



WEDDING EVENTS

the nat | SAN DIEGO
NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM



A venue as memorable as your love story

When you choose to celebrate your wedding day with us, you become a part of our mission to preserve this amazing region we call home, directly supporting our efforts of species conservation, educational exhibitions, and regional preservation of our natural environment.

Space Rental Options

Rooftop Outdoor Ceremony | 190 seated • 2,600 square feet

Magic lives in the form of exquisite, scenic backgrounds surrounding the museum's rooftop terrace, the only one in Balboa Park! Your guests will be greeted by majestic mountains, stunning views of the harbor, and a romantic atmosphere as the sun sets over the San Diego city skyline.

Atrium Indoor Ceremony | Max capacity seated 300 • 5,000 square feet

Our breathtaking ceremony spaces are customizable to your unique style. From traditional, religious settings to a dreamy and delicate ambiance, your dramatic grand entrance and sentimental “I do’s” are guaranteed to be picturesque.

Theater Indoor Ceremony | Max capacity seated 300 • 3,800 square feet

The Sefton Atrium is a stunning and versatile space with a 60-foot, four-story translucent ceiling and a granite floor. At 5,000 square feet, the Atrium can accommodate up to 300 guests for a seated dinner and up to 500 for a reception. If the additional second-story mezzanine space is used, dinner seating can increase to 340 and reception to 700. Perfect for corporate dinners, galas, wedding receptions, dances, and more.

Level 2 Indoor Cocktail Hour | Max capacity standing 600

From the moment your guests are welcomed to our largest exhibition floor, they'll be swept off their feet in astonishment. Elements showcasing our nature's past and present create a memorable atmosphere, all with splashes of your style mirrored through decor of your choice.

Rooftop Outdoor Dinner Reception | Max capacity seated 100 • 2,600 square feet

For intimate weddings, our rooftop terrace can be transformed from ceremony to dinner reception. Your guests can watch the stars come out as they celebrate your love, join you or a champagne toast, and dance under the night sky.

Atrium Indoor Dinner Reception | Max capacity seated 300 • 5,000 square feet

The heart of our historic museum lies in the Sefton Atrium, where floor plans are tailored to your cherished experience. The Sefton Atrium is a show-stopping space with a 60' four-story translucent ceiling and granite floor. Two magnificent staircases lead to this space, designed for a bride's grand entrance. Natural light fills this room, allowing for layers of lights to accent the romantic space at night.



Space Rental

Our historic venue invites up to 1,800 of your guests through 114,260 square feet of galleries that explore science and the beauty of nature. Ask us how we can accommodate your group size for an unparalleled experience, whether it’s an intimate dinner for 10 or a full museum buyout.

General Pricing

Venue Fees	
Museum space per level, per hour	\$1,600 per level, per hour that guests are enjoying
Museum Security	\$200 for 100 guests, may vary based on event needs
Museum Cleaning	\$200 for 100 guests, may vary based on event needs
Nonprofit and Military Discounts	10% off venue total available upon approval
Full Museum Buyout Package	Date restrictions may apply

Set-up Accommodations

- **Early Set Up** Available for an additional fee, upon request and approval
- **Set-Up and Breakdown** Standard 2 hour set-up window and 1 hour breakdown included with rental fee
- **Level 1** Sefton Atrium available after 3:15PM
- **Level 2, 3, 4** Exhibit space available after 5PM
- **Outdoor Rooftop** Rooftop Terrace available after 3:15PM

Scheduled Payments

- Non-refundable Retainer \$500.00
- Deposit - (due 100 days after receiving contract)
- Balance - (due within 30 days of event)
- Schedule Payments - Available upon request

Venue Availability

- Museum Public Hours - 10AM – 5PM Thursday - Tuesday except for Christmas day and Thanksgiving
- Private Event Hours - Depending on space availability 8AM – 2AM. Available all days except for Christmas day, Thanksgiving and New Years.

Liability Insurance

- A certificate of insurance must be provided to the SDNHM in the amount of at least \$1 million, for yourself and all your sub-contractors. (Due within 30 days of event).

Packages

Combine our venue rental options to satisfy your event needs. Select multiple spaces for your guests to experience per hour, such as beginning your cocktail hour on our exquisite exhibition floor and afterwards inviting your guests to our elegant atrium for a dinner reception. Or, combine packages to have multiple floors open simultaneously. Begin a VIP hour on our magnificent outdoor rooftop terrace with panorama views of San Diego, and follow up with opening our largest exhibition floor and the grand atrium for your guests to journey through a two-floor extravagant reception. No matter your needs, we’ll personalize our packages to your guests’ experience.

Packages	3 Hours	4 Hours	5 Hours
Flora (Single Floor)	\$4,800.00	\$6,400.00	\$8,000.00
Mammalia (Two Floors)	\$9,600.00	\$12,800.00	\$16,000.00
Cetacea (Three Floors)	\$14,400.00	\$19,200.00	\$24,00.00
Naturalis (Full Museum, Five Levels)	\$19,200.00	\$25,600.00	\$32,000.00

A 3-HOUR MINIMUM VENUE RENTAL IS REQUIRED TO BOOK A PRIVATE EVENT.



Museum Equipment Rentals

Our extensive equipment rentals were hand-picked by our staff to help you craft your wedding day vision. Contrast rustic farm tables with modern white belly bars, or stick to tradition and dress rounds and cocktail tables in linens. When selecting the SDNHM equipment package, all set-up and breakdown is included.

Museum Equipment Packages	
Package A Includes access to all inventory items	\$1,000.00
Package B Includes up to 30 tables, 15 Belly Bars, 300 chairs	\$700.00
Package C Includes up to 20 tables, 10 Belly Bars, 200 chairs	\$600.00
Package D Presentation only equipment includes stage, podium and microphone	\$500.00



Museum Equipment Rental Fees

Size/ Quantity	Equipment Description	Cost
32 ft	Black Pipe or White Pipe & Drape	\$600.00
(3)	Patio Heater for Rooftop	\$50.00 each
(5)	Patio Umbrellas for Rooftop	\$20.00 each
(13)	24” Square Metal Belly bars / High top tables	\$15.00 each
(18)	24” Round Belly bars / High top tables	\$10.00 each
(19)	Square Metal Stools / High top tables	\$8.00 each
(13)	6’ Tables Plastic	\$8.00 each
(4)	8’ Tables Plastic	\$8.00 each
(8)	Wood Farm Tables	\$25.00 each
(30)	60” Round Tables (seats up to 10 guests per table)	\$10.00 each
(19)	48” Round Tables (seats up to 7 guests per table)	\$10.00 each
(1)	Sweetheart Table (seats up to 2 guests)	\$10.00
(300)	White Padded Resin Folding Chairs	\$1.00 each
(2)	High Chairs	\$10.00 each
(12)	Small 12” Metal Dinos	\$2.00 each
(13)	Medium 18 ½” Metal Dinos	\$2.50 each
(4)	Large 24” – 27” Metal Dinos	\$3.00 each
(2)	Metal Easels	\$10.00 each
(18)	Wireless up lights – 32 different colors	\$20.00 each
(1)	Stage – 4 x 4 Panels (8’x12’ complete stage)	\$400.00
(1)	Rooftop PA System with Microphone	\$250.00
(1)	Atrium Projection	\$250.00
(1)	Lucite Podium	\$50.00
(1)	Wood Podium	\$50.00

Additional Services

Childcare room for cocktail hour and reception

Included in your booking is our Backyard exhibition, designed for your little ones to expand their horizons while the dance floor is filled with your guests!

Themed scavenger hunt for cocktail hour

Every inch of our nature-inspired exhibition space is a picture-perfect moment. For a special treat, we offer scavenger hunts available for your guests to take advantage of and marvel at our displays of the natural world.

On-site venue coordinator and event staff

Your special day will be facilitated by our hospitable, knowledgeable staff, assisting vendors with venue details throughout the set-up and breakdown process.

Save the Date & First Look Photos

Photographs of the happy couple taken throughout our historic venue will excite your guests for a night at the museum. Included with venue booking!

Pet-friendly wedding day

We want your pets to celebrate with you! Ask us how it's possible to invite your furry loved one to your big day.

Unlimited site visits and customized floor plans

From twinkling market lights to rustic farm tables, we assist in paving the way from concept to execution.

Complimentary parking

Parking is a breeze with two public, free parking lots surrounding the museum.

In-house sound system and microphone

With a state-of-the-art, in-house sound system, a built-in dance floor, and lighting that soars up the towering columns of our 60ft high atrium ceiling, you'll be sure to set the perfect scene for you and your guests to dance the night way.

Scheduled payments and personalized contracts

We'll customize your venue rental to the timeline of your special day!

Wedding Rehearsal

Rehearsals included with our exceptional services give you and your loved one the perfect opportunity to practice your grand entrance and first dance, ensuring that the big moments of your unforgettable night run smoothly.

Bridal Room

Your Bridal Room is included with your booking, featuring a private balcony for when you and your fiancé want to share a special moment, as well as a full-length mirror designed for that fairy-tale touch.

Equipment set-up and breakdown

Choose from one of our equipment packages and our staff will take care of the heavy lifting.

Vendor green room and reference advice

Ask us which of our trusted preferred partners will fit your dream details, weaving together your desired elements.

Event guide, checklist, and timeline templates

From a wedding checklist to a timeline template, leave no detail forgotten with our wedding-oriented resources.



Bar Services

Our wedding packages can be crafted to fit your dream. Whether you want your “I do’s” extended or a dinner reception to carry on until 2AM, we’ll customize our exclusive, dreamlike venue based on your needs.

Details

- The Museums works exclusively with the on-site bar services that holds the current liquor license issued by the state of CA. Patrons must contract with the on-site bar service if alcohol will be serve at this location.
- All beverage packages are priced per person, for every guest over 21 years of age, and include a bartender, bar back, ice, bar set-up, appropriate condiments, cocktail napkins, straws, front bar, back bar service table and alcohol liability insurance for your event.
- SDNHM provides one (1) bar per 100-125 guests. Each additional requested bar has a \$250.00 fee.
- Exact brands subject to change with comparable quality replacements.
- SDNHM will not serve shots. SDNHM does not over-serve under any circumstances.
- ABC law requires all guests requesting alcoholic beverages to show a valid ID.
- SDNHM does not allow any outside alcohol on the premises per CA-ABC law.
- Outside alcohol will be confiscated by the SDNHM Security
- SDNHM requires last call to be completed 30 minutes before event ends.
- Children over 12 must be counted in your Guest Count; we provide a full array of non-alcoholics.
- California Sales Tax is applied at the end and is 7.75%.
- All prices are subject to an 18% staffing fee. Gratuity is not included in the price.
- A bar contract will be drafted when the final guest count is provided to confirm all bar services.



Bar Pricing

Hosted Bar Per Guest				
Open Bar	2 Hours	3 Hours	4 Hours	5 Hours
Precambrian Beer Wine Soda	\$19.00 per person	\$20.00 per person	\$21.00 per person	\$22.00 per person
Paleozoic Liquor Beer Wine Soda	\$21.00 per person	\$22.00 per person	\$23.00 per person	\$24.00 per person
Mesozoic Liquor Beer Wine Soda	\$23.00 per person	\$24.00 per person	\$25.00 per person	\$26.00 per person
Cenozoic Liquor Beer Wine Soda	\$25.00 per person	\$26.00 per person	\$27.00 per person	\$28.00 per person

Hosted Bar Per Drink	
Drink Tickets	
Precambrian Beer Wine	\$10 per drink
Paleozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$12 per drink
Mesozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$13 per drink
Cenozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$14 per drink
Soft Drinks & Juices	\$3.50 per drink

Cashless Bar Service	
\$800.00 Minimum	
Precambrian Beer Wine	\$11 per drink
Paleozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$13 per drink
Mesozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$14 per drink
Cenozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$15 per drink
Soft Drinks & Juices	\$3.50 per drink

Additional hours available for an additional fee. All prices are subject to an 18% staffing fee and 7.75% sales tax.

Add-on Bar Services

Specialty Cocktails | *\$3.00 per person*
Create a tailored Specialty Dino, Botany or custom theme Cocktail for your event!

Raise a Glass! Champagne Toast | *\$3.00 per person*
Includes House Champagne or Sparkling Cider for non-alcoholic guest and Champagne Glasses. Champagne can be tray passed or served at dining table

Consumption Hosted & Cashless Bar Options | *\$800.00 minimum per bar*

Sustainability Options
Glassware is available at an additional \$3.00 per person or Biodegradable disposables is available for an additional \$1.50 per person

Bar Services: Beverage Options

Champagne / Wine

Paleozoic (House)	Mesozoic (Premium)	Cenozoic (Luxury)
Champagne		
Wycliff Brut	Astoria Prosecco	Korbel Prosecco
Whites		
Canyon Road Chardonnay 2021	Bonterra Chardonnay 2020	Monte Xanic Chardonnay 2017
Canyon Road Sauvignon Blanc 2021	Bonterra Sauvignon Blanc 2021	Monte Xanic Sauv Blanc 2021
Reds		
Canyon Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2020	Predator Lodi Cabernet Sauvignon 2018	Monte Xanic Cabernet Sauvignon 2020
Canyon Road Pinot Noir 2021	Predator Lodi Old Vine Zinfandel 2020	Monte Xanic Cabernet Syrah 2020

Beer

- Pizza Port Chronic Amber Ale
- Mother Earth Cali Creamin Cream Ale
- Stone Hazy IPA
- Stone Buenaveza Lager
- Burning Beard New Fang Pale Ale



Liquor

Paleozoic (House)	Mesozoic (Premium)	Cenozoic (Luxury)
Vodka		
Seagram's	New Amsterdam	Tito's
Gin		
McCormick Gin	Brokers London dry gin	Cutwater Old Grove
Rum		
Cane Run White Rum	Don Q White	Malahat White Rum
	Sailor Jerry Spiced Rum	Sailor Jerry Spiced Rum
Tequila/Mezcal		
Jose Cuervo Silver	Milagro Silver	Tequila Ocho Blanco
Jose Cuervo Gold	Milagro Reposado	Tequila Ocho Reposado
		Tequila Ocho Anejo
Whiskey/Bourbon		
Early Times	Jack Daniels - Tennessee Whiskey	Jack Daniels - Tennessee Whiskey
	Tullamore Dew - Irish Whiskey	Tullamore Dew - Irish Whiskey
		Woodford Reserve-Kentucky Bourbon Whiskey
Scotch		
Cutty Sark	Monkey Shoulder	Glenfiddich 12 Yr
Liqueurs/Appertifs		
Gallo Dry Vermouth	Gallo Dry Vermouth	Gallo Dry Vermouth
Gallo Sweet Vermouth	Gallo Sweet Vermouth	Gallo Sweet Vermouth
Triple Sec	Triple Sec	Triple Sec
Bitters		
Angostura Bitters	Angostura Bitters	Angostura Bitters
Orange Bitters	Orange Bitters	Orange Bitters
Serrano Bitters	Serrano Bitters	Serrano Bitters

Additional Beverage Service Items

PRODUCT / DISPOSABLES

Bev Napkins
Bamboo Picks
Paper Straws

PRODUCE / GARNISH

Lemon
Limes
Mint
Cara Cara Oranges
Olives
Maraschino cherry

SODAS & JUICES & MIXERS INGREDIENTS

Coca Cola
Squirt
Sprite
Diet Coke
Ginger Ale
Ginger Beer Cut Water
Cranberry Juice
Lemon Juice
Lime Juice
Orange Juice
Pineapple Juice
Perrier Sparkling Water

Agave Nectar
Martinelli's Sparkling Cider
Tajin
Roses Sweetened Lime Juice
Roses Olive Juice Sonoma Syrup
Roses Triple Sec
Roses Simple Syrup
Q Club Sodas
Q Tonic Water
Margarita Salt

Preferred Partners

Reliable, experienced vendors listed as our preferred partners capture the serene setting you envision. From a mouth-watering dinner to sweet-scented florals, the museum is a blank canvas designed to fit your style. For a list of recommendations for DJs, coordinators, and more, ask your Events Manager.

Required Vendors

Bar Services

The Nat’s Beverage Services
619.255.0182
events@sdnhm.org

Catering

Abbey Catering & Event Design
858.225.2349
theabbeycatering.com

Coast Catering
877.577.1718
coastcatering.com

Continental Catering
619.698.3500
continentalcateringsd.com

Crown Point Catering
619.223.1211
crownpointcatering.com

Culinary Concepts
858.251.4646
cateringspecialist.com

Feast on This
858.597.0740
feastonthis.com

The French Gourmet
858.488.1725
thefrenchgourmet.com

Personal Touch Dining
858.638.0672
personaltouchdining.com

Terra Catering
619.993.1437
terracatering.com

TOAST Catering
619.795.9135
toastcatering.com

Urban Kitchen Group
619.239.2222
urbankitchengroup.com

The Wild Thyme Company
858.527.0226
thewildthymecompany.com

Preferred Vendors

AV and Lighting

Event Technology Services
844.663.8368
etsprod.com

Entertainment

Black Tie Casino Events
858.859.0711
blacktiecasinoevents.com

Imagination Entertainment
619.640.6500
imaginationent.com

Event Planning

Abbey Catering & Event Design
858.225.2349
theabbeycatering.com

Feast on This
858.597.0740
feastonthis.com

Personal Touch Dining
858.638.0672
personaltouchdining.com

The Wild Thyme Company
858.527.0226
thewildthymecompany.com

Event Production

Bright Event Rentals
858.496.9700
bright.com

Patty’s Linen Rentals
619.336.0467
pattyslinenrentals.com

PEP Creative
858.458.9908
pacificevents.com

Raphael’s Party Rentals
858.689.7368
raphaels.com

To Be Designed
619-255-0656
tbdsandiego.com

Floral

A. H. R. Florals
ahrflorals.com

Green Fresh Florals + Plants
619.544.0504
greenfreshflorals.com

Parking Services

Ace Parking
619.233.6624
aceparking.com

Photography

Eder Photo
619.549.6171
ederphoto.com

Nikki Hildebrand
nikkihildebrand.com

Picture Bakery
619.333. 0191
picturebakery.com





Contact Information

Your guests will be sharing their memorable experiences long far after your event ends at The Nat, proof that it was a success! Read testimonials from past clients here: <https://www.sdnhm.org/plan-an-event/testimonials>. Contact our Events team for more information about how we can collaborate to make your special experience memorable!

Email
events@sdnhm.org

Website
sdnat.org/plan-an-event

Facebook
[@SanDiegoNaturalHistoryMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoNaturalHistoryMuseum)

Instagram
[@SDNHM](https://www.instagram.com/SDNHM)

Pinterest
[@SDNHM](https://www.pinterest.com/SDNHM)



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