



Weddings at the Gardens

Thank you for your interest in Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens for your upcoming wedding. July, August, September, and October are the Gardens busiest months due to our mild coastal weather and the gorgeous blooms in the Gardens. However, we can have beautiful weather year-round and there is always something in bloom in our 47-acre garden by the sea.

Exchange vows surrounded by dramatic dahlias; enjoy an afternoon of festivities on the Event Lawn, or say “I do” on a bluff overlooking the Pacific... Our Gardens can be where all your wedding daydreams come true! We encourage you to take a self-guided tour of the Gardens and discover each of the sites available for your wedding ceremony.

All of our event sites are available seven days a week—the time of day that each site is available varies by location. While we do our best to accommodate all requests, please note that some dates, times and spaces may not be available due to numerous factors. All occasions at the Gardens include complimentary admission for up to 100 guests for the duration of your event. A mobility scooter can be made available to help your guests in need of walking assistance reach your celebration with ease. So that you can continue making memories at the Gardens... all of our couples receive a complimentary one-year Household Membership.

Please keep in mind that the Gardens is a venue only—we do not provide event coordination, catering, chairs, tents, linens, etc. To ensure that you and your guests have the best possible experience, we require a local event coordinator if you are having your reception on site. This is a requirement for having a wedding reception at the Gardens.

Please find the enclosed:

- Site Descriptions & Pricing
- Bloom Times
- Wedding Site Map
- Recommended Local Wedding Vendors

** Sample wedding contract available upon request
weddings@gardenbythesea.org*

Site Descriptions & Pricing

We love making memories! Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens is home to a stunning array of intimate and elegant settings, each with their own unique appeal. With 47-acres of natural beauty, the Gardens offers a perfect backdrop for your big day. The Gardens is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, 100% of wedding site fees support the growth and well being of this beautiful natural treasure.

Ceremony

The ceremony site fee includes access for you and your guests to the reserved site for up to 3 hours* including set-up, ceremony, photos, and clean-up on the day of your wedding ceremony. In addition, you and your wedding party may use the site for a 1-hour rehearsal (available times vary based on site) the day prior to your wedding ceremony.

Receptions

We offer a limited number of receptions each year. The reception site fee includes access for you and your guests to the reserved site for up to 8 hours* including set-up, reception, and clean-up on the day of your wedding reception. Local Event Coordinator required.

Eloperments

There is no site fee (regular admission applies) for intimate gatherings that match the guidelines below:

- No more than 10 guests including the bride, groom, officiant, and photographer
- Your gathering may not block other visitors' access to site
- Guests and all elements of elopement ceremony can be walked to location (no access for motorized vehicles needed, no unlocking of gates or special access)
- All elements of elopement must occur during regular business hours
- There is no guarantee that a specific site will be available, and site reservation will take priority

**\$500 will be charged per additional hour if your event exceeds the allotted time. Vendors and event coordinators may arrange with the Gardens for additional set-up time at no additional cost.*

Ceremony Locations

Perennial Garden

Imagine the sun setting behind a silhouette of towering trees surrounding a picturesque formal garden. Exchange your vows amidst a stunning floral display with striking color combinations and variations in form and texture. The Perennial Garden is alive with bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds; bursting with blooms spring through autumn. This site is able to accommodate up to 100 people for an outdoor ceremony and is peak between the months of May-September.



Perennial Garden Ceremony: \$2,000 - Best in July, August & September

- 100 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 3:00pm (for set up) to sundown
 - Ceremony must begin at 4:30pm or after
 - Site available for wedding ceremonies only
 - Site includes a manicured lawn and access to electrical outlets
 - No tents allowed in the Perennial Garden
 - Free-standing canopy is allowed in the Perennial Garden
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Meadow Lawn

The Meadow Lawn offers an intimate and picturesque setting encircled by rhododendrons that bloom from mid-April through May and other plantings in bloom through summer. The Meadow Lawn includes a manicured oval-shaped lawn, small stage, and seating wall sheltered by surrounding trees. A free-standing canopy (20' x 20' max) is allowed for your ceremony.



Meadow Lawn Ceremony: \$800 – Best in April, May & September & October

- 60 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 9:00am to sundown
 - Site available for wedding ceremonies only
 - Site includes a small stage, 3 stadium style benches on the east end of a manicured lawn, and access to electrical outlets
 - Free-standing canopy (20' x 20' max) is allowed at this site
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Dahlia Garden

Celebrate the most important day of your life in a spectacular garden surrounded by brilliant flashes of color. With hundreds of dahlias in bloom July through September, this is our most popular site for wedding ceremonies and photographs. Adjacent to rows of towering eucalyptus trees, the formal manicured lawn has a covered stage and offers glimpses of the ocean through the coastal pines.



Dahlia Garden Ceremony: \$2,000 - Best in July, August & September

- 100 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 3:00pm (for set up) to sundown
 - Ceremony must begin after at 4pm or after.
 - Site available for wedding ceremonies only
 - Site includes manicured lawn, large rustic gazebo, and access to electrical outlets
 - No tents or canopies allowed in the Dahlia Garden
 - Closer parking on site available through our Ocean Drive entrance. See included map.
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Cliff House

This unique viewing cottage is perched on a bluff overlooking the ocean and coastline. It provides a cozy place to view the bluffs and ocean through large picture windows. This site is perfect for small, intimate weddings.



Cliff House Ceremony: \$800

- 25 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 9:00am to sundown
 - Site available for wedding ceremonies only
 - Enclosed historic building with white water ocean views
 - No tents or canopies allowed
 - No electricity or electrical outlets available at this site
 - For safety reasons, Cliff House events must conclude before sundown
 - Closer parking on site available through our Ocean Drive entrance. See included map.
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Ocean Bluff

The crashing surf and misty sea air provide a dramatic backdrop for an intimate wedding ceremony. This ocean side bluff setting boasts unobstructed views of the Pacific, dappled with native coastal wildflowers in the spring, and whale hugging the coastline December through April.



Ocean Bluff Ceremony: \$1,500

- 60 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 9:00am to sundown
 - Site available for wedding ceremonies only
 - This site is available in its natural state, no mowing or major disruption in the Coastal Bluff and Marine Zone – Western most point follow trail across from bench. See attached map for location.
 - No tents or canopies allowed on the Ocean Bluff area, we appreciate your mindful wandering through our native coastal grasslands
 - No electricity or electrical outlets available at this site
 - For safety reasons, Ocean Bluff events must conclude before sundown
 - Closer parking on site available through our Ocean Drive entrance. See included map.
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Vegetable Garden

This delightfully rustic site abounds with decorative fencing and arbors, lush lawns, herb and vegetable garden where flowers bloom year round. The apple orchard, small greenhouse and drying shed complete this country setting. This area is suited for events with up to 100 guests.



Vegetable Garden Ceremony: \$1,500 – Best in July, August & September

- 100 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 9:00am to sundown
 - Site available for wedding ceremonies and receptions (see below for more information on receptions)
 - Site includes a manicured lawn
 - Electrical outlets available at this site
 - Free-standing canopy is allowed at this site
 - A tent is allowed in one lawn of the Vegetable Garden
 - Closer parking on site available through our Ocean Drive entrance. See included map.
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Reception Locations

Event Lawn

Our large, manicured lawn surrounded by native coastal trees is perfect for large celebrations and is ideal for receptions. A short walk from the Dahlia Garden, this site has a small view of the ocean and is steps away from the ocean bluffs. The Event Lawn is suitable for large events up to 100 people.

Event Lawn Reception: \$3,750

- 100 guests at maximum
- Site available from 9:00am to 10:00pm including set-up, ceremony, reception and clean up
- Tents, canopies and food trucks are allowed at this site
- This site has access to electrical outlets and NON-POTABLE water.
- Must provide portable restrooms

Vegetable Garden

This delightfully rustic site abounds with decorative fencing and arbors, lush lawns, herb and vegetable garden where flowers bloom year-round. The apple orchard, small greenhouse and drying shed complete this country setting. Get creative with multiple lawns as options for gathering, dining or dancing and is suited for events with up to 100 guests.

Vegetable Garden Reception: \$3,750

- 100 guests at maximum
 - Site available from 9:00am to 10:00pm
 - Site includes a manicured lawn
 - Electrical outlets available at this site
 - POTABLE water available at this site
 - Free-standing canopy is allowed at this site
 - Tent only allowed on the south side of the road in front of the pump house.
 - Must provide portable restrooms
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Bloom Seasons at the Gardens

February, March, April

Rhododendrons, camellias, daffodils, magnolias, flowering cherry, and Pacific Coast Iris

May, June, July

Rhododendrons, heritage roses, perennials, succulents and cacti, lilies, heaths, summer heathers, coastal and forest wildflowers

August, September, October

Dahlias, heritage roses, heathers, begonias, fuchsias, hydrangeas, perennials at their peak bloom

November, December, January

Late perennials, winter heaths and heathers, camellias, magnolias, azaleas, early rhododendrons, grevilleas, and wild mushrooms

All year long

Organic vegetables, quiet forests, fern canyons, rare conifers, stunning ocean views from the Cliff House, spring and fall bird migrations, whale watching with peak migration in the winter and spring.

Recommended Local Wedding Vendors

These fantastic wedding planners, catering services, musicians, and other service providers are available to help make your wedding at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens perfect.

Wedding License

Mendocino County Clerk's Office <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/assessor-county-clerk-recorder-elections/county-clerk/marriage-licenses-ceremonies>

Local Event Coordinators

Zoë Braga Events zoebragaevents.com

Fern Foot Events fernfootevents.com

Prasad Events prasadevents.com

Mendocino Weddings & Events mendocinoweddings.com

Queen B Events kim4queen@gmail.com / 707-357-0561 Instagram: [queenb_events](https://www.instagram.com/queenb_events)

Event Rentals

Matt Rowland Events mattrowlandevents.com

The Rental Place fortbraggrental.com

Bright Event Rentals sales-sonoma@bright.com

Photographers

Heidi Peinthor (Nor-Cal - based) <https://heidipeinthor.com/>

J. Perlman R. Lutge Photography (Mendocino-based) jperlmanphotography.com

C Young Photography (Mendocino based) mendocinoweddingphotographer.com

Freda Banks (Petaluma/N.Y. based) www.fredabankswed.com

Jana Contreras (Sonoma-based) janacontrerasphotography.com

Joyce Perlman (Mendocino-based) rlutge.com

Chelsi McFadden (Fort Bragg-based) www.chelsimcfadden.com

Nik Z (Mendocino-based) www.nikzphoto.com

Evan-Marie Petit (Mendocino-based) www.evanmariepetit.com

Carrie Mayfield Photography (Northern CA based) carriemayfield.com

Emily Semans (CA based) esphotog.com

Mendocino Photo (Mendocino based) mendocinophoto.com

John Birchard Photography (mendocino based) birchardweddingphotography.com

Rachelle Derouin (Northern CA based) rachellederouin.com

Flowers

Kimberly La Mar-Damiani | lamartinefloral.com

Golden Coast Florals goldencoastflorals.com

Flora of the Fields floraofthefields.com

Mendocino Floral Design mendocinofloraldesign.com

LR Farm lrfarm.com

Wedding Officiants

Rick Childs | rickchildsweddings.com

Vanna Kay Freeburg ElopeMendocino.com

James Sibbet jamesibbet.com

Nansee New weddingsinmendocino.com

Rose Barboza weddingsbyrosebarboza.com

Rev. Richleigh Hale Powers revpowers.com

Candace shiningconnection.com

Melissa Greene sonomawinecountryweddings.com

Catering Bakeries & Bar

Assaggiare Mendocino assaggiare.com

Feast Mendocino feastmendocino.com

Big Earls BBQ bigearlsbbq707.com

Mendochefsagogo @mendo_chef

Left Coast Seafood <https://leftcoastseafoodca.com/>

Black Dog Farm growitcookitcanit.com

The Good Food Club thegoodfoodclub.com

Oui Cook ouiCook.com

Black Oak Catering blackoakcatering.com

Harvest Market (cakes, catering, and more) harvestmarket.com

Pilon Kitchen | pilonkitchen@gmail.com

A Sweet Affair Patisserie asweetaffairpatisserie.com

Shani's Sweet Creations shanissweetcreations.com

The Tow-ster | thetowster.com

Mendocino Outland | mendocinooutland.com

Music & Entertainment

GroundLoop Events groundloopevents.com

MendoDJ MendoDi.net

Nor Cal Pro Sound norcalprosound.com

Sonatina Sonatinamusic.org (classical)

Dorian May Jazz www.dorianmayjazz.com

Sergio Bassehes bassehes@earthlink.net (guitar)

Roberta Belson 707-937-3978 (harp)

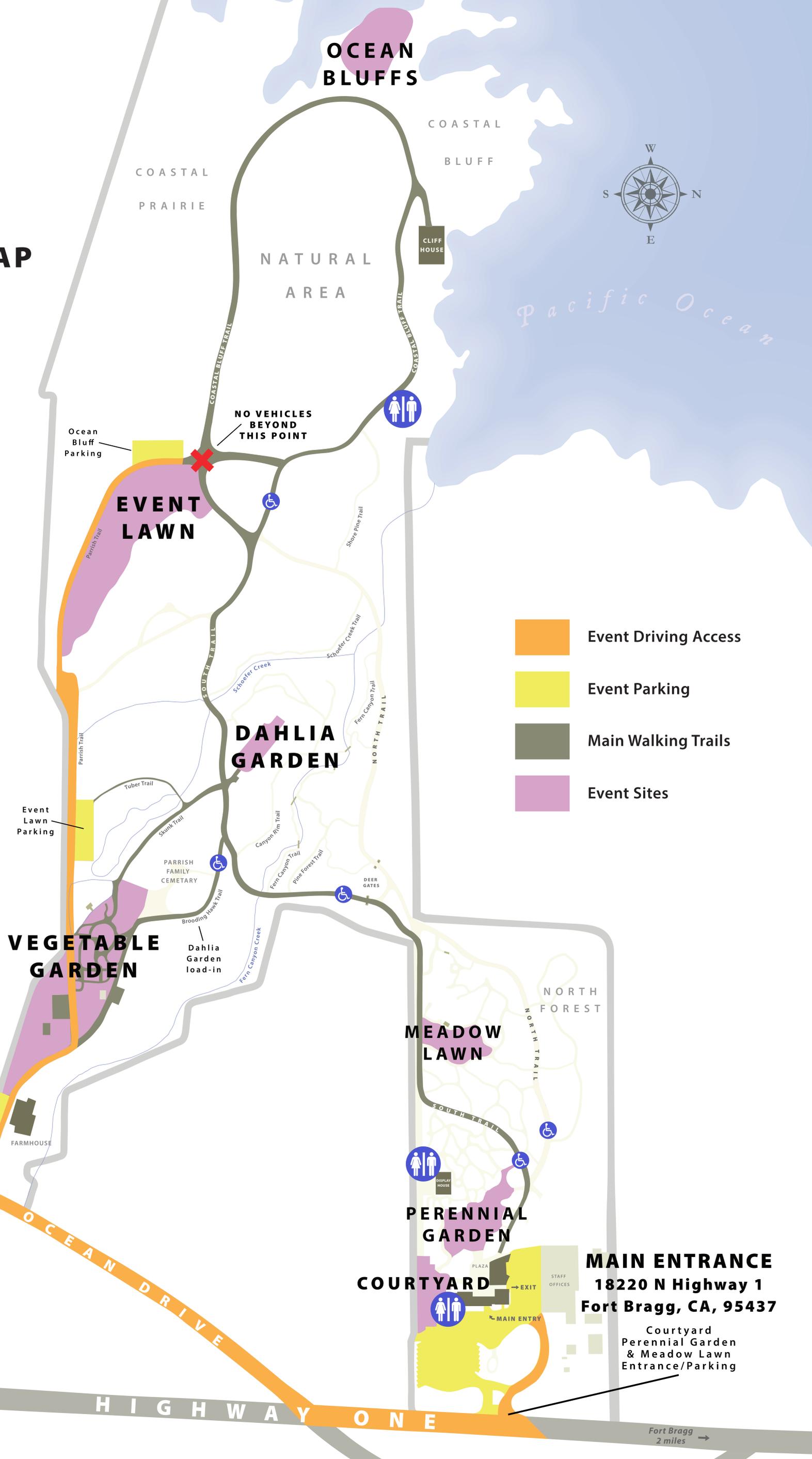
DJ Nutrishous | 707-813-7862

Celtic Wedding Music |

Mickie & Elizabeth | 707-964-4826



WEDDING & EVENT SITE MAP



- Event Driving Access
- Event Parking
- Main Walking Trails
- Event Sites

**18050 Ocean Drive
Fort Bragg, CA, 95437**

Vegetable Garden
Event Lawn
& Ocean Bluffs
Entrance/Parking

**MAIN ENTRANCE
18220 N Highway 1
Fort Bragg, CA, 95437**

Courtyard
Perennial Garden
& Meadow Lawn
Entrance/Parking

Mendocino
7 miles ←

HIGHWAY ONE

Fort Bragg
2 miles →