

# *Windekind Farm*

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Marijke & Mark Smith

## *Basic Information for Planning Your Wedding at Windekind Farm*



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# Weddings at Windekind

## *Pricing*

### **Site Fee Rental Rates-Summer Weddings**

The outdoor wedding season generally starts late May and extends to mid-October.

Basic site fee: .....\$2,400.00

Over 100 guests (additional per person charge).....\$12.00

Maximum Number of Guests (200)

( Vermont has a 9% sales tax on weddings events)

As a general guide to cost at Windekind consider that price for a 100-person wedding can range from \$11,000 to more. The major expense items are: caterers, tents & other rental items, and music. We have a “preferred vendor” list which will help you choose alternatives.

## *Included Facilities*

### **Ceremony Sites**

There are numerous ceremony sites at the farm, including many flower gardens, the meadow, a pond site, and waterfalls across the meadow. Each site is automobile accessible for handicapped and elderly people.

### **Tent Site**

Windekind has three large lawn areas that can accommodate tents ranging from 1,600 square feet to 5,000 square feet. Because the lawns are interwoven, we can accommodate multiple tents that link one space to another.

### **Parking**

The Farm provides adequate parking for 80 automobiles. Buses or vans are encouraged for wedding parties larger than 140 people.

### **House**

We encourage the use of the house by the wedding party as an adjunct facility. It is also used, in some cases, for catered rehearsal dinners.

**First Floor:** 2 dining areas, a living room, the kitchen, a porch and full bath. Total area of the first floor is 1,365 square feet. Please be sure to check our web site for photos and plans of the interior of the house and porch.

**South Porch:** Offers an additional 250 square feet that links with nearby facilities and tent sites.

## **Shop/Museum**

The shop/museum area is located in a 150-year old 500 square foot barn. Historical tools and items here have always been an area of interest during weddings. Half the area is usable for tables and other aspects related to the wedding. Some parties use the area as an adjunct gathering and eating place. It has been dubbed the “engine house” bar and grill by previous wedding parties.

## **160-Acre Farm**

Windekind is located high in the Green Mountains adjacent to 19,636-acre Camels Hump State Park. At the farm, there are numerous walking/biking/skiing trails, which are part of a larger 24-kilometer network. The 16-acre meadow, brooks and waterfalls, and many other charming woodland and farm features create a uniquely pristine backdrop for your wedding as well as a local trail network for your guests to enjoy. There is also a short perimeter trail around the farm that passes through the meadows, woodlands and across brooks.

## **Studio**

A 600 square foot suite is available for you to rent for your wedding. The rates for the wedding parties apartment are \$650 for the week or \$250 for the weekend. We request that a wedding party considers a week rental. (See Apartment on web site).

## **The Forge**

The Forge is a former blacksmith shop currently being converted to residential use. When completed in the summer of 2005, the 1,100 square-foot structure will accommodate four adults. (See Lodging)

## **Bathroom Facilities**

A bathroom facility with two bathrooms is available for wedding parties. Designed to look like an English garden house, it is a fully equipped bathroom with separate facilities for the ladies and gents. It is located at the head of a large garden, which adds to its country charm.

There is also a third bathroom available for guest on the first floor of the house. Wedding parties do not need to rent port-o-lets.

## **Railroad**

A working 1/5 size railroad is available as a static display or for your guests to ride. The railroad can transport virtually any person in trains of four or five cars.

The railroad provides mid-event entertainment to the young and not so young. These trains are not big toys, rather highly detailed working models of historic steam and diesel locomotives and cars.

Because of insurance costs, the cost of supervision and the maintenance requirements, we do ask wedding parties to pay a \$200.00 fee for operation. This money goes into a special account to develop and preserve the railroad.

## **Flowers**

Marijke Smith often does all or part of the floral arrangements for wedding events. In some cases, she works in partnership with the wedding family or friends. There is a charge of \$30.00 an hour for Marijke's time. Flowers are obtained from our own gardens, local wildflowers, local commercial growers and other sources. We have a wholesale agreement with Green Mountain Florist Supply and can pass these savings along to the wedding party.

## **Bus Service to Windekind**

Because guests tend to stay in concentrated areas in Burlington, we often use buses as a means of transportation to the farm. The service is relatively inexpensive, guests have a good time on the bus, and its use adds an element of safety to the event.

## ***Professional Services***

### **Coordination and Organizational Support**

Depending upon the nature of your planning process, Mark Smith will organize, plan and coordinate with the wedding party. Committed to a well-planned wedding, he has been involved at a variety of planning levels with more than 40 weddings. On your wedding day, he will see to the details that are appropriate and necessary to support you and your Wedding Party; ensuring that your Wedding unfolds as planned.

### **Vendor Resource List**

Over time, a “preferred” vendors list has evolved of approximately 55 vendors from caterers to musicians. The intent is to help each wedding party to explore their options, choosing from the list of experienced vendors who have a history of successful work at Windekind. A wedding party is free to choose their own vendors, providing there is communication with the Smith family. The one exception is that we work with only two rental companies—Weddings, Tents & Events (a division of Valley Rent-All), and Celebration Rentals.

We will also provide the following services as part of your wedding package:

- *Budget planning, as needed*
- *Obtaining caterers and procuring other vendors, as required*
- *Site planning, tent location, advising of ceremony site, etc.*
- *Supervising all rental items, as needed*
- *Organizing and overseeing parking*
- *Organizing the setting up and cleaning up*
- *Advising on accommodations, as needed*
- *Obtaining floral services as needed*
- *Being available before and during the ceremony and reception for such tasks as parking arrangements, moving tables, chairs and other physical and organizational tasks, as necessary*
- *Supervise all railroad operations*

Mark and Marijke feel it is important to be on site hosts to your guests throughout the wedding and reception. Hosting is one of our most pleasant tasks.

## **Availability**

Windekind is available to the wedding party the day before the wedding and the entire day of the wedding. Access to the farm prior to the wedding is important to us so that you may create an environment that reflects your unique style. The Smith family and the caterer are responsible for clean-up after the wedding.

## **Contract and Deposit**

A signed contract and a one-third (1/3) deposit reserve your wedding date and initiate the process of developing the wedding.

## **May We Suggest**

Come see first hand the possibilities awaiting you at Windekind. Because we want you to make the right choice, we will carefully review the details of the pros and cons of a wedding at Windekind.

## **Positive Considerations of Windekind**

- *Absolute privacy and tranquillity and one of Vermont's best views.*
- *Large open spaces in the lawn and meadow and nearby woodland areas*
- *Seven gardens and interesting outbuildings*
- *Three ponds*
- *Nearby walking paths and trails*
- *Three complete bathroom facilities*
- *Partnership planning support before, during and after your wedding by the Smith family*
- *The garden railroad large enough for adult and children riders*
- *Accommodations for (two) 2 in the apartment, and (four) 4 in the Forge when completed in 2005.*
- *A well-developed vendor resource list*
- *State Certified Water Supply and Waste Water System and is a fully permitted site.*
- *Liability insurance protects Windekind and the Wedding Party.*
- *Close proximity to the Burlington, Waitsfield and Warren areas. Windekind is remote and at the same time near large accommodation facilities and transportation centers.*
- *A solid history of successful weddings since 1991.*
- *As of the Fall of 2004, Windekind has hosted over 40 weddings.*