

Zaki Charles Photography



CONGRATULATIONS!

The Ashmolean has been telling stories since 1683.
Let us help tell yours.

Set among Oxford's dreaming spires, the Ashmolean Museum is an enchanting venue for your wedding, civil partnership, or celebration. The grade 1 listed building houses a vast and varied collection of art and history spanning half a million years, providing a range of unique and romantic backdrops to your special day.

The galleries are licenced to hold intimate daytime and larger evening ceremonies. In the evenings the Ashmolean is exclusively yours for a ceremony, jubilant reception, sumptuous wedding breakfast and dancing.

Every wedding is different, which is why our friendly team are on hand to tailor your day to your vision. From finding the picture-perfect photo backdrop to sharing our handpicked list of suppliers and creatives, they are dedicated to creating cherished memories for you and your guests.

'We had such an amazing wedding at the Ashmolean, something
we will always remember'.





A Vase of Flowers ▸
Elias van den Broeck (1649 or 1650 - 1708)
Second floor I Gallery 48 I Still-life Paintings

WELCOME

Nestled in the heart of Oxford city centre, the Ashmolean is the oldest public museum in the world.

The grand and elegant façade will not fail to impress your guests as they arrive at the Museum.

The iconic portico and neoclassical architecture offer a fantastic opportunity for wedding photography and provides a wonderful backdrop for confetti following your ceremony.

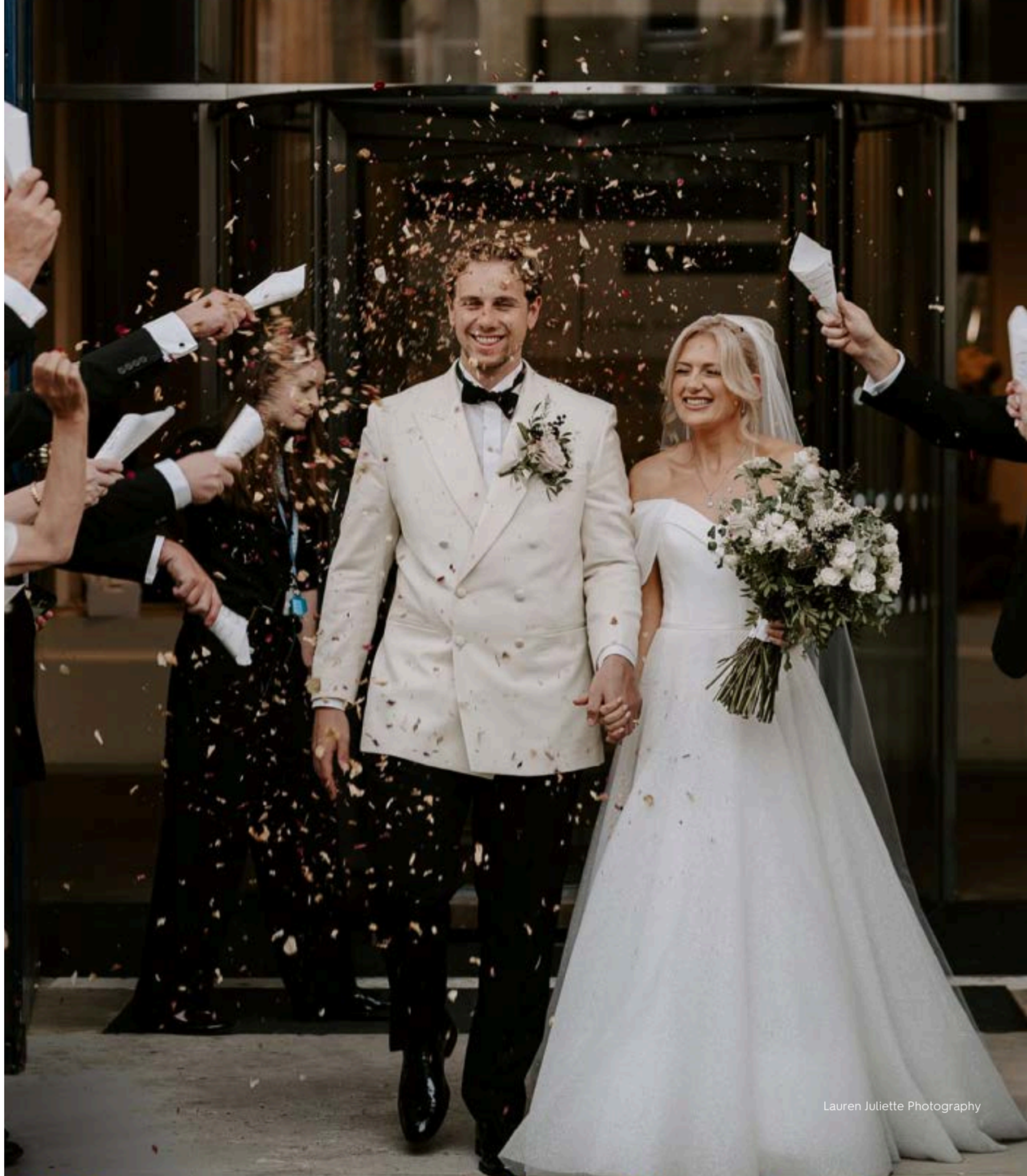
The forecourt, with the iconic museum backdrop, is a perfect outdoor space for welcome drinks on a summer evening.

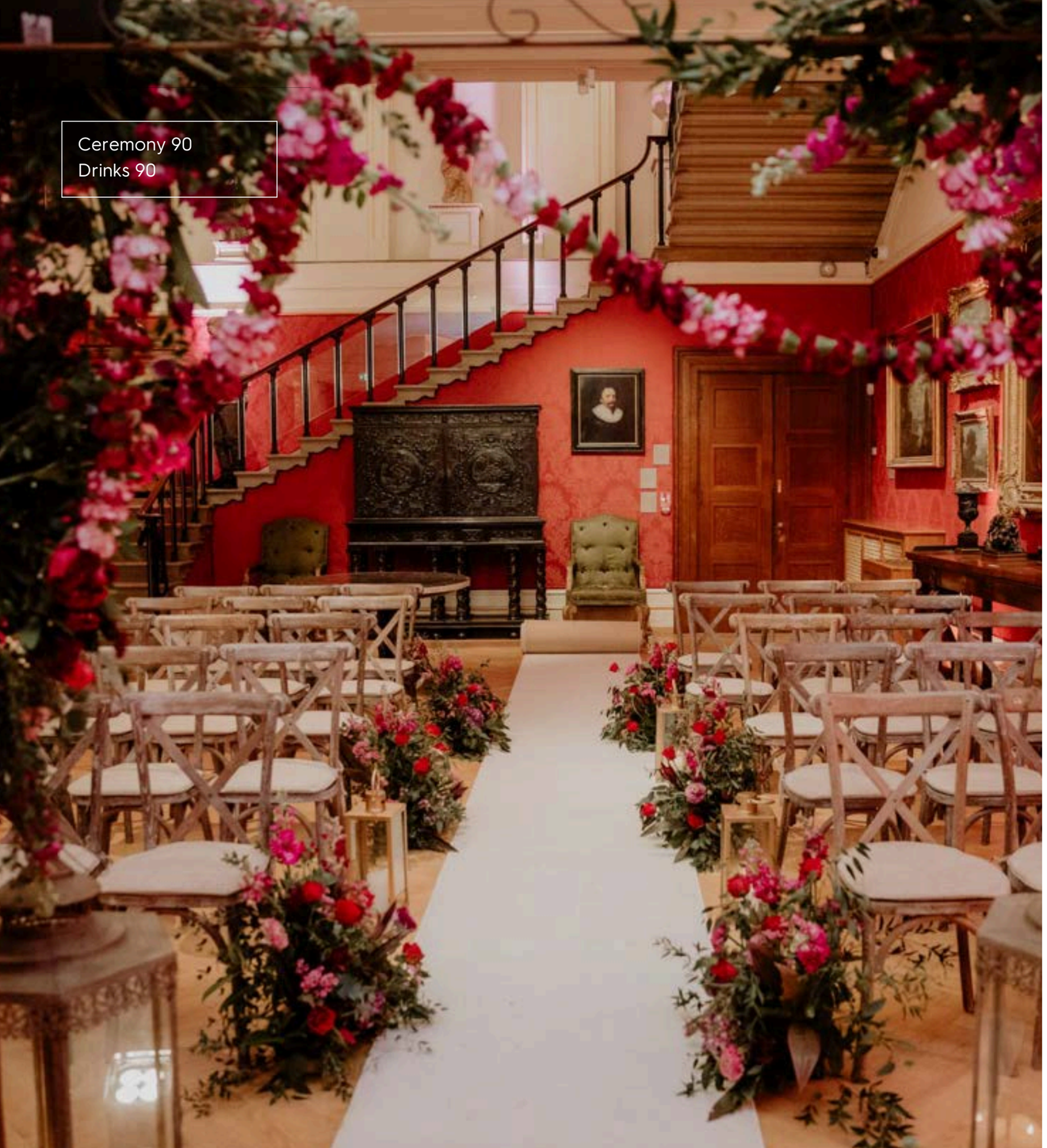




V&H Wedding Photography

The Neo-classical Forecourt ▸
Charles Robert Cockerell, built in 1845


Lauren Juliette Photography



CEREMONY

The European Art Gallery is a spacious ceremony room that evokes the richness of an historic art collection in an English country estate.

Surrounded by an incredible collection of Old Master paintings and impressive portraits it provides the perfect backdrop of romance for you to say that all- important ‘I do’.

This charming and opulent space features a beautiful descending staircase perfect for the wedding procession and making your grand entrance.

NON-LEGAL CEREMONIES & RENEWAL OF VOWS

Celebrate your union your way. We work with a handful of celebrants who can work with you to create a ceremony that reflects your beliefs and your personalities.

We also welcome a celebrant of your own choosing.





Great bookcase ▸
(1859 - 1862) Third floor I Gallery 66 I Pre-Raphaelites

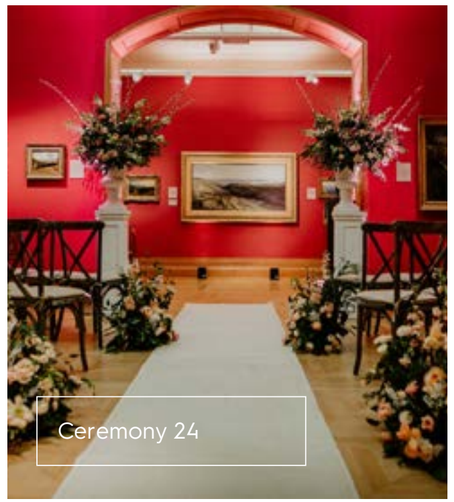
INTIMATE CEREMONY

The Museum boasts a number of charming and romantic art galleries for elopements and intimate wedding ceremonies.

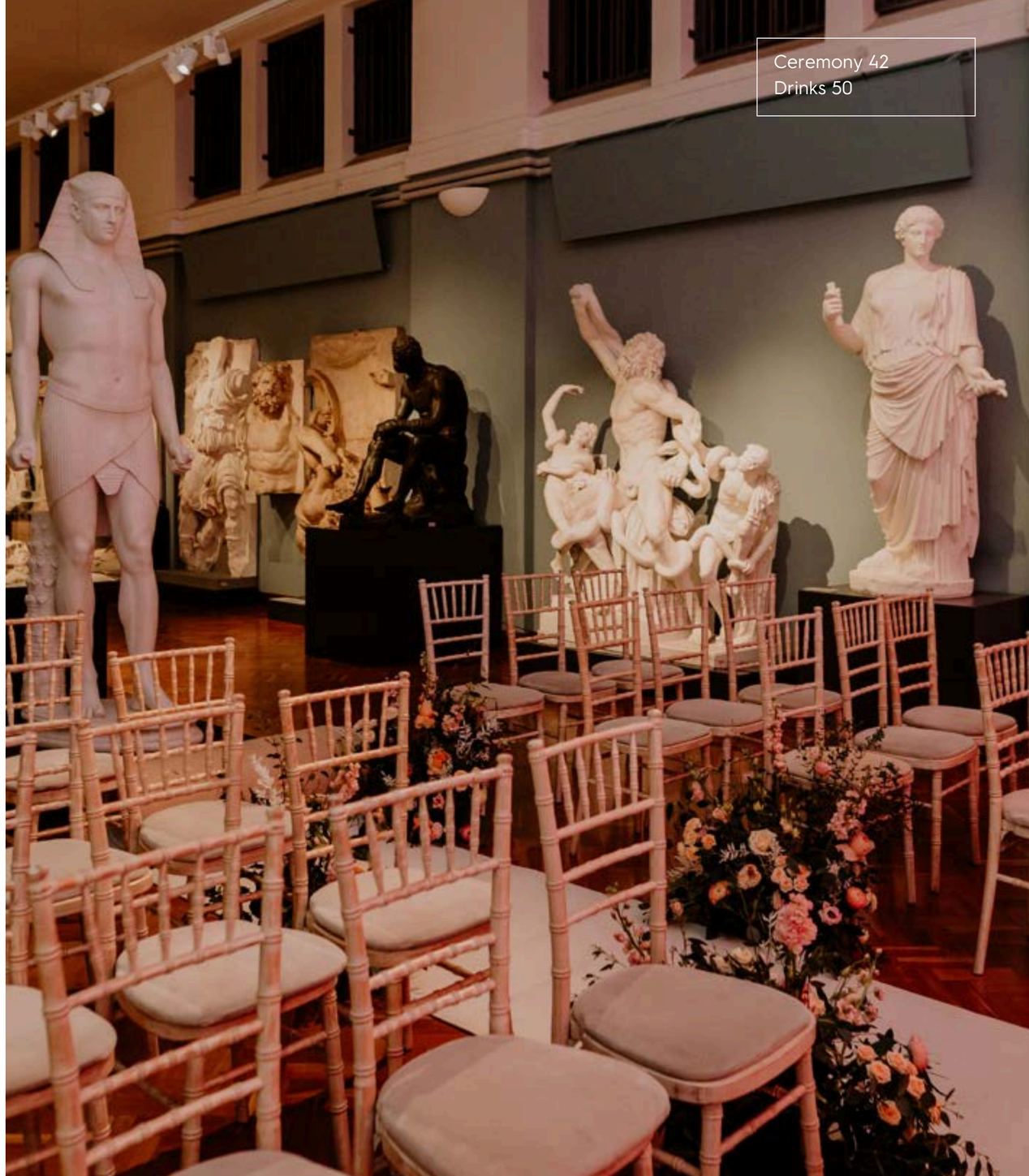
The 19th Century Art Gallery displays an array of landscapes and the Pre-Raphaelites Gallery holds the highly decorated Great Bookcase providing stunning backdrops to tie the knot.

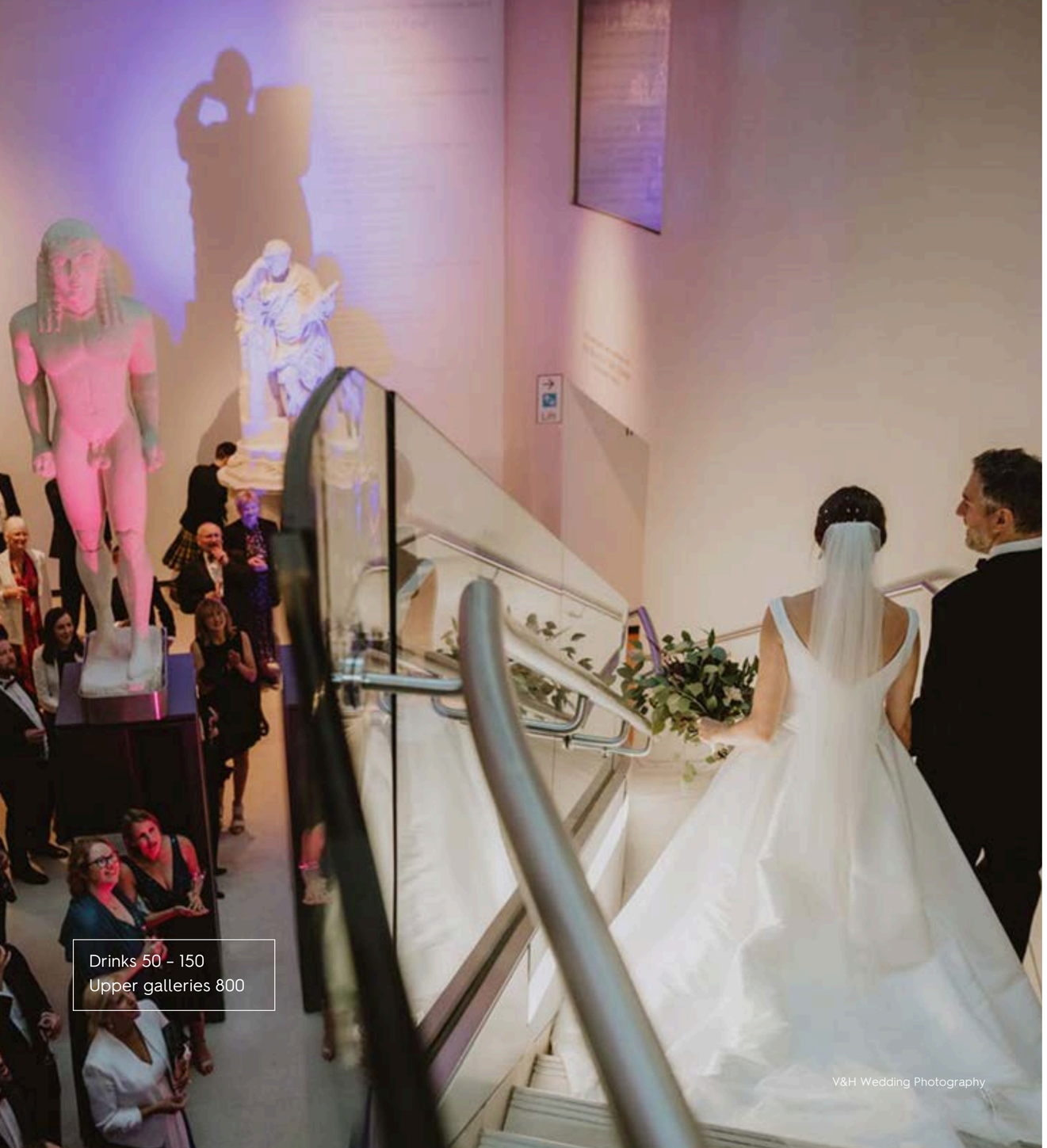
The Cast Gallery offers an elegant and classical space which houses Britain's largest collection of monumental and sculpture casts. Perfect for an intimate ceremony or drinks reception, its understated elegance will certainly delight.


Ceremony 18


Ceremony 24

Jerusalem Landscape ▸
Edward Lear (1812–1888)
Third floor I Gallery 67 I 19th Century Art


Ceremony 42
Drinks 50



DRINKS RECEPTION

The Atrium is a beautiful contemporary space that provides an unforgettable setting for a drinks reception.

The architectural staircase sweeps up through the heart of the Museum and offers the perfect platform for addressing your guests.

The colossal statue of Apollo from the Temple of Zeus at Olympia, and the adjoining galleries, make it an impressive space where your guests can socialise, enjoy a fine selection of drinks and canapés while exploring the Museum's world-class collections.





WEDDING BREAKFAST

Dine shoulder to shoulder with the Arundel Marbles, an impressive collection of classical sculptures housed in our Greek and Roman Sculpture Gallery.

Flagged by striking columns, this magnificent space offers a dramatic and unique location for a wedding breakfast.





The Oxford Bust ▸
Rome (50 - 200)
Ground floor I Gallery 21 I Greek and Roman Sculpture





Dinner 70
Dinner and Dancing 70
Ceremony 50-70
Drinks Reception 100

Ellie Gillard Photography



V&H Wedding Photography



Sunshine in the Woods

ROOFTOP DINING ROOM & OUTDOOR TERRACE

This hidden gem, an oasis of calm, hidden high above the busy city centre of Oxford is bathed in natural light that ours through the floor to ceiling windows by day, and reflects the glittering lights of the city by night.

Perfect for a morning ceremony, wedding breakfast or anniversary celebration.

The Terrace offers an elegant outside space where you can catch up with your guests and take in the view, while enjoying a fine selection of drinks & canapés.

You and your guests will take their seats indoors for a fine dining experience, followed by dancing and a late bar.



Dancing girl performing for a Raja
18th century (1701-1800)
Eastern Art

EVENING RECEPTION

The vaulted under-croft with its flagstone flooring, vaulted ceiling arches and booth-style seating alcoves, is an atmospheric and informal setting to end the evening with dancing, live music, and an optional bar.

It is a perfect place to relax and have some fun with your guests.

Enjoy your celebration for longer by requesting a late licence.



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Bar and Dancing 150

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MULTI-CULTURAL WEDDINGS

At the Ashmolean we celebrate the richness of cultural diversity.

Our experienced Weddings Team will work with you to weave in your traditions and customs to create a very special day.

Hanging lamp
Mamluk Period (1299 – 1340)
First floor | Gallery 31 | Islamic Middle East







REHEARSAL DINNERS & POST WEDDING BRUNCHES

Take your celebrations across the whole weekend.

Host family and friends at a rehearsal dinner in our Galleries or ring in newly wedded life with a brunch overlooking the Oxford skyline in our Rooftop Restaurant.





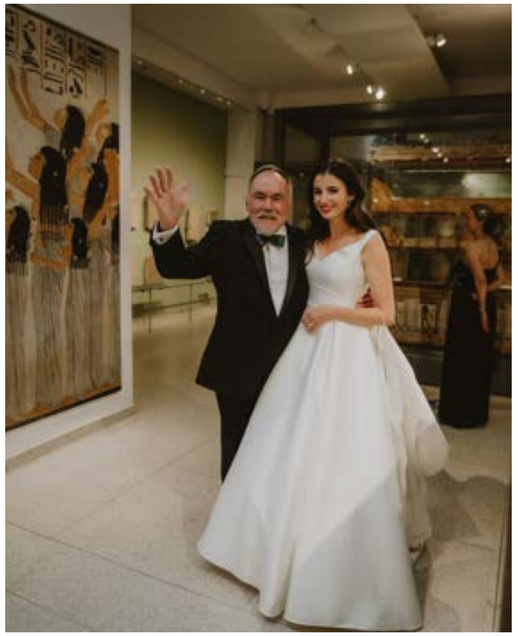
NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM EXPERIENCES

With over half a million years of human history under one roof, the Ashmolean offers more than a backdrop for your wedding.

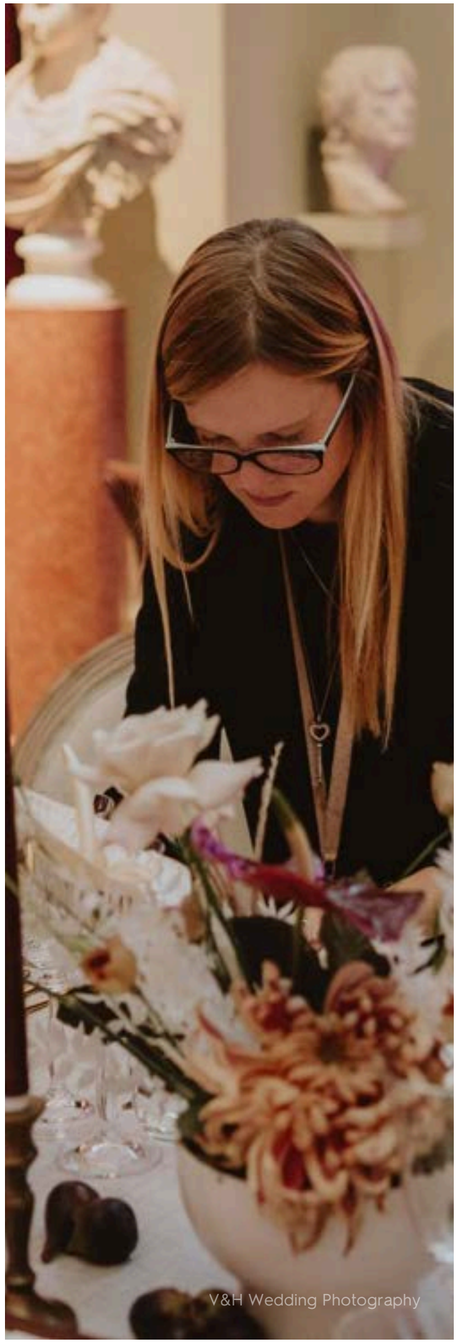
Add a curator-led introduction or a private highlights tour to the evening, and give your guests a memorable experience that brings our world-class collections to life.

It will spark conversations and make your day even more memorable.





Djeddjehutyluefankh Mummy – nested coffins ▸
Deir el-Bahri, western Thebes, Egypt c.770–712BC
Ground floor I Gallery 24 I Life after Death in Ancient Egypt



V&H Wedding Photography

ASHMOLEAN

A-LIST

Over the years we have developed relationships with trusted partners who support events at the Museum. This means we can offer our clients a list of hand-picked suppliers and creatives who share our values and meet our high standards. Familiar with our event spaces, they will work with your ideas and bring them to life in the Museum.

Before considering a partnership, we ask about sustainable policies; what they are doing to reduce their own carbon footprint and and how we can work together towards more environmentally sustainable events.

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY

The Museum offers many unique and romantic backdrops for your celebration photographs. From enchanting art galleries to classical architecture, it really is a venue like no other.



MARK HORTON PHOTOS







CATERING PARTNERS

OXFORD FINE DINING

At Oxford Fine Dining every single wedding is a new story. Whether you are dreaming of a timeless sit-down wedding breakfast with champagne and canapés, a vintage outdoor party with cocktails, or a relaxed buffet, their chefs will use innovation and creativity tailored to you to ensure deliciously different menus on your most special occasion.

BENUGO EVENT CATERING

Benugo Events create spectacular culinary occasions with a magical sense of the unexpected, exquisite taste and exacting attention to detail.

Created with passion, their food is sustainably sourced, showcasing the best seasonal and local produce, beautifully designed to create an extraordinary dining experience.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

From 8:30am–10:00am the Museum is available for exclusive hire for a morning ceremony
From 10:00am–5.00pm we can host daytime ceremonies and will close off the gallery to the public.
From 5.30pm the Museum is exclusively yours for the evening until midnight with an optional extension to 1am.

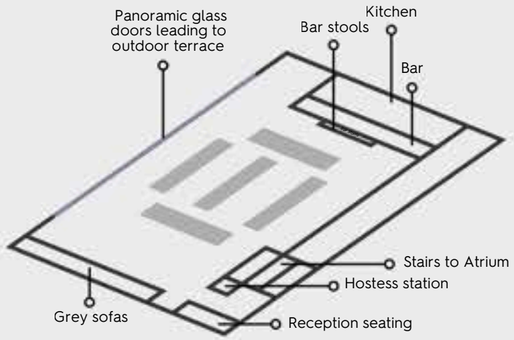
You may host your wedding reception in the Rooftop Restaurant in the daytime, or the evening and in the galleries **from 6.00pm** each evening.

All our galleries and external spaces are fully accessible.

ROOFTOP RESTAURANT

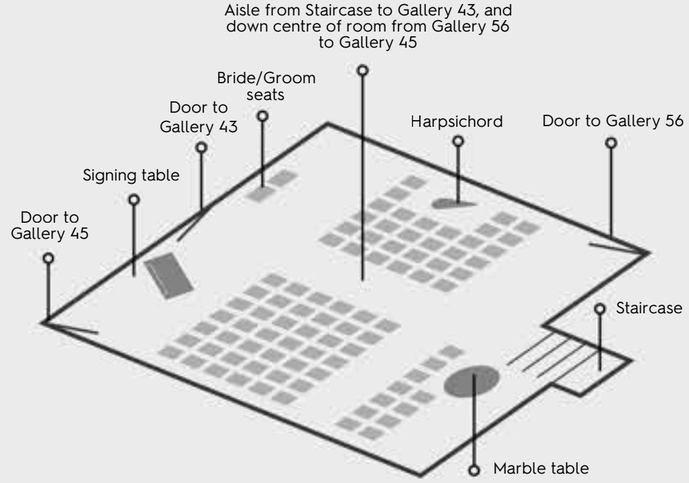
70 Guests with drinks and dancing area

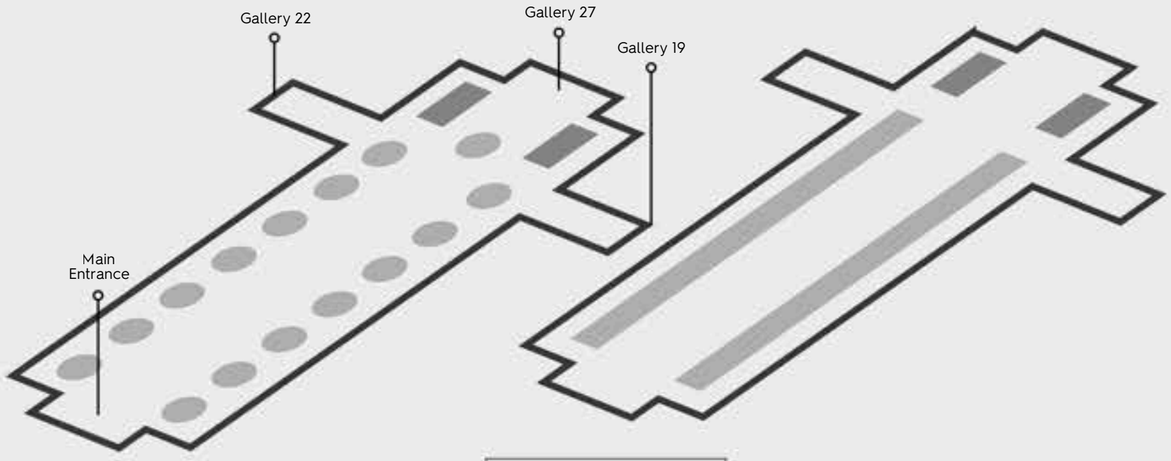
Capacity
Dinner 70
Dinner and Dancing 70
Ceremony 50-70
Drinks Reception 100



THE EUROPEAN ART GALLERY

Capacity
Ceremony 90
Drinks 90





GREEK AND ROMAN SCULPTURE GALLERY

with 15 round tables

Capacity
Drinks 180
Buffet 120
Dinner 150
Ceremony 120

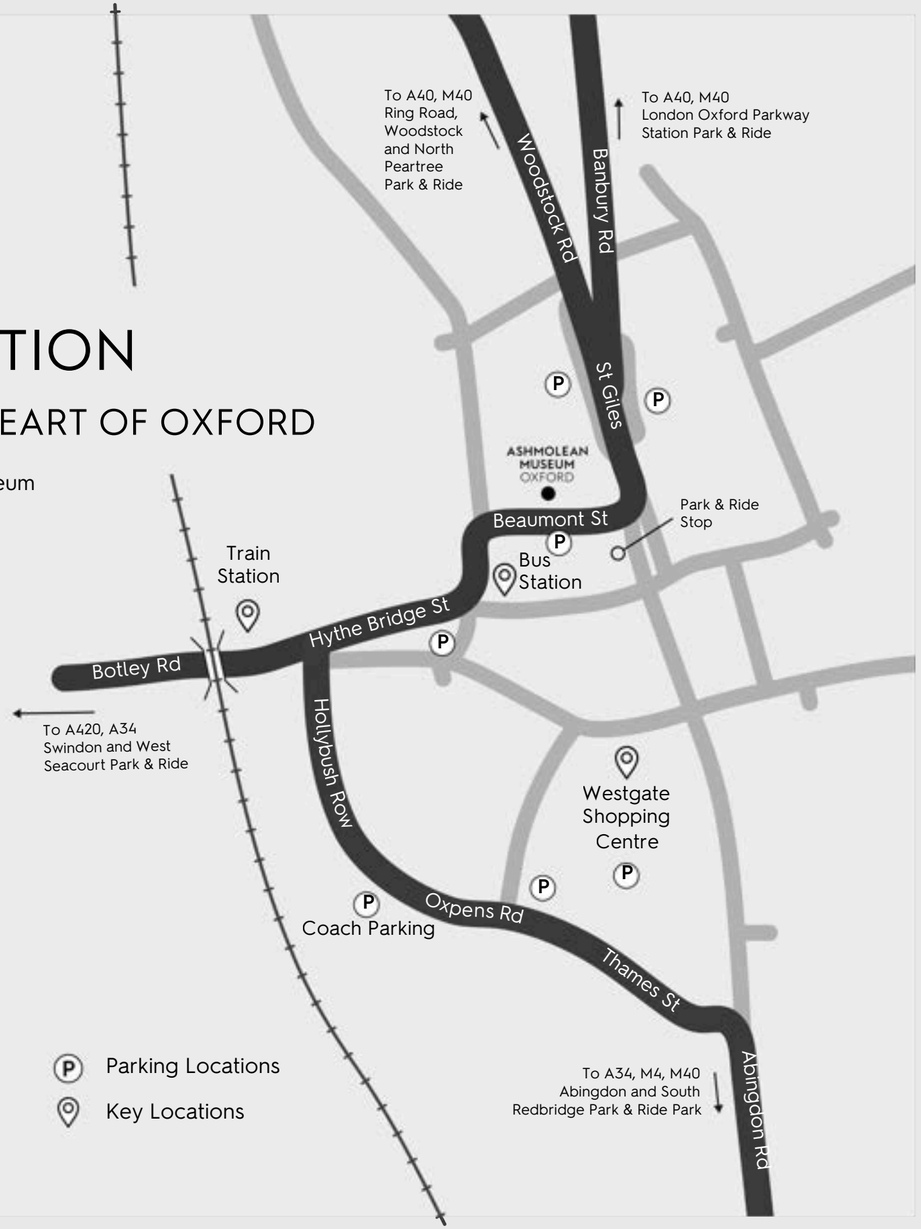
GREEK AND ROMAN SCULPTURE GALLERY

with long tables

LOCATION

AT THE HEART OF OXFORD

Ashmolean Museum
Beaumont St
Oxford
OX1 2PH



OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

We wholeheartedly believe that weddings can be kinder to the planet without compromising on style or quality. Our team is passionate about upholding our responsibility for the environmental impact of weddings at the Ashmolean.

We are proud to be working towards accreditation from the Sustainable Wedding Alliance, an alliance of businesses with the shared purpose of creating more sustainable and environmentally conscious weddings.

360° VIRTUAL TOURS

Click the links below to virtually explore some of the Ashmolean Museum's wedding spaces.

- Arrival
- European Art
- Gallery ceremony
- Rooftop Restaurant and Terrace
- intimate ceremony and reception
- Atrium drinks reception
- Wedding breakfast



Contact us to start a conversation or arrange a virtual or in- person tour of our stunning spaces.

Call: 01865 610406

Email: events@ashmolean.org

Visit: www.ashmolean.org

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