



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the maximum capacity for a wedding event? Generally speaking, 240 however different maximums apply for each specific location. Therefore, maximums for each group will depend on the spaces they select to use for their event. These maximums will be laid out in the contract.

Does Lutsen provide a covered back up in case of rain? Yes. Lutsen Resort provides a covered back up location for all outdoor ceremonies and all outdoor meals. Back up locations depend on the size of the group and are assigned at time of booking and are included in the contract. Please note that Lutsen Resort does NOT provide a private indoor back up for bonfire receptions.

PLANNING

How early do I need to book to confirm a wedding date at Lutsen Resort? – This depends on the time of year you are looking to have your wedding. Generally speaking, here is a list of how far in advance to book for specific times of the year:

Late October to Mid-May – approx. 9 months in advance

Mid-May to Mid-June – approx. 1 year in advance

July to Mid-August – approx. 1 to 1.5 years in advance

Mid-August to Mid-October – approx. 1.5 to 2 years in advance

Can I come to the resort for a site visit? Yes! We encourage potential clients to come to the resort and meet with our Group Sales Director to discuss options for their event and tour the facility. Due to the nature of the business, we do require advance appointments for all site visits. Couples who are not available to visit the resort in person can certainly do all of their contracting and planning via email and phone.

What is the VIP Tasting Weekend? Every year Lutsen Resort hosts two tasting weekends for all of our contracted clients to participate in. The event starts off Friday evening with our Beach BBQ hosted in the Ballroom. On Saturday we host an appetizer luncheon in the Dining Room, and for dinner we have our Family Style Dinner and dessert in the Ballroom. On Sunday each couple will have a chance to schedule an appointment with their event coordinator prior to departure. This is also a great weekend to schedule appointments with your vendors. *For more details and pricing related to the VIP Tasting Weekend, please contact the Group Sales Director or your assigned Event Coordinator.

Does Lutsen have someone to assist me with planning on site? Yes, once booked you will be assigned to one of our Lutsen Resort Event Coordinators who will coordinate all of the resort planning related to your event.

Is there a fee or gratuity applied for my onsite Event Coordinator? Thank you for thinking of us! Customer service is of the utmost importance to Lutsen Resort and its event coordinators! Therefore, Lutsen Resort provides you with an event coordinator for a fee of \$250. Your event coordinator will be onsite a minimum of 2 hours prior to your ceremony to ensure all setup and food and beverage teams are on schedule. Your coordinator will also be with you every step of the way to keep your day on schedule and running smoothly. Gratuity is not required, but always appreciated.

What does my event coordinator do? Your coordinator will assist you deciding on menu selections, beverage choices, provide basic contact information for local vendors, coordinate setup details, manage all deposits/payments, and answer any other questions you may have. Your Lutsen Resort Event Coordinator will also be present the day of your event to manage setup and ensure that things run smoothly. Your coordinator is NOT responsible for booking outside vendors or for décor setup/breakdown on event sites.

We live far away, how can we book vendors on the North Shore? Lutsen Resort has been doing weddings since 1885 and over the years we have built great relationships with local vendors. These vendors have been to the property and setup hundreds of weddings. With that said, these vendors know our space and will be your biggest advocate in setting up the perfect décor for your big day. A good time to schedule any “in person” appointments with them would be during our VIP Tasting Show weekend.

What happens if the North Shore gets a big snow storm the weekend of our wedding? All the better, but you need not worry! Falling snow creates a snow globe like atmosphere adding to the beauty of our property! We on the North Shore and here at Lutsen Lodge are very familiar with snow and what to do to ensure you and your guests have a safe, magical experience.

DECORATING

What is Lutsen Resorts decorating policy? All couples are responsible for assigning someone to set up and break down their decorations within the time allotted (details will be outlined in the contract). We insist that events do NOT use the following: *glitter, confetti or rice*.

Lawn Ceremony Site or Beach: Only organic; real flower petals or bird seed.

All other rental sites: Anything hung must not damage the walls or ceiling. Removable 3M hooks are recommended.

Candles: All candles must be properly contained in glass indoors or out (meaning the flame is below the rim). Beach events must use non-breakable containers for candles. (ideas: tin cans, wooden holders, metal lanterns, ice globes, etc...)

Available Lutsen Décor Rentals:

Rock lantern centerpieces
Flower pedestals
Large flower tins
Candy jars
Candle votives
Reserve signs
Metal lanterns
Bouquet vases
Hand crafted wooden table numbers
Wooden easels
Chalkboard signs both large and small
Bistro lights and white chiffon fabric in ballroom
White chair covers for ballroom
High-top table sashes
And more...

Can we use an aisle runner? Yes, you can. We recommend only using a runner in the Ballroom where it is easier to secure. The lawn and beach ceremony sites offer some difficulty in securing the runner; thus, we highly recommend forgoing the runner for outside ceremonies.

Does Lutsen Resort provide linen and table settings? Yes, we offer white table linens and skirting where needed, dinner napkins in 3 colors (white, royal blue and Lutsen blue), all china, glassware, silverware, tables and chairs.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

What kind of meal service does Lutsen Resort offer? –Lutsen Resort offers both buffet and our most popular meal service option, Family Style. **How does Family Style work?** The couple will pre-select one or two entrees, a salad, starch and a vegetable. Two weeks prior to the event a final head count is turned into the Event Coordinator. This is the number of meals the final bill will reflect. **Any additional guests will be billed accordingly.* During the meal, salads are individually plated and served. Each table will receive a platter of the preselected entrees, starch, and vegetable. This ensures everyone can enjoy a taste of everything and not be limited to one specific item. *Platters will be refilled upon request for no additional fee.*

***Beach BBQ's and Nelson Suite meals are only served buffet style.**

Are there vegetarian options? Yes, our chef has created a variety of vegetarian options. With either style of meal service, buffet or family style, each of your vegetarian guests will receive a plated entrée. All sides preselected will be vegetarian friendly to allow these guests to eat the same sides as the rest of the guests.

Do you cater to special dietary requests or allergies? Yes, if you are in need of having a “specialty plate” customized for a guest with allergies or dietary restrictions we would be happy to do so! There is a minimum \$5.00 up-charge for all “specialty plates”.

Do you have a children's menu? We have a “kid-friendly” menu for children 12 and under. For children 12 and under who will be eating Buffet or Family Style selections, their meal price will be half of the regular price.

Can we bring in our own alcohol? Lutsen Resort is liable and responsible for those we serve alcohol to, and if found in any violation of this our license will be revoked. This means you or any of your guests MAY NOT bring in any outside alcohol to any hosted Lutsen Resort function. All wine, beer and liquor must be ordered through and served by Lutsen Resort. The exception to this rule is guests can bring their own beverages into their lodging units. All alcoholic beverages consumed, in public spaces, must be purchased from Lutsen Resort.

LODGING

Will there be enough room for my guests to stay at Lutsen Resort? Yes! It is Lutsen Resorts policy to set up rooms blocks to accommodate 70% of your guest list. Each block includes a variety of lodging styles so individual guests can call in, ask for the group by name and select the room style of their choice.

Does Lutsen Resort have a minimum lodging requirement? Standard resort policy is that there is a two-night minimum stay on all reservations. In addition, all groups hosting a wedding event here at Lutsen Resort are required to meet a Group Lodging Minimum. Due to the fact that we have a large variety of styles, Lutsen Resort has the minimum laid out as a required dollar amount rather than requiring groups to book a certain number of rooms. **Is it difficult to meet the minimum?** To this day, we have never had a group that was not able to meet the Group Lodging Minimum.

Lodging Minimum for Premium Weekends:

\$7,000.00 ~ required regardless of spaces used or group size.

Lodging minimum for Standard Weekends:

\$5,000.00 ~groups 70 ppl or more

\$3000.00 ~ groups less than 70 ppl

Minimums will be clearly laid out in each group's contract.

Does Lutsen Resort have a honeymoon suite? Lutsen Resort has a variety of lodging options available and our **Poplar River Condo units** are considered to be our most popular Honeymoon Suite choice. You can choose between a Master unit or a bedroom unit. We offer the couple 50% off the night of their wedding in this Honeymoon Suite. Please refer to our website at <http://www.lutsenresort.com/lodging/poplarriver/> for further details and photos of these units.

MISCELLANEOUS

How much do Beach Bonfire's cost? Bonfire pits have a \$100 rental fee and wood is included. You must reserve a bonfire pit through your Event Coordinator. Lutsen Resort staff will light this for you and will provide wood, a trash can, and limited seating for bonfire functions. There is no provided private indoor back up space, and we do not staff this function. Guest can provide their own snacks & non-alcoholic canned beverages. If you are booking a Winter or Spring wedding, bonfire sites are \$75 with the same above inclusions. Enjoy the outdoors!

What is the procedure to book an event at Lutsen Resort?

- * There is a verbal agreement with the Director of Group Sales, to determine availability of the date as well as the daily timeline. A \$1,000.00 deposit is taken at this time.
- * The couple needs to provide their contact information (full names, address, and email & phone numbers.)
- * A contract will be constructed by the Director of Group Sales and emailed to couple for signage.
- * Couple then has 7 days to preview and return the signed contract. If the contract is not returned within this timeframe or the couple decides not to have their wedding at Lutsen Resort, the date will be released. *Note: once contract is signed, all deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable.*
- * Once booking has been finalized, the Director of Group Sales will assign all clients to an onsite Lutsen Resort Event Coordinator at the end of our current Peak Season; who will be briefed on the file and take over management of the event.

Please reach out if you have further questions.

Happy planning!