catering hosts a spectacular tasting each season of the year. The cost of a tasting is \$15.00 per guest and are held at the home of Patsy and Robert McLocklin (owners of Twig's Catering.) You will be able to try a selection of food that is chosen by the caterer.
- **Can we bring in our own caterer?**
No, we do not allow outside caterers to work at the John Oliver Michael House.
- **Can we provide our own alcohol?**
Yes, you can buy and provide your own alcohol. All weddings serving alcohol are required to have a bartender. The JOMH will refer you to a bartender, and prefers having a bartender who has worked at the JOMH in the past. The bartender will be responsible for setting up, cleaning up and serving the guests.

Equipment

- **How many tables do you own?**
We have (11) 5 Foot Round tables, (11) 4 Foot Rounds, (4) DJ tables and (4) 6' rectangular buffet tables. We also own (6) hi-boy tables two of which can be turned in to a short cocktail table. Any other tables needed for an event must be rented and the cost will be added to your Basic Wedding Package.
- **How many guests can sit at each round?**
You can seat 8 guests at the 5' round and 6 guests at the 4' round. If additional seating is needed and there are not pre-set items on the tables, the tables can accommodate up to 10 guests at a 5' round and 8 guests at a 4' round.
- **What kind of linens and chairs do you provide?**
The Basic Wedding Package provides you with white floor length linens on all tables that we provide. We also have a variety of specialty overlays that can be used if desired. The chairs are white padded wooden wedding chairs. The John Oliver Michael House also offers specialty linens, chavari chairs, chair covers, chair ties and more at an additional cost!
- **What other additional equipment do you have onsite that I can use on my wedding day?**
We have a large variety of clear glassware that is commonly used for centerpieces. We have cake stands, flower pedestals, stand-up heaters, a stainless steel bar and a stainless steel cooler on wheels. All of this equipment is available to you at NO additional cost. All equipment is not guaranteed to be available on the day of your event since items may get misplaced.
- **If I am having over 150 guests, how do I go about renting a tent and additional equipment?**
Your Event Specialist will help you decide what size tent you need and will take care of all of the rental details for you.

Miscellaneous

- **When can I have my ceremony rehearsal?**
Most Saturday weddings host their ceremony rehearsal on the eve before their wedding. If we have an event at that time, we must work around the time of the event.
- **How long will the rehearsal take?**
Once everyone arrives, the rehearsal will take one hour. If weather disrupts the event, or if we need to practice the rain plan, the rehearsal may take 15 minutes longer.
- **Who needs to attend the rehearsal?**
Those who have any part in the wedding processional or ceremony need to attend the rehearsal. This includes grandparents, parents, ushers, bridesmaids, groomsmen, honor attendants, musicians, officiates and readers. If someone is unable to attend, they will need to arrive to the ceremony one hour prior to the ceremony to speak with the coordinator in advance.
- **Can I have my rehearsal dinner at the JOMH?**
Yes. For an additional fee, you may have your rehearsal dinner at the JOMH. Please ask our Event Specialist for ideas to make your rehearsal dinner have a completely different look and style as your wedding day.
- **My musicians will charge me an additional fee to attend the rehearsal. Do they have to be there?**
If your musicians are professional wedding vendors, their attendance is not required at the rehearsal. It is not necessary for deejays, strings, harpists and other musicians who are on our recommended vendor list to attend the rehearsal.
- **Where can I find driving directions to the JOMH?**
You may find driving directions on our website at <http://www.johnolivermichaelhouse.com/contactus.htm>
- **Do you offer discounts for weddings that are not held on a Saturday?**
No, we do not offer discounts for weddings that are not held on a Saturday.
- **Does the JOMH provide decorations for the holiday season?**
Yes. We do provide minimal decor during the holiday season.
- **I am a photographer and I love your location. Can I bring my clients there for a photo session?**
There is no fee for a bride who is getting married at the JOMH to have her bridal or engagement portraits taken by any photographer. We charge a \$75 fee for family or children photography sessions at the John Oliver Michael House. We reserve bridal and engagement sessions for brides who are getting married at the John Oliver Michael House.