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Weddings and Civil Partnerships

Last Modified February 24, 2021



- For general advice on booking a civil ceremony, please go to the end of this page
- If you have been contacted by your venue to postpone your ceremony, please contact us at your earliest convenience

Customer information regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) updated 24 February 2021

On Monday 22 February 2021 the Prime Minister announced a road map out of the national lockdown that will affect ceremonies.

The Government has announced that ceremonies are able to resume on the following dates at the earliest:

- **12 April 2021 onwards** - where a total group of **15 people can attend** (including the couple and witnesses)
- **17 May 2021 onwards** - where a total group of **30 people can attend** (including the couple and witnesses)
- **21 June 2021** - there is a **planned easing of all restrictions** (please be aware we may still need to impose certain restrictions on numbers at our venues)

Please be advised: the above dates are still subject to change if the relevant criteria as stated by the Government is not met. Any local outbreaks of a variant could also lead to further restrictions.

For ceremonies taking place with us in Blackpool

Ceremonies booked for a date before 12 April must be rescheduled unless there are **exceptional circumstances**, for example, where one of those getting married is seriously ill and is not expected to recover or is to undergo debilitating treatment or life-changing surgery. Please note that evidence of the exceptional circumstance will be required. These exceptional ceremonies may have up to 6 people present.

If your current booking is affected by the above changes, please get in touch with us to rearrange your ceremony. You have the following options available:

- Contact us to put your ceremony on hold until such time that you decide to move forward
- Reschedule to a future date when the restrictions maybe more relaxed or lifted
- Cancel your ceremony
- If your ceremony is scheduled on or after 12 April 2021 your booking can go ahead with the above restrictions. Please contact us via email on ceremonies@blackpool.gov.uk to confirm.

Our office continues to be extremely busy and you may find it difficult to get through on our phone number 01253 477177; we therefore encourage you to make initial contact via email on ceremonies@blackpool.gov.uk

Despite all of the constraints, we have since 4 July 2020 conducted nearly 200 ceremonies, all under Covid-19 restrictions. Making your day special is still at the forefront of everything we do.

Please be patient with us and follow the rules, that way you will still enjoy a memorable day and we can all stay safe together.

[Further information on The Wedding Chapel.](#)

[Further information on attending The Wedding Chapel to give notice.](#)

Coming to The Wedding Chapel for pre-booked appointments

- The Wedding Chapel is open for pre-booked appointments only such as giving notice
- We suggest Notice appointments aren't made until 4 months before the date of your ceremony
- We cannot currently accommodate casual "walk-ins". If you wish to speak to our staff, you can call us on 01253 477177 or email ceremonies@blackpool.gov.uk. We should be able to deal with you enquiry in this way, but in certain circumstances, we can book an appointment for you to come in to the office
- If you have a pre-booked appointment please arrive no more than 5 minutes before your appointment time
- All visitors should wear a face covering and maintain social distance
- Hand sanitiser stations are available in several places in The Wedding Chapel

The government will update information periodically. The above information is based upon the announcement made on 22 February 2021 and may be superseded at any time

General information on booking a Civil Ceremony

Once you have decided to marry or form a civil partnership, you need to decide if you want a civil (non-religious) or religious ceremony. If you require a Religious Ceremony, see the link on the left.

Civil ceremonies at district Register Offices or Approved Premises

You may marry or enter into a partnership by civil ceremony at any Register Office or other building (an Approved Premise) in England and Wales which is licensed to do so. A civil marriage or partnership ceremony cannot contain any religious content.

- Couples do not have to live in the district where the marriage or partnership is to take place but the legal preliminaries (formal notice of marriage or civil partnership) must be given to the Superintendent Registrar for each party in their district of residence
- However, if one or both parties are foreign nationals from a country outside the European Economic Area (EEA), the couple must both attend a (DRO) [Designated Register Office in England or Wales](#) to attest the notice of marriage before a Superintendent Registrar
- Enquiries should be made to the chosen venue for availability before the formal notices of marriage or civil partnership can be taken
- Once formal notice has taken place you must wait at least 28 clear days before your ceremony can take place (DRO notices may have to wait up to 70 clear days before the ceremony can take place)
- Please note that a notice of marriage or civil partnership is only valid for 12 months from the date notice is given

If you want to arrange a civil ceremony in Blackpool, look at our [Wedding Venues](#)

If you want to arrange a ceremony in a venue outside of Blackpool, look at the [Civil marriages and partnerships: approved premises list](#) which covers the whole of England and Wales.

The Wedding Chapel (Festival House)

The Wedding Chapel (or Festival House) on Blackpool's promenade is run by Blackpool Registration Service and contains a Register Office for small ceremonies (the couple and two witnesses) and has two Approved Premises (the Tower View Room and the Sea View Room) which are located on the second floor and afford stunning views of the iconic Blackpool Tower and the sea.

For more information and to enquire about marrying or forming a civil partnership there, click on [The Wedding Chapel](#) page.

Contact

[Blackpool Council registration service](#)

Municipal Buildings, Corporation Street, Blackpool, FY1 1GB

Telephone 01253 477177

Email ceremonies@blackpool.gov.uk

Additional information

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