

Frequently Asked Questions for Carlyle House Rentals



Thank you for considering the Carlyle House for your event!

We invite you to walk around the grounds, visit the gazebo, stroll through the gardens, and enjoy the view from the Magnolia Terrace.

How do I contact you?

You can reach us at 703-549-2997 or CarlyleRentals@nvrpa.org

What are your rental options?

Carlyle House offers outdoor rentals in our beautiful grounds and on the Magnolia Terrace. We offer a 1-hour microwedding ceremony, 2-hour ceremony, or an evening event rental (evenings only 4:30pm- 10:30pm). Rentals include access to the tented Magnolia Terrace and restrooms in the Visitor Services (basement) level of the museum.

When are rentals available?

Rentals are available from April through October, when the tent is in place on the Magnolia Terrace. Ceremony rentals are available during the winter months; however, there is no back-up space (i.e. – the tented Magnolia Terrace) in the event of inclement weather. Due to regular annual events, British flags are displayed on the front of the house in March or April and black drapery is displayed in October (see image on page 3).

May I schedule a rental tour?

Prospective renters may arrange for a rental tour by calling the museum at 703-549-2997 or emailing CarlyleRentals@nvrpa.org. Tours must be scheduled in advance as there is no guarantee the staff is available for walk-in rental tours.

What is the booking process?

For **1-hour microwedding ceremony, 2-hour ceremony rentals**, the entire amount, including tax and security deposit, is due at contract signing in order to secure the date. For an **evening event rental**, a deposit of half the base rental amount, plus tax, is necessary upon contract signing in order to secure the date. The remainder of the rental fee and security deposit (\$500) are due no later than sixty (60) days prior to the rental.

What times do you rent?

The Carlyle House Historic Park is primarily available for rental from April through October. All events take place outdoors. If rented from November through March, a covered space is not guaranteed and there is no alternative or indoor space in case of inclement weather. More details about the different types of ceremonies are below and pricing can be found on the last page of this document.

- **Micro-Weddings/1 hour rentals** are available at flexible times, seven days a week. This rental option provides you with exclusive access to the gardens and the Magnolia Terrace. No chair rental is permitted with this rental option. Rental time must be agreed to at contract signing and the **maximum number of people, including wedding party is 25**.
- **Ceremony/2 hour rentals** are possible seven days a week for a two-hour period at flexible times. One additional hour may be purchased, for a total of 3 hours. This rental option provides you with exclusive access to either, the gardens and the Magnolia Terrace, OR the front lawn, depending upon the time of day. All set up and tear down must happen during the rental period.

- **Evening event rentals** take place from 4:30 pm to 10:30 pm, with the site cleaned up and everyone, including vendors, off site by 11:30 pm. If you wish to start prior to 4:30 pm, the hour between 3:30 and 4:30 may be purchased for an additional \$275 plus tax. Please note that these times include all set-up and clean-up. We do not offer these full event rentals prior to 3:30 pm.

What is your cancellation policy?

In the event that the Renter cancels the reservation 6 months or more prior to the rental date, the entire amount paid to Carlyle House, minus a \$250 administration fee, will be refunded to the Renter. In the event that the Renter cancels the reservation **within** 6 months of the rental date, all payments are forfeited with the exception of the security deposit (\$500). In the case of the latter circumstance, if the canceled rental date is rebooked by another party, the entire amount paid to Carlyle House, minus a \$250 administration fee, will be refunded to the Renter.

What is the security deposit?

The \$500 security deposit is fully refundable after the event as long as there are no contractual violations and will be returned within 30 days after the event. If the initial payment is made with a credit card, the security deposit will be refunded to that card. If the initial payment is made with a check, the security deposit check will be mailed from NOVA Parks to the address on file. Please notify us of any address changes to ensure that you receive your refund. Otherwise, you will incur a check-reissue fee.

What is included in the rental?

For 1- and 2-hour rentals, you and your guests have exclusive use of the grounds for the duration of the rental. You may have your ceremony and/or reception on the Magnolia Terrace, in the garden, or on the front lawn, depending upon the time of day and how it relates to the museum's open hours. You also have access to the restrooms in the Visitor Services (basement) level of the museum. If your rental is between April and October, your rental includes use of the tent on the Magnolia Terrace, whether it is the back-up ceremony location for a garden wedding or the reception location for your evening event. The tent has sides that can be utilized if there is inclement weather. Evening event rentals have access to the small kitchen and some additional space in the basement level, if necessary, as well as the option for tours during the first hour of the event.

- Carlyle House **does not** provide equipment of any kind (tables, chairs, linens, etc.). We can suggest rental firms for these and other items. Carlyle House **does not** provide space for the bride or bridal party to dress for the wedding, indoor pre-ceremony waiting areas, or storage space for gifts.

What is allowed in the museum rooms?

During evening event rentals only, the main floor of the house may be opened for one (1) hour for your guests to tour. Food, drinks, flowers, photography, and ceremonies are **not allowed** inside the museum. Ceremony-only rentals do not include access to the museum rooms.

What is the maximum capacity for a ceremony only? Due to the ongoing pandemic, COVID requirements by the State of Virginia and/or NOVA Parks may dictate changes to these capacity numbers.

A **1-hour Microwedding** ceremony is limited to 25 people or fewer, regardless of the location on the property.

For a **2-hour ceremony** rental, the capacity depends on the ceremony location. There can be up to 60 in the garden or around the gazebo, up to 75 seated on the terrace, and up to 100 on the front lawn.

What is the maximum capacity for an evening ceremony and reception? Due to the ongoing pandemic, COVID requirements by the State of Virginia and/or NOVA Parks may dictate changes to these capacity numbers.

The maximum capacity is 75 people for a seated reception, or up to 100 for a cocktail hour style, standing only reception. Please note that the only location that can accommodate 100 people comfortably for a ceremony is the front lawn.

What are the catering options?

The purchase and serving of alcohol for all evening event rentals is **exclusively handled by NOVA Parks' caterers, Great Blue Heron.** For all alcohol-related questions, please contact GBH and CC the Atrium on emails:

- Great Blue Heron Catering Department: gbhweddings@nvrpa.org | 703.255.3631, ext. 107
- Atrium Rental Office: atrium@nvrpa.org | 703.255.3631, ext. 105

Carlyle House does not require the use of a specific caterer for food service. We do however, require that your food caterer provides us with documentation of their insurance. They must also come for a site visit/caterer's tour prior to the event if they have not worked here in the 12 months prior to the event. We are happy to provide a list of caterers who have worked with us in the past.

For **1 and 2-hour rentals**, no food or beverages are allowed except for bottled water. Carlyle House does not provide coolers, refrigeration, or tables for this purpose.

Are there any restrictions on music?

Amplified music is **not** allowed, except for ceremony music. We have a list of acoustic musicians that have successfully worked here. **No DJs or singers with microphones are allowed.** However, small portable speakers, such as Bluetooth speakers, are permitted. Any variation of amplified instruments/ sound must be approved in advance by the Site Manager.

What activities are allowed in the garden?

Wedding ceremonies for all types of rentals are permitted in the garden. Food and drink are allowed in the garden **only for evening event rentals**. Please note that the garden has no electricity, and we do not provide any equipment such as extension cords.

What are our parking options?

Carlyle House does not have dedicated parking facilities. Please note that there are **no parking facilities available onsite** at the Carlyle House Historic Park. Renters may obtain a dedicated parking permit for the street in front of the house through the City of Alexandria.

Reserving parking spaces on N. Fairfax Street in front of Carlyle House facilitates drop-off and pick-up of equipment, provides a place for catering vehicle to park, as well as parking for some members of the bridal party. When reserving the time, the Renter must allow for set-up and break-down times, in other words, the entire rental period.

Please visit the City of Alexandria website for information about how to obtain a permit:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=3458>

There are two parking garages within walking distance from Carlyle House Historic Park. Republic Parking (Market Square Parking Garage), across North Fairfax Street from Carlyle House and Colonial Parking garage in the 100 block of N. Union Street.

Please note that there is a drapery on the house throughout October that cannot be removed. See photo right.





CARLYLE HOUSE RENTALS 2023

(Booked before July 1st, 2023)

Reception, Friday-Sunday, in jurisdiction

$\$2,400 + \text{Tax } (\$144) = \$2,544 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,272)$ is due at contract signing

Reception, Friday-Sunday, outside jurisdiction

$\$3,000 + \text{Tax } (\$180) = \$3,180 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,590)$ is due at contract signing

Reception, Monday-Thursday, in jurisdiction

$\$1,800 + \text{Tax } (\$108) = \$1,908 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$954)$ is due at contract signing

Reception, Monday-Thursday, outside jurisdiction

$\$2,200 + \text{Tax } (\$132) = \$2,332 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,166)$ is due at contract signing



Ceremony-Only Prices (2 hour rental), in jurisdiction

$\$800 + \text{Tax } (\$48) = \$848 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

Full payment is due at contract signing

Ceremony-Only Prices (2 hour rental), outside jurisdiction

$\$900 + \text{Tax } (\$54) = \$954 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

Full payment is due at contract signing

Extra Hours

$\$275 \text{ per hour} + \text{tax } (\$16.50) = \$291.50$

In jurisdiction includes: City of Alexandria, Arlington County, City of Fairfax, Fairfax County, Falls Church, Loudoun County



CARLYLE HOUSE RENTALS 2024

(Booked after July 1st, 2023)

Reception, Friday-Sunday, in jurisdiction

$\$2,520 + \text{Tax } (\$151.20) = \$2,671.20 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,335.60)$ is due at contract signing

Reception, Friday-Sunday, outside jurisdiction

$\$3,150 + \text{Tax } (\$189) = \$3,339 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,669.50)$ is due at contract signing

Reception, Monday-Thursday, in jurisdiction

$\$1,890 + \text{Tax } (\$113.40) = \$2,003.40 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,001.70)$ is due at contract signing

Reception, Monday-Thursday, outside jurisdiction

$\$2,310 + \text{Tax } (\$138.60) = \$2,448.60 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

$\frac{1}{2} (\$1,224.3)$ is due at contract signing



Ceremony-Only Prices (2 hour rental), in jurisdiction

$\$840 + \text{Tax } (\$50.40) = \$890.40 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

Full payment is due at contract signing

Ceremony-Only Prices (2 hour rental), outside jurisdiction

$\$945 + \text{Tax } (\$56.70) = \$1,001.70 + \500 Sec. Deposit
(Refundable)

Full payment is due at contract signing

Extra Hours

$\$300 \text{ per hour} + \text{tax } (\$18) = \$318$