

Dennis Chamber of Commerce



Wedding Guide



Marrying in Massachusetts

In beginning your new life together, there are legal considerations to follow while planning your big day.

All people who marry in Massachusetts must have a marriage license issued in Massachusetts. An out-of-state marriage license cannot be used, you must follow the same protocol as a resident of the state of Massachusetts.

State law requires that both parties apply in person and jointly file marriage intentions with any city or town clerk in the Commonwealth. Town of Dennis Clerk's Office is located at 485 Main Street, South Dennis, MA 02660, telephone number 508-760-6112, fax number 508-394-8309. You can file for a license Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, the fee is \$25.00, cash or check (no credit cards).

Both applicants must be 18 years of age or older to file marriage intentions. Otherwise, a court order must be obtained. A marriage license is valid for 60 days from the date intentions are filed and may be used in any Massachusetts' city or town. There is a mandatory 3 day waiting period from the date of application to the date the license is issued. This can be waived following a hearing before a probate or district court judge when a couple can show "good reason". After the waiting period, only one person has to pick up the license.

Massachusetts statute does not require that any witnesses be present at your ceremony. It is the responsibility of the officiating clergy or justice of the peace to complete and sign the original license as well as return it to the city or town where the license was issued.

When planning your Dennis wedding on beautiful cape Cod, there are several things you should keep in mind.

The most popular months for weddings on Cape Cod are May, June, September and October and the most requested day of the week is Saturday. Alternative days are becoming popular and will find greater availability with shorter advance planning.

The Wedding Guide was designed to make the planning of your special day more enjoyable and less stressful.

The businesses you find listed below are knowledgeable and would enjoy helping you with your individual needs for your wedding. Dennis offers a wide range of accommodations from full service resorts to the most intimate Bed & Breakfasts.



For a complete list of our accommodations in the Dennis area, check out our website www.DennisChamber.com or pick up our Dennis Visitor Guidebook.

ACCOMMODATIONS: *additional lodging not listed below, go to our website*

An English Garden, B&B, Dennisport	508-398-2915
By the Sea Guests B&B, Harwichport	508-432-6789
Corsair & Cross Rip Oceanfront, Dennisport	508-398-2279
Holiday Hill Inn & Suites	508.394.5577
Inn at Swan River	508.394.5415
Scargo Manor B&B, Dennis	508-385-5534
Soundings Seaside Resort	508.394.6561
The Breakers	508.398.6905
The Lighthouse Inn, West Dennis	508-398-2244
Three Seasons Motor Lodge, Dennisport	508-398-6091



BAKERY
WEDDING CAKE and much more!

Montilio's of Ring Brothers, South Dennis	508-394-1346
Woolfies Bakery, Dennisport	508-258-9980

BEAUTY SALONS, BARBER SHOP, NAIL CARE

- Andrea’s Co., West Dennis508-760-0666
 - Jeremy’s Barber Shop, Dennisport 508-398-8613
 - Emily Michael Too Skin & Nail Care, South Dennis508-760-5655
- Need a great massage, visit www.DennisChamber.com*



Lighthouse Inn, West Dennis

CATERERS for more restaurants for rehearsal dinners or
Breakfast, visit our website

- Dennis Inn, Dennis..... 508-385-6571
- East Dennis Oyster Farm, Dennis 508-398-3123
- Lighthouse Inn, West Dennis508-398-2244
- Lobster Roll Cruises, Dennis 508-398-3123
- Morrell’s Restaurant/Catering, South Dennis508-394-0577
- SeaView Restaurant, Dennisport 508-398-0100
- Treats Catering, Dennis.....508-385-1540
- West Dennis Yacht Club508.398.9757

CHURCHES

- Congregational Church, So. Dennis..... 508-394-5992
- Dennis Church of the Nazarene, South Dennis 508-394-4854
- Dennis Union Church, Rte. 6A, Dennis..... 508-385-3543
- East Dennis Community Church, E. Dennis..... 508-385-3989
- Evangelical Free Church of East Dennis, East Dennis 508.385.3989
- First Baptist Church 508.432.2792
- Holy Trinity Church, W. Harwich..... 508-432-0650
- Mid-Cape WorshipCenter..... 508.394.2345
- Northside United Methodist Church, Dennis-Brewster line 508-385-8622
- Our Lady of the Annunciation, Dennisport (summer only) 508-432-0650
- St. George Greek Orthodox Church of Cape Cod, Centerville 508-775-3045
- Saint Pius the Tenth, South Yarmouth 508-398-6623
- West Dennis Community Church, W. Dennis 508-398-6420
- Zion Union Church 508-771-4311

FLORISTS

- Blossoms Florist and Gifts, Dennis..... 508-394-0963
- Petal & Stem Florist, South Yarmouth 508.394.3013



JEWELRY

- Tipo’s Creations 508.398.4040
- The American Point of View, West Dennis 508-619-4855

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

- Stephanie Lowell, South Dennis 508-398-3123
- Jacquelyn K. Souza, Town Clerk for Dennis508-760-6112
- Eleanor Slade, West Dennis..... 508-394-1900

LIMOUSINES

First Class Limousines, Hyannis888-522-8816

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Photoglow, Dennis..... 508-385-9673

RECEPTION LOCATIONS to include beaches

Cape Cod Museum of Art, Route 6A, Dennis 508-385-4477
Chapin's Restaurant, 85 Taunton Avenue, Dennis 508-385-7000
Dennis Inn, 25 Scarsdale Road, Dennis508-385-6571
Hy-line Cruise, Private Charter, Ocean Street, Hyannis 800-492-8082
Lighthouse Inn, Lighthouse Road, West Dennis 508-398-2244
Lobster Roll Cruises, (Boat) Sesuit Harbor, Dennis508-398-3123
Ocean House, Chase Avenue, Dennisport 508-394-0700
Scargo Tower (historical site), Natural Resource Department508-760-6123
SeaView Restaurant, Chase Avenue, Dennisport 508-398-0100
The Red Pheasant Inn, Route 6A, Dennis508-385-2133
Town of Dennis Beach Department for permit on beach508-760-6159
West Dennis Yacht Club, 259 Loring Avenue, West Dennis..... 508-398-9757

RENTALS FOR GAZEBOS: There are two gazebos in the Town of Dennis where you can hold your wedding. One Route 6A in Dennis Village and one off of Hall Street in Dennisport. There is a fee to rent and each location is managed by a community association.



- Route 6A/Dennis Village Bandstand:
Contact the Village Improvement Society at (508) 385-2175
- Dennisport gazebo: Contact South Side Civic Association at (508) 398-8640

SHOPPING: *registry, wedding gifts, visit our website.*

Armchair Cottages, Dennis..... 508-385-4808
Deborah Ann's Rainbow, Dennisport..... 508-398-8662
Jewelry By Etta, West Dennis..... 508-394-8964
Jewelry Inspiration, West Dennis 508-619-4855
Snow's Home & Garden, Orleans & Harwich(508) 432-9014 or 255-0158
Sola Gallery II, Dennis 508-385-6632

TRANSPORTATION/TRAVEL INFORMATION

AAA Southern New England, Dennis..... 508-760-4778
Avis Car Rental, Hyannis 800-331-1212
Barnstable Municipal Airport, Hyannis..... 508-775-2020
Budget Car Rental 800-527-0700
Enterprise Car Rental, Hyannis..... 800-736-8222
Hertz Car Rental, Hyannis 800-654-3131
Hy-line Cruise Ferry, Hyannis 800-492-8082
Plymouth & Brockton Bus Lines, Hyannis 508-746-0378
Steamship Authority Ferry, Hyannis 508-477-8600

Twelve to Eighteen Months Ahead

- _____ Determine your budget and style of wedding (formal, informal, etc.)
- _____ Set a date and time. Be sure to check for holidays and any local special events that may occur at that time that may affect your plans (eg. Dennis Road Race)
- _____ Choose and book clergy/justice of the peace. Visit your officiate with your finance and select service type.
- _____ Book ceremony site and choose reception site.
- _____ Consider hiring a wedding consultant.
- _____ Choose attendants and invite them to be part of your wedding party.
- _____ Interview and select photographer, videographer, musicians, entertainment and/or DJ.
- _____ Draw up your guest list; have your finance's family do the same.
- _____ Shop for your engagement ring.
- _____ For additional advice and ideas, check out the wedding section of your local bookstore and library.

Six to Twelve Months Ahead

- _____ Discuss ceremony music
- _____ Plan your honeymoon.
- _____ Select what the groom, best man, ushers and father will wear.
- _____ Enroll with the bridal registry of your favor stores..
- _____ Book caterer.
- _____ Choose and order your wedding gown and accessories.
- _____ Shop for and choose bridesmaids' dresses.
- _____ Book limousines or arrange other wedding transportation.
- _____ Shop for your engagement ring.
- _____ Choose florist and arrangements; ask about aisle runners.
- _____ Schedule any premarital counseling.
- _____ Book make-up artist for wedding day.
- _____ Schedule engagement photograph.
- _____ Pick out wedding rings, arrange for engraving.
- _____ Discuss your ceremony together with your officiate choosing readings, music, vows and order.

Four to Six Months Ahead

- _____ Order invitations, thank you cards and other printed materials (napkins, matchbooks, programs, stationery, etc.)
- _____ Suggest mothers choose their dresses.
- _____ Schedule rehearsal, book rehearsal dinner location.
- _____ Reserve tents, rental chairs, tables and linens, other rental equipment.
- _____ Order wedding cake.
- _____ Schedule dance lessons.
- _____ Shop for your trousseau.
- _____ Make accommodation arrangements for out of town attendants & family.
- _____ Finalize ceremony details, ask family and friends to do readings, sing or take part in other ways.
- _____ Firm up menu for the reception and all details 2-4 months ahead.
- _____ Look into suggestions for out-of-town wedding guest accommodations.

One to Two Months Ahead

- _____ Apply for marriage license, valid for 60 days in Massachusetts.
- _____ Reconfirm rehearsal with ceremony site.
- _____ Address and mail invitations (6-8 weeks ahead), include maps.
- _____ Purchase guest book.
- _____ Have final fittings for bride, groom and attendants.
- _____ Have formal portrait taken. At the same time have a copy made for newspaper announcement insertion.
- _____ Finalize honeymoon plans.
- _____ Choose wedding gifts for each other
- _____ Make beauty appointments.
- _____ Pick up wedding rings.
- _____ Record each gift as received and write a thank you note promptly.
- _____ Shop for going away outfits.
- _____ Finalize reception song list and agenda with your entertainment.
- _____ Finalize types of photos and picture locations with your photographer.
- _____ Keep track of RSVP's.

Two to Four Weeks Ahead

- _____ Make sure you have your marriage license.
- _____ Pick up your gown and accessories.
- _____ Reconfirm arrangements with all ceremony and reception service vendors.
- _____ Draw up seating plans for the ceremony and reception. Write out place cards.
- _____ Try on headpiece with wedding hairstyle.
- _____ Decide who will be in the receiving line.
- _____ Address wedding announcements.
- _____ Choose a guest book attendant.
- _____ Finalize the guest list and call any guests who have not responded.

One to Two Weeks Ahead

- _____ Give final count and seating arrangements to caterer.
- _____ Arrange for travelers checks and pick up honeymoon tickets.
- _____ Start packing!
- _____ Give bridesmaids' party or luncheon.
- _____ Keep up with thank you notes.
- _____ Confirm rehearsal plans with clergy/justice of the peace and attendants.
- _____ Give gifts to attendants.
- _____ Assign wedding day duties to attendants, family and friends.
- _____ Break in your wedding shoes.
- _____ Organize checks for any services to be paid on the wedding day.
- _____ Pick up men's formal wear. Make sure all pieces are included & fit.

The Day Before

- _____ Rehearse ceremony with attendants and family members.
- _____ Attend rehearsal dinner.
- _____ Update seating chart.
- _____ Reconfirm wedding transportation.
- _____ Mail wedding announcements.

Your Wedding Day

- _____ Have hair, nails and make up done.
- _____ Bring wedding rings and marriage license.
- _____ Be dressed early for pre-ceremony photographs.
- _____ Try to be on time.



Brides Attire

Bridal Shop

Shop: _____

Address: _____

Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Brides Wedding Gown

Size: _____ Cost: _____ Date Ordered: _____

Color: _____ Deposit: _____ Est. Arrival Date: _____

Style: _____ Balance: _____ Delivery Date: _____

1st Fitting: _____ 2nd Fitting: _____ Final Fitting: _____

Brides Headpiece

Color: _____ Cost: _____ Date Ordered: _____

Style: _____ Deposit: _____ Est. Delivery Date: _____

Balance: _____ Delivery Date: _____

Bridal Accessories/Undergarments

Attendants' Gowns

Sizes: _____ Cost: _____ Date Ordered: _____

Color: _____ Deposit: _____ Est. Arrival Date: _____

Style: _____ Balance: _____ Delivery Date: _____

1st Fitting: _____ 2nd Fitting: _____ Final Fitting: _____

Attendants' Headpieces

Color: _____ Cost: _____ Date Ordered: _____

Style: _____ Deposit: _____ Est. Delivery Date: _____

Balance: _____ Delivery Date: _____

Attendants' Shoes

Sizes: _____ Cost: _____ Date Ordered: _____

Color: _____ Deposit: _____ Est. Delivery Date: _____

Style: _____ Balance: _____ Delivery Date: _____

Grooms Attire

Menswear Shop

Shop: _____
Address: _____
Contact: _____ Phone _____

Attire for Groom, Best Man, Users & Ringbearer

Size: _____ Cost: _____ Date Ordered: _____
1st Fitting: _____ 2nd Fitting: _____ Final Fitting: _____
Deposit: _____ Balance: _____ Pick Up Date: _____

Sizes

Coat: _____ Trousers: _____ Vest: _____

Shirt: _____ Cumberbund: _____ Shoes: _____

Accessories:

Cuff Links: _____ Socks: _____ Tie: _____



Who Pays for What?

The Bride

Wedding ring for the groom
Wedding gift for the groom
Presents for the bridal attendants
Personal stationery
Accommodations for her out-of-town attendants
Physical examination/blood test

The Groom

The bride's ring
Wedding gift for the bride
Marriage license
Gifts for the best man and ushers
Flowers: Bride's bouquet and going away corsage, corsages for both mothers, boutonnieres for men in the wedding party.
Accommodations for his out-of-town groomsmen
His physical exam/blood test
Gloves, ties, ascots for the men in the wedding party
Fee for the Clergy/Justice of the Peace
The Honeymoon
Bachelor dinner (optional)

The Groom's Family

Clothes for the wedding
Any traveling expenses and hotel bills they incur
Wedding gift for the newly-to-be-weds
Rehearsal dinner (optional)

The Bride's Family

Entire cost of the reception: food, wedding cake, beverages, gratuities for the bartenders and waiters, decorations, music, and flowers
Wedding gift for the happy couple
Wedding invitations, announcements and postage
Bride's wedding attire/trousseau
Fee for engagement and wedding photographs

Tippling: Most gratuities will be included in the fees, but it is customary to tip some of the following professionals who helped to make your day special. The following is a list for proper tipping protocol: Clergy Member -- usually a \$10 and up donation, Limousine, D.J., Photographer -- 15%, Waiters, Waitresses -- 15%, Captains -- 1 to 2% and Maitre D' -- 15%.

DENNIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISITOR CENTER

The Chamber's Mission is to promote and enhance responsible business growth; support Community, Civic and Cultural activities; and serve as a Resource Center for visitors, residents and members.

Dennis Chamber of Commerce
Hot WiFi Spot
www.DennisChamber.com
*Available
24/7/365*



**Intersection of Route 134 & 28,
West Dennis, MA 02670**

**The place for everyone to
stop by whether you are a
resident or a visitor!**

For info call 508-398-3568

or **email info@dennischamber.com**



www.DennisChamber.com

*Pick up brochures on lodging, dining,
shopping, etc. or download from our website*

NOTES:

Dennis, Massachusetts

CAPE COD



Photo by Chris Cook Photography