

10 venues with a TWIST

From art galleries and museums to hospitals and boats, there are plenty of options for couples looking for a venue with a difference



1 ARTIST'S BEACH HOUSE, KENT

If seaside ambiance is your thing, look no further than this charming clapperboard house on a popular stretch of coastline in Kent. Built in 1906 with New England-style features, it can host intimate civil wedding ceremonies on the sea-facing veranda or – if the weather's chilly – by the log fire in the sitting room. **Capacity:** Up to 60 for the ceremony and 80 for the wedding breakfast. **Contact:** uniquhomestays.com.

2 HMS WARRIOR 1860, HAMPSHIRE

If you're looking for a venue that's a little out of the ordinary, invite your guests to step aboard HMS Warrior. Launched in 1860, the vessel was the pride of Queen Victoria's fleet and Britain's first iron-hulled armoured warship. Now it rests majestically in Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard, serving as a ship museum, visitor attraction and private venue. Ceremonies can be held at 11am, 2pm or 5.15pm, either in the Captain's Cabin or on the Officer's Half Deck, which will be shut off to members of the general public for the duration of the ceremony. **Capacity:** Up to 100 for the ceremony and up to 288 for the wedding breakfast. **Contact:** hmswarrior.org/weddings.

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CHECK THE SMALL PRINT...
Many more out-of-the-ordinary wedding venues come with restrictions, so check before you sign on the dotted line.

5 THE GREAT HALL AT ST BARTS HOSPITAL, LONDON

Situated on the first floor of the North Wing, The Great Hall is the hospital's main event space and perfect for wedding receptions. Built in the 1700s, the venue's original purpose was as a grand location for meetings and banquets. Particularly



impressive is the hall's ornate ceiling is the only known English work of craftsman Jean Baptiste St Michele. **Capacity:** Up to 190 for a wedding breakfast. **Contact:** bartshhealth.nhs.uk.

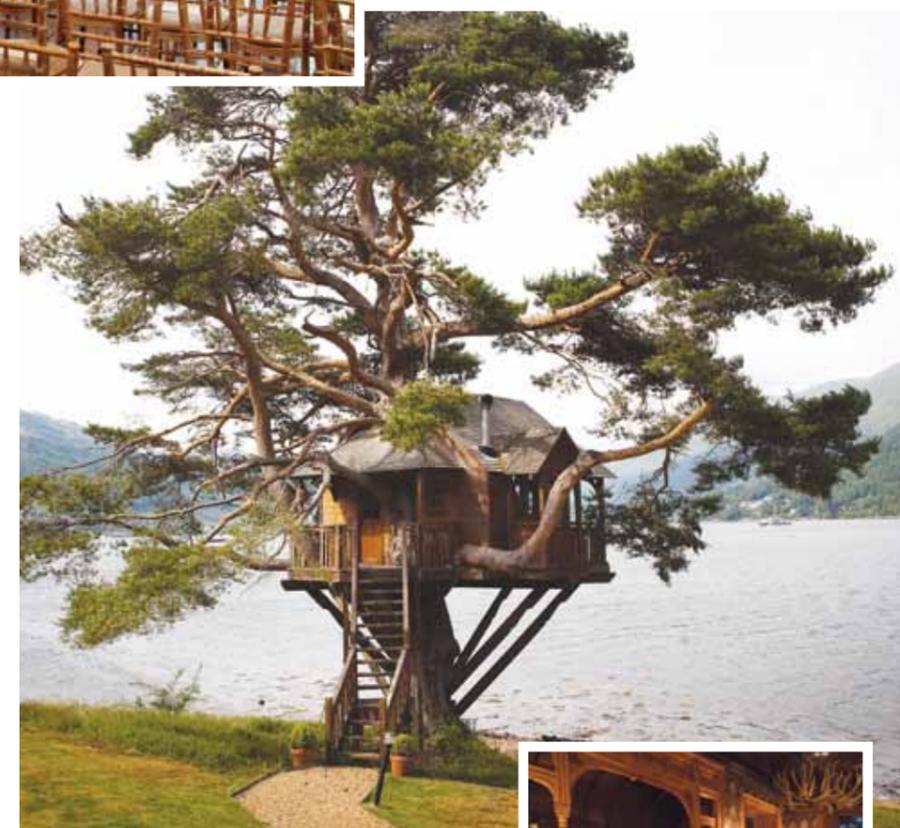
3 THE ICA, LONDON

Contemporary couples will love London's Institute of Contemporary Arts on The Mall. The Grade I-listed building is a vibrant venue and the first floor is home to the Nash and Brandon rooms where guests can dine among elegant Regency features and sip Champagne while admiring views of Big Ben and the London Eye from one of three balconies. **Capacity:** Up to 84 guests for the ceremony and wedding breakfast. **Contact:** ica.org.uk.



4 THE SCOTCH WHISKY EXPERIENCE, EDINBURGH

Whisky lovers should book this venue for their blessing or reception, which has a number of function rooms (unlicensed). For an intimate reception you can even hire the Whisky Collection room, which houses the world's largest private collection. **Capacity:** Up to 100 for a wedding breakfast. **Contact:** scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk.



6 THE TREEHOUSE AT THE LODGE ON LOCH GOIL, SCOTLAND

The Lodge is an exclusive-use venue situated on the Cowal Peninsula, a region of spectacular beauty with Highland hills, glens and lochs in the west of Scotland. Its enchanting treehouse is licensed for weddings and sits in a treetop overlooking the loch. You can also host an intimate dinner for eight guests. **Capacity:** Up to 24 for the ceremony and up to eight guests for a wedding breakfast in The Treehouse. The Lodge can cater for up to 70 guests for a reception. **Contact:** thelodge-scotland.com.





7 NASH POINT LIGHTHOUSE, SOUTH WALES

One of the few operational lighthouses in the UK where couples can marry, Nash Point is on the Vale of Glamorgan Heritage Coast and offers a beautiful and unique location for an intimate ceremony for up to 25 guests. There are also holiday cottages on site so, if you wish, you can stay on for your honeymoon too! **Capacity:** *Up to 25 guests for the ceremony.*
Contact: *trinityhouse.co.uk.*



8 THE EDEN PROJECT, CORNWALL

Forget jetting off to the tropics, you can have the same backdrop right here in Cornwall. The Eden Project holds wedding ceremonies in its Rainforest Biome and the Mediterranean Biome, where you can also hold a barbecue banquet reception afterwards. **Capacity:** *Up to 150 for the ceremony and up to 120 for a wedding breakfast (in the Mediterranean Biome).* **Contact:** *edenproject.com*



9 CLEY WINDMILL, NORFOLK

The ground floor of Cley Windmill includes a magnificent circular sitting room with a roaring open fire, which is licensed for wedding ceremonies. Couples can also book all of the B&B rooms and the self-catering cottage for up to 18 or 20 guests and then dine in the atmospheric candlelit beamed dining room, part of the original warehouse built in 1713. **Capacity:** *Up to 22 for a wedding ceremony.* **Contact:** *cleywindmill.co.uk.*



10 THE GREAT NORTH MUSEUM, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

All of the rooms at the Great North Museum are licensed for wedding ceremonies, so whether you choose an intimate service around the resident T-Rex, an extravagant celebration for hundreds in the Special Exhibition Space, or a summer drinks reception in the Clore suite, you can find the perfect place to say "I do". **Capacity:** *Up to 500 guests for the ceremony and wedding breakfast.*
Contact: *greatnorthmuseum.org.uk.*