

East Quay Venue



We didn't want a traditional venue!



Kirsty Lomas, 31, a teacher, and Karen Roadnight, 31, a charity events manager, were married on March 24, 2016, at the East Quay Venue in Whitstable, Kent

In the final hour before a wedding, brides are usually dealing with last-minute disasters, from veils that won't stay put to the wrong flowers being delivered. Kirsty and Karen were in the pub, in their wedding dresses.

"It was just the two of us," Kirsty says. Before heading to the pub, the brides had arranged a "first look", stepping out from behind a beach hut to see each other in their wedding dresses for the first time and to have photographs taken. The previous night they had stayed at separate houses in Whitstable, on the Kent coast.

On leaving the pub, the brides set off in a friend's campervan. They picked up their fathers en route and opened a bottle of champagne as they made their way to their afternoon ceremony. They had decorated the East Quay Venue, a former oyster grading warehouse in Whitstable harbour, with doily bunting and candles in oyster shells. "We didn't want a traditional venue," Kirsty says.

A guitarist played as seven bridesmaids led the way up the aisle followed by Karen and her father, and then Kirsty and her father. Katie Keen, an independent wedding celebrant, conducted the ceremony. The brides wrote their own vows; friends and family gave readings. Their mothers lit their baptism candles, which Karen and Kirsty used to light a unity candle. "I felt totally cocooned in love," Karen says.



Kirsty and Karen met on a tour bus in Australia in 2010. "My first impression was that she was a typical bossy teacher type," Karen says. Kirsty had her own opinion of Karen: "I thought she was a posh southerner." As they spent more time together over the two-week trip they discovered different sides to each other. "I quickly realised that she was such a kind-hearted, genuine and fun-loving person who made me laugh," Karen says. "She made me feel safe and happy, and that anything was possible."

Karen is more outgoing. "I am the emotional, spontaneous one while Kirsty is level-headed and laid-back. She is great at keeping her cool." Kirsty enjoys Karen's sense of humour. They both love animals and met up at London Zoo for their first date on returning from Australia. Two years later, they bought a house together in Rochester, in Kent, which they share with their two cats. "Karen is the one who decides what our house looks like," Kirsty says. "With me then doing the DIY."

For Karen's 30th birthday in 2014, they toured the west coast of America. At the end of the trip, just before crossing the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco by bicycle, Kirsty pulled out a ring and proposed. They had discussed marriage previously, but Karen was surprised. Their families get on well and Kirsty had told both sets of parents in advance so that they felt included.

They sat in the pub in their wedding dresses before the ceremony

Kirsty grew up in Leicester and studied sports coaching at the University of Cardiff, where she also did an MA and trained to be a teacher. Raised in Hertfordshire, Karen studied English at the University of Southampton. "Karen is Mrs Organised," says Kirsty, who was happy to let her take the lead in planning their wedding. They wanted it to be relaxed and by the sea. Karen helped Kirsty as she struggled to choose a wedding dress and they went shopping together. "They say go with your best friend," Kirsty says. "Karen technically is my best friend."

Karen kept her Fifties-style dress a surprise. She and her younger sister woke at 3am a few days before the wedding to choose the flowers from a London market. Seventy guests were served oysters at the reception and then fish and chips or lobster for the sit-down wedding breakfast. Another 30 guests arrived for the evening celebrations. One of Kirsty's bridesmaids gave her a pair of personalised Converse trainers decorated with lobsters as a wedding present. She wore them most of the evening, but put her heels back on for the newlyweds' first dance to Ray LaMontagne's *You Are The Best Thing*. She says: "I think I smiled from the time I got up to the time I went to bed."

The Times – Saturday 14th May 2014

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/we-didnt-want-a-traditional-venue-r60057qwc>

Romantic Wedding Venue's in Kent – 10 of the Best.

East Quay, Whitstable

East Quay is at the end of the east quay harbour, facing outward onto the shingled beach of Whitstable. The venue can accommodate up to 100 guests for the ceremony and drinks reception, offering couples a variety of options for the latter, including the famous oysters which guests can enjoy on the beach. Couples can also opt for a wedding breakfast, which can be tailored accordingly. All produce is locally sourced, including the fish caught by local fishermen who work on the harbour. In-house catering is offered by the venue, although couples may bring their own home-made or catered evening buffets. The venue also offers extras including ice-cream bikes, candyfloss makers and popcorn machines to ensure you have the ultimate seaside wedding.



Kent Life – 30th January 2017

<http://www.kent-life.co.uk/style/romantic-wedding-venues-in-kent-10-of-the-best-1-4868253>

East Quay Venue in Whitstable takes top wedding prize



The East Quay Venue on Whitstable beach has been crowned the best place to tie the knot in the south east.

The seaside venue has been dubbed the “cream of the crop” after scooping victory at the Bridebook.co.uk awards.

Run by the Whitstable Oyster Company, the venue, which is one of the oldest buildings in the town, can cater for up to 100 guests and includes a dance floor.

Clare Potten, deputy manager of the venue, said: “We have a dedicated, loyal and fun-loving team, who without, this would not have been possible.

“We are lucky to have a beautiful venue, in a picturesque location and it is always a pleasure to be part of every couples big day.”

Couples and guests can enjoy seaside views and a menu which boasts fresh fish and oysters caught by fishermen in the harbour.

Founder and CEO of Bridebook.co.uk, Hamish Shephard, said: “The Bridebook.co.uk Wedding Awards recognise the cream of the crop when it comes to venues and suppliers.”

Kent Online – 10th March 2017

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/whitstable/news/kent-wedding-venue-named-best-122020/>

This beautiful wedding venue has been named the best in Kent



A beautiful venue in Kent has been named the best place to get married in the south east. East Quay Venue in Whitstable Harbour scooped the title in the 2017 Bridebook.co.uk Wedding Awards after industry experts judged skill, commitment and dedication to the wedding industry.

Housed within one of Whitstable's oldest buildings, East Quay Venue sits beside the beach and has become a very popular place for weddings.

The venue is registered to perform civil ceremonies, offering sea views and catering for up to 100 guests.

Couples can even enjoy a seaside wedding with fresh fish and oysters caught by fishermen in the harbour.

The annual awards received more than 70,000 entrants this year, with around 180,000 votes cast in the preliminary round.

Hamish Shephard, Founder and CEO of Bridebook.co.uk, said: "The Bridebook.co.uk Wedding Awards recognises the cream of the crop when it comes to venues and suppliers. This is a wonderful opportunity for local wedding businesses across the nation to gain the recognition and merit they deserve for their commitment and exemplary service to their couples, both past and present."

Kent Live – 8th March 2017

<https://www.kentlive.news/this-beautiful-place-has-been-named-the-best-wedding-venue-in-kent/story-30188794-detail/story.html>



Muddy Stilettos Newsletter



Sample Whitstable brewery beers and freshly shucked Whitstable oysters and start planning your perfect wedding at this the cutest of Kent venues (it recently won an award for being the best place to get married in the south east). The East Quay Building is a licensed wedding venue in Whitstable Harbour with a large dining room, dance floor, stage and open-plan kitchen, as well as a mezzanine level – oh and direct sea views. It's the original oyster grading room of the Seasalter and Ham Fishery Company and retains its original brick structure, coastal heritage charm and it makes me want to get married all over again just to have a cool old knees up here.

eqvenue.com

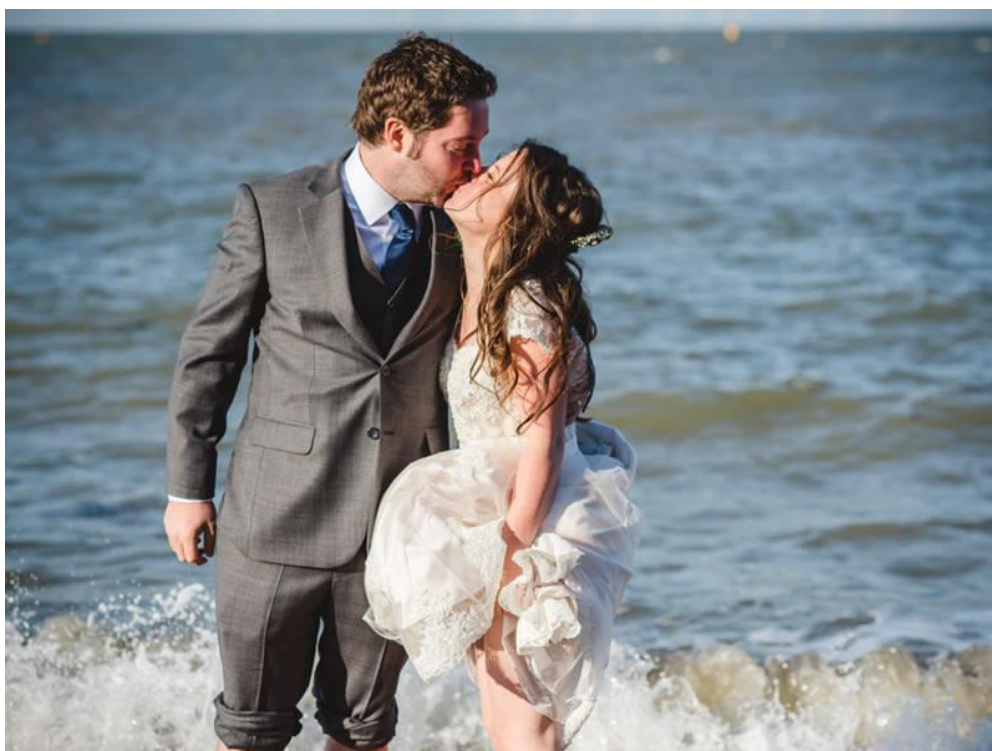
Dale Weeks Photography

September 2017

<https://kent.muddystilettos.co.uk/things-to-do/this-month-sept-2017/>

COOL AND COASTAL: 6 BEST BEACH VENUES IN THE UK!

Well we do, don't we? I know I always feel happy at the seaside and what better a location to say 'I do' in. There's something very beautiful and simple about marrying near the coast – whether it's the stunning scenery that can provide a dramatic backdrop for the all-important wedding snaps or merely the fresh sea air and fish and chip suppers; our British Isles has it all in spades.



EAST QUAY VENUE, WHITSTABLE

East Quay Venue is housed within one of Whitstable's oldest buildings, and still retains the structural features of its coastal heritage past. Right on the seafront, the venue offers a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere for your perfect wedding. Why not offer your guests a selection of Whitstable's famous oysters, followed by fish and chips, then finished off perfectly with ice-cream watching the stunning sunset? Whether you choose to have the whole day at East Quay, or just the reception, they will ensure your day is tailored to your idea of the perfect wedding. www.eqvenue.com

<https://www.weddingideasmag.com/cool-and-coastal-beach-venues/>

Best wedding venues in the UK to book in 2018



(East Quay Venue)

If sea views make you weak at the knees look no further than East Quay Venue; one of Whitstable Harbours oldest buildings which used to be an Oyster house. Expect relaxed shabby-chic beachfront style and an authentic seaside atmosphere.

November 2017

<https://www.standard.co.uk/lifestyle/london-life/best-wedding-venues-in-the-uk-a3695681.html>

The Top 100 UK Wedding Venues for a Summer Wedding

Searching for that perfect venue ideal for your summer wedding? Bridebook.co.uk have done the hard work for you by listing the top 100 summer wedding venues! These are the best of the best – and they suit summer weddings down to the T. If you want to look more locally for your dream venue, there's always our huge [Wedding Venue Search](#), with every venue you could possibly think of. You're welcome!

3. East Quay Venue, Kent



The shabby-chic style of [East Quay Venue](#) is perfect for a summer seaside theme, with a shingle beach and beach huts right on its doorstep.

<https://bridebook.co.uk/article/the-top-100-uk-wedding-venues-for-a-summer-wedding>

**EAST
QUAY
VENUE**



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The Wedding Industry Awards

Recognising and rewarding excellence
in the wedding industry



THE 2016
WEDDING
INDUSTRY AWARDS

**REGIONAL
FINALIST**

REGIONAL
FINALIST



THE 2017
WEDDING
INDUSTRY AWARDS



THE 2018
WEDDING
INDUSTRY AWARDS

**REGIONAL
FINALIST**



Whitstable Oyster Fishery Company leads native revival

The start of the native oyster season was traditionally a celebration with top restaurateurs and big wigs from Billingsgate welcoming the famous Whitstable smacks back from sea. Years later and I'm standing in the middle of the Swale estuary with a venerable crowd of oyster aficionados staring at rock oysters growing in bags on trestles – the natives are back at the East Quay, the smacks are gone. Times have changed.

The resurrection of this historical day is a reminder of how this ancient industry is once again thriving following its near-collapse in the 1980s.

Standing by the beds even seems controversial, back in February councillors discussed the possibility of compulsorily purchasing the land due to their proximity to the shore and perceived danger.

But in July the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) accepted the oyster farm was not likely to cause an obstruction or danger to navigation.

Company boss James Green has consistently maintained the area is safe and is now on hand to show me the oysters in various degrees of growth.

Positioned in the intertidal zone between the Swale estuary and the sea it's part of an operation that includes traditional dredging out on the flats and is a method they are keen to exploit thanks to expansion.

The company exports six tonnes of oysters to the Continent every year and it's a fast-growing business.

Mr Green's family has run the business for 30 years.

He said: "There is a huge market in France (70 times greater than UK) but they are overfarmed.

"The quality of our oysters is better, they have plenty of food due to the estuary waters producing the algae and they have plenty of space. They taste better. The French know this, they can tell the quality."

And so follows the inevitable question: is he worried about Britain leaving the EU?

"The exchange rate is good for us at the moment and, worse-case scenario, World Trade Organisation tariffs on exports would be low," he said as dignitaries and restaurateurs crowd around the beds to view the rock oysters in various stages of growth.

It's a laborious process, oyster seed is bought from the Seasalter Shellfish Reculver Hatchery which is owned by renowned oyster farmer and scientist, John Bayes.

The oysters are then regularly turned and cultivated – taking three years to reach maturity. Great, but why the rock oysters? Where are the natives?

"They refuse to be farmed," said Mr Green.

At their peak in 1850 about 80m were being sent to Billingsgate every year – by the 1970s a succession of bad winters, disease and pollution had virtually wiped out the entire stock.

Today a method to farm the ancient and world-famous native remains a mystery – they prefer the oyster beds further out on the flats and even then only one out of a million will survive for consumption.

"We are 3,000 years behind farming technologies, there needs to be ways to improve processes in aquaculture," said Mr Green who has a degree in marine biology.

On the other hand, rock oysters are available all year around and are far harder – their quality and popularity is growing.



He said: "Young people like to know where there food comes from these days which I think has helped the industry. We sell 3,000 a week locally." Back at the company-owned Lobster Shack he points out the nutritional poster on the wall: omega three, zinc...the list goes on. It seems the shellfish has joined the 'good food' zeitgeist.

The operation behind the shack is small – a machine to clean and sort the oyster noisily spits out molluscs by weight – some destined for Michelin restaurants.

From here they are then placed in purification tanks; using UV light and sea water the oysters self-clean for 48 hours.

Even at this part of the process the native demands respect. "You can't just drop them in the water - they die," said a technician. Further tanks house large local lobsters. On a good weekend the restaurant sells 1,000, indicating the increasing importance of food tourism to the local economy.

Back in the Shack the shucking begins and by this time and I am eating a native. They have a unique metallic taste which is meaty and tender. The rock is of equally high quality but sweeter.

The Whitstable Oyster Company's love of the town's heritage is evident – they own a hotel, fishermen's huts, restaurant and brewery. But misty-eyed nostalgia over the ancient trade is sincere and it helps that the tourists are arriving to eat the natives.

September 2017

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/whitstable/sport/oyster-revival-the-natives-are-132123/>



Voter Scores

Question	Your Score	Average
Ability of the event manager/team to understand, interpret and realise your vision and ideas.	9.889	9.671
Quality of expertise, advice and guidance received from the event manager/team.	9.822	9.914
Quality of customer service and communication received from the event manager/team.	9.864	9.433
Ability of the event manager/team's ability to understand and fit into your wedding.	9.889	9.795
Quality of the event manager/team's efficiency and personal presentation on the day of your wedding.	9.867	9.87
Level at which the event manager/team was committed to your wedding.	9.889	9.651
The level at which the success of your wedding was due to this person.	9.556	9.544



THE
WEDDING
INDUSTRY AWARDS

General Comments (in random order)

"From the day we booked our wedding the communication has been 5star from every question that I had! Nothing was too much for the East Quay team .they made our wedding day personal for us .the food was amazing the venue and surrounding area are fabulous. Was definitely recommend this wedding venue"

Mrs Nicola Blackwell (read)

"They were so flexible and accommodating...nothing was too much trouble. Whilst being so professional. I loved the venue and the staff just were so friendly. It was a very personal service too. They captured our personality and helped guide us throughout the whole process. Cannot praise them enough"

Mrs Antonia James

"Clare was who I dealt with mainly but on the day you can see what a team they have! Everything went perfectly on our wedding day, the team were always around but never in the way, you barely knew they were there and all in a good way! They have a relaxed attitude which means things are kept calm there was nothing that we could have complained about from timings and making things as we wanted to the general service at dinner and through to the evening"

Mrs Becky Pardoe (Low)

"The service we received from all the staff at the East Quay went above anything we could have expected. They were a pleasure to deal with, answering every emailed request for info swiftly and doing so much more on the day off (and day before) the wedding than we expected. Our guests were very complimentary about the staff and it was clear that their great attitude and friendly nature made a big impact."

Mrs Natalie Robb (Larnder)

"Clare fully listened to and respected our thoughts and opinions on how we wanted our wedding to be. She brought great ideas which made the day even better. Clare and all the staff were so hidden on the day and everything went as planned. We loved the fact that staff weren't hurrying our guests to do things and move on to the next thing. We felt like we had full control and freedom on the day. We absolutely loved it and so did our guests. The food was delicious too."

Mrs Jodie Amos

"Very slick process, with a group of staff who really cared and did their best to make everyone happy. As the groom it made the whole day less stressful, because the team at East Quay had everything organised down to the finer details. What a day, what a venue and what a great team!"

Mr neil farrell



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

"This wedding venue is perfectly located on Whitstable Beach. The venue itself is a great size with a great set up. From day one with the build up to the wedding and then on the day - the staff were absolutely great - but never selling you packages or products. Just listened to what we wanted and they worked around us. They offered a HUGE range of food options with flexibility within the options. Food tasting night with other couples was a great way to see the venue in action."

Mrs Aimee Garnett (Wood)

"Staff and event manager were very flexible and easy to deal with. Happy to help in any way and made the process as stress free as possible. Happy to incorporate our ideas but also imaginative and creative in their suggestions. No pressure initial sales approach and reliable and friendly at all times."

Mr peter hughes

"Beautiful venue, wonderful staff, welcoming and couldn't do enough for you. Very accommodating to our needs and always contactable with a friendly ear! The venue is perfect to go with any theme and has such a relaxed environment you can't help but love the venue! Our wedding was the day of our dreams, we loved everything about the venue and wished we could do it all again!!!!"

Mrs Jade Cartledge

"The team at east quay are extremely friendly, helpful and professional. Our event manager had great knowledge which allowed our day to go exactly to plan. The venue itself is in the perfect location by the sea and the staff allow you to put your own individual mark on the place for your big day. The price is very reasonable compared with other venues and with options to pay corkage on your own bottles of fizz and wine it makes it all the more value for money. We cannot fault this venue."

Mrs Emma Blackmore (Cartwright)

"Your wedding is supposed to be the best day of your life and East Quay did not fail to deliver that dream!! We had the best day ever and have had family and friends complimenting ever since."

Mrs Francesca Checkley

"The Venue is in an excellent location and fitted the mood and style we were seeking for our wedding. Staff were really easy to contact throughout the whole process, and the lead up and event went perfectly."

Mr Paul Phillips

"On the day it all happened exactly how we pictured it. The organization with Clare (from East Quay) was smooth and it wasn't too much work for us (we live in Switzerland). We actually only met her one time before the Wedding. She understood very quickly what we wanted and gave us great advice and other providers tips. All our guests gave amazing



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

feedback on the coolness of the location and the food... the buffet was absolutely delicious (coming from a bunch of french guests, it means a lot;)"

Mrs Yannika Norton (Jarlov)

"Amy was absolutely amazing helping us plan our wedding. She was super patient with my last minute panics and tried her very best to accommodate last moment changes were she could. The day could not have gone better, the whole team were great fun and quietly incredibly professional. Just perfect. Can we do it again please!"

Mrs Bernice Mallinson

"Everything was perfect. Slight hiccup with a mishap of booking the registrar not being booked at first but all worked out fine on the day and happily married still"

Mr Aaron Mayne

"Clare Potten made our wedding! She was kind, conscientious, diligent, efficient, caring and easy to deal with. She made getting married at East Quay a great success."

Mr Ben Maslen

"The team have been helpful, supportive, patient & professional from the day of enquiry. The day itself was perfectly organised with the team silently working hard to ensure we had an amazing day. Service & food were amazing we could not have wished for more."

Mrs Michelle Morris (Bolt)

"Fantastic, helpful, understood our needs. Even helped me fix my button hole when it fell apart, which happened right at the last minute. They made us feel comfortable and look out for all of our guests. Nothing was too much trouble which was great."

Mr Kevin Turner

"I cannot recommend this venue enough. Claire our coordinator was flawless. Nothing to much trouble. The ability to make the venue personal to us and the sea views made the day special and bespoke. Everyone commented on the quality of food, service of both waiting staff and bar staff. Thank you all for your help and patience (I no I had one or two bridezilla moments). I returned 6 months after wedding, was recognised and greeted with a warm welcome. Thank you Claire and team."

Anonymous

"The whole team were amazing, especially Clare, who was our coordinator. She went above and beyond to ensure the run up and the day itself went perfectly. Nothing was too much trouble and all our questions and queries were answered with no hassle at all. The day went by without a hitch at all and ever one of our guests commented on how perfect the food, the venue and the location was. It was an absolute dream come true...as corny as that sounds!"

Mrs Tahmina Yates-Ijaz



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

"Simply the best wedding venue. Clare and team did a great job in making our wedding as relaxed a day as possible. We had so many positive comments with people telling us it was the best wedding they have been too!!! The venue is so unique and very us. The food was amazing, the atmosphere incredible. Basically the best day ever in the best wedding venue ever. They even arranged the weather, we have glorious sunshine all weekend!"

Mrs Rachel Coward (Moore)

"We had the best, most perfect day for our wedding! We were so thrilled with how it all went! To us it was perfect!! This was really helped by the team at East Quay, Claire & the team were fantastic from the minute we looked & booked the venue till the day after! Nothing was too much trouble, they were so helpful & prompt at getting back to us with any query we had & On our day it ran so smoothly, setting up, helping us & making us & our guests feel so at ease and looked after. 100 recommend them!"

Mrs Helen Cates (LESTER)

"A mere 500 words are not enough! From our first meeting with Kirsty we felt confident & comfortable, trusting her exp. & advice. Kirsty was available for all our queries/q's & there were many! The pack was also informative rec. suppliers. The tasting evening was amazing; a degustation! On our wedding day Kirsty & the team decorated the venue as per our vision & more! We had peace of mind that Kirsty/team were there on the day & made it go like clockwork. Kirsty even held my dress as I went up the stairs!"

Mrs Ana Ange

"Through out the planning of my wedding I mainly dealt with Claire she was brilliant on every level she went through every element of my wedding with me which helped a lot with my stress levels. She was always on hand to meet me and if I send email needing more information she always got but to me within 24 hours as I don't live in Whitstable I found this extremely helpful. As for the day itself the whole team were helpful and friendly creating a lovely atmosphere and the day ran without a hitch"

Mrs Gemma Rogers (macey)

"Fantastic day, fantastic staff and venue. Food was delicious, we had so many compliments, they really couldn't have done enough for us. The bar was never too busy, they dealt with things without us even knowing, our day was totally stress free."

Mrs Hannah Todd (Luckhurst)

"What an amazing venue and staff, made the whole day run smoothly, did everything we asked and more, They made sure all the guests were catered for, and the food was to die for. Would recommend to anyone."

Mrs Helen Perry

"Quite superb. Totally approachable and understanding of our needs. Nothing forced upon us, just listened and offered pertinent advice as to what could work in relation to our plans



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

and the people to use to realise our dream day. On the day itself the manager was calmness personified and the whole team were a genuine delight and made everyone feel at ease and enjoy the day. Can't recommend highly enough."

Mr Antony Jones

"We had the most amazing day. Our vision was listened to and interpreted to something that I could not have imagined it could be! The staff were amazing, food was amazing and the venue amazing. I could not have wished for anything more."

Mrs Janine Heywood

"The venue is wonderful but the team help it all come together on the day, they are so friendly and knowledgeable about their venue. They are very professional and have a lovely calm approach making you feel confident that your day will run smoothly. Shelly was so calm and caring with such a fun positive attitude. The food was phenomenal all our guests commented on the superb food and service.. It was such an amazing day all that I imagined it would be and that is down to the staff and venue."

Mrs Laura Baigent (cater)

"We cannot fault a single thing about the day and getting married at East Quay Venue was the best decision we could have made. From the moment we rang to inquire about a viewing, to booking, to meeting and discussing our ideas and needs Clare at East Quay couldn't be more accommodating, she is really is a wedding expert. From giving us advice to suggestions our day was everything we wanted it to be. No question or request was too much and the day ran so smoothly without a single hitch. The food was"

Mrs Rebecca Carpenter

"Clare and her team at East Quay helped us have the best day of our lives. Everything about their approach helped to put us at ease and they helped accommodate everything we wanted to do. The wedding Fayre they held earlier in the year also put us in touch with a number of excellent local suppliers. On the day everything ran exactly as we wanted and we didn't have to stress about anything. We couldn't recommend the venue and staff more."

Mr Steven Edwards

"I knew from the moment I met Clare that East Quay was the venue for us - we were in the most safe pair of hands from the first viewing to the day of the wedding. I can't thank the team enough."

Mrs Cassie Fox

"Clare was amazing. Made us feel very relaxed on the big day and I felt reassured that she was speaking to all the key people and making the day go smoothly. Very supportive before the day and had lots of helpful tips. We really appreciated the tasting evening with the venue set up in different ways. Helped us without thinking."

Mr Simon Jones



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

"The East Quay Team were brilliant. All our questions were answered quickly and they were always willing to accommodate our requests and help us create our perfect day. On the day the team were brilliant and ensured everything went smoothly despite the biblical weather (sleet, snow and 75mph winds!). We couldn't thank them enough. My husband and the guys setting up had nothing but praise and all mentioned how great the team were at keeping everyone calm."

Mrs Anys Lovell

"This is a great venue, quirky, relaxed and informal. The team were super helpful and flexible throughout the whole process."

Ms Katherine Hopcraft

"Clare and the team were brilliant from day one- they were quick to answer any questions we had, and provide solutions when we needed them. They were flexible to our needs, and worked so well with all our different suppliers that the day ran so smoothly. The food was incredible- they provided us with various options so we could tailor to both ours and our guests needs. Lastly, every one of our guests commented on how stunning the venue was and how accommodating the team were. Highly recommended."

Ms Charlotte Betts (Sinden)

"The team at East Quay and Clare in particular were fantastic. They were so helpful in planning out how the day would run with us, suggesting suppliers and raising things with us we hadn't even thought of. They were very responsive to emails and answered all our questions quickly and fully. I had complete confidence in them keeping everything running smoothly and didn't give any of the organisation a second thought on the day - it was seamless. They were also friendly lovely people to deal with."

Mrs Hannah Bond

"East Quay Venue was amazing unusual setting for our wedding!! The venue itself is very shabby chic style with beautiful sea views and wonderful sunsets. The staff was amazing!! There was nothing that was a problem!! They were polite, helpful and catered to our needs and wishes. If I could do it all again at East Quay then I would!"

Mrs Heidi Simmonds (Steed)

"Such a beautiful, versatile venue. The staff could not have been any more helpful, nothing was too much trouble. Food was lovely. Family and friends had the nicest things to say about the venue, staff and food. We had the most perfect day and wouldn't have changed a thing."

Mrs Tara Gardiner (Earles)

"Everyone said it was an incredible venue in the best location possible! It's stunning and yet so relaxed with the best views ever! Lobster and fish and chips by the sea - it doesn't get much better! It's surprisingly not even that expensive."

Mrs Alicia Babaee



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

"All of the staff at the East Quay were unfallible, nothing was too much trouble and we felt they really shared in our happiness and enjoyed looking us and our guests in both the run up to the wedding and the day itself I would recommend them 100"

Mrs Charlene Russell - Turner

"Clare and the team were absolutely amazing from start to finish. Clare made us feel like we were the only couple getting married at the venue that week. When in actual fact, there were probably 3! I have been singing her praises to everyone! Our wedding has since featured in rockmywedding and guests keep telling us it was one of the best weddings they've ever been too! I'll be forever grateful to Clare and the team at East Quay for helping in making the best day of our lives extra special!"

Anonymous

"East Quay was flexible & accommodating throughout - working with us to achieve what we wanted in terms of venue style, food & drink. Kirsty (who was super cool & relaxed) & team were totally accountable on the day for ensuring everything ran smoothly, so the day itself was totally stress free for us. All the staff were really friendly & helpful & did all they could to ensure our guests had the best time. The food was wonderful & somehow they even managed to arrange the amazing weather!"

Ms Emma Wyatt

"Kirsty was excellent from start to finish, helping through meltdowns and the chaos! She was unnoticeable at the actual wedding yet her ir her team seemed to appear when we needed her. It just made our day so special and made everything run seamlessly."

Mrs Amy Hodges (Gooch)

"The staff at East Quay are amazing; nothing is too much trouble and we had so many people tell us at the wedding and after that the staff were great."

Miss TESS Contla



THE
WEDDING
INDUSTRY AWARDS

Why They Booked (in random order)

"Booked east quay because we wanted to have a venue that was about us. Being able to decorate it achieved this. We also wanted to get married looking out to sea. It was truly special."

Anonymous

"We wanted a venue that had a relaxed, informal and slightly industrial feel to it without having to use a dry hire venue. East Quay is quirky and lovely and exactly what we were looking for in a gorgeous location right on the beach. As they used to be a restaurant I knew their food would be great and it was. It lived up to all our expectations and I'm sure we'll be back in Whitstable on our anniversary next year and pop in and say hello."

Mrs Hannah Bond

"Personal recommendation"

Mr Ben Maslen

"Because we like lobsters ;)"

Mr neil farrell

"Because it had everything under one roof, beautiful scene location, excellent food and a quirky unique decor."

Mrs Rebecca Carpenter

"Seaside wedding venue, unique, relaxed and in budget!!"

Mrs Rachel Coward (Moore)

"We booked East Quay because we fell in love with the informal charm & the dramatic yet quaint seaside location - it was absolutely pouring with rain the first time we visited but it still looked and felt amazing. It was also clear that the venue was flexible in terms of bringing our own suppliers and ideas, while also being very helpful, professional & experienced in running the event on the day."

Ms Emma Wyatt

"Relaxed ambience, wonderful location and realisation that we could make this our personalised day rather than a sterile off the peg affair."

Mr Antony Jones

"Location and the look of the venue"

Mr Aaron Mayne

"We wanted a laid back feel and did not want to feel constrained"

Miss TESS Contla



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

"Recommended from my aunt and when we saw it, the venue was perfect. Staff were amazing and very welcoming, helping with everything possible."

Mrs Francesca Checkley

"It is a beautiful location exactly what we wanted and the team were so friendly and helpful. We wanted a beautiful relaxed beach wedding, and that is exactly what we got!"

Mrs Helen Cates (LESTER)

"Location and size worked well for us and once we visited we knew it was the right location. Relaxed, informal and by the sea!"

Ms Katherine Hopcraft

"The location is amazing - the staff are just lovely and have worked there years - committed to their venue and town. There was real flexibility with food/drink options and how we could decorate the venue which was important to us."

Mrs Aimee Garnett (Wood)

"Liked the originality and the versatility, it was the kind of venue that matched our personalities and yet you could decorate how you wished to match your ideas. It has tones of character yet still can be a blank canvas, loved it"

Mr Kevin Turner

"Perfect location and ability to meet our needs"

Mr Paul Phillips

"We only looked at this venue as we walked in...and met the staff...we loved it. Were sold from the beginning"

Mrs Antonia James

"Me and my husband are both from Whitstable and some of our friends had previously had their weddings there so we knew it was a good venue"

Mrs Gemma Rogers (macey)

"Kirsty's knowledge of the wedding process and venue was outstanding, she was lovely! The venue looked beautiful even after a wedding the night before, totally unique and fantastic location. We have had so many compliments. The food menu was modern and flexible, many options and the ideas of what you could do with the venue were endless!"

Mrs Hannah Todd (Luckhurst)

"I was recommended to visit by my mum who had celebrated many weddings there, I too had celebrated many weddings there but had never seen it from a bride's perspective. As soon as My husband and I started to arrange our wedding the venue was on our list to visit, as soon as we walked in we knew it was the one and it went from there, Beautiful venue,



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

wonderful staff, welcoming and couldn't do enough for you. Very accommodating to our needs and always contactable with a friendly ear! Our wedding was the day of our dreams, we loved everything about the venue and wished we could do it all again!!!!!"

Mrs Jade Cartledge

"It's so different, so beautiful and in the most amazing seaside town. Plus they were happy to accommodate everything we wanted! And it's not even that expensive."

Mrs Alicia Babaee

"We fell in love with East Quay when we first visited Whitstable together. We knew we wanted to move here and get married in the lobster shack. And we did!"

Mrs Bernice Mallinson

"The location and the food were just amazing and the venue has the casual vibe we were after."

Mrs Tahmina Yates-Ijaz

"The price was good and the location was superb!"

Mrs Heidi Simmonds (Steed)

"East Quay is a beautiful venue, in a great location - but the team were the real stars. Nothing is too much trouble for them and our day went without a single hitch from start to finish."

Mrs Cassie Fox

"Location, flexibility of how to dress the venue, value for money and staff friendliness."

Mrs Emma Blackmore (Cartwright)

"The venue is unique in how it looks a beautiful blank canvas that you can do as much or as little as you want for your day. The staff are attentive and always on hand when booking which gave us confidence for the day without trying to be salesman and push you into anything! A great team to suit a perfect location"

Mrs Becky Pardoe (Low)

"Fab location/ venue and friendly attentive staff. Great that we could have wedding ceremony all under one roof with the added bonus of a mezzanine area. Picturesque setting that we could stamp our style on!"

Mrs Ana Ange

"The location and the decor."

Mrs Amy Hodges (Gooch)

"Because we wanted something authentic, not too fancy, with nature, so British... at East



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

Quay Venue we felt we could have a wedding were we can feel like ourselves. And the reviews were great... so we went for it and were not disappointed. It will always be a special place from now on."

Mrs Yannika Norton (Jarlov)

"My husband and I have always lived in Whitstable, as have most of our family and friends, it was important to us that the venue was local and 'us' it was the perfect setting for our wedding."

Mrs Tara Gardiner (Earles)

"Excellent seafood, quirky venue that suited us, beach location and friendly staff"

Mr Simon Jones

"The location, and the venue were perfect for the style of wedding we wanted. We could have both the day and evening at the venue which was a plus- the team were really relaxed and open to different ideas. This meant we could have a wedding that was personal and bespoke to us, rather than having a wedding that felt the same as everyone else's because of strict venue restrictions or preferred suppliers. The team were a deciding factor- they understood exactly what we wanted and their professional and relaxed attitude was felt on the day making everything run smoothly without stress!"

Ms Charlotte Betts (Sinden)

"Love the overall feel of the venue. Their facebook Page has fab images."

Mrs Michelle Morris (Bolt)

"My Nan lived in Whitstable most of her life, sadly she passed away when I was 13 so it was important to me to get married in Whitstable where I have many fond childhood memories. We were looking for a venue with a relaxed atmosphere and the East Quay ticked all the boxes, it was a real bonus that we had creative licence and we could decorate to reflect our personalities. We got married on our 10th anniversary of meeting and wouldn't change a thing."

Mrs Charlene Russell - Turner

"Venue style and location and helpful staff"

Mrs Laura Baigent (cater)

"Unique feel and setting. Friendly staff. Atmosphere and amazing location."

Mr peter hughes

"We booked East quay because of the way it looks inside relaxing rustic just what we was looking for and a bonus it was right on the beach ."

Mrs Nicola Blackwell (read)



THE WEDDING INDUSTRY AWARDS

"Location as it is on the beach, such a stunning location. As it can only hold one wedding at a time it felt very private without any outsiders to the wedding being around."

Mrs Jodie Amos

"Won in a wedding auction"

Mrs Helen Perry

"We fell in love with the venue on a rainy day in November and knew that was where we wanted to get married. The location and views are stunning. On our wedding day we were lucky enough to have sunshine which made it even more special."

Mr Steven Edwards

"We loved the quirky relaxed vibes of the venue. We didn't want a traditional wedding so the East Quay venue was perfect for this."

Anonymous

"We loved how relaxed the East Quay was and the fact that nothing was impossible. We felt that other venues we saw made it difficult for us to have what we wanted on our wedding day but the East Quay were the opposite."

Mrs Natalie Robb (Larnder)

"Whitstable is near where I grew up and we knew we wanted to get married close to the sea so being able to have our ceremony overlooking it was a dream come true. Of all the venues we saw this one had a great relaxed, celebratory vibe as well as a cosy feel that worked perfectly for our winter wedding!"

Mrs Anys Lovell

"It suited our personality and wants for style. It fit our need for a stylish yet relaxed wedding."

Mrs Janine Heywood

Voter Comments

Message:

The passion the team have for the events and weddings is amazing! The venue is beautiful but the staff really make it!

Date/Time of Message: 03/08/2017 13:37

Submitted by: Gemma Finlay (Brown)

Message:

We got married at East Quay 25th July 2017, and it was the best most amazing experience ever! Not only was the build up to the wedding made to feel relaxed and stress free, the actual day was incredible, the staff were amazing and couldn't have helped anymore than they did, anything we asked for they got straight away, they made it run so smoothly! The venue itself is beautiful! we had so many comments on what a stunning venue it is and it's such a hidden gem.

Date/Time of Message: 10/08/2017 16:13

Submitted by: Jade Gibbard (Delderfield)

Message:

My husband and I had the most perfect day at the East Quay Venue. We've had nothing but compliments about the venue from family and friends since and some have booked their wedding because our day inspired them! The location, venue, facilities and staff are second to none and we wish we could do it all over again, it really was our dream day x

Date/Time of Message: 19/08/2017 09:29

Submitted by: Stephanie Channing (Jones)

Message:

We had an amazing wedding at East Quay. From the moment we booked we had great support from the venue and on the day we didn't have to worry about a thing, as the venue and our suppliers had it all under control. All our guests loved the day and several commented on how excellent the venue was. We are so glad we picked East Quay and couldn't have asked for a better day. We would highly recommend it!

Date/Time of Message: 23/08/2017 20:24

Submitted by: Kelly Orford (Pike)

Message:

Amazing from start to finish. Beautiful venue, brilliant staff and brilliant food.

Date/Time of Message: 20/09/2017 06:01

Submitted by: Stacie Hubbard (Lees)

Why did you book?

Message:

Fab location on the beach, flexibility of menus and design, good value corkage. Love whitstable!

Date/Time of Message: 03/08/2017 13:37

Submitted by: Gemma Finlay (Brown)

Message:

Lots of recommendations, the pictures were amazing when we were finding a venue and when we went to view East Quay it was even better in person!

The communication with the staff was amazing, and they made us feel so at ease when viewing and we knew that was the perfect place.

Date/Time of Message: 10/08/2017 16:13

Submitted by: Jade Gibbard (Delderfield)

Message:

We've spent many days in Whitstable with our young children and to find such a beautiful venue there was perfect! It was the only venue we viewed, as soon as we laid eyes on it we knew it was the one, the freedom of the outside space was a huge selling point! It was romantic, quirky and the venue decorates itself - I can't wait to go back and visit x

Date/Time of Message: 19/08/2017 09:29

Submitted by: Stephanie Channing (Jones)

Message:

We really liked that it was on the beach and the venue had plenty of space. There were also plenty of options to decorate it and it was close to family and friends so easy for them to get to.

Date/Time of Message: 23/08/2017 20:24

Submitted by: Kelly Orford (Pike)

Message:

Love the venue and location.

Date/Time of Message: 20/09/2017 06:01

Submitted by: Stacie Hubbard (Lees)