

# Wedding Guide

**A Hatteras and Ocracoke Wedding Guide**

*Spring 2023 - Spring 2024*



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*\*Cover Photo by Daniel Pullen Photography*

## Swell Motel

46854 NC Hwy 12 - Buxton  
252-489-4484  
www.swelldoodle.com



The Swell is centrally located on Hatteras Island on the Pamlico Sound side and offer large outdoor areas with grilling pavilions, picnic tables, fire pits, corn hole, horseshoes, free bike and kayak rentals and live music every Saturday night during the summer months. Our pool is open until 11 pm and we are within walking distance of the beach, stores, and restaurants. Give us a call to see how we can help make this a memorable stay for you and your guests.

## The Atlantic Inn

57321 NC 12 - Hatteras  
252-986-2700  
www.theatlanticinn.com



Welcome to The Atlantic Inn, where history and tradition intertwine with contemporary comforts to create the perfect backdrop for your unforgettable small intimate wedding, elopement, or vow renewal. Only 5 mins walk from the beach, our unique historical venue offers the warmth of Ceud Mile Failte – "A hundred thousand welcomes" – inviting you to indulge in the exclusive use of our enchanting inn. Boasting multiple furnished decks and large enclosed grounds surrounded by cedar trees, The Atlantic Inn provides a serene and private oasis for your special day.



## Hatteras Civic Association

56658 NC Hwy 12 - Hatteras  
252-986-2810  
www.hatterasonmymind.com/Rentals.html



The Hatteras Village Civic Association offers two spaces in the Village for rent. The Civic Center and the Community Building. These spaces

are appropriate for parties, seminars, business meetings, weddings and other social and public gatherings. Please visit our website for more information and rates.

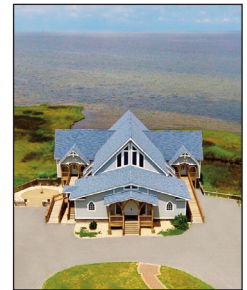


## Our Lady of the Seas Catholic Church and The Hall

48478 NC-12 Hwy - Buxton  
252-995-6370  
events@ourladyoftheseas.org



You won't find a more beautiful venue for your wedding reception or rehearsal dinner. With its solid wood construction, warm and inviting interior, the Hall is suited to both small, intimate events and larger events up to 100 guests. The venue is equipped with a full kitchen to meet the needs of your caterer. The wrap-around porch allows your guests to enjoy the outdoor space.



A short walk takes you to the Pamlico Sound for a quiet moment or view of the sunset.

## Chicamacomico Historical Association, Inc.

23645 NC Highway 12 - Rodanthe  
252-987-1552  
www.chicamacomico.org



Yes, the Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station Does Weddings! With multiple venues, including the oceanfront 1874 station, the main 1911 station's spacious front porch, and the expansive green commons, we can accommodate weddings of all sizes and styles. From the beach to the nearby RWS Community Building, the Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station site is the perfect spot to celebrate finding your "keeper."

# The Inn on Pamlico Sound Cafe Pamlico

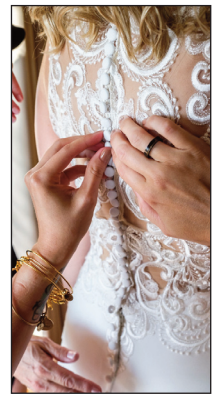


49684 NC Hwy 12 - Buxton  
252-995-7030  
www.innonpamlicosound.com



The Inn on Pamlico Sound in Buxton is Hatteras Island's full-service event venue. We provide a variety of wedding and event packages with day-of coordinator, as well as décor and equipment packages based on your vision and budget. Our waterfront boutique hotel, ranked #1 on the North Carolina

coast, provides a breathtaking setting for all events held at our three-acre waterfront facility. Our highly acclaimed Cafe Pamlico restaurant provides catering for all events hosted by The Inn. We are your all-inclusive, professionally-managed Dream Wedding Destination.



## Pamlico Deli

53013 NC Highway 12 - Frisco  
252-995-3305  
www.pamlicodeliobx.com



The Pamlico Deli is a perfect location for small to midsize events. We can easily seat 45-50 guests in the main dining room. Formal (tablecloths, cloth napkins) plated meals to a casual buffet, Chef and Sommelier Nick Blaskovics can tailor a menu to any palate. The Deli regularly prepares Italian, French, Spanish (including Tapas), Portuguese and now Greek specialties. Of course, California Cuisine is a specialty of the house. Off site catering is also available. The Deli has all the tools to support a larger event.

## KM Creations

41934 NC Highway 12 - Avon  
252-986-5462  
kmcreations68@aol.com



KM Creations offers its clients products such as cakes, pies, cookies, cake pops, and chocolate bark. We also offer some traditional favorites and gluten-free options. KM Creations is conveniently located near Food Lion in Hatteras Island Plaza. Whether it's a wedding, birthday, or other special occasion, we have the desserts covered. The beauty of our offerings is that we enjoy working with our clients to create personalized products. Stop by or give us a call. Let us help put a smile on your face by making your dream celebration come true!



## Traveling Tonics & Tinktures

252-256-3418  
travelingtonics@gmail.com



Planning a wedding or private event on Hatteras or Ocracoke islands and don't know where to start with permits? When you book with us, not only do we take care of your drink menu and provide you with the most tantalizing libations, we also walk you through obtaining a permit if you need one. Let us take the stress of planning away and make your event a HITTT! Contact us with questions and to reserve your date.



## So Sweet OBX

Avon Pier  
757-318-8496  
sosweetobx@gmail.com



So Sweet is a cute dessert food truck and catering service for weddings, parties and events. We offer delicious ice cream, waffles, sundaes, and desserts to make your special day the sweetest day ever. Unique and fun, we are flexible to suit your needs with customization of trailer and/or menu. Our trailer is also available for rent-to-serve drinks or other items. Contact us with your ideas!



## Sun Flowers Florist

Hatteras  
252-473-0830  
www.sunflowershatteras.com



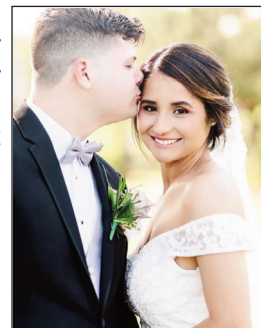
Sun Flowers Florist is a full service florist that has been serving Hatteras and Ocracoke for 19 years. We have 35 years of floral design experience. No wedding is too small and no detail goes unnoticed. Find us on Instagram and Facebook. @sunflowersfloristhatteras and facebook/SunFlowersHatteras.

## Coastal Wedding Company

Buxton  
252-996-0395



Whether you are looking for a traditional Christian, non-denominational, or contemporary service, Coastal Wedding Company has what you need. We can help personalize your wedding from poem readings to sand ceremonies, and anything else in between. Your wedding should reflect your personal feelings, beliefs, and love toward each other. What better place to have a unique wedding experience than on a windswept beach with the ocean as your backdrop, where your love story becomes forever!



## Sweet Event Company

www.sweeteventscr.com  
info@sweeteventscr.com  
Instagram @sweetevent.com



Sweet Event is a boutique event and wedding planning company based on Hatteras Island, with planning services all along the Outer Banks. We are masters in the art of celebration and believe in savoring life's greatest moments. We offer various wedding planning packages from day of coordination to destination wedding week management, boutique party

planning, event consultation, and a menu of creative services including hand lettering, design, and signage.

## Saintsalive Ministries

252-722-1107 - Buxton  
www.lbfam18.wixsite.com/saintsalive



Leslie is a mobile ordained minister serving "male and female" Christ followers and those seeking to know Christ. She offers Bible-based wedding ceremonies, vow renewals, christenings, and more! Her unique "Continuing Care" provides complimentary vow renewals and biblical life/marriage coaching to all couples. Best wishes, and don't wait---today, reserve a date!



## WaveAction Media

814-207-1524 - Frisco  
www.waveactionmedia.com



Capture your big day in the perfect way, with video! With nearly a decade of experience of wedding videography, Wave Action Media is the most reputable wedding video service on Hatteras and

Ocracoke islands. Choose from a variety of tiered packages or customize your own to capture a video keepsake of your big day that will endure forever. As island locals, you can trust their extensive familiarity with all the regional wedding venues and management of sometimes difficult logistics. Whether you want a simple capture of the ceremony, or a collection of all the day's events and a dramatically produced "trailer" of your big day, (complete with drone footage), Wave Action Media is your best choice for video on Hatteras and Ocracoke islands.

## Daniel Pullen Photography

47144 Middle Ridge Trail - Buxton  
252-305-9168  
www.pullenphoto.com



Local husband and wife professional photography team Daniel + Kate Pullen bring over 20 years of internationally published five star reviewed documentary wedding photography to your

day. Their style is bold + adventurous - an artistic blend of authentic photojournalism and dynamic portraiture. They are relaxed, engaging, quirky, and get really excited about great light and candid moments. They'll be 100% committed to creatively photographing your day.

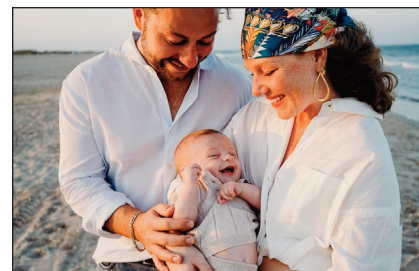
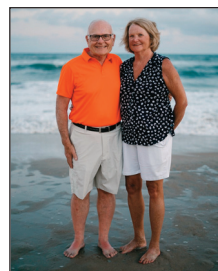


## Away Photo

40221 E Sunfish Ct. - Avon  
252-996-0158  
www.awayphotostudio.com



Away Photo Studio is a wedding and portrait photography company based on the Outer Banks and founded by Benny Crum. Benny's work is inspired by the raw and our islands and could be described as a blend of classic photojournalism and avant-garde. His portrait work focuses on capturing timeless images that last a lifetime. A local on Hatteras Island born and raised. Benny is available from Corolla to Ocracoke.



## Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals

Designer Showroom: 2001 S Croatan Hwy  
MP 9.75 Bypass - Kill Devil Hills  
www.oarevent.com  
Out of town: 888-627-3836 Local: 252-441-7272



Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals is your premier full-service wedding and event rental company. We serve wedding and event clients along the entire Outer Banks including Hatteras Is-

land and Ocracoke (special delivery fees apply). Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals carries a wide variety of event tents, tables, chairs, dance floors, lighting, glassware, flatware, china, linen, staging, and other items for your wedding, party, or private function. We carry event rentals for the hottest cocktail hour or a classic, timeless wedding reception. Our designer showroom is located at 2001 S. Croatan Highway in Kill Devil Hills. Stop by our showroom to browse our rentals and ask our rental experts any questions you may have. Our showroom showcases our rental selection and features a stunning variety of tablescapes created by local wedding designers that utilize our rentals. Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals' wedding client, Sara, perfectly summarized in her testimonial, "Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals had awesome customer service since the day we ordered our wedding tables, chairs, and linens..." As we always say, "If you dream it, we rent it!" and we would love the opportunity to be a part of your special day!



## Island Hopper Shuttle

Hatteras  
252-995-6771

Island Hopper Shuttle can help with all your transportation needs for your special day. From local taxi services to airport shuttles, Island Hopper is your reliable resource for getting around Hatteras Island and miles beyond. Please call ahead for large parties.



## Hatteras and Ocracoke Wedding Information

Hatteras and Ocracoke islands are conveniently located within driving distance from most states, making them an affordable and perfect choice for an Outer Banks Wedding. The beauty, tranquility, and privacy that our islands provide are second to none as a choice for an island wedding. With the help of The Island Free Press Wedding Guide, you can easily plan your island wedding from anywhere in the world. Here is the essential information you will need to get started — local vendors, marriage laws, travel and weather information, essential phone numbers and more.

### North Carolina Marriage Law

Age requirement: 18 (16 w/parental consent).  
Under 21 requires birth certificate.  
Waiting Period: none  
Blood Test: none  
Cost: \$60  
License: Valid for 60 days and is valid in any area in the state of North Carolina

- If either applicant is divorced, a divorce decree is required.
- A social security card or other proof of social security number (tax return, pay stub, etc.) is required.
- A picture ID is required.
- There must be two witnesses at any marriage ceremony, whether it is civil or religious.

After the marriage ceremony, whoever performs the ceremony is required to give the couple a marriage certificate. This certificate includes the couple's names and addresses, the date of the marriage, the county that issues the marriage license, and the date of the license. The minister or magistrate must sign the license, then return it to the register of deeds who issues the license. This is the official record of the ceremony.

### Register Your Outer Banks Wedding at the Register of Deeds Offices

Dare Register of Deeds (Hatteras Island)  
Dare County Government Center  
926 Marshall Collins Drive  
Manteo, NC 27954  
252 473-3438

Hours: 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Hyde County (Ocracoke)  
Register of Deeds  
P.O. Box 294  
Swan Quarter, NC 27885  
(252) 926-4198

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

There are no justices of the peace in North Carolina. Magistrates may be contacted in Dare County at (252) 473-2010 or for Ocracoke Island, call (252) 926-4198.

If an applicant does not have a social security number, he or she needs to contact a notary public. The notary public will file a special affidavit that will officially state the reason(s) why a social security number does not exist and allow the applicant to get a marriage license.

### Outer Banks Wedding Locations

#### The Beach & Beach Houses

A beach house wedding can be both intimate and relaxing. You will need to check with your rental company to make sure that the house you would like to book allows events. Not all homes are equipped for or allow weddings. You will also need to contact your rental company if you would like to have the reception onsite and need to set up tents, chairs, tables, dance floors, etc. Every home is different, and each rental company has its own requirements, allowances, and fees. Visit our vendor page for rental company information.

Beach weddings are picturesque and memorable. All of the beaches on Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands are part of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. There are requirements and restrictions for holding your ceremony on the park's beaches. Information provided by the National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/caha/fees.html>

A special use permit is required for activities that provide a benefit to an individual, group or organization, rather than the public at large, and that requires some degree of management from the National Park Service to protect park resources and the public interest.

#### Examples include:

- Religious ceremonies including weddings
- Fishing tournaments
- Surfing tournaments
- Commercial filming
- Bike tours
- Marathons
- Car rallies
- Public speeches and assemblies

Permit fees vary and are generally in a range between \$100 and \$500. However, any activity which requires NPS personnel participation or monitoring, or which creates extraordinary administrative work, will be charged an additional cost for such services. Any damage to park resources including litter cleanup will be billed the full cost for restoration.

### Other Outer Banks Wedding Sites

#### Lighthouses

Certain areas of the national seashore are better suited for wedding ceremonies than others, particularly given the limited parking resources available within the park. The three lighthouses have different parking space availability. Please note that all of the sites are for wedding ceremonies only. There are no facilities for receptions. However, there are a number of such facilities available privately. Please check some of the links provided below.

**Ocracoke Lighthouse:** Immediately south of Cape Hatteras, Ocracoke Island must be reached by ferry operated by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Travel time by car

and ferry averages about two hours from Nags Head, depending on the time of day. The ferry operates at different times during the day, and the schedule is published at <http://www.ncferry.org/>. Parking is extremely limited at the lighthouse, and the lighthouse itself is closed to the public. Because the area is immediately adjacent to wetlands and fragile grasses, this site is best suited for very small and intimate wedding ceremonies of three to 12 people. From Memorial Day until Labor Day, permits will be issued only for weddings before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. daily.

**Cape Hatteras Lighthouse:** Buxton is approximately 40 miles south of Manteo and Nags Head. This is perhaps the most famous of all lighthouses on the Atlantic Coast, and it is the tallest. Thousands of visitors come to this lighthouse on a daily basis during the summer months. While the lighthouse is open to the public from April until October, weddings cannot be performed within the lighthouse itself or on its steps and paths. Continuous public access to the lighthouse is required at all times. Parking and restroom facilities are readily available, and this area is more suitable for larger weddings of up to 25 people. However, the area is less intimate given the great number of people visiting the lighthouse on a daily basis. From Memorial Day until Labor Day, permits will be issued only for weddings before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. daily. Larger weddings can more easily be accommodated at the beach area just beyond the lighthouse.

**Bodie Island Lighthouse:** Situated approximately eight miles south of Nags Head and Manteo, this is perhaps the most accessible of the park's lighthouses for most visitors. The site includes a nice expansive grassy area, parking facilities for up to 50 cars, and restroom facilities. This is ideally suited for larger wedding parties. From Memorial Day until Labor Day, permits will be issued only for weddings before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. daily.

### Beach Areas:

**Ocracoke Island.** There are a number of sites that are well suited for wedding ceremonies along the magnificent coastline of the Atlantic Ocean. Just north (approximately four miles) of the village of Ocracoke is the day use area with parking spaces for 35 cars. During the summer season, it

is also a lifeguarded beach. Approximately one mile north of the day use beach is the campground with parking spaces for 50 cars. And, approximately three miles north of that is the pony pen area with parking for 25 cars. All provide beach access and spectacular views of the ocean.

**Hatteras Island.** Adjacent to the lighthouse are a number of beach areas ideally suited for weddings. Entering the park and across from the visitors' parking lot is a beach access that leads to a picturesque and large expanse of beach suitable for larger weddings. Most days there is adequate parking for larger numbers of people, and immediately nearby is our new restroom facility. Above that site are the stones marking the original site of the lighthouse. This area and the adjacent beach are also picturesque sites for a wedding. Past the ranger's station, follow the park road leading to Cape Point and a smaller parking area for approximately 15 cars. This is a beautiful and usually less populous section of beach. Most beach locations provide an excellent view of the lighthouse for special photo opportunities.

**Bodie Island.** Immediately east of the Bodie Island Lighthouse is the Coquina Beach day use area with parking spaces for 115 cars. The beach is very popular with visitors to the seashore. Vehicles are not permitted on the beach north of the ramp access. Restroom facilities are available during the summer and fall months.

If you would like to apply for a wedding permit, you may simply address a letter to the National Park Service, in care of the superintendent:

Superintendent  
National Park Service  
1401 National Park Drive  
Manteo, NC 27954

Include in the letter your name, mailing address and telephone number, including area code; the date, time and place of the proposed wedding; and approximately how many people will be attending. Send this about 30 days before the wedding date together with a check in the amount of \$100 made payable to National Park Service to the address above. You can expect your



permit in about 15 days. If you have any questions about the process or your permit, please contact the Special Park Uses Coordinator at (252) 473-2111, Ext. 121.

### Airport and Ferry Information

The closest airport to Hatteras and Ocracoke Island is Norfolk International Airport. For information please visit or call:

Norfolk International Airport (ORF)  
www.norfolkairport.com • 757-857-3351

There is no public transportation to either island with the exception of the NCDOT Ferry Service. For more information on the ferry and schedules visit <http://www.ncdot.org/transit/ferry/> or call 1-800- BY FERRY

If planning a wedding on Ocracoke please visit the ferry information website to get the current schedule. Ocracoke is only accessible by ferry year-round from Hatteras Village, Cedar Island or Swan Quarter. For more information please visit <http://www.ncdot.org/transit/ferry/> or call 1-800- BY FERRY.

### Weather

The most popular months to have an island wedding are May, June, September and October. Weather during these months is normally in the 60's to 70's and sunshine is abundant. Hurricane season runs from June 1st – November 30th so you may want to consider wedding insurance when planning a wedding during those months.

**Island Free Press**  
HATTERAS AND OCRACOKE ISLANDS' NUMBER ONE NEWS SOURCE

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the Outer Banks  
all year long!*

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