

One of a series of Resources from High Point Events to help you plan an exceptional wedding

## Having a High Point Wedding

1. There are many services and menu items that we like across your offerings. Is it possible to combine things together to create an event that is unique to us?

Although some caterers offer set packages from which the bride selects one, High Point Events allows more flexibility in combining options from different menus. We want you to create *your* wedding, rather than your using one of *our* weddings.

2. Do you offer specialized menu options - like vegetarian, gluten-free or kosher?

More and more companies are becoming aware of people who have special dietary needs. High Point Events offers all three menu options (vegetarian and/or vegan, glutenfree, or kosher). We're happy to accommodate special food needs whenever we can, but we do ask for advance notice. There may be an additional charge for some special-order items.

3. How many weddings do you book per day?

Some brides prefer a company which books only one wedding per day, but you may pay extra for such exclusivity. High Point Events has both the experience and the staff to successfully run multiple weddings on the same day.

4. Will you designate a specific wedding coordinator for our wedding, or will we deal with different people during the planning process? If you assign a wedding coordinator to us, what can I expect of that person?

Some caterers have someone who coordinates food, another who handles music and entertainment, etc. At High Point, you will be assigned a wedding coordinator who will deal exclusively with planning your wedding, start to finish. He/she will coordinate all food, vendors, timelines, logistics, staffing, entertainment...in short, every aspect of your wedding for which High Point is responsible. Your coordinator will be able to suggest things you might otherwise overlook and share with you all that we've learned from doing many different kinds of weddings. On your big day, he/she will be with you to handle last-minute details, right down to the last safety pin for the flower girl's falling hem.

5. May we taste samples of your food before we make our final menu choices?

It's fairly standard for companies to offer the bride and groom and/or parents a "tasting" of the items under consideration for the event menu. High Point encourages you to set up a tasting, at which time you also may see samples of table linens, china, and other rental options.

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6. What are the payment options and requirements, including methods of payment, deposit requirements and time to final payment following the wedding?

Many brides leave this question until too late in the process of hiring a caterer. Planning your wedding budget **before** talking to caterers helps you get the most for your money. You also need to know when you will have funds available. Different caterers require different amounts at different times. High Point's detailed **Booking and Payment Policies and Procedures** are available online at all times. Look for the link in the middle of each of the main pages on the site: www.hiqhpointevents.com.

7. Do you offer rentals, entertainment, flowers, transportation, etc.? If not, do you have recommendations for experienced vendors for such services?

Some caterers may provide nothing but food services. Others may offer a list of recommended vendors with whom you may negotiate individually. High Point includes vendor services as part of what we offer, so that most of your reception expenses are managed on a single bill. Your wedding coordinator will help you identify vendors best suited to your wishes (and budget) and will manage their services for you.

8. With what reception venues do you have experience? Are you a preferred vendor for any local venues? What special requirements or rules do any of these venues have which might affect our selection?

In some cases, wedding caterers may deal exclusively with one venue or even own their own venue. By selecting the caterer, you have already selected the venue. And, conversely, when you select a certain venue you may have automatically selected a caterer. Other caterers, however, deal with venues throughout a geographic area. You may book the venue before hiring the caterer or may ask the caterer to recommend venues appropriate for your wedding needs. High Point Events offers our own outdoor venue (High Point Farm), and we are the exclusive caterers at a premier indoor venue (The Anastasi Room) in downtown Bethesda, Md. We also have worked with many of the finest indoor and outdoor venues in the Maryland-northern Virginia-Washington DC area. We already know the ins and outs of working with various sites, including their special requirements, their good and bad points, and their suitability for hosting your specific wedding. Click on the "Venues" tab on our website, www.highpointevents.com, to see more information and a list of just some of the places with which we work.

9. What options do you offer for other wedding-related events, like a rehearsal dinner, bachelor party, bridal shower, or "day after" brunch?

Many companies will be able to cater other events before and after the wedding itself. High Point offers a discount when you book the wedding and at least one other wedding-related event. Themes, decorations and menus can be coordinated easily this way between your special events. We also have the advantage of offering a great outdoor site, High Point Farm, including The Adventure Sector, site of lots of bachelor (and even bachelorette!) parties.

10. Do you offer "day of" coordination services?

If you hire a catering company, the answer to this question may - or may not be - "yes." The reason we're an event-planning company is that our answer is a resounding YES! The wedding coordinator handles everything from last-minute fluffing before the bridesmaids head down the aisle to dealing with the DJ who shows up inappropriately dressed to getting the grandparents' table to the buffet line first.