

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I already have a florist, wedding planner, or someone to make my wedding cake?

Blue Ribbon's Wedding Packages are entirely customized and based on your needs and desires. If your friend is a florist and wants to help with flowers, we will adjust your wedding package so that the floral component is not included by Weddings at Blue Ribbon. Likewise, if you have a favorite pastry chef that you want to create your wedding cake, we will adjust your wedding package so that the cake is not included by Weddings at Blue Ribbon. Any decoration not provided by Blue Ribbon will need to be set-up and taken down by the bride/groom, family members or friends. Blue Ribbon would be more than happy to help with set-up and break down, however an additional fee may apply. Weddings by Blue Ribbon would be more than happy to set out any special wedding keepsakes that the bride and groom have provided (examples: cake cutting knife, toasting glasses, guest book, favors and escort cards).

What times are available for weddings/receptions?

Blue Ribbon only executes one wedding per day. This allows our wedding planning team plenty of time to customize the facility for your wedding. It also allows the bride and groom plenty of time to primp and prepare in our dressing room. Your wedding and/or reception can begin whatever time of day you would like. We have no "set in stone" start and end times for weddings at Blue Ribbon. Our standard wedding package includes 5 hours of event time.

Can your Blue Ribbon Catering accommodate dietary needs, special requests, or prepare tradition cultural dishes?

Indeed! Blue Ribbon specializes in custom catering. We have a strong team of diverse culinary professionals each specializing in different types of cuisine. In addition, we have culinary professionals on staff who routinely prepare full course menus based on dietary needs and restrictions.

Do you have an outside area to your facility?

Blue Ribbon has a small charming deck over the water that can accommodate 40 guests standing or 20 guests seated at tables. It boasts views of the space needle, Gas Works Park, and a breathtaking sunset silhouette of the Aurora bridge. Our deck is perfect for a summer cocktail bar or for guests to sit and visit over small bistro tables. Blue Ribbon also has a outdoor ceremony area in front of our building. This area can accommodate up to 200 guests for ceremony viewing. All ceremonies taking place at one of our outdoor locations in front of the venue will need to apply for a permit no later than 8 weeks prior to the wedding date.

Where can guests park when they arrive at Blue Ribbon?

Blue Ribbon has a large complimentary public parking lot directly in front of the facility.

Is your facility wheelchair accessible?

Yes, our entire 5200-square foot facility is on ground level with spacious entryways to each room.

Can Blue Ribbon provide the alcohol?

Yes, if your wedding is onsite at Blue Ribbon we have multiple bar packages for you to choose from. If Blue Ribbon will be traveling offsite to another venue for your wedding we require that all alcoholic beverages are provided by the client. Delivery of alcohol to offsite weddings will need to be arranged between the client and the venue.

Can we bring our own wine, beer, alcohol or champagne?

Yes, our package is completely customized to your desires and needs. If you wish to “bring your own” you are more than welcome. There is a \$5 corkage fee per bottle of wine brought into the venue and no charge for beer and champagne.

Do you require a bartender to be hired?

When serving wine and bottled beer you are more than welcome to have a self serve bar. If mixed drinks and kegs are being served we require a staffed bartender. Your guest count will determine the number of bartenders needed. If your wedding is off-site at another venue we will need to follow their requirements.

Do you allow outside bartenders?

Unfortunately we do not allow outside bartenders. All bartenders must be staffed through Blue Ribbon.

How many guests can Blue Ribbon accommodate?

Our facility can accommodate up to 200 of your closest friends and family members.

Is Blue Ribbon accessible by boat?

Indeed it is. We have a large dock on the North side of the facility that guests have both arrived and departed from. One wedding couple departed the wedding in this manner. Another has arranged for a seaplane to pick them up at the end of their reception and fly them off into the sunset. The possibilities are endless for those with some creative whimsy and a bit of gall.

How far are you from downtown Seattle?

Depending upon exactly where you are downtown, Blue Ribbon is 2 to 3 miles, 5 to 10 minutes travel time in most cases.

Do you have a dressing room for the bride, bridesmaids, groom, etc.?

Blue Ribbon has a private dressing room/lounge for the bride and her bridal party that is accessible at 11am on the morning of the wedding.

Do you have any restrictions for send offs at the end of the wedding?

Because our venue is located in a residential area we require that all outside send offs take place no later than 10:00pm. If you would like to have a send off later than 10:00pm we would be happy to accommodate the send off inside the lobby. We do not allow any food products to be thrown such as rice or bird seed. If any items will be thrown outside or in the lobby there will be a \$30 clean up fee. Sparklers are allowed outside before 10:00pm, however we do require a \$75 clean up fee. We kindly ask that all special send offs are approved with your wedding planner in advance.

Can we schedule a ceremony rehearsal with Blue Ribbon and is there a fee?

We would be happy to schedule a rehearsal with the bride, groom and wedding party. Rehearsals are not included in the All-inclusive wedding package and will be an additional fee. If your ceremony is taking place at Blue Ribbon there is a \$250 charge to reserve the ceremony room. If your wedding ceremony will take place off-site at another location there is a \$75 fee to have your planner come off-site for the rehearsal. Rehearsals will need to be scheduled no earlier than 6 weeks before the wedding. Dates and times of rehearsals will depend on venue availability.

Can we drop off items before the wedding?

Yes, you are welcome to drop off items the week of the wedding (Monday-Thursday). Since we have limited storage space at our venue we do not allow any drop offs earlier than a week before the wedding. All drop offs must be scheduled with your wedding planner and include an inventory of all the items you are dropping off. If your wedding will be taking place at an offsite venue please talk to your planner about drop off options.

What are your clean up requirements at the end of the wedding?

Weddings by Blue Ribbon will take care of all the clean up after the event. If you have arranged to bring in any special décor we kindly ask that a family member or friend help with the break down and removal of the decorations. Your wedding planner will be happy to package up any bridal keepsakes at the end of the wedding. All items brought into the venue including decorations and alcohol must be removed the night of the wedding.

What happens if we need to change the seating arrangements prior to the wedding?

All wedding details need to be finalized two weeks before the wedding. A final meeting will be arranged between the bride, groom and wedding planner. We understand that there is a possibility for last minute additions. Any additions can easily be accommodated as long as you notify your planner of these changes.

What if we plan an outdoor ceremony and it rains?

During the planning process we will be happy to create a backup plan in case of rain. If you would prefer not to move the ceremony inside, Weddings by Blue Ribbon can have tents and white umbrellas available to rent. If you choose to have tents or umbrellas available we must be notified no later than 48 hours before the wedding.

Does Blue Ribbon have an aisle runner available for use and are there restrictions?

Yes, we do. Weddings by Blue Ribbon owns one 30 foot carpet aisle runner that is available for use. We do have a few restrictions when using the runner. If the wedding ceremony is outside there is a \$50 cleaning fee to use the runner. If it is raining or the ground is wet the aisle runner may not be used outside. Only silk flower petals may be tossed on the runner.