



ilex Events 2026

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Welcome

Situated at the centre of this world-renowned site, surrounded by majestic trees, exotic flowers and the tranquil Avon River, illex's event spaces are a celebration of the nature around us; an oasis in the heart of Christchurch.

From design through to service, we're passionate about creating unique experiences with a sense of effortless elegance; a full sensory journey inspired by our vibrant backdrop. Down to the most delicate details, your dedicated event manager will work with you to create an event that's truly unique and tailored to your tastes. With our sophisticated stylish palette and picturesque garden views, we can guarantee that your event will be nothing short of spectacular.

Photograph - Keryn Sweeney



Weddings at ilex

Nestled in the iconic Christchurch Botanic Gardens, our stunning venue offers an unforgettable setting for your special day. Surrounded by lush greenery, seasonal blooms, and tranquil waterways, it's the perfect backdrop for a timeless celebration. Whether you're planning an intimate gathering or a grand affair, our unique space blends natural beauty with elegance to create the wedding of your dreams.

Ilex Event Space

This contemporary, versatile space and private outdoor courtyard have a sense of intimacy and exclusivity, providing guests with a one-of-a-kind Botanic Gardens experience. A stunning space with floor-to-ceiling windows that offer views of lush greenery and flood the space with natural light. Inside, the design is minimalist and neutral, a true blank canvas with clean lines and high ceilings creating a fresh, airy feel, ready to be styled your way. This space adapts beautifully to any vision - from romantic and floral to sleek and modern. Nature is your backdrop; the rest is yours to create.

Capacity:	180 Stand up - Cocktail style 140 Theatre style - Ceremony 120 Seated Dinner - Large round tables or trestles (Staging/floorplan dependant)	
Tech spec:	Built in bluetooth AV system for speeches and background music Wifi Access Projector with plug and play hdmi input (projects onto concrete wall) 2 Handheld Microphones 3 phase and 9 power outlets	
Hire fee includes:	Dedicated ilex event Manager Tables, chairs and standalone bar White or black linen and napkins Dinnerware 6 x square bar leaners Co-ordination of wedding day deliveries- flowers, staging etc Ilex team to set up/pack down and for duration of event Private outdoor courtyard	
Pricing:	Garden Ceremony location	\$600+gst
	Event space only full day	\$4000+gst
	Event space + Cafe from 6pm	\$5250+gst

Ilex Cafe Space

Available from 5pm June-August and from 6pm September-May, Ilex Cafe transforms into an intimate and stylish wedding venue. With its flexible layout, and thoughtful design, this unique space offers the perfect blend of relaxed charm and sophisticated elegance for a truly unforgettable ceremony or reception.

Capacity:	150 Stand up - Cocktail style 80 Theatre style Ceremony 64 Seated Dinner - 8 x Large trestle tables	
Tech spec:	Plug in speaker with wired microphone Wifi Access Power outlets	
Hire fee includes:	Dedicated Ilex event Manager Tables, chairs and Bar White or black linen and napkins Dinnerware 6 x square bar leaners Pack in and set up of flowers and staging Co-ordination of wedding day deliveries- flowers, staging etc Ilex team to set up/pack down and for duration of event Private outdoor courtyard	
Pricing:	Garden Ceremony	\$600+gst
	Cafe space only	\$2500+gst
	Cafe add on to event space	\$1250+gst





Cunningham House

Cunningham House (originally called Winter Gardens) was built in 1923 and opened on 9 August 1924. It is a large, stately structure of architectural importance and is listed with the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. A spacious staircase leads to a large peripheral gallery where an extensive collection of tropical plants are displayed. The tropical conservatory is currently closed for a highly anticipated heritage restoration and will reopen in early 2027.

Come rain or shine celebrate with Champagne and Oysters in the timeless elegance of this conservatory.

Conferencing & Events

Ilex Event Space

Set within the iconic Christchurch Botanic Gardens, our venue offers a unique and inspiring environment for corporate events. With spacious, flexible facilities surrounded by natural beauty, it's ideal for conferences, workshops, product launches, networking events, and team gatherings. Combining professional functionality with a tranquil garden setting, we provide a refreshing alternative to traditional event spaces just minutes from the city centre.

Capacity:	180 Stand up event 140 Theatre style 120 Seated Dinner - 12 x 10 per table (Staging dependant) 84 Cabaret style - 12 x 7 per table (Staging dependant)															
Tech spec:	Built in bluetooth AV system for speeches and background music Projector with plug and play hdmi input (projects onto the concrete wall) 2 Handheld Microphones 3 phase available in the space 9 power outlets															
Hire fee includes:	Dedicated ilex Event Manager Tables, chairs and bar White or black linen and napkins Dinnerware Ilex Team to pack in/out and the duration of event Private outdoor courtyard															
Pricing:	Please ensure you Include pack in/out time <table><tr><td>Morning:</td><td>7am-12pm</td><td>\$1000+gst</td></tr><tr><td>Afternoon:</td><td>12pm-5pm</td><td>\$1000+gst</td></tr><tr><td>Evening:</td><td>5pm-10pm</td><td>\$1000+gst</td></tr><tr><td>Half day</td><td>8am-4pm/4pm-12am</td><td>\$1500+gst</td></tr><tr><td>Full day</td><td>8am-12am</td><td>\$3000+gst</td></tr></table>	Morning:	7am-12pm	\$1000+gst	Afternoon:	12pm-5pm	\$1000+gst	Evening:	5pm-10pm	\$1000+gst	Half day	8am-4pm/4pm-12am	\$1500+gst	Full day	8am-12am	\$3000+gst
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Full day	8am-12am	\$3000+gst														

Ilex Cafe Space

Nestled below an architecturally inspired canopy of oak tree leaves is the Ilex Café. Since opening in 2014, the building has attracted favourable attention in the world of architecture. Available from 5pm June-August and from 6pm September-May.

Capacity:	150 Stand up - Cocktail style	
	80 Theatre style - Presentation	
	64 Seated Dinner - 8 x Large trestle tables	
Tech spec:	Plug in speaker with wired microphone	
	Wifi Access	
	Power outlets	
Hire fee includes:	Dedicated ilex event Manager	
	Tables, chairs and Bar	
	White or black linen and napkins	
	Dinnerware	
	6 x square bar leaners	
	Ilex team to set up/pack down and for duration	
	Outdoor courtyard	
Pricing:	Cafe space only	\$2500+gst
	Cafe add on to event space	\$1250+gst





Cunningham House

Cunningham House (originally called Winter Gardens) was built in 1923 and opened on 9 August 1924. It is a large, stately structure of architectural importance and is listed with the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. A spacious staircase leads to a large peripheral gallery where an extensive collection of tropical plants are displayed. The tropical conservatory is currently closed for a highly anticipated heritage restoration and will reopen in early 2027.

Without doubt Canterbury's most unique Venue. Celebrate any occasion with Champagne and canapés in the timeless tropical wonderland that is Cunningham House.



Food and Beverage

At the heart of every event is a memorable dining experience and ours begins with the best our region has to offer. Our food and beverage selection celebrates the richness of locally sourced, seasonal ingredients, thoughtfully prepared by our experienced culinary team.

From elegant plated dinners to casual garden-style grazing, our menus are designed to reflect freshness, flavour, and creativity. We work closely with trusted local producers to ensure every bite and sip tells a story of quality and sustainability.

While our curated selections offer something for every occasion, we understand that every event is unique: if there is something special you have in mind that is not listed, we are happy to source it for you.

Full menus available on request

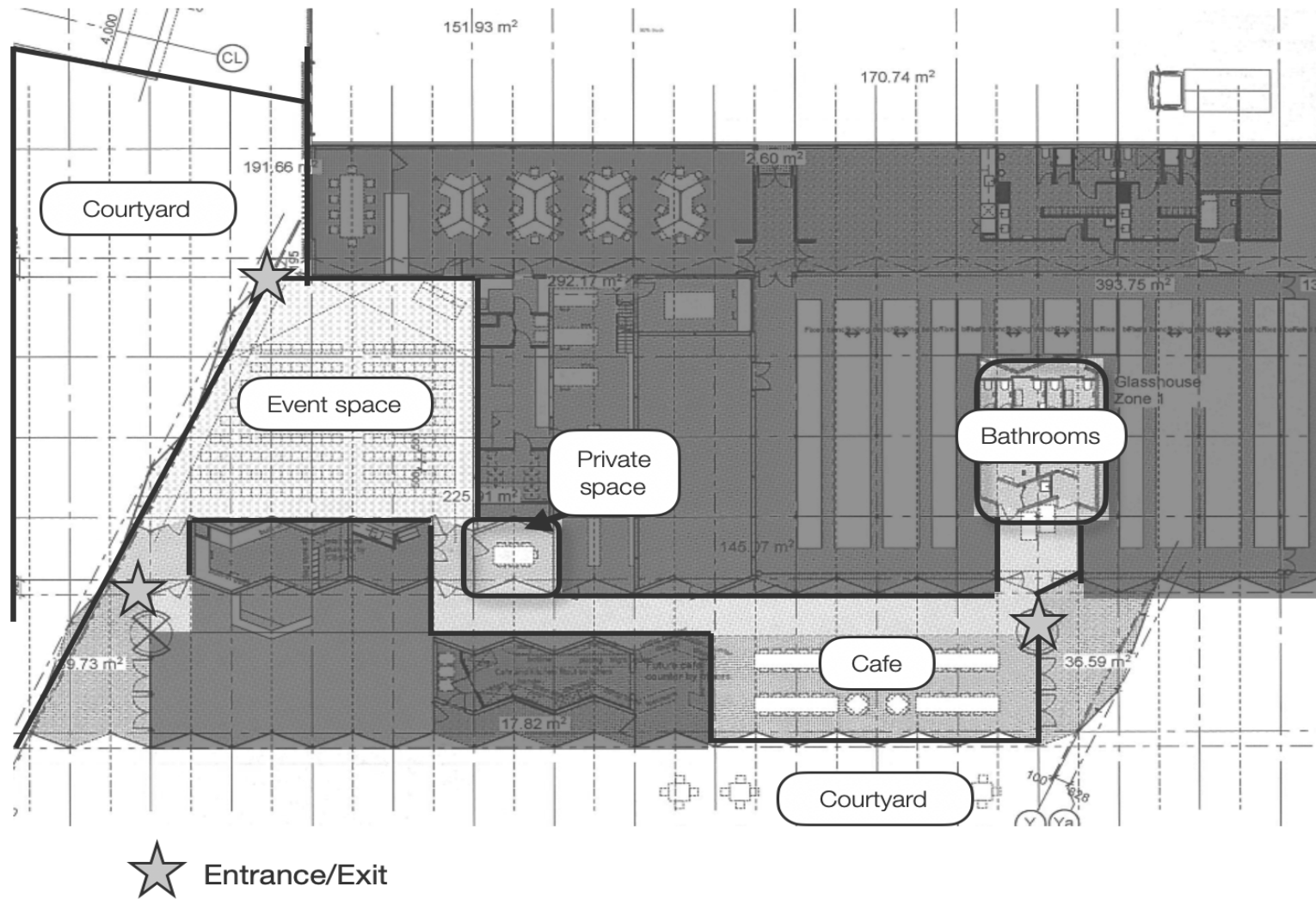


Recommended Vendors

Flowers:	Bek Novac Floral Design Kim Chan Bourbon Rose Jenny Burt
Furniture & styling:	Little Hire Company Hayley and co Blank Space Events Kim Chan
Music - Band:	Encore Entertainment Better Band
Music - DJ:	Boogie Beatz DJs4u
Photographers:	Wedding - Keryn Sweeney Wedding - Robin and Andie Corporate - Craig Forster Lightchasers
Cakes:	Cakes by Anna The cake eating company Meraki cake design
AV:	Technical Event Solutions Pixel
Balloons:	The Balloon Project NZ
Entertainment:	Brendan Dooley

Photograph - Keryn Sweeney

Floor Plan



FAQs

How do I book an event ?

Send an Enquiry to sales@goodcompany.nz including preferred dates, rough estimate of guests and type of event.

You will receive a reply within a couple of days, confirming if your date is available and inviting you for a site visit.

At your site visit you will be shown our spaces and given the option to make a pencil booking.

Your pencil booking will stay in the diary until you decide to proceed or another enquiry comes through for the same date- in which case I will give you first refusal and ask if you would like to proceed or release the date.

If you decide to move forward you will be sent a Deposit invoice (for the full amount of venue hire) and a contract to sign and return.

Once both of these have been completed and depending how far out your event is booked we can start the planning process.

Do I need a wedding planner?

Your booking will come with an Event manager who will ensure the venue operations run smoothly on the day. A wedding planner will manage your entire day including the planning and run up to it from start to finish. This is definitely worth considering for weddings with over 100 guests.

Where can I get married in the Gardens?

We have 5 outdoor ceremony locations in the Botanic Gardens, our 2 most popular spots are the Cockayne Memorial Lawn and the Magnolia/Azalea Garden. We are more than happy to show you these locations on your site visit. We can also give you a map to go explore yourselves.

Is there parking on site?

Yes the Armagh street carpark provides paid parking for the Gardens from 8am-5pm 7 days a week. Parking is free from 5pm every day and on public holidays. The carpark will stay open when we have events in the evening.

Do you allow BYO?

We do not permit external catering at our venue, as we have our own in-house catering team and our menus can be customized to suit your specific needs. Wedding cakes from external suppliers are subject to a cakeage fee of \$2.50 per person.

We offer a wide selection of locally sourced beverages, if there is something you would like that we don't currently stock, we can usually arrange to source it for you. Please note that any bottles brought into the venue will incur a corkage fee of \$30 per bottle.