

Who Pays for What?

Service	Bride and/or her family	Groom and/or his family	Attendants	Options to share
Rings	The groom's ring	The bride's engagement and wedding rings		The bride's or groom's families may offer heirloom rings
Prewedding parties	The bride's family may host the first engagement party to announce the news. The bride hosts the bridesmaids' lunch.	The groom's family may host an engagement party (it should follow any festivities hosted by the bride's family). The groom and/or his family may host a bachelor dinner and rehearsal dinner.	The maid of honor and/or bridesmaids host a bridal shower and may host a 'girls night out.' The best man and/or ushers host a bachelor party. Friends may host an engagement party.	The bride's family may host the rehearsal dinner. Out-of-towners' brunch or pool party, barbecue, etc. may be co-hosted.
Ceremony	The fee for the church or synagogue, organist and soloist. Rental of aisle carpet, marquee and huppah.	The marriage license and clergy member's or judge's fee.		The couple may cover all ceremony costs.
Gifts	The bride buys a wedding gift for the groom and each of her attendants.	The groom buys a wedding gift for the bride and each of his attendants.	Attendants may give wedding gifts individually, or pool their resources for a group gift.	The couple may buy thank-you gifts for parents, friends and relatives who helped with their planning.

information courtesy of the "Bride's Book of Etiquette"

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Owner Audrey Polczynski says the 18th-century building can hold up to 200 people and it's best to reserve it at least six months in advance.


While the Forum is a large-event arena downtown, it also has a number of individual rooms that are often booked for wedding receptions.

Even though there are many tried and true wedding venues, Smith predicts there may be a new one now that Rome's riverboat — the Roman Holiday — is now back on local waterways and could host a wedding, floating reception or rehearsal dinner.

The Convention and Visitors Bureau is a good place to start for planning a destination wedding in Rome.

"No matter if they're from here or out of town, we welcome them and their wedding party," Smith said. "Weddings are another niche market for the Rome CVB."

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