

Weddings at Rush Ranch



Wedding ceremony on the South Pasture Trail hill

The Rush Ranch Nature Center and its surrounding 2,070 acres of picturesque marsh and grassland provides the perfect natural setting for your wedding.

The highlight of the Nature Center is the view of the Suisun Marsh, uninterrupted by buildings, power lines, or other human inventions. The brick patio including a native plant garden, makes a beautiful location for an outdoor ceremony, that seats approximately 100-150 guests and provides a stunning backdrop for photo opportunities. The Nature Center also accommodates up to 80 seated guests inside.

A horse-drawn carriage can present the bride to her guests, then whisk the happy couple away for a few moments alone before joining guests for a lovely catered reception.

The picnic area, surrounded by towering eucalyptus trees, is perfect for a more casual affair. Imagine a relaxed BBQ and dancing under the open sky.



The Wedding Package

The wedding package includes exclusive use of the meeting room, picnic area, restrooms for up to 200 guests, and all outside facilities for the full day (clean-up may be finished by noon the following day). Regular maintenance of trash cans and restrooms are included in the basic rental package.

- Rates: \$1,500 for basic site rental only, or \$2,000 to include a staff member to aid in set-up, clean-up, and parking. The total rental amount is due one week before the wedding.
- Deposit: \$500 is required to hold the date on our calendar.
- Cancellation policy: deposits become nonrefundable 90 days before the wedding date. The wedding date may be rescheduled up to 45 days before the original date without penalty.

About the Rush Ranch Facilities

The Nature Center: This building includes a meeting room with lobby, partial kitchen, enclosed/covered patio and restrooms. The facility meets specifications of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including two ADA parking spaces in front of the building. The Nature Center also includes a large courtyard, landscaped with native plants with a brick patio and benches.

The meeting room measures 34' x 35' (1,200 sq. ft.) and accommodates table seating for up to 80 people, and theater style seating for up to 83. Folding tables (20) and padded, folding chairs (100) are including in the wed-

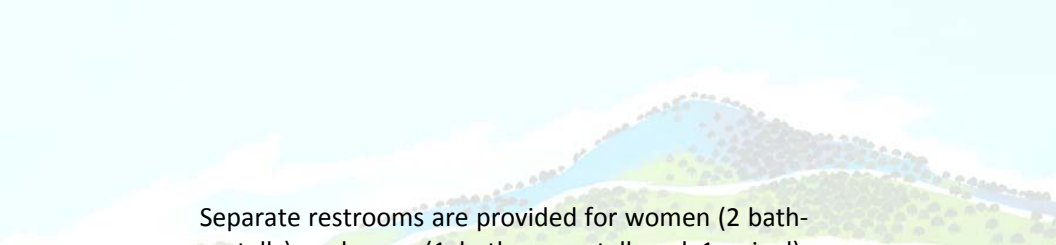


The Nature Center courtyard

ding package. Set-up and take-down is not included in the rental. Chairs and tables may be used only in the meeting room and paved patio area, and are not allowed in the gravel or in the picnic area. This room is equipped with a pull-down screen for multi-media viewing and a digital projector. Please provide your own laptop or slide projector. A sound system is available by special arrangement for an additional fee.

The Nature Center has screened windows and ceiling fans, but does not have air conditioning.

A partial kitchen is accessed via the meeting room. The kitchen includes a sink, full-sized refrigerator, microwave, 10 cup coffee maker, reusable cups, paper towels, and cleaning supplies.



Separate restrooms are provided for women (2 bathroom stalls) and men (1 bathroom stall and 1 urinal). Each bathroom has a pull down infant changing table.

An enclosed, partially covered patio measures 22' x 22' (484 square feet). It can be accessed from south and north exterior entrances as well as from the Nature Center. It can be used for small functions or with the meeting room, and would be acceptable for food service.

The entry lobby contains Solano Land Trust and National Estuarine Research Reserve educational displays and handouts.

Picnic Area: The main picnic area is 110' x 125' (13,750 square feet) covered with wood chips and is surrounded by towering eucalyptus trees. The area includes a wooden rain/sun shelter that is 400 sq. ft., a built-in masonry barbecue with a 4 sq. ft. grate, and a large food prep table. The picnic area is partially shaded, has a large fire pit and a hose bib with potable water. There are sixteen movable wooden picnic tables that will seat 6-8 people per table (total seating for 96-128 people). If additional tables and seating are brought in, there is space for up to 150 total people.

An adjacent mowed area of 80'x 180' (14,400) feet can handle picnic area overflow, games, etc.

Rental of portable toilet(s) to service large groups (more than 200 people) is required, the cost payable by the user.

Parking Area: The main parking area is 180' x 85' (15,300 square feet) and can easily accommodate 15 passenger cars. Two ADA spaces are located in front of the Nature Center building. Overflow parking is available, however on red-flag (high fire risk) and very wet days parking may be limited to 80 vehicles on the property.



The main gate with Mt. Diablo in the background

Guest Quarters: This two-bedroom, one-bathroom unit is available as a separate rental from the Nature Center.

The larger bedroom has bunk beds (double lower and twin upper), closet, night stand and dresser. The smaller bedroom has twin bunk beds, closet and dresser. The unit is fully furnished and includes a fully equipped kitchen, dining and living areas (with sofa and small desk), and bathroom with shower. Linens, towels, and kitchen supplies are provided. This unit is ADA accessible. Electric fans are available but there is no air conditioning.

The Guest Quarters can accommodate a maximum of 5 persons per night, and rents for \$100/night, \$600/week.



Rush Ranch is Green

The nature center and the living quarters are completely off-grid, using solar and wind energy power. The buildings were also constructed with “green” materials wherever possible. The Suisun Marsh is home to hundreds of wildlife species, rare and common—this property is a jewel of an open space. The property has been owned by Solano Land Trust since 1987 and is currently operated as a working cattle ranch, protected marsh, and public open space. Rush Ranch is also part of the San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and is an integral part of many research projects. Rush Ranch recycles plastic and cardboard.

Details

Photos: For more images including 360-degree panoramas, please visit Rush Ranch Nature Center on www.herecomestheguide.com/location/detail/rush-ranch-nature-center/

Access Adventure Carriages: To arrange for a horse-drawn wagon for your guests or a horse-drawn carriage for the wedding couple, please contact Michael Muir, Director of Access Adventure, at 707-432-0152.

Rehearsals: Rehearsals may be planned and will be billed based on our regular rates for the individual facilities, please see the Rush Ranch User Agreement included in this packet.

Guest List: Private event signs will be posted at the gate. Arrangements can be made to greet guests at the gate.

Seeds, Confetti, and Rice: These items are prohibited, but rose petals may be thrown




The Access Adventure wagon

Electricity: The electrical outlets that will be used for the picnic area will actually come from receptacles in the barn and tractor shed. There is approximately 200 feet of extension cord available, but beyond that we are recommending that you provide 100 feet of cord for each item that you need to supply electricity to. Bring extra cord and walk out the distances ahead of time.

Extra Tables and Chairs: The conference room folding tables and chairs are for indoor use only. There are a few folding tables available for use in the barn. Keep in mind that anything kept in the barn may need to be cleaned before use!

Luminarias: Due to the extreme risk of fire with the grass and barn, luminarias or any type of open flame device may only be used on brick, gravel, or cement areas and must not be placed within 100 feet of the barn, or on any grass or wood chip surface (i.e. not the picnic area).



Shade Structure: A shade canopy is available for rent (\$300) for the cement parking slab by the patio. Advance notice is required so arrangements can be made for set up.

Alcohol: Alcohol is permitted at Solano Land Trust's discretion. Caterers must obtain the necessary permits.

Smoking: Smoking is only permitted within 10 feet of the fire pit in the picnic area and under the olive tree next to the flagpole. Please respect the extreme fire hazard and limit all smoking to these designated areas.

Bathrooms: Your wedding package includes having a staff member monitoring the restrooms throughout the day - the restrooms on site can handle up to 200 people.

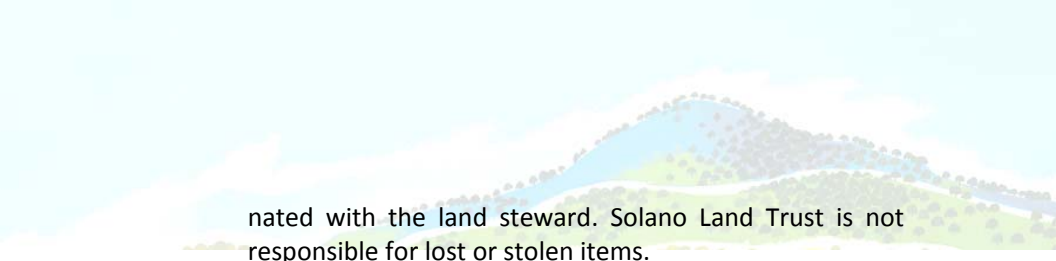
Digital Projector: Included, notify in advance if you wish to use it.

Sound System: For a \$100 fee, a sound system is available which includes: two speakers with stands, an amplifier, and a wireless microphone.

BBQs: The picnic area includes one masonry barbeque with a 4 square foot grate and a large fire pit. There are no extra grills available, but it is acceptable to bring your own as long as they are kept in the picnic area and are not placed on grass.

Dishwasher: There is a dishwasher in the guest quarters. Guest quarters are NOT included in the basic wedding package.

Storage: Items that you would like to store at the property may be brought out within a week before the event and will be stored in the barn. They should be in a closed, clearly labeled box. Advance storage must be coordi-



nated with the land steward. Solano Land Trust is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Clean-up: Clean-up and removal of all rental and personal items should be complete by noon the following day. If clean-up has not been done a fee of \$150 will be charged.

Composting: Composting of food waste should be arranged by the event planner. Rush Ranch does not have a system in place for this due to the infrequent use for large events that create this type of waste and due to pest issues.

Solano Land Trust reserves the right to ask disrespectful guests to leave.

Special Considerations

Rush Ranch is a gorgeous location for your wedding, but please keep in mind that as with any natural environment there may be some unpredictability and discomforts. Depending on the time of year, be prepared for the possibility of wet, windy, or hot weather. Remember that there is no AC in the conference room. If it is a red flag day or it has been raining the pasture won't be available as extra parking. Mosquitoes and other flying/biting insects can be a nuisance year-round, but especially from May through October. Bees and wasps will be drawn by food and can be especially prevalent in late September through October. For those with allergies, the season here is in full swing from April through June and again in August.



Rush Ranch Courtyard Bricks

Be a part of the Rush Ranch legacy and commemorate your special day for future generations. Bricks may be personalized with a name, special date, a memorial tribute, or a special message of your choosing. Request an order form or download it from our website.

About Solano Land Trust

Solano Land Trust is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is the preservation of agricultural lands, open space, and resources through the acquisition of land and conservation easements, education, and land management. Since its founding in 1986, Solano Land Trust has permanently protected 19,403 acres of land for the current and future residents of Solano County.

For more information or questions about weddings at Rush Ranch, please contact Anne DeLozier at 707-432-1050 x209 or anne@solanolandtrust.org .



Rush Ranch Wedding Checklist

Please fill out this questionnaire in addition to the Rush Ranch User Agreement and Waiver. It will help us be prepared for your event.

Groom's Name:

Bride's Name:

Primary Contact for Wedding:

Primary Contact Phone Number (cell):

Primary Contact Address:

Date of wedding:

Arrival/departure time on day of event:

Number of guests?

Number of vehicles?

Clean-up will be done by - DAY OF EVENT?

BY NOON NEXT DAY?

Renting Guest Quarters? YES NO

Dates if yes?

Arrival/departure times?

Number of guests/beds?

Renting Shade Structure? YES NO

Renting Sound System? YES NO

Serving Alcohol? YES NO

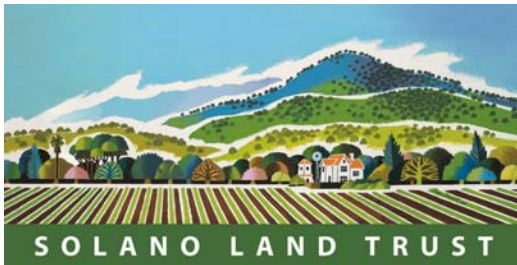
Using BBQ or Fire Pit? YES NO

Are there guests who will be smoking? YES NO

Hiring Access Adventure Wagon/Carriage? YES NO

Paying for Staff Assistance? YES NO

Special notes/anything you may require assistance with?



The Solano Land Trust team would like to extend our gratitude to the couples who have so generously allowed us to use photographs of their special day.
