

# THORPENESS

COUNTRY CLUB



*Weddings by the Sea*



Yours for the day · Ceremonies indoors and out · 40 to 150 guests



*The only beachside wedding venue in Suffolk and Norfolk.*

Credit: Images by Anna



*A boating lake, a windmill, a house in the clouds, and a wedding by the sea.*

If you have been dreaming of an enchanting wedding somewhere with a bit of magic about it, look no further. Thorpeness is a whimsical village on the Suffolk coast, with Peter Pan islands out on the Meare, mock-Tudor houses, a long shingle beach, and a country club facing out to sea.

We opened in 1912 and we are still here, still facing the water, and still the only beachside wedding venue in Suffolk or Norfolk. The building is yours for the day, forty of you or a hundred and fifty. Marry outside with the waves behind you, or inside with the doors thrown open wide, and decorate it however you have always imagined.

Nothing here is fixed. Skip the toast and have a cup of tea if you would rather. Eat your cake instead of a dessert. The day will be built around the two of you.

We face east, so the light arrives early and stays late. Your photographer will not quite believe their luck, and neither will you when the pictures come back.



*A wedding by the sea, exactly as you dreamt it could be.*

Credit: Images by Anna



Credit: Images by Anna



Credit: Images by Anna

## *Three places to say it, and no need to watch the forecast*

**All three of our ceremony spaces are licensed, so rain need not change anything that matters. The registrar makes the final call on the morning, and we will have the room ready either way.**

### *The Viewpoint, seating up to 150.*

A true wedding by the sea, with the coast curving south towards Aldeburgh and nothing between you and the horizon. It is yours again afterwards, for drinks, canapés and photographs.

### *The Tennis Room, seating up to 150.*

On the ground floor, with large double doors along the entire side of the building. Natural light floods in, and the herringbone floors and draped curtains give you a calm backdrop to dress however you please.

### *The Croquet Lawn, seating up to 150.*

Behind the Club and through the Tennis Room doors. More sheltered and more private, which makes it lovely for a smaller wedding.



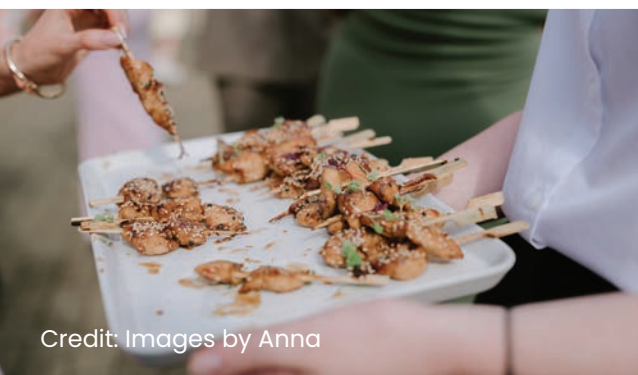
Credit: Matt Tyler



Credit: Bethany Clarke Weddings



Credit: Bethany Clarke Weddings



Credit: Images by Anna

## *The hour everybody remembers*

**The formalities are over, the two of you are married, and now is the time to start celebrating with your closest friends and family. Trays of canapés going round, glasses in hands, the sea doing its thing behind you, and everyone you love in one place at last.**

Our team will look after every bit of it while the two of you slip across to the beach for photographs, with the sea and the sky doing most of the work for you.

### *Canapés, four or six a head.*

A few examples: smoked salmon blinis, bacon and brie tartlets, local sausage with honey and mustard, vegetable spring rolls.

### *Drinks.*

Prosecco, Pimm's, Peroni, elderflower cordial by the jug. Or something of your own devising. It is entirely up to you.



Credit: Charlotte Razzell Photography



*Your colours, your flowers, your people. We will help, not hinder.*

Credit: Images by Anna



## *The Grand Ballroom*

*Seating up to 150 guests*

**Vaulted ceilings, wooden floors, hundreds of fairy lights strung through the beams, and windows running the length of the room with the Suffolk coast beyond them. The light keeps coming in long after the plates have gone.**

The room is just as happy with forty as it is with a hundred and fifty. Round tables set banqueting style, long tables, or a top table in the bay window with the sea in front of you. We will talk you through what works best for your numbers.

Our chefs cook seasonally and locally, and a tasting for the two of you comes as standard. Dietary requirements are never a problem, only a conversation.





*Nothing here is fixed. If you want your cake instead of a dessert, have your cake.*

## *Built with you, not handed to you*

**A selection of the dishes couples choose most often. Pick three from each course to offer your guests, or ask us for something that is not here.**

### *Three courses from £40 per person*

#### *To begin*

##### **Seared Queen Scallops**

Smoked pancetta and butternut, hazelnuts, citrus dressing

##### **Camembert and Fig Tartlet**

Crispy shallots, balsamic glaze

##### **Smoked Salmon Roulade**

Cream cheese, shrimps and chives, radish, passion fruit, sourdough melba

##### **Smoked Chicken Salad**

Pomegranate dressing, whipped feta, cherry tomatoes, toasted sunflower seeds

##### **Cold Meat Board**

Pastrami, chorizo, salami and cured ham, cornichons, balsamic onions, stuffed peppers, sourdough

#### *Mains*

##### **Braised Shoulder of Beef**

Rösti potatoes, portobello mushroom, glazed vegetables, Adnams ale jus

##### **Pan-seared Cod Loin**

Potato gnocchi, mini ratatouille, bisque sauce

##### **Truffle-stuffed Chicken Supreme**

Sweetcorn purée, buttered baby vegetables, marsala sauce

##### **Grilled Seabass Fillet**

Saffron new potatoes, carrot purée, courgette ribbons, chermoula dressing

##### **Vegetable Wellington V**

Plum tomato and red pepper coulis

#### *Desserts*

##### **Passion Fruit and Mango Cheesecake**

Red fruit coulis

##### **Chocolate and Hazelnut Brownie**

Chantilly cream, berries

##### **Sticky Toffee Pudding**

Butterscotch sauce, clotted cream, vanilla ice cream

##### **Cherry and Almond Tart**

White chocolate crèmeux

##### **Suffolk Cheeseboard**

Chutney, celery and grapes, savoury biscuits

### *In the evening, from £15 per person*

**Mini rolls with a selection of fillings. A slate of charcuterie with gherkins, balsamic onions, stuffed peppers and olives. Scampi and fries in a cone with lime and coriander mayonnaise. Goats' cheese tartlets.**

**A Suffolk cheeseboard. More options on request.**

**Or the classics if you would rather: pizza, wedges, and the things people love to eat in the evening after a few drinks.**



Credit: Images by Anna



Credit: Images by Anna



Credit: Charlotte Razzell Photography

## *Dancing, with the sea for company*

*Standing up to 200 guests*

**The Ballroom takes another fifty in the evening, and it scales down just as gracefully. Draw the tables in for forty and it feels warm and full; open it out and there is room to move. There is a proper stage for your band or your DJ, space for a dancefloor, and the bar at the far end.**

There is room for whatever else you have in mind, too. A photo booth, a sweet cart, a saxophonist doing their best Careless Whisper solo. And when it all gets a little much, the door to the beach is right there.



*It felt like we had escaped somewhere a bit magical for the day.*



## *In their words*

*Corinne and Kristian,  
summer 2026*

Our wedding at Thorpeness Country Club could not have felt more perfect. From the moment we arrived, the whole place had a lovely, relaxed feel that put everyone at ease. Nothing felt rushed or overly formal, which was exactly what we wanted. The venue is stunning in itself, but we also loved the freedom to decorate it ourselves and bring our ideas to life.

The staff were brilliant from start to finish. Calm, friendly, organised, and they genuinely cared about making the day special for us.

Being so close to the sea gave the whole day a really special feel, and the coastal backdrop made the photos look beautiful. There was something so peaceful and romantic about it. It felt like we had escaped somewhere a bit magical for the day.

Looking back, what we loved most was how easy the whole day felt. Thorpeness Country Club gave us the relaxed, heartfelt wedding we had hoped for, with amazing staff, lovely food, and a setting we will never forget.

*Photography by Photo Excellence Photography, Adam Price*



Credit: Images by Anna



Credit: Images by Anna



*Forty of you, or a hundred and fifty. The sea does not mind either way.*

Credit: Mini and Me Photography and Pinky Promise Photo



Credit: Sharon Cudworth Photography

## *An honest starting point*

**No two weddings here cost the same, because no two are built the same way. What follows is a guide rather than a price list, and everything in it can be added, removed or swapped.**

A spring wedding on a Friday or Saturday, for sixty guests, with canapés, a drink on arrival, three courses with wine at the table, a toast drink and food in the evening, comes to around £9,658.

Hire of the building from £3,000, by season.

An outdoor ceremony is £500. Three courses from £40 per person. Evening food from £15 per person.

Ring us with a rough number of guests and a month in mind, and we can talk it through properly. Or better yet, come and see us.



Credit: Sharon Cudworth Photography



### *Included, whatever you choose*

- ◇ Sole use of the building, so nobody else is inside while you are
- ◇ Your ceremony in the Tennis Room, or outside on The Viewpoint or The Croquet Lawn for £500
- ◇ A menu tasting for the two of you
- ◇ Round tables, Chiavari chairs and linen
- ◇ A wedding co-ordinator from your first call to your last dance
- ◇ The freedom to decorate it however you like, with whoever you like
- ◇ No charge to cut your own cake
- ◇ A beach just over the road

*And afterwards, because we would rather not say goodbye.*

Lunch for the two of you at Ogilvie's, the restaurant at our golf club just up the road, named after the man who dreamed up the village. Three months after the wedding, when the thank-you cards have finally been written and posted.

A night at The Brudenell in Aldeburgh on your first anniversary, at twenty per cent off, with a room upgrade and the sea outside the window.



*Guests will come here for your wedding and go home planning their next Suffolk coast holiday.*



*Make a weekend of it. Everybody else will.*

**Thorpeness was dreamed up in 1910 by Glencairn Stuart Ogilvie, who wanted a fantastical holiday village rather than a promenade and a pier. He built a boating lake, a windmill, a country club, and a seventy-foot cottage on stilts that everybody knows as the House in the Clouds. It is regularly named one of the prettiest villages in Suffolk.**

At the heart of it is the Meare, a wide, shallow boating lake with a scatter of little islands. J M Barrie was a friend of the Ogilvie family and a regular visitor, and Peter Pan shaped what was built here. The landings still carry names from the storybook, so your guests can row out to the Pirate's Lair or Wendy's Home.

They can walk the beach all the way to Aldeburgh, or sit on the shingle with an ice cream.

Aldeburgh is ten minutes away, with fish straight off the boats, the best chips on the coast, the Moot Hall and the shops. Snape Maltings is twenty minutes. Southwold and Orford are an easy morning away.





## *Beds by the sea, a few minutes away*

### *The apartments next door.*

Attached to the Country Club itself, and the closest beds to your wedding. Book through Suffolk Secrets. This is the obvious choice for the two of you, and for the people who will be up latest.

### *The Brudenell, Aldeburgh.*

A little further along the sea front, with forty-four bedrooms and around half of them facing the water. Its Seafood & Grill restaurant looks straight out over the shingle, does fish and chips worth crossing the county for, and it is the natural spot for a long lunch the day after the celebrations.

### *The White Lion, Aldeburgh.*

Ten minutes away and a few steps from the shingle, with thirty-eight bedrooms, several looking straight out at the beach and the fishing huts.

Both hotels are ours, so we can look after your guests properly. Tell us roughly how many and we will make the introductions.

## *Come and see us*

*You really do need to see it to believe how magical it is. Come and have a look round, tell us what you have in mind, and we will do everything we can to help you make it happen.*

*We are on the seafront at Thorpeness, on the Suffolk coast just north of Aldeburgh.*

*Ten minutes from Aldeburgh, forty from Ipswich, and about two and a half hours from London. The nearest station is Saxmundham.*

*There is parking at the Club, and more in the village a short walk away.*



Front Cover Credit: Images by Anna

***Book a viewing, Monday to Saturday. We will put the kettle on for you.  
Or just ring us on 01728 451021, or email [CountryClub@thorpeness.co.uk](mailto:CountryClub@thorpeness.co.uk)***

*Thorpeness Country Club, The Benthills, Thorpeness, Suffolk IP16 4NU*