

There are many scenic locations that are popular for weddings and private ceremonies within the Shire of Esperance. A permit is required in order to hold a ceremony on land that is vested with the Shire. Please complete the attached application form and submit along with a location plan. A permit fee is payable on lodgement of your application.

Things to consider

Weddings and private ceremonies are very personal events, when selecting your location it is important to note that beaches and reserves are “Public Open Space” which is intended for recreational use.

Permits for Weddings and Private Ceremonies does not grant the holder exclusive use of the site. Other users may be in the area playing, walking dogs or even launching boats and jet skis. Members of the public will have the right to use the area while your ceremony is taking place. Please recognise you are in a public open space that is not specifically designed for private ceremonies.

Visual appearance and presentation of your chosen location cannot be guaranteed, whilst the Shire may advise you of potential works in the area chosen for your ceremony, works by other agencies and other environmental issues such as weather, storm destruction or accumulated sea weed may impact on you on the day.

Use of the Reserve

Permits for ceremonies are granted for no longer than a 3 hour time frame, this is to include set up and pack up of any items to be used for the ceremony.

Ceremonies conducted on beaches and reserves are permitted to bring items onto the reserve on a small scale. A small shade structure (no larger than 9m²) for protection from sun and rain may be erected. Other items such as arches and chairs are permitted. One arch, a maximum of 10 chairs and a small table for celebrant use are permitted. Structures need to be adequately secured (with weights, no puffing or grassed reserves), to ensure stability. All items are to be installed and removed from the site within the approved time frame. Details of all items to be used on reserves are to be included in the permit application. No items are to be brought onto the reserve without prior notification.

The permit holder is responsible for ensuring the reserve is left litter and damage free at the conclusion of the ceremony. Confetti is not permitted. If there is any damage to the reserve (i.e. damage to reticulation) the cost of repairs will be incurred by the permit holder.

Vehicles

Car parking is an important consideration. Coastal locations during the spring and summer months in particular have a high recreational use, car parking in these areas is often at capacity. Advising guests to car pool or bringing them to the ceremony by bus is recommended. No car bays may be reserved for those attending the ceremony.

Vehicles are not permitted to be driven onto Shire reserves (***without prior approval***). Please be mindful of this when organising items/structures for larger functions such as wedding receptions.

Please contact Shire’s on 9071 0666 should you need to discuss your application.

For weddings and private ceremonies on land vested with the Department of Parks and Wildlife, there is no need to contact the Shire instead you should contact the DPAW Esperance office on 9083 2100.

