

CONNAUGHT GARDENS  
— SIDMOUTH —

SAY 'I DO'



EVENTS EAST DEVON

SAY 'I DO'  
WITH A BEAUTIFUL  
SEA VIEW AT  
*Connaught Gardens,  
Sidmouth*

HIRE A SECTION of our beautiful gardens for you and your wedding party's exclusive use for your ceremony with our Ceremony Only package, and exchange vows in the stunning natural setting of our gardens. Be it a remarkable ocean vista or a magical enchanted garden, we have the perfect backdrop for you.

Your chosen venue will be made private for your ceremony, which includes time to set up and decorate, the ceremony itself and a cocktail and photography hour before you head off for your reception celebration.

Our experienced team will take care of all of the details to make your special day unforgettable.



# The Sunken Gardens

SUITABLE FOR  
*up to 100*  
GUESTS

- Surrounded by original stone walls, which provides shelter from the sea breeze
- Central flowerbeds designed and managed by local community group Sidmouth in Bloom
- Stunning floral secret garden
- Showstopper months: June and July

**Accessibility** Please be aware there are a small number of steps at all entrance points to the Sunken Garden



# The Lawn & Bandstand

SUITABLE FOR  
*over 100*  
GUESTS

- An extensive grass lawn surrounded by a range of striking flora
- Central bandstand provides a dramatic focal point for ceremonies
- Benefits from attractive year-round foliage

**Please note** In the case of adverse weather, all wedding ceremonies will take place in the bandstand. The bandstand can provide shelter for up to 20 seated guests plus room for standing. For large ceremonies, consider wet weather contingency plans for your guests.



# The Extended Garden

SUITABLE FOR  
*up to 50*  
GUESTS

- Beautiful ornamental gardens featuring olive trees as its centrepiece
- Large and versatile space – perfect for hosting a cocktail hour after your ceremony
- Benefits from attractive year round foliage



# Jacob's Ladder

SUITABLE FOR  
*up to 25*  
GUESTS

- Perfect for intimate ceremonies
- Spectacular ocean backdrop for your ceremony
- Panoramic sea views
- Impressive all year round



Heritage architecture overlooking views of Sidmouth's Jurassic Coast

# ABOUT *Beautiful* CONNAUGHT GARDENS

**T**HE FORMAL USE of this land dates back to around 1820 when Emmanuel Lousada, owner of nearby Peak House, started the construction of a detached marina villa called Cliff Cottage.

Once it was bought by the council, the main lawn was modified slightly and remains the focus today of activities in the gardens. The high walls were considered essential to provide shelter and the old entrance drive was also retained. It is these features that still survive today and provide the main backbone to the structure of the garden and areas such as the jungle remain much as they were then. The gardens now contain a fine range of plants that thrive in the temperate climate including a new herbaceous bed by the main lawn.

Opportunities for stunning photography at Jacob's Ladder and the gardens



The beautiful shaded Pergola Walk in Connaught Gardens

The gardens were named after His Grace, The Duke of Connaught, Queen Victoria's third son. Although the duke's first visit to Sidmouth was not until 1931, the royal link with Sidmouth goes back even further when the young Princess Victoria, aged six months, with her parents, stayed in what is now the Royal Glen Hotel.

It was the duke himself who formally opened the gardens on 3 November 1934 at the age of 84. The plaque marking the grand opening is still clearly visible within the gardens overlooking the main lawn.

## *About Sidmouth*

Nestled against an impressive coastline, Sidmouth is a town caught still in a timeless charm. Surrounded by breath-taking views, spectacular countryside and award-winning beaches, Sidmouth is a shining jewel in the East Devon crown. Not just a seaside resort, Sidmouth is a town with community at its heart.

Sidmouth provides a wonderful variety of local restaurants and accommodation, making it the perfect place to find your wedding reception after your magical ceremony with us at Connaught Gardens.

## PRICES AND AVAILABILITY

Reservation fee	£50 plus VAT
Under 50 people	£800
Over 50 people	£1,000

For weddings over 100 people or two venues price will be discussed on application.

### Eloperments

Max 10 people	£250
Optional chairs hire	£50
Optional chair cover hire	£30

Optional hires are only available for elopements and subject to availability.

Ceremonies can be held weekdays and weekends. Please note that due to high demand, we do not have any available for ceremony bookings during the first two weeks of August. We are permitted to allow a maximum of six ceremonies throughout the year. Please get in touch with our team to avoid any disappointment.

### Pricing includes:

- exclusive hire of the chosen garden venue
- two members of our team to support on the day
- the use of the whole gardens for photographs after your ceremony

Please note we do not charge any corkage fees.

## THE FINER DETAILS

- Remember to book your registrar for your special day.
- Chair and table hire can be made through multiple local business in Devon. Don't forget you will need tables and chairs for your registrars as well.
- Connaught Garden can allow one car for the bride or groom's entrance on the wedding day. Please arrange this with us.
- A large amount of parking is available opposite the gardens at Manor Road car park. Local charges will apply.
- Biodegradable confetti is permitted on site.
- All paperwork for the venue hire (including risk assessments and public liability insurance) will be completed for you by our team.



# CONNAUGHT GARDENS — SIDMOUTH —

DEVON, EX10 8RZ

## *Get in touch*

For any questions or to  
begin the booking process

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eastdevon.gov.uk/events

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Events East Devon is proudly run  
by East Devon District Council