



Royal
Botanical
Gardens
CANADA



WHERE LOVE IS

Always in Bloom

2027 WEDDING BROCHURE



Welcome to the Rock Garden at Royal Botanical Gardens

As the largest botanical garden in Canada, RBG offers an unforgettable setting for your wedding day. You'll find it nestled between Burlington and Hamilton, and just 45 minutes from Toronto.



ROCK GARDEN VENUE

1185 York Blvd, Hamilton | Up to 100 seated

New for 2027, Royal Botanical Gardens has thoughtfully curated a more intimate wedding experience at the Rock Garden, focusing on smaller, personalized celebrations within this stunning natural landscape and architectural space. As part of this vision, weddings at the Rock Garden are designed for a maximum of 100 guests.

Imagine exchanging vows surrounded by lush greenery and vibrant blooms, with the beauty of the Rock Garden. Enjoy access to this breathtaking venue, ensuring a wedding experience that feels very unique and personal.

CEREMONY & COCKTAIL SPACES



The Courtyard is an outdoor setting where stonework, plantings and tranquil water features create a scene of timeless romance. With nature's beauty as your backdrop, every moment feels effortless, elegant, and unforgettable.



The Upper Lawn is more than just picturesque - surrounded by a landscape featuring bold, season-long perennial displays highlighting texture and colour it will truly feel like a garden wedding.

 Geoff Shaw

RECEPTION SPACE *The Great Room*



The Great Room is an award winning architectural space with floor-to-ceiling windows and panoramic views of lush gardens. This modern, light-filled space offers a seamless connection to the outdoors while providing all the comfort of an indoor venue all within steps from your ceremony and cocktail location.

 Geoff Shaw

Venue Rental Rates

Standard Rate \$7,500

Saturday and Holiday Weekends \$8,500

This pricing includes Courtyard, Upper Lawn and Great Room for your ceremony, cocktail and reception services.

 Kobita



 Kobita

INCLUSIONS

Every wedding booking includes 11 hours of exclusive venue access from 3:00 pm to 2:00 am, providing ample time for setup, celebration, and teardown, along with a complimentary photography permit.

CEREMONY SPACE

- White chairs *Up to max. capacity*
- Signing table with white linen *48" round*
- One extra table with white linen
- Power access

COCKTAIL SPACE

- Five (5) high-top tables
- White or black table linen

RECEPTION SPACE

- Guest tables
Standard banquet rounds seating up to 8 guests per table
- Head table and operational tables
- Standard banquet chairs *Varies by location*
- Up to 2 easels
- Set-up, pack-down and clean-up of included/contracted items
- White or Black Table Linens & Napkins
- Complimentary parking for you and your guests
- Complimentary access for you and your guests to all RBG properties for the day
- Complimentary Photo Permit
- RBG Branded Lectern



 Nicole Kirk

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Each wedding will have a dedicated Sales Associate who serves as the primary contact between the client and RBG. Their main responsibility is managing final event logistics and creation of floor plans, and communicating these details internally to the relevant teams. The Sales Associate is not responsible for managing or executing your wedding timeline or day-of coordination.

WEDDING TIMELINE

Your wedding timeline would look similar to this:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| • 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Setup and Guest Arrival |
| • 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm | Ceremony |
| • 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm | Cocktail Hour |
| • 7:00 pm – 1:00 am | Reception |
| • 1:00 am – 2:00 am | Teardown and Cleanup |

Note:

- *Ceremony must start at 5:00 pm or later*
- *All spaces must be vacated no later than 2:00 am*
- *All wedding rentals must be picked up by the vendor by 2:00 am*



CREATE AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

To maintain the highest standards of quality and service, Royal Botanical Gardens has partnered exclusively with the following catering providers. These caterers are familiar with our venues and are dedicated to delivering exceptional dining experiences that meet our high standards. This policy helps ensure a seamless and stress-free event for you and your guests.

EXCLUSIVE CATERING PARTNERS



HOSPITALITY

Brandy Montgomery
Event Coordinator
brandy@equalparts.ca
equalparts.ca



Amanda Bailey & Chef Scott Bailey
Owner
info@cityfarmcatering.com
cityfarmcatering.ca



Nicole Meriano
Sales & Events Manager
hello@figandlemon.ca
figandlemon.ca



Zahid Shahab
CEO
zahid@auntyskitchen.ca
auntyskitchen.ca



BAR & BEVERAGE SERVICES

RBG is exclusively responsible for facilitating all aspects of bar and beverage services, including both alcoholic and non-alcoholic offerings. Outside alcohol is not permitted unless arranged through RBG's liquor licence and approved in advance.



 Geoff Shaw

JOURNEY TOUCH POINTS

Once your contract is signed, you'll receive a Self-Guided Questionnaire – this is the first step in planning your wedding with RBG. The questionnaire helps you understand the guidelines for hosting a private event at our venue and walks you through key decisions you'll be making in the coming months. It's designed to make the planning process smoother and ensure your event aligns with your vision.

6–12 MONTHS BEFORE

- Start RBG's Self-Guided Questionnaire
- Begin conversations with your officiant, RBG exclusive caterer, and vendors (decor, DJ, entertainment, cake)

4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Introductory email from your Sales Associate
- Book in-person details meeting & site visit

3 MONTHS BEFORE

- First details meeting & in-person site visit
- Start of Banquet Event Order (BEO) detailing with your Sales Associate
- 50% of the estimated balance is due

2 MONTHS BEFORE

- Second Details Meeting (*email/virtual*)
- Review, update and confirm BEO information and floorplans.

1 MONTH – 3 WEEKS BEFORE

- Final Details Meeting (*email/virtual*)
- Review and finalize BEO and floor plans for sign-off signatures
- Submit External Vendor Sheet
- Duuo Event Insurance due
- Final payment due

2 WEEKS BEFORE

- Rehearsal (*optional*)

POST-EVENT

- Damage Deposit refund
- Consumption Bar reconciliation



 Geoff Shaw

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PAYMENT DETAILS

BILLING SCHEDULE

- **1st Payment:** Full Facility Rental due at the time of contract signing to confirm your booking.
- **2nd Payment:** 50% of your estimated balance, plus the security deposit, will be due three (3) months prior to your wedding date.
- **3rd Payment:** Remaining anticipated final balance will be due one (1) month prior to your wedding date.
- **Post-event Refund:** Damage deposit and consumption bar reconciliation.

Accepted Payment Methods

Payment can be made with a certified cheque, Interac e-transfer, or credit card.

Refunds will be provided only via a cheque format.

All credit card payments are subject to a 3% processing fee billed to the client

SECURITY DEPOSIT

- A Security Deposit of \$2,000, will be charged on the 2nd billing schedule. The Security Deposit shall be refunded in cheque form within thirty (30) days following the Event Date, provided that the premises—including, without limitation, the event spaces, common areas, parking facilities, and gardens utilized by the Customer and any external vendors contracted by the Customer—are returned in their original condition, free of damage and in a state of cleanliness and good repair.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Cancelled events up to 35 weeks prior to your event date will be billed a \$300 cancellation fee per booked venue space
- Cancelled events within 35 weeks of the event date will result in all deposits paid being non-refundable or transferable.

SOCAN & RE:SOUND FEES

- All events that play recorded or live music or use music as a part of a presentation or video are subject to a mandatory RE:Sound and SOCAN fees collected by Entandem to pay royalties to music composers, writers, publishers, and performers. RBG presents these fees separately to ensure our clients are only billed the applicable fees. Each fee ranges between \$25 - \$75 + HST based on the number of attendees and whether there is dancing at the event.

EVENT INSURANCE

- All RBG events will require the purchase of liability insurance. Proof of insurance must be submitted no later than one month before the event date, with a minimum coverage of two (2) million dollars. We've partnered with Duuo to offer you an exclusive rate on the event insurance policy cost. The quote and purchase process with Duuo is under 5 minutes, and emails your certificate directly to RBG.

Rates are subject to HST.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional Access Time / Late Departure Time \$350/hr

Earliest access time is 12 pm. An automatic charge of \$350/hour will apply for any time exceeding the 11-hour access window, with no exceptions.

RBG Enhancements

Outdoor fire pit \$450 per pit

Electrical Access Fee \$395

External DJ's, apart from DJ Emporium, will be charged for electrical access.

Rock Garden High Def Video Wall \$395

Rock Garden Great Room Plug-in Fee \$195

Music played from a personal device through RBG's installed speaker system. Clients must provide a device with an AUX output and will be responsible for managing the playlist during their event.

These speakers are offered for light background music only. Amplified sound for dancing or loud parties is not permitted.

OUTDOOR CEREMONY CONTINGENCY PLAN

Clients will be required to notify RBG via email no later than noon the day before your wedding to confirm your ceremony location. Due to inclement weather the ceremony will be moved to the reception space. RBG does not offer or facilitate floor plan changes and guests will sit at their respective tables and the head table will act as the arbour.

PHOTOGRAPHY

A complimentary photography permit is included in your booking representing a value of up to \$600. The permit is for the Rock Garden only and during the duration of your event. The gardens remain open to the public during our operating hours. Photography permits do not provide exclusive access to the garden/permit areas. Permits are for the public areas of the gardens.

Royal Botanical Gardens

CEREMONIAL FLAME

In consideration of various ceremony requirements, including the use of an open flame the following additional details must be provided prior to finalizing the contract. This is to ensure that RBG is fully equipped to support this meaningful tradition, should a contingency plan be implemented due to inclement weather and necessitate moving the ceremony indoors.

- Name of vessel
- Quantity of vessel
- Who is providing the vessel?
 - Rental company name, Priest contact information

RBG does not permit the use of any homemade vessels under any circumstances.

- What material or metal is it made from
- How is it ignited? (Match, lighter etc.)
- What is the fuel source?
 - Gee, gas, propane, wood, etc.
- How long is the ceremony
- How long is the vessel ignited for during the ceremony
- A picture of the actual vessel

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for our visitors, members, and your guests by ensuring that all necessary details are provided to prevent false fire or carbon monoxide alarms and to support the comfort and safety of everyone on-site.

RESTRICTIONS

GARDEN ACCESS TO MEMBERS & GENERAL PUBLIC

Royal Botanical Gardens is first and foremost a public garden and is open to the public during our regular operating hours and ticketed events. Guests have access to RBG public areas during RBG operating hours on the day of the wedding event. Guests are **NOT PERMITTED ACCESS** to public garden spaces after operating hours unless otherwise reserved.

DÉCOR RESTRICTIONS

RBG is first and foremost a biodiversity conservation area, and as such, any activities or materials that may harm the flora or fauna are not permitted. Therefore, the following restrictions are listed below:

All unique or non-standard décor requests must be submitted to and approved by the RBG Sales Manager.

Plants and Florals

- No potted or rooted plants are permitted.
- Succulents may be used as favours if fully wrapped or contained.
- All other living plant favours require prior approval.
- Cut florals and botanicals are allowed.

Hanging Items

- Items may not be hung from art installations, plant material, ceilings, or walls.

Confetti and Tossing Materials

- Synthetic petals, glitter, rice, seeds, and similar materials are not allowed.
- Real flower petals or leaf confetti may be used for tossing

The client is responsible for the cleanup of such items immediately following the ceremony, or may be subjected to a cleaning fee

Vinyl Floor Wraps

- Must be pre-approved by RBG's Sales Manager 2-weeks prior to event.

RBG Property

- No tampering with or moving RBG equipment, such as tables and chairs as well as plant material.
- All requests must be advised ahead of time with assigned Sales Associate during a Details Meeting and is solely at the discretion of RBG's Horticulture Department.

Balloons

- Balloons are strongly discouraged due to RBG's Single Plastic Use Policy.
- Balloons must be anchored to a freestanding item at all times.

Transport and Disposal

- All items used to transport décor (e.g., boxes, bags, wrapping) must be taken off-site by the client.
- On-site disposal is not allowed.

SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on RBG premises, including parking lots, gardens and pathways. Guests must walk to a public space to smoke, i.e. the municipal sidewalk.

Storage and Security

- Refrigeration is not available in any capacity, in adherence to health and safety regulations outlined in RBG's Restaurant Operations Policy.
- RBG is not responsible for the storage or security of any items brought on-site, including personal belongings, décor, or guest amenities placed in public or unattended areas.
- A third-party security officer will be provided by RBG for all functions to support event safety and venue protocols such as smoking.
- All rented items, such as tables, chairs, photobooths, etc, must be brought in and out during the client's access time otherwise additional fees will apply.

Flames and Special Effects

- Open flames, sparklers, fireworks, smoke bombs, and smoke machines are strictly prohibited.
- Candles are permitted only if:
 - Enclosed in tempered glass.
 - The flame remains at least ½ inch below the rim.
 - Placed on tables and not on the ground.

Animals

- Visiting pets are not permitted at any time at RBG Centre, Hendrie Park or The Rock Garden. Service animals are welcome in all public areas of RBG in accordance with Ontario accessibility legislation.
- Butterfly and dove releases are not permitted anywhere on RBG property.



Geoff Shaw



Kobita



Geoff Shaw



Nicole Kirk



Kobita



📷 Jennifer Boyce



📷 Jennifer Boyce



📷 Geoff Shaw



📷 Jennifer Boyce



📷 Jennifer Boyce



📷 Geoff Shaw



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Contact our RBG Sales Department

E sales@rbg.ca P 905-527-1158 x532
RBG.CA/WEDDINGS