Weddings at Laurita Winery 2016-2017













Unique ~ Distinctive ~ Personalized

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Laurita Winery is surrounded by rolling hills, local farms and a picturesque backdrop that rivals the wineries of Napa Valley and The Mediterranean.

Laurita is located in New Egypt, N.J.

25 to 45 minutes from most Central New Jersey locations.

www.LauritaWinery.com

Branches caters to the weddings of Laurita Winery. You can also enjoy Branches catering for rehearsal dinners, bridal showers, birthday parties, fund-raisers or other social and corporate milestones.

www.BranchesCatering.com

Indoor rooms seat; 80 to 200 guests. Cocktail reception style; up to 225 guests.



Branches Catering was founded in February of 2002 in West Long Branch, in a completely renovated 14,000 S.F. facility, and has won many awards for its catering expertise. Branches employs a talented staff in every department, from culinary to event coordination, including a dedicated staff at Laurita Winery.

Branches has catered hundreds of events and weddings at Laurita Winery. Many of the popular social media sites have reviews available for you to peruse.

We have the expertise and experience to cater your wedding, and thank you for considering us!

Denue and catering fees

Laurita Winery Facility Fee

\$5,000 May through October \$3,500 November through April

(Friday-Saturday-Sunday)

A ceremony labor and chair rental fee of \$980 applies for any indoor or outdoor ceremony, (except those in the vineyard itself), for up to 140 guests; then \$7 per guest thereafter. An indoor weather back-up plan is always included for outdoor ceremonies scheduled in advance. Included is a 45-minute ceremony plus five-hours exclusive use of the indoor winery; 1st and 2nd floor space including the bridal suite; adjoining outdoor patios, and ceremony area on the Grand Lawn.

Minimum (guaranteed) adult guest count:

Day	May - Oct.	Jan. & Feb.	Nov., Dec., March, & April
Saturday	140	100	120
Friday or Sunday	120	80	100

Branches Wedding Menu...\$120 per person

Elegant Served Buffet Plated first course, attended buffet

Plated Dinner Appetizer, entree

Cocktail-style experience Plated first course, four stations

The \$120 menu price includes:

Complimentary menu tasting

Complimentary wedding cake tasting

Cocktail hour with passed and stationary hors d'oeuvres

Dedicated server for bridal party

Bridal Suite welcome of beer, wine and stationary hors d'oeuvres

Gold-rim china, dinner glassware and flatware

White underlays with ivory or burgundy tablecloth

Choice of napkin colors

Dining and cocktail hour tables, cake table, place card table

Dessert and customized wedding cake

Service and culinary staff

Not included in the per person menu price:

Alcoholic beverages including beer, distilled spirits, set-up fees etc.

Laurita Sparkling and still wines (\$12 per adult minimum.)

Applicable sales tax

Ceremony chair/labor fee and back-up weather location

Centerpieces, votive candles, table mirrors

Professional services such as DJ, musicians, photographer, florist, place cards, etc

\$1,000 refundable security deposit

Gratuity for the staff; including the Bridal Coordinator, Maitre D', server & bartender staff Gratuity guidelines will be provided by your Bridal Coordinator

Frequently asked questions

How are Alcoholic beverages handled?

All sparkling and still wine must be purchased from Laurita Winery, including any wine favors. Wine is ordered directly from Laurita Winery through their manager, who will assist you with selections and quantities.

Regarding beer and hard liquor, you have either an open bar, or a package goods option. Because Branches has a NJ liquor license (#1353-33-001) and appropriate liquor liability insurance, we can obtain a one-time permit allowing you to offer an open-bar at a pre-set all-inclusive price per person with a large variety of premium brands. Or, 2) Branches can sell you liquor and beer as package goods under the retail provisions of our liquor license, which is priced very similar to ordering it from a liquor store. Laurita does not have secure and separate storage means for the multiple events that occur each weekend for various liquor stores etc. to make deliveries and keep inventory secure, therefore our policy is that all beer and liquor must be purchased through Branches liquor license. This also means you have zero risk for unaccounted items, one less entity to coordinate through, and you do not have to deal with a third party picking up liquor after the event and await for any credits (with possible return/restocking fees). Through Branches you are virtually assured to have an adequate inventory of bar items during your event as we order conservatively and control the inventory.

If you want to serve beer and wine only, beer may be brought in by you - please inquire for full details.

A separate charge includes; professional bartender (1 per 75 guests), ice, set-up labor, inventory of alcohol, and standard garnishes, glassware and mixers.

We had our wedding planned and catered by Branches at Laurita Winery and we could not be happier they we chose them. My wedding was beautiful, the food was delicious, we had the time of our lives. We have Branches to thank for this!

Jennifer and Joe

I just want to say "Thank you" for a fantastic wedding. Every second of the day was perfect. You all did an amazing job and I was a able to relax and have a ton of fun on my wedding day. I know you all worked so hard, it was extremely evident and totally paid off. You got every detail right. I'm a little sad that I won't have any more

Lauren

reasons to email you!

B.J.: I just wanted to thank you and all of the staff at Branches for the most amazing wedding anyone could hope for. I cannot say enough, or stop thinking about the spectacular day my daughter and son-in-law had on Saturday. Everyone is talking about it, saying it was the most incredible venue they have ever attended for a wedding. Thanks again for all of your hard work and help. We love you guys!

Stacey

Time of Weddings. Laurita closes to the public at 5:00 pm. If you have an outdoor ceremony, guests are invited to arrive at 6:00 pm for a 6:30 ceremony start. If you have an indoor ceremony, guests are invited to arrive at 6:30 pm with ceremony to follow. Bridal party, vendors may arrive at 4:45 pm for a 5:00 pm set-up. Optional earlier closing of the winery is available for 4:30 pm: add \$750 to \$1,000,; for a 4:00 pm closing, add \$1,000-\$2,000, based on date. Guest arrival and other times will be adjusted accordingly.

Minimum guest counts. The guaranteed guest count is the minimum number of adult guests for whom you are obliged to pay, please see information by season, preceding this page.

Deposit required to hold a definite date. Two non-refundable deposits, which may be paid by credit card, are due to Branches Catering and Laurita Winery in order to hold a date. For your convenience, Branches can process all of these charges by fax, email, or in person. Dates cannot be held on a tentative basis due to high demand; most wedding dates are booked 12-18 months ahead so we urge you not to delay your deposit if you want to hold your wedding at Laurita. The deposit payment to Laurita is equal to the total venue fee plus tax, and for Branches it is a flat amount of \$2,500.

Ceremony Fee. Is \$7 per person (140-person minimum) which includes a back-up location for inclement weather.

Sales Tax. All prices are subject to the New Jersey sales tax in effect at the time of payment.

Children's/Vendor's Pricing. No charge age 5 and under, please advise us regarding boosters or high chairs needed. Ages 6 through 12, \$45 includes a children's meal like chicken fingers, pasta, etc. Ages 13 through 20 is the same price as adult however there are no bar alcohol or labor charges for a nominal number of children attending. Vendor's Meals are \$35 each for a chef's selection of appetizer and entree. Vendors are not permitted to drink alcohol during the event.

Is there a service charge or gratuity? There is no service charge applied to pricing. A gratuity to the staff, including the Bridal Coordinator, Maitre D', server and bartender staff, is customary and guidelines will be provided to you prior to your wedding.

When are the rest of the payments due? Branches will spread your payments out into equal installments, usually three to four times prior to the wedding date, by check or cash. All weddings must be prepaid of all charges to both Branches and Laurita before the wedding.

Does Branches do tastings? Complimentary hors d'oeuvres tastings for interested parties, and entree tastings after you book, for up to 6 people. We book 95% of the people who have tastings, so we encourage you!

Can I have a private cocktail hour for the bridal party? Beer, wine and stationary cold hors d'oeuvres are served in the bridal suite at no additional charge. Passed hors d'oeuvres and full bar require additional staff and a separate charge will apply.

Can I hold my ceremony in the vineyard? Unfortunately not. The ceremony location on the Grand Lawn allows your guests to enjoy a full view of the beautiful winery.

Menu Enhancements. An enhancement menu is available to customize any of our events!

Are votive candles provided? This is an item that florists or brides provide. Any live flame must be well-below the top edge of a non-combustible holder and no part of a centerpiece can be affected by the flame.

Can you accommodate special meal requests? Yes! Let us know your needs as far ahead as possible. Requests involved are often: vegan; gluten-free; peanut allergy, dairy-free, no shellfish etc.

Frequently asked questions

Can the cocktail hour be outside or upstairs in The Loft? Outside cocktail hours is, by nature, weather and light-of-day dependent. We will discuss the overall service, guest comfort and cost with you to help you arrive at a decision. Cocktail hour in The Loft is generally not possible except for certain cocktail packages for large weddings, due to service and kitchen access to these areas. Some customizing can be done however to offer this area to your guests.

What liquor/beer is included in the open bar? A full listing of our Premium Open Bar is included in the menu brochure. Top shelf can be offered as well.

What liquor/beer is included on the Package goods bar? This is based on what brands you want to order. We will assist you with the quantities and order conservatively so that you do not run out of anything during the wedding. Package goods are ordered through Branches and there is no return/restocking fee.

Can Branches serve Kosher food? We can provide 'sealed' kosher meals and appropriate service ware for an additional cost for observant members of your wedding.

How large of a wedding can Laurita accommodate? The maximum we have seated in the Laurita Room is 205 guests. We have catered weddings for up to 250 guests with seating upstairs and downstairs, and a cocktail-style station menu offered in both areas as well.

Are there hotels nearby?

There are a number of hotels within 20-30 minutes of Laurita, both east and west; a list will be provided to you upon booking. The Inn at Laurita (www.InnatLauritaWinery.com) offers 10 charming guest rooms and many amenities for your wedding party. Please contact our Innkeeper well in advance if you are interested in reserving the Inn.

Is the winery closed during a wedding? Generally, there is no other activity or event. If the winery were open, or in the remote chance another event was booked, it would be in another part of the 250-acre site and no guests are permitted inside the winery, or on the grounds immediately adjacent to the main building.

What color linens are included? Included are white underlay tablecloths on top of either a 60-inch or 72-inch round table. An ivory or burgundy overlay tablecloth is included and napkins, in a variety of colors can be selected at no additional charge. Additional linen enhancements are also available, priced separately.

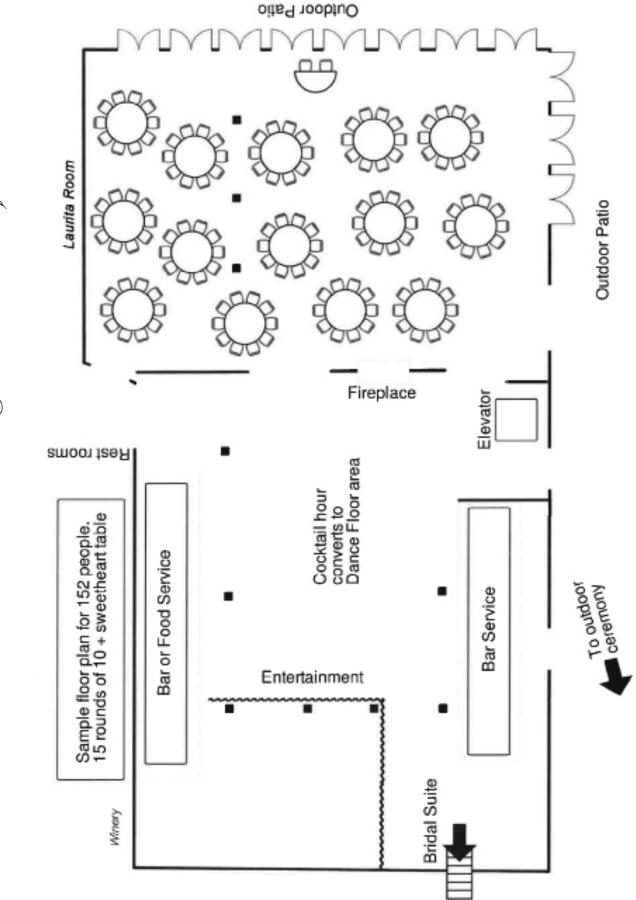
Does Branches handle place cards, decorations, etc? These items are handled by the bride or a specialty vendor like a wedding planner, or family member. Branches will 'set in place' decorations and other items that you or your other vendors provide to us, as long as the time involved is extremely minimal; our first priority is food and beverage service to you and your guests.

Is valet parking included? It is an option for an additional charge; most guests feel it is not needed.

Can you recommend, shuttles, D.J., photographers etc? A vendor list will be provided to you after booking.

When are there grapes on the vines? Beginning in early July, tiny grapes form and green tendrils start to pop up. By the end of July there is typically 12-24 inches of green vine growth. Grapes are harvested in September-October, and there is attractive vine coverage through early November, when pruning begins.

Laurita Room and Wnery Floor Plan sample



Estimating Your Wedding investment

	Example Only	Our Wedding
Ceremony including indoor back-up @\$7 per person	\$7	\$
Food Menu \$120 for attended buffet, plated, or cocktail-style reception. (Special children and vendor pricing).	\$120	\$120
Laurita Wine (Champagne and still wines) \$12 pp minimum. The number of bottles your purchase will vary, based on the prices per bottle you choose. (You pay per bottle price less a 10% discount)	\$12	\$12
Liquor and Beer options Branches Premium Open Bar. \$32 pp Includes ABC liquor permit application fee, bartender labor, set-up fee for ice, standard garnishes, mixers, glassware including wine, rocks, hi-ball, and beer glasses.	\$	\$
add Top Shelf (Grey Goose, JW Black, Ketel, Bombayplus \$6.50 pp One bartender per 75 guests is scheduled. Includes Branches liquor liability	\$	\$
insurance. OR Retail (Package goods) Liquor and Beer, purchased by the bottle/case from Branches. This cost can vary greatly, based on the brands you select. Past weddings have ranged between \$10 to \$20 per person. You are required to	<u>OR</u>	<u>OR</u>
remove any opened bottles of liquor and cases of beer after the wedding, and we will assist you with loading your designated vehicle. Branches will issue you any credits due on unopened bottles or cases returned with no restocking fee, within 5 business days. A Wine and Beer bar is also available, where you can provide the beer; this averages \$4 to \$8 per person for the beer (Laurita wine is separate).	\$15 estimate +	+
For package goods option, there is an charge of \$13 per person which includes professional bartender labor, set-up, receiving and stocking of your liquor order, provision of ice, standard garnishes, mixers, glassware, inventory of your liquor at the end of the event, and assistance with returns.	\$13	\$
SUBTOTAL per person	\$167 pp	\$
<u>150</u> guests X SUBTOTAL per person above	\$25,050	
Flat fees or charges (rentals, vineyard ceremony, fire pits, early buy-out, enhancements, additional labor etc.)	\$0	\$
SUBTOTAL charges above	\$25,050	\$
Plus sales tax	\$ 1,753.50	
TOTAL	\$26,803.50	\$
Laurita Venue fee (including tax) \$5,350 or \$3,745	\$ 5,350	\$
TOTAL (excluding gratuity for staff of your event)	\$32,153.50	