

Weddings



CLEARWATER
MARINE AQUARIUM®

proof of the pudding



Greetings,

Welcome to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium & Congratulations on your Engagement! Thank you for considering us for your upcoming Wedding! We are the perfect place to celebrate and create a memorable Special Day for you, your family, and friends! Not only will you be choosing a truly unique event space in the Tampa Bay area, but also aiding us in our mission of Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Release of marine life, and the long-term care of our resident animals. We are excited to announce that we partnered with ***Proof of the Pudding***, our exclusive catering service for your upcoming event to provide exceptional food and beverage service, as well as continue our mission of sustainability and environmental awareness. Proof of the Pudding partners locally to source food for your event from sustainable sources and only uses eco-friendly serving ware and compostable and recyclable materials. We look forward to working with you on creating a wonderful and memorable “Best Day Ever”, not only through having it at a Fintastic venue, but also through your food and beverage experience. We look forward to hosting your Special Day at CMA!

Mermaid Wishes & Dolphin Kisses,
CMA Events Team



Select the Venue

Window of Wonder

(140 Seated, 300 Cocktail Reception Style , 6,178 sq.ft)

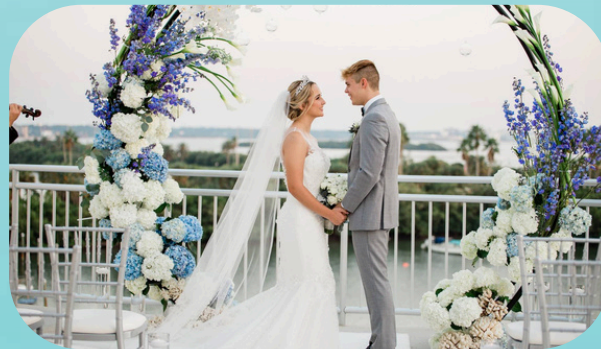
Venue Pricing starting at \$1,950

Our Ruth & J.O. Stone Dolphin Complex is currently home to our resident Bottlenose and Roughed-tooth dolphins. This extraordinary complex has five pools and holds 1.5 million gallons of filtered water from Clearwater bay. This area includes a 360-viewing area with numerous floor to ceiling windows to view and engage with our rescued residents with an incredible underwater view as your backdrop. This is an ideal location for outdoor covered Wedding Ceremonies, Cocktail Hours, & Receptions.



Dolphin Terrace
(100 Seated, 250 Cocktail Reception Style)
Venue Pricing starting at \$1,400

The Dolphin Terrace offers an above-water viewing of our Ruth & J.O. Stone Dolphin Complex, where you can see our resident Bottlenose and Roughed-tooth dolphins! This is a perfect space for an outdoor Ceremony or Cocktail style reception or dinner, and features Poly-Wood high top and low top seating as well as breathtaking views of downtown Clearwater and beautiful Clearwater Beach. You can add-on a private dolphin presentation to learn their rescue stories, engage in their enrichment activities, and hear them communicate with each other while enjoying the gorgeous view and twinkling lights from above.



Harborview Deck
(64 Seated, 135 Cocktail Reception Style)
Venue Pricing starting at \$1,000

Enjoy the view of the gorgeous Sunset and Seabreeze on our outdoor covered Harborview Deck! This space is located in the original building right next to our resident otter and sea turtle exhibits and overlooks the Bay and local Marina. This area is a great place to host a Rehearsal Dinner, Cocktail Hour, or Intimate Outdoor Reception.



Jacobson Ballroom
(300 Banquet, 650 Cocktail Style Reception, 7,200 sq.ft.)
Venue Pricing starting at \$2,450

This beautiful Ballroom features a large unobstructed floorplan with a breathtaking view of the bay, floor to ceiling windows, and an outdoor balcony that makes this space perfect for any occasion. It also features in-house Audio-Visual equipment with 2 projectors, large screens, and sound system which is ideal for events wanting presentations or slideshows. Our Pre-Function Space also features a beautiful built-in bar and is a great area for an indoor cocktail hour prior to your dinner & reception. This ballroom is also able to be broken up into smaller sections by using pipe-and-drape to create an indoor space for more intimate events.



Jacobson Theater
(289 Theater Style)
Venue Pricing starting at \$1,650



This state-of-the-art theater is located on the same level as the Jacobson Ballroom and perfect for an indoor ceremony! Make a grand entrance from backstage and come down the elevated aisle to meet your special someone before saying "I Do".



Other Indoor locations include smaller meeting rooms which can be used for "VIP Bridal Party Suite" pre or post ceremony. Add on some snacks or beverages to help get those pre-wedding day jitters out! Pricing starting at \$500.



The Details:

- **VENUE:** Includes up to 8 hours of rental (2 hours for set up, 5 Hours of event time which can include your ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception, 1 hour for breakdown).
- **EVENING EVENTS:** Evening events start as early as 5 pm. If you want to host your ceremony (and/or reception) at a specific animal habitat, we will need to work around the time the aquarium closes to the public. All events occurring outdoors must end by 10 pm due to the animals sleep schedules.
- **SECURITY:** Included to ensure privacy for your event.
- **PARKING:** Parking is available in the CMA parking garage managed by Universal Parking. Daytime parking for regular guests is \$15 per vehicle. We are able to extend a discounted parking fee of \$12 per vehicle for special events. Valet parking is an event enhancement option for an additional fee.
- **EVENT COORDINATION:** CMA requires a day-of coordinator in addition to your main point of contact at the Aquarium. This assigned coordinator must be an outside vendor who is not part of the guest list/wedding party/family. This person will ensure your vendors arrive on time, line up the wedding party for the ceremony or reception entry, keep the event on the discussed timeline, and inform other vendors of updates throughout the planning process. They will also ensure that all gifts, favors and décor are safely removed from the event space at the end of the event. Please see Approved Vendors List for options and contact information.



Book Your Own Vendors:

Choose your own Planner ("Day Of" required), Florist, Photographer, Videographer, DJ/Musician, Cake, etc. from our list of Approved Vendors who are all licensed & insured.

2025 VENDORS LIST





Catering Options:

REVIEWING THE CATERING OPTIONS: Proof of the Pudding handles all special event catering needs at CMA. Should you require information regarding a Kosher menu provided by POP's Kosher partner, please reach out to your Catering Sales Manager. There are food and beverage minimums associated with different times of the day and days of the week. Should you fall below these set minimums, your Catering Sales Manager will let you know. Please note, all estimates below are based on evening price points.

WELCOME RECEPTION/COCKTAIL HOUR: Typically, prior to the reception start time, there is a welcome reception or cocktail hour. During this time, you can offer beverages (a 4 - Hour Premium Bar package is included in all packages) for your first hour of bar service. Additionally, since this likely falls near a meal service hour, most groups will elect to have passed foods available (wedding packages include a Shark-cuterie Display). The food items are charged by the piece (price ranges from \$4- \$6 per piece) and it is recommended to serve approximately 3-5 pieces per person. Proof will charge for a team of servers to pass these times to your guests - staffing varies based on guest count and number of passed items selected.

Your reception cuisine can be served in two different service styles:

PLATED DINNER SERVICE: Proof can provide a starter course and a main entrée to your guests at the table. The third course is often a wedding cake brought in from an outside vendor. When selecting this option, please note you will be responsible for keeping up with the counts of each entrée ordered, as well as for providing a breakdown of where the meals are to be served the night of the event. To make things easier, you may elect to offer a dual entrée, so all your guests receive the same meal. Prices for a plated dinner wedding package range from \$98++ per person to \$119++ per person.

BUFFET DINNER SERVICE: Proof's buffet service includes your choice of two (2) artisan salads, two (2) proteins - pricing varies based on proteins selected, two (2) starch/vegetable side items. Prices for a buffet dinner wedding package start at \$114++ per person. Keep in mind you can add wine service with dinner at an additional cost for the wine and wine stewards.

Please review our menus for detailed food options and our beverage options. If you don't see what you want on the menu, speak to your Catering Sales Manager about what might be possible. Remember, you can always add a fun late-night snack station!

[SEE OUR MENUS](#)

Event Enhancements:

- Admission & Access to Aquarium & Exhibits (Discounted tickets available)
- Dance Floor
- Private Dolphin Presentation - starting at \$500
- Special Photo opts with our Resident Animals
- Animal Encounters
- Private Boat Charters



Private Charters

(40 Passenger Capacity)
Boat Charter Price Starting at \$550

The Clearwater Marine Aquarium owns and operates 3 large pontoon boats which offers a truly unique and exciting option for groups to enjoy life on the water! Catch sight of wild dolphins and manatees swimming next to your boat! Whether it be a “Wedding Welcome” picnic to one of the local islands or a Sunset Cruise for your Rehearsal Dinner, this is a fun way to experience Clearwater Beach with a whole new level of fun!



Requesting a Proposal

REQUESTING A PROPOSAL Your Catering Sales Manager would be happy to put together a detailed proposal for your review. This proposal will outline your estimated event pricing.

In order to get started, you will need to share the following information:

- **Requested event date**
- **Event start time**
- **Estimated guest count**
- **Are you hosting ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception, or cocktail hour and reception only?**
- **Which venue best suits your event?**
- **Reception event style (i.e. plated dinner or buffet dinner)**

– There is no need to feel as though you have to pick your menu right now. We can work with estimated price points to help you get started. Final decisions can be made closer to the event date or at the food tasting.

- Which beverage service package would you like? – (i.e. 4 - Hour Premium Bosun Bar Package, included in package price, or upgrade to Deluxe Captain's Bar)



Maria Slater

Catering Sales Manager
m Slater@proofpudding.com

SCHEDULE A TOUR & FINALIZE BOOKING DETAIL

If you want to see the space prior to sending the information needed for a proposal, your Catering Sales Manager can set up a time to meet you.

BOOK YOUR WEDDING VENUE! Once you have received a proposal for your event venue space that outlines the details of your event and it works with your budget and overall wedding vision, it is time to lock in the venue! To hold the space definite, a signed agreement will be due along with your initial (non-refundable) deposit. The deposit is a percentage of your total room rental and food and beverage minimum. Your deposit payments will be in a deposit schedule outlined in your contract. Tastings are typically scheduled three to four months prior to the wedding. We will finalize a number of details at the tasting. You will continue to work with your same sales manager throughout the planning process to ensure no important details are missed along the way.