



Westenhanger Castle

Your Day, Your Way



**Weddings & Events
Meetings & Conferences**





Welcome to Westenhanger Castle

When hiring the venue for a wedding it includes the exclusive use of the castle, grounds, manor house and marquee. Also provided within the venue hire are the services of our own full time chef, staffing costs and our events manager who will work with you to create the day you've always dreamt of. Our beautiful, secluded and intimate venue provides a canvas on which we can create a masterpiece of a wedding that you and your guests will always remember.

Our motto is **“Your Day, Your Way”** and we will endeavour to achieve just that.

On meeting and conference days you will have the use of the specific areas that you hire.

Your Day, Your Way



A Brief History

Westenhanger Castle is a Scheduled Ancient Monument with a Grade I listed Manor house; this reflects both its national and historic importance. It belongs to a group of early quadrangular castles and manor houses that were strengthened in response to threats of attack from France during the 14th Century.

If we go further back in time, it is possible that Saxon kings once inhabited the area, evidence of Roman occupation has been discovered on the site adjoining the racecourse. The Castle is situated conveniently at the junction of the Roman-built Stone Street from Canterbury to Port Lympne and the main route to London.

It is close to the stone quarry of Otterpool and a water supply from the East Stour headwater.

Despite the site's undoubted Norman origins there is no evidence to suggest any serious fortifications were actually built until the licence to crenellate was granted to Sir John de Criol by Edward III in 1343. Before this date there probably stood a large hall or palace with perhaps a surrounding moat and possibly a wood pallisade. What is certain is that the defensive towers and high curtain wall were not built until around 1400.



In 1509 the two manors of Ostenhanger and Westenhanger which stood here were merged into one ownership by Sir Edward Poynings and we know from historic papers that he began to build magnificently. Unfortunately he died with the work incomplete in 1522 but his son, Sir Thomas Poynings, went on with the building, later exchanging Westenhanger with King Henry VIII for other lands.

By 1544 we also know that the house was extensive and incorporated separate suites of rooms for the use of royalty. Later Queen Elizabeth I visited 'her house at Westenhanger'. Soon after Westenhanger became home to Thomas Smythe

and his descendants, the Lords Strangford, who further enlarged it. By the mid 17th Century it was one of the largest houses in Kent. However, in 1701 much of it was taken down and the history since has been a sad tale of depredation and neglect but, as we progress in the 21st Century, you can see the efforts being made to save what remains for future generations.



Romantic

This romantic setting of a Castle and Manor House, provides a unique background for you to create the wedding you have always dreamed of. Our friendly professional staff and excellent cuisine, means your dreams will come true “Your Day Your Way”.

We pride ourselves on our professional standards and have a team of dedicated co-ordinators who understand the importance to detail.

We offer you exclusive use of the grounds and Manor House on the day of your celebration.

Westenhanger Castle is set in 14 acres of Kentish countryside and is a magnificent setting for intimate gatherings for up to 300 people.

We were finalists in the Kent Wedding Awards 2014





Suites

The Manor House, which is built on to the castle walls, creates a venue with a stunning difference.

The first floor provides you with a bridal suite consisting of a luxurious bedroom, splendid bathroom and a relaxing lounge area.

You can be sure of complete privacy in this stress free environment while we provide complementary refreshments throughout the morning that includes tea, coffee, bacon/sausage rolls or spoil yourself with a glass of Champagne!

This is a perfect setting for photographs both whilst you are getting ready and after your ceremony,

On both the ground and first floors we have Queen Elizabeth I rooms. Downstairs we can sit up to 45 people, banquet style or 60 people on round tables, civil ceremony will seat up to 73 people, or if you use the dance floor too you can seat 100 whilst on the first floor there is an option to hold a civil ceremony for 82 people.

Meeting Rooms

The Smythe room situated on the ground floor can hold 12 people whilst the Henry VIII room caters for 24 with both of these set out boardroom style. The latter has an area for teas and coffees to be served..

Your Day, Your Way



The Marquee

The exquisite marquee in the grounds seats 200 people for your wedding breakfast on round tables with a top table of curved design.

In the evening we can provide for up to 300 for the evening reception.

The sweeping ivory drapes coupled with four stunning chandeliers and starlight ceiling above the dance floor, add glamour and sparkle to your celebrations. Whatever the weather or time of year, you will be amazed by the luxury and comfort of our marquee; with its spacious dance floor and full heating system, you can be assured of comfort inside or enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the adjoining gardens.

Within the peace and seclusion of the central lawned courtyard, the beautiful thatched oak framed gazebo, set in front of the sunken garden is the ideal romantic setting for your ceremony for up to 200 people.

Alternatively if you prefer the Manor House for a more intimate choice for your

ceremony the Queen Elizabeth I, 1st floor can hold up to 82 people or ground floor 100.

The staff at Westenhanger Castle would like to congratulate you on your forthcoming wedding and would like to welcome you to look around our beautiful setting and to give you the choice to share this venue with your family and friends .

Stepping out from the Manor House into the warmth of the summer sun, you and the bridal party majestically make your way along the red or white carpet to join your partner at the Gazebo before celebrating your union.

All our staff are highly trained and experienced with dedicated coordinators for your special day, as after all it is "Your Day, Your Way".

We also offer inclusive packages to fit your budgets as well as offering the DIY package so you can bring in your own suppliers once they have met with our requirements.



Private Parties

Westenhanger Castle has become one of the finest Venue Grade I Listed Buildings in Kent.

We hold unforgettable events such as Ladies Nights for Masonic, Awards Nights, Dinner and Dances, Charity Events, Presentation Dinners, Proms, Birthday celebrations, Funerals, Christmas Parties, Christenings, Enactment Dinners within the Manor House or Marquee. We will help you theme to your requirements with our on site venue decoration team or work with your suppliers.

We also cater for intimate lunches and dinners as well as Sunday lunches.

We are always around to answer that email, phone call or text to make sure your event goes as smoothly as possible.

All our premises are fully licensed and we have two bars to choose from. Our main bar is in the Marquee with a great range of draught beers, spirits, wines and champagnes. Our other bar in the Dove Cote is fully stocked with bottled beer, wines, spirits and champagnes, so we can cater for your guests in all areas of the venue.

Your Day, Your Way

Team Building days

Delegate rates

FREE PARKING

Wifi

Data Projection and TV Screen

Flip Charts, Pads, Pens, Mineral Water & Mints

Coffee, Tea, Biscuits on arrival & Danish

Pastries with fruit Mid Morning

Light Finger Buffet or 2 course set lunch

Afternoon Tea and Homemade Cakes

Smythe Room

Boardroom 12 people

Private Dinner 10 people

Henry VIII

Boardroom 24 people

Private Dinner 18 people

Buffet 30 people

Exhibitions 5 x 6ft table

Queen Elizabeth I Ground Floor

with private Dove Cote bar as well as exhibition area (dance floor)

Theatre Style 73 people

Private Dinner 45 people U-Shape

Buffet 50 people Round Tables

Exhibitions 7 x 6ft table

Queen Elizabeth I 1st Floor

Theatre Style 82 people

Lounge area

(for coaching meetings)

Semi private lounge with private

bathroom with seating up to 4 people

Additional Services – that you may wish to upgrade

Bacon/Sausage Rolls

Homemade scones & jam

Selection of sandwiches

House Wine

House Champagne

Fresh Flower arrangements or bouquets

Historic Tours

Room Layouts



Food for thought

We have invested in our own on site, purpose built, state of the art kitchen with the facilities and staff to cater for a large number of people. Our full time chefs are here to help you decide on the menu if you are unsure what to choose.

We offer an excellent range of food, ranging from Afternoon tea on Vintage China, to Hog Roast in the evening, with everything in between. All our food is sourced from local suppliers.

Our premises are fully licensed and we have two bars to choose from, our main bar is in the Marquee with a great range of draught beers, spirits, wines and champagnes, our other bar in the Dove Cote is fully stocked with bottled beer, wines, spirits and champagnes, so we can cater for your guests in all areas of the venue.

Finishing Touches

At Westenhanger Castle we have various packages, which include, Chair Covers, Photography, Fireworks, DJ's, Flowers for your centre pieces as well as your Bridal Flowers, plus much more.

Accommodations

There are 16 hotels and B&B's in the area which all look after our clients, some that will give you up to 10% off if you quote your function at Westenhanger Castle.

We are easy to find only 5 minutes from the M20 Junction 11, with the nearest train station being on the drive way of Westenhanger Castle.

Your Day, Your Way

Harry Kilb Wedding DJ



I am Harry, a full time, award winning, professional wedding DJ and party host.

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I offer totally unique, elegant, fun and memorable services that include breathtaking lighting, sparkly dance floors, reliability and enthusiasm that goes above and beyond.

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With a combination of your style and our expertise, we can transform any venue into a stunning and breathtaking atmosphere!

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Westenhanger Castle

Make it extra special, make it Buzzlines

Local company Buzzlines has an array of superb vehicles that will make any occasion special. As can be seen, the company's fleet of vehicles include luxury Mercedes 16-seat mini-coaches (with wifi, DVD and plug-to-seat). Ideal for the close families of the bride and groom and, of course, the bridesmaids and ushers. Arrive in style feeling a million dollars, as well as looking it!

They also have additional support vehicles such as the latest 8-seat Ford Tourneos and Citroen C4 Grand Picasso (up to 7 seats) for the collection and delivery of smaller groups.

For larger parties, Buzzlines has spacious executive coaches (30-61 seats) with wifi, DVD, and plug-to-seat, beverage-making facilities and toilets, which are perfect for transporting large groups to or from any destination.

Buzzlines prides itself on the quality of its helpful drivers, whilst its vehicles are spotlessly clean and invariably less than 18 months old.



Whatever your transport needs, Buzzlines is on hand to support you, and is based only a few miles from Westenhanger.

Buzzlines will also assist in organising and transporting hen and stag parties anywhere in the UK and Continental Europe. Vehicles will remain with the party throughout the duration of the event and will be available to undertake pre-agreed excursions.

In addition to weddings, Buzzlines vehicles are available for all occasions and corporate events at Westenhanger.

Make it extra special, make it Buzzlines.

**PLEASE CONTACT US WITH ANY GROUP ENQUIRIES
EMAIL: SALES@BUZZLINES.CO.UK OR TEL: 01303 261870**

www.buzzlinestravel.co.uk

Your Day, Your Way

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Wild Ideas Flowers



Wild Ideas Flowers have been involved in designing flowers for weddings and corporate functions for over 20 years but are still passionate about every couples special day and event they are involved with which is why we are happy to have them as our recommended florist. Whether it's an abundance of roses in vintage soft tones or elegant white phalaenopsis orchids with diamanté sparkles the skilled team create it for you.

Sarah offers a free consultation at Westenhanger Castle or in the comfort of your own home when she will listen to your ideas and offer guidance in the best ways to achieve the look or style that you're dreaming of. The combination of a vast amount of London floristry experience, and many vases, candelabra and bird cages available for hire make Wild Ideas the natural choice for a florist for you and your event.



sarah@wildideas.me.uk ~ 07762907500 ~ www.wildideasflowers.com

Westenhanger Castle



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Navette

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Working directly with clients on a one-to-one basis, I will help you create a piece of jewellery that will be both personal and unique. Using traditional hand-crafted skills or modern techniques, your design will be brought to life to the highest standard, thus creating a piece of jewellery that is truly individual.

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Westenhanger Castle

Ashley's Bridal Boutique



Every bride deserves the very best of service when choosing her wedding gown. We achieve this by ensuring that each consultation at Ashley's is completely private with the bride and her guests having sole use of our beautiful 17th century boutique.

We have a stunning collection of designer dresses for you to view and are also able to offer a bespoke service to create a unique, exquisite gown, just for you.

We stock a beautiful collection of bridesmaid and flower girls dresses plus an extensive range of tiaras, veils and jewellery.

Why not book a consultation at Ashley's and allow us to help you find 'the one'.

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Web: www.ashleysbridal.co.uk ~ Facebook: [facebook.com/ashleysbridal](https://www.facebook.com/ashleysbridal)

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Confetti Productions wedding videography



Confetti Productions are a very experienced and highly regarded local videographers recommended by this fantastic venue.

We can offer a very personalised and professional service with an emphasis on

filming your wedding in a very discreet and inconspicuous way. This means that you and your guests will be captured behaving in a totally natural way which makes for the best possible production. We offer very competitive rates and we can assure you that

you will be delighted with our service.

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Telephone: 01303 253341 ~ Mobile: 07957 412486
www.robroyfolkestone.co.uk ~ robroy.folkestone@gmail.com

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If you want an informal chat or to arrange a show round please ring the

Events Team on **01303 261068** or e-mail us
at **enquiries@westenhangercastle.co.uk**

Westenhanger Castle
Stone Street
Westenhanger
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We were finalists in the Kent
Wedding Awards 2014



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MC

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We are very grateful to the businesses whose advertisements appear in this publication. As a mark of our gratitude we would like to draw the attention of our readers to their details and announcements. We are required to make it clear however that neither The Media Consultants nor Westenhanger Castle can accept responsibility for any services or workmanship they may undertake.



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