



Weddings at AIC

Introduction

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!

The American International Church is a diverse Christian community that values openness and welcome. We are registered to host both mixed-sex and same-sex couples for wedding ceremonies in our sanctuary.

We encourage anyone considering getting married at AIC to attend a Sunday worship service to get to know our community, to make sure we are the right fit for your wedding.

Planning your Ceremony

Our ministers do not just deliver a ceremony, but work to get to know you as a couple to craft a sacred service that honours your faith and relationship. We are open to interfaith or co-officiated ceremonies, though this needs to be agreed in advance. Our clergy, acting as authorized persons, will need to preside at certain portions and fit within the general outlines of our tradition as a member of the [United Reformed Church](#).

In order for this to happen, we ask you to meet with the minister once to help us get to know each other and another time to plan the ceremony. If you are interested in more preparation for marriage, we are glad to offer an additional conversation for that purpose, at no cost.

About our Sanctuary

Our sanctuary is lovely and simple, making it a wonderful place for your wedding without the need for further decoration. However, if you wish to add flowers or other decoration, please be advised that the use of tape, 'blu tack' and other adhesives is not permitted.

We know you want to capture your special day with pictures and video. We welcome photos and filming of the ceremony, as long as they remain in a fixed position during the ceremony itself. Additional photos can be staged before and after the ceremony is completed.

If you would like to arrange for drinks (including wine/champagne) or canapes after your ceremony, there is space at the back of the sanctuary for standing room. However, we are unable to host full receptions, and you will need to remain within the three-hour window. You will need to make your own arrangements with a caterer, and be responsible for cleaning up all spills or stains.

Unfortunately, our building is not fully accessible. The main sanctuary door is up a flight of steps. There is a side door available that has one small step and a chair lift for the remaining steps. There are toilets available on the sanctuary level, but they are not equipped for full accessibility at this time. Parking is not available on site, and there are traffic restrictions impacting drop-off locations for private vehicles on Tottenham Court Road.

Our piano and organ are available for use. If you need assistance in booking musicians, we can provide contacts.



Legalities

Residence or Connection to AIC: By law, if you are having your ceremony in a religious building other than a Church of England church, the religious building must normally be situated in the registration district where you or your partner live. For AIC, that is the London borough of Camden. However, you can have your ceremony in a different district to where you both live if: a) either of you usually worship in that building; or b) there is no building of your religion in the district where you or your partner live. If this is a concern for you, our ministers can advise.

Registration: To be married at AIC, you each need to apply to the local authority Registrar in the Registration district where you live. If you live in separate Registration districts, you will need to apply at each Registrar Office. The minister can discuss this requirement at your first meeting, but you will need to allow at least four weeks before the wedding to make sure the registration certificate arrives.

Marriage Certification: Our ministers are registered to act as authorized persons with the London borough of Camden, so you do not need to book a registrar for the wedding day. However, you will need to request a copy of your marriage certificate directly from the Registrar's Office, as churches are no longer able to issue them.

Religious Ceremony Only: If you would like a religious ceremony only, please speak to the ministers about your situation, and we will be glad to consider various options.

Blessings and Vow Renewals

We are open to hosting a blessing after your civil ceremony, or a service of vow renewal. Fees will be adjusted to reflect the nature of the service. For example, a full ceremony similar to a wedding would incur normal costs. A simple vow renewal in the sanctuary with a handful of guests would have a much smaller fee.

Enquire about Scheduling Your Wedding

We have a very busy building, so it is important to book well in advance. We do not host any wedding services on Sundays, and recommend weddings on weekdays begin after 4:00 p.m.

If you would like to enquire, please email Monty Strikes at monty@amchurch.co.uk, with the proposed dates.

Fees

Our fee for hosting your wedding is £1,200.

This includes: two or three meetings with the minister who also serves as authorized person, use of the sanctuary for one hour rehearsal and three hours on the wedding day, presence of a door supervisor to act as security, and cleaning. If you wish to book musicians, rooms for dressing, or more than three hours, there will be an additional charge.