



MARRY, STAY & CELEBRATE  
AT PEKES MANOR

*Romantically*



## Welcome to Pokes Manor

Pokes is a lovely old brick built Grade II-Listed East Sussex pre-Tudor Manor House with three surrounding smaller houses set among charming gardens within a small private estate up two long drives. The estate sits peacefully in open countryside with absolutely stunning views all round, across the Wealden landscape and over to the South Downs; yet it is only 50 miles from central London.

We have been hosting beautiful Weddings at Pokes for many years, and happily couples often return for their anniversaries! We have the space for all your Celebrations. Our very large 'Ducks' Lawn at the back of the Manor House takes marquees for up to 180 people, while there are plenty of other lawned areas. In addition, The Space offers a large open area to do what you like in.

We also have the facilities for you and your guests to enjoy - our indoor heated Swimming Pool - two Hot tubs - two Saunas - a hard Tennis Court - lawn Badminton - a Children's Play Area - several dedicated Picnic spots - or you can go for a walk straight off along the farmland bridleways and paths. The South Downs and the sea are only a few miles away.

Best of all you can have your legal **Marriage Ceremony** in our atmospheric beamed Tudor Dining Room or our romantic outdoor Gazebo, and ...

*Marry, Stay and Celebrate in one lovely private place ~*





## Pekes is a fantastic Wedding Venue

When you choose Pekes for your Wedding Celebrations you get an entire little private world all to yourself.

Pekes has essentially been owned by only two families in its nearly 600 years, and it feels like that.

You can almost see the Edwardian ladies in their gorgeous hats enjoying tea outside, hear the early motors chugging up the drive, tennis being played on the lawn, the governess calling the reluctant children to their lessons in the Schoolhouse, the dairy cattle coming down to the old pond to drink, and the farm carts rumbling past towards the Oast House, laden with freshly-cut hops.



Pekes is wholly unique and exclusive, but unpretentious. It becomes your own 'Estate in the Country', where you can welcome your family and friends for all the joy, fun and festivities of your wedding.

We know that every couple has their own vision of their wedding, and at Pekes you can create that vision - it's yours to do what you wish.

We impose nothing on you (apart from a few sensible rules) so you can create your own style and atmosphere.



We will suggest suppliers, but you choose whoever you want. We will offer you as much free advice as you feel you need, or you can ask Amy to help plan your wedding in detail. She can also be your event manager on your day if you wish, which will take a big load off your mind.

Above all, we really want you to feel relaxed, happy and pleased with your 'Pekes experience' and be able to create your unique and romantic experience.



*Memories are Made at Pekes*



## What some of our Pokes Brides have said



*"One word to describe this venue - Stunning!! Our wedding was very special, and the setting was a part of the magic. Thank you Pokes! This place is incredible!!"*

Emma and Lee, June 2019

*"Amy did a fabulous job being a calming and organised presence, there when you needed her, inconspicuous when you didn't - she was fabulous".*

Emma's Mum

*"Booking our wedding at Pokes Manor was the greatest pleasure from start to finish. Having visited we knew without question we wanted to hold our wedding there, and throughout the entire booking process, the communication was nothing but prompt, positive, helpful, filled with great suggestions and advice and a big yes to any suggestion we made. I cannot highlight enough how reassuring this was during the planning ... I can't begin to describe how glad I am we found Pokes. We've already got plans to hire as much of it as possible for our anniversary. A gem of a place where we've left an awful lot of our hearts.*

Anya and James, September 2018

*"We booked Pokes Manor and some of its surrounding cottages for our wedding this late September, and enjoyed it for a whole weekend with our friends and families. The place is beautifully maintained throughout, the lawns are so beautifully kept with blooming flowers and very carefully cut greenery, colonnades and hidden little alleys, rustic pieces of garden furniture on the right spot to catch the morning or afternoon sun, it was a joy to relax there over these three days ... We couldn't recommend this place enough. Hopefully we will come back one day to celebrate our anniversary there!"*

Kiki and Alex, September 2018.

*"We hired the whole of the estate for our wedding in July. From the moment we booked until we left Kildare and his team were so helpful and kind. Our wedding was amazing and all 140 guests kept commenting on how beautiful the whole site is. Each house was fabulous with the Manor House in particular being stunning. The swimming pool, sauna and hot tubs were the icing on the cake. Pokes manages to get the perfect balance of feeling homely and relaxed with the right amount of luxury. I can't recommend Pokes enough!!"*

Alice & Jim, July 2019



## What Pokes offers ...

You can have the whole of Pokes as you see it, to be yours exclusively, to create your very own Wedding & Celebration. We impose no suppliers and there are no extras.

- ♥ Exclusive private use of the whole estate and all the houses, gardens, parkland and facilities.

- ♥ Flexible to suit you. Arrive at 2:00pm on a Thursday or a Friday, and stay and enjoy for 3 nights. You can usually stay longer if you wish.



- ♥ Sleep up to 44 people across our Manor House and the three other houses: The Wing, Tudor View and The Oast House.

- ♥ Use our historic panelled Dining Room (50 seated, 70 standing) or our beautiful and romantic outdoor Wedding Gazebo (150+ seated) for your Marriage ceremony (Licensed or not).

- ♥ Use our huge Ducks Lawn for your Marquee(s) for up to 180 people, and The Space for extra events.

- ♥ Access the estate through our imposing front gates and drive across our old parkland, with ample parking.



- ♥ Create your own floral & temporary decorations throughout the site as you wish.

- ♥ Your own live music, discos and DJs through to 12 midnight.

- ♥ We can help you choose experienced & trusted local suppliers of everything you'll need, with deliveries on site.

- ♥ All our houses have Fire Bowls or Chimineas, and BBQs

- ♥ Disabled facilities are available. Dogs are welcome.

- ♥ Advice with your planning, and On-The-Day management if you wish.

Three-night stays are our most popular, and if you want to stay longer - no problem.



## Practical Pokes

**What is Included.** All houses are cleaned and fully prepared with fresh bed linen and towels; also included are comprehensive cooking facilities, power and heating, starter essentials, use of all Pokes facilities, and cleaning on departure.

**Suppliers.** Please ask for our *Suggested Suppliers List*, which is regularly updated.

**Celebration Spaces.** The Ducks Lawn will hold a marquee for up to 180 people; you can take 13A electricity feeds from various places around it (please check with your suppliers). There are four WCs close by. The Space is larger, and can be used for marquees or other facilities/activities. There are some 13A feeds available from the Oast House, where there are two WCs.

**Licensed Civil Marriages & Partnerships - booking your date.** First check with us that your preferred date is available, then contact East Sussex Registration by phoning 0345 60 80 198 or visiting [www.ceremoniesineastsussex.co.uk](http://www.ceremoniesineastsussex.co.uk) to ensure they have Registrars available. Then go for it!

**Music.** Pokes has no 'next-door-neighbours', but we have to be aware that sound can travel a long way in the countryside. We kindly ask for 'sound down' at 10 pm, and the legal cut-off for music is 12 pm. Silent discos are good.

**Fireworks.** For reasons of fire risk, we can only allow fireworks ignited by a properly accredited firework company, and away from the houses. You must please inform us in advance so we can warn our farming neighbours. It is a Local Council requirement that fireworks must finish at 10:30 pm.

**Alcohol License.** If you will be operating a *paid-for bar*, you may need a License. Consult your caterer or bar provider, or you can talk to the Wealden Council Licensing team by telephoning 01323 443 555.

**Insurance & Security.** Pokes has full public liability insurance. We are not responsible for any damage or loss to your own property or that of your guests or suppliers; there are companies which specialise in wedding insurance (recommended). Security at Pokes is good; there are security services companies on our Suppliers list.

**Coaches & Buses.** Exceptionally, these can access Pokes from Thundershill by one gate and depart through another one. You must please ask us before arranging any such transport.

**Disabled Facilities.** We have wheelchair ramps available. The Manor house ground floor is wheelchair-accessible, and there is a Disabled WC. Tudor View and The Wing are single storey and are wheelchair accessible.

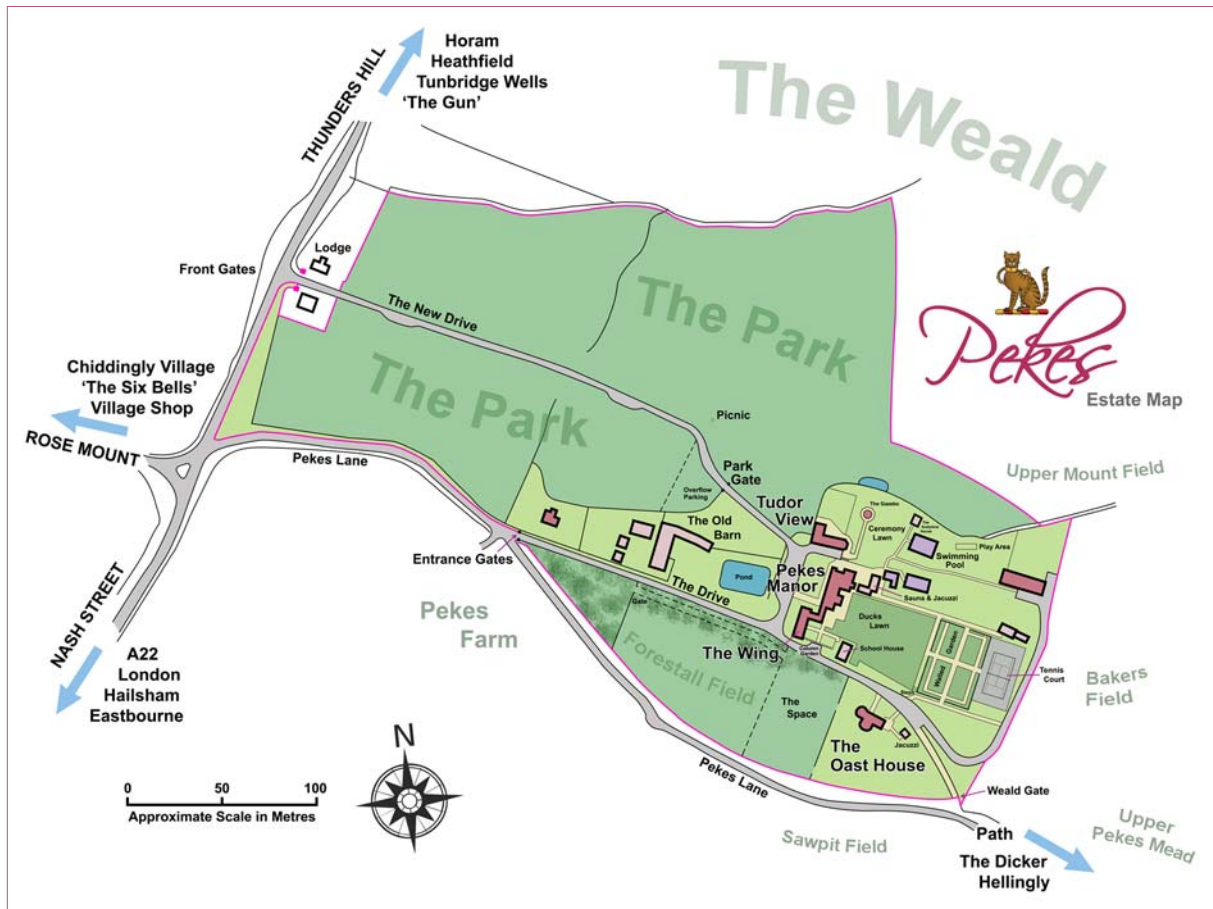
**Confetti, Glitter & Streamers.** We very kindly ask you to use only fully biodegradable types. There are loads of choices.

**Children.** Pokes is a safe place; there are no roads or public footpaths or machines or wells, and the old pond is quite shallow. There is a Children's Play area with swings, frames, etc. Small children must be supervised outside, and the Swimming Pool door kept shut and locked. We have cots and high chairs available.

**Dogs** are welcome in all our houses except the Manor House.



# The Pokes Estate





## Where we are

Pekes Manor is  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from the A22, 4 miles north of Hailsham in East Sussex, 10 miles from Lewes & Eastbourne, and 16 miles from Brighton. The M23 (leads from Brighton north towards London) and A22 (runs very close to Pekes) are both easily accessible.

**By road:** Full road directions and map are at [www.pekesmanor.co.uk/contact](http://www.pekesmanor.co.uk/contact).

**By train:** Polegate station on the East Coastway (Brighton to Hastings) line; trains arrive there quite frequently from Brighton, Gatwick, London Victoria and places in between. Taxis are almost always available 24/7 (Polegate Station Taxis: 01323 720 720). It's around 15-minutes to Pekes.



**Who we are:** Pekes is owned by the same family who acquired it in 1908, and who have cherished it and added much to it since then. It still has the feeling of a family home in the Wealden countryside, and in a way it becomes your family home while you are there.

**Visits:** We warmly welcome your visit to see Pekes. Please contact us to make an appointment, and come on over!



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