



THE OLD BALDY FOUNDATION, INC.
And Smith Island Museum of History

Outdoor weddings and parties are a unique way to celebrate – especially on Bald Head Island. The Old Baldy Lighthouse Grounds provide a beautiful setting for a special day. To ensure that the memories of this day are pleasant, it is recommended that couples read the following rules and regulations very carefully BEFORE reserving a date. All couples granted a reservation assume responsibility for their party's compliance with the rules and regulations at Old Baldy Lighthouse and the Smith Island Museum of History.

Interested parties are encouraged to visit the site prior to submitting a reservation.

Q. What is the cost of getting married at the Old Baldy Lighthouse Grounds?

A. *See our wedding price rate sheet.*

Q. How do I reserve a date if I want to have my event at the Old Baldy Lighthouse Grounds?

A. *After reading and agreeing that the Old Baldy Lighthouse Grounds are the ideal place for Your event, email or call 910-457-7481 to see if your preferred date is available. Then fill out the Event Application Packet (4 page pdf) to begin processing.*

Q. What does the facilities use fee include?

A. *It includes scheduled access for set-up and teardown the day of the event; After hours access for guests to the bathrooms; and your choice of location on the lighthouse grounds. After hour access to the Lighthouse, Oil House and Museum is not included in any rental agreement – they are closed.*

Q. Do you rent tables, chairs, or tents? Who do we contact for rentals?

A. *Old Baldy foundation does not provide any rentals, just the grounds. You must contact local rental companies to arrange delivery, set up, and break down of rental items. A wedding planner can arrange this for you.*

Q. What utilities are included in the facilities use fee?

A. *Use of water in the restrooms and access to an exterior spigot on the grounds. There is very little exterior lighting on the grounds; evening events may need additional lighting. Exterior electrical outlets are minimal (standard outlet 110-120 volts) and the use of a generator might need to be put into your plans. Trash removal is not included – you must make arrangements with your caterer for removal at the end of your event per the contract.*

RENTAL FAQ SHEET

- Q.** What is the capacity?
- A.** *This will vary depending on the location you select. There are two areas available: the Open Lawn (accommodates 300 for ceremony or 275 for reception) and the Lighthouse & Cottage Side (accommodates up to 130).*
- Q.** Can my guests tour the Old Baldy Lighthouse & Smith Island Museum of History?
- A.** *The Lighthouse, Oil House and Museum maintain public hours. Guest must pay the entrance fee during our normal hours of operation. After hour access to the Lighthouse, Oil House and Museum is not included in any rental agreement – they are closed.*
- Q.** Can my guests arrive early in order to view the whole grounds?
- A.** *Because museum and lighthouse visitors are still enjoying the property until 4pm (winter) & 5pm (summer), guests should not arrive early. The public may stay on the grounds until closing time. Take this into consideration when planning your event.*
- Q.** What if we arrive early at the wedding venue?
- A.** *The contract you sign will cover this. Set up may occur earlier on the day of your event. Even if there is no scheduled wedding on that day, the property is often being used by school groups, facility tours, as well as general visitors that we need to allow for. Your wedding planner is required to submit to the Foundation a schedule in advance for ground access for before, during and after the event.*
- Q.** Where do my wedding party and guests park?
- A.** *Golf cart parking is limited, and we encourage on-island guests to "cart-pool." Please be respectful of our neighbors and do not park in front of the Village Chapel or in the Bald Head Association lots.*
- Q.** We are getting married at Old Baldy, can we arrive extra early for our photography?
- A.** *Old Baldy Lighthouse is a very popular place for photography. Only a limited number of photo shoots can take place at a time; other photographers may be booked for the morning or early afternoon shoots. Incorporate the time needed for your photo shoot into your reservation.*
- Q.** We are getting married elsewhere on Bald Head Island, can we have wedding photographs at Old Baldy?
- A.** *Old Baldy Lighthouse is a very popular place for photography. Our first priority is to the parties who have specifically chosen to rent Old Baldy Grounds for their event. Otherwise you may wait until Old Baldy is closed for the day to enter the grounds and take your photos. You may not intrude on any party who has specifically arranged to rent the grounds after hours.*

RENTAL FAQ SHEET

- Q.** Where and when are we supposed to get ready and dressed for our wedding?
A. *You must come already dressed for the ceremony. There are no dressing facilities on site.*
- Q.** What if it rains?
A. *There are no areas on the property to accommodate an indoor wedding. If there is fear of inclement weather you should make sure your reception site can handle the ceremony, if the need should occur, or arrange for your wedding planner to have alternate plans in place. Some individuals rent the Village Chapel at the same time as a back up rain site. Refunds are not made due to weather, with the exception of hurricane evacuation.*
- Q.** What about bugs, grass, flowers, etc.?
A. *The site you have chosen is an outdoor site, kept in a natural state. Being that this is an island with marsh, sand and water, there will be ants, bugs, noseems, mosquitoes and other assorted living creatures. Grass is mown once a week. Plants, trees and shrubs on the property may bloom, but are not manicured or forced. Spanish moss hangs from our trees.*
- Q.** Are you wedding coordinators?
A. *No. We only provide the facilities to rent. How your wedding functions is up to you. We recommend that you use on-island coordinators available through the businesses that cater to special events on Bald Head.*