

As far as it is legally possible, we want to welcome you for a church wedding and Church of England churches have been celebrating this moment with couples for centuries.



It is both a privilege and a duty for your vicar to join a man and a woman in marriage. The good news is that you can marry in church regardless of your beliefs, whether or not you are christened and whether or not you have been a regular churchgoer.

Because getting married gives you a whole new legal status with many benefits, there are considerations for the vicar to make in both UK civil and church law. [There are some basic requirements](#) but there could be complications if:-

- One or both of you is a national from a country that is outside the European Economic Area. [Special procedures apply](#) to the legal preparations for these marriages, to protect and celebrate those which are genuine and to help prevent those which are not.
- If one or both of you has been married before. There may well be a way forward for you to be re-married in church but the vicar has certain considerations in these circumstances. [Read more information about having been married before.](#)

Although same-sex marriage legislation has changed, it remains the case that it is not legally possible for same-sex couples to marry in the Church of England.

Churches are so much more than a wedding venue. They offer friendship, prayer and support before and after a wedding, whether it is a church wedding or not. [Find out more](#) about how they can support you.

## Also in this section

[A vicar preparing the legal paperwork in the vestry](#)

### [Legal requirements](#)

[A church with a square tower surrounded by blossom trees](#)

## Finding a church



## Why marry in church?

Some confetti lying in the grass

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## Mixed faith marriages

Wedding rings in presentation boxes

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## **Your wedding and Covid-19**

Bride and groom signing the register with their son on his dad's knee

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## **Your children are welcome**

Wedding flowers with guests, the couple and the bridesmaids out of focus in the background

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## When can I marry in church?



## Information for same sex couples

The interior of a church with the couple making their wedding vows

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## More than a wedding venue

simple flowers in jam jars on the ends of pews

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## **Booking a church**

A vicar laughing with a wedding couple

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## **Meeting the vicar**

A bride and groom being blessed by a vicar

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## Seven steps to a heavenly wedding

Inside a church. A church window with a lit candelabra in front of it

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## Marriage after divorce

A white wedding car stopped by a lychgate

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## If you live abroad

A wedding invitation with pink heart confetti on it

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## **Information for foreign nationals**

A bride holding her bouquet

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## **Special licences**

A wedding ring resting on an open Bible

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## Common Licences

Looking up into a church roof

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## Do we need a marriage licence?

Some church flowers in focus in wider shot of church

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## Superintendent Registrars Marriage Schedule



A close-up of a couple holding hands

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## The cost of church weddings

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