



**A unique woodland venue**  
[tortwortharboretum.org/woodland-weddings](https://tortwortharboretum.org/woodland-weddings)



# Welcome to Tortworth Forest Centre and Arboretum



Escape the hustle and bustle of modern life and immerse yourself in the tranquil embrace of an ancient forest; a hidden gem nestled in the heart of nature.

Our off-grid woodland offers a one-of-a-kind setting for your special occasion, where the gentle rustle of the trees provide the perfect backdrop for unforgettable celebrations.

You can find inspiration in our celebration gallery [here](#).

## Celebrate with us

Tortworth Forest Centre and Arboretum is the perfect venue for a wide range of celebrations, including:

- **Weddings:** Exchange vows surrounded by the timeless beauty of nature, creating memories that will last a lifetime.
- **Birthdays:** Whether you're marking a milestone or simply celebrating another year of life, our woodland provides a magical setting for birthday festivities.
- **Anniversaries:** Commemorate your love and commitment in a place that mirrors the enduring strength of your relationship.
- **Reunions:** Gather your loved ones for a reunion they'll never forget, filled with laughter, love, and the beauty of the great outdoors.

## Venue highlights

**Off-grid serenity:** Leave behind urban life as you enter our off-grid haven. With no electricity or running water this is a true retreat into nature, allowing you to reconnect with the earth and each other.

**Handcrafted timber roundhouse:** Gather in our handcrafted timber roundhouse, featuring a cozy fire pit at its centre. Perfect for intimate gatherings, this rustic structure provides warmth and shelter, allowing you to celebrate regardless of the weather.



**Banquet table and fireside benches:** Dine in style at our banquet table, which seats up to 12 guests comfortably. There are also additional fireside benches and camping chairs ensuring that everyone can come together to share in the joy of your celebration.

**Compost toilet and rainwater sink:** Embrace sustainability with our eco-friendly compost toilet, complete with a rainwater hand wash sink. Our commitment to environmental stewardship extends to every aspect of your experience.



**Camping included:** Make the most of your celebration with a full weekend booking, which includes complimentary camping facilities. Spend the night under the stars, surrounded by the soothing sounds of nature, and wake up refreshed and rejuvenated amidst the ancient trees.

**Tree planting ceremony:** Every celebration weekend at Tortworth includes a tree planted in your honour, symbolising the growth and lasting memories that your special day will inspire. Choose from a selection of saplings, leaving a living legacy for future generations, and a reason to visit again and again.

# About Tortworth Forest Centre

We are a community restoring the Dell at Tortworth Arboretum to create a woodland where people and trees thrive together.

Founded in 2015, hundreds of volunteers have worked tirelessly to restore the arboretum which had become overgrown, inaccessible and unsafe for the public to visit. We have been reducing brambles, rhododendrons and other invasive species, to allow native flora to thrive alongside a collection of exotic trees.

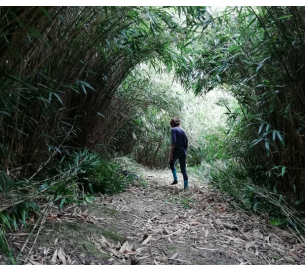


*I find the inclusive and kind approach to volunteers exceptional. Leadership is provided in a way you hardly notice, allowing people to try new things in a safe environment, and gently guiding to the correct technique. Superb!*

Volunteer



Alongside our woodland restoration work, we enable and empower those who wouldn't usually access the countryside through a series of wellbeing groups. Our experienced session leaders create a safe space to be outdoors in nature. Together, participants learn new skills and connect with others, without the fear of being judged.



*Coming here has given me the confidence to interact with other people for the first time in seven years. Also I am confident to join a craft group because of being here and learning new skills and confidence in trying new things. Thank you.*

Project participant

Our supportive groups offer opportunities to contribute, but without pressure, with people enjoying shared experiences and new interactions. There is a calmness inherent in the place and its historic and unique tree collection, which offers time and space for people to form connections with nature and with other people. We strive to remove barriers to participation to enable as many people as possible to enjoy the place and all it offers.



*When my anxiety is high before coming I remind myself it's a safe place, with understanding people and that I can take myself out of an activity if it's not right for me. I also find the grounding exercise helps to calm me and arrive at the woods. It's also really nice to enjoy good food with good company.*

Project participant



## Free nature-based wellbeing and volunteering opportunities

Transport options included!

*"For years I would yearn for moments of feeling safe. Since joining this group I have a safe place, safe people and safe day EVERY week"*

We are a community restoring Tortworth Arboretum to create a space where people and trees thrive. We foster a safe, supportive and welcoming space, and are committed to reaching people who find it difficult to access a place like this. Our projects improve resilience, mental health and overall wellbeing using nature connection, volunteering and craft activities with opportunities to meet new people.



### The Hawthorn Project

Wellbeing sessions for people whose identity includes woman

**Wednesdays 11.00am - 2.30pm**

### The Oak Tree Project

Wellbeing sessions for people of all genders

**Thursdays 10.45am - 2.15pm**

### Woodland Management Days

Practical days for people experiencing mental health challenges

**Tuesdays 10.00am - 4.00pm**

### Community Volunteer Days

A fun day of arboretum restoration, email: [volunteer@tortwortharboretum.org](mailto:volunteer@tortwortharboretum.org)

**Sundays 10.30am - 4.00pm (monthly)**

[www.tortwortharboretum.org/community](http://www.tortwortharboretum.org/community)

[referrals@tortwortharboretum.org](mailto:referrals@tortwortharboretum.org)

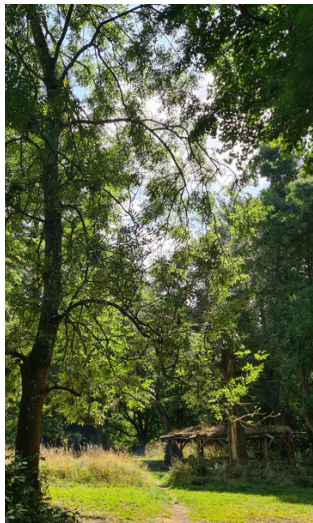
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# Booking Tortworth

1. **Check availability:** Email [events@tortwortharboretum.org](mailto:events@tortwortharboretum.org) to discuss availability. We offer three start times: 08.30, 13:00 and 17.30
2. **Submit booking form:** Fill in a booking form containing details of your event such as expected number of attendees and contact details.
3. **Secure your booking:** Confirm your reservation by paying the hire fee. Typically, we require full payment upfront, but if this presents a challenge, feel free to discuss alternative arrangements with your Event Manager.
4. **Select your tree:** Work with our Collection Manager to choose your ideal tree specimen from our approved list.
5. **Coordinate deliveries and collections:** Keep in touch with your Event Manager to discuss bringing equipment such as stretch tents, portaloos, and food trucks
6. **Familiarisation trip:** Visit the arboretum around a month before your hire to learn your way around and discuss tree planting locations, plus any tidying up we can do for desired ceremony location.
7. **Receive entrance codes:** A few days before your event you will receive the entrance codes for the car and pedestrian gates as well as any additional detail about the woods which you may need to know.
8. **Enjoy your day:** Arrive for your event, let yourself in and enjoy the peace and tranquility of this ancient space exclusively for yourself and your guests.
9. **Respect the environment:** Before your hire time ends ensure you have left the woods as you found them including thoroughly extinguishing the fire, removing all rubbish, litter picking the area, and locking up.
10. **Come back soon:** If your event takes place in Spring or Summer we'll invite you back during planting season (Autumn and Winter) or our dedicated volunteers will plant your tree for you.



## Our commitment to you

Over the years we've noticed many of our clients like to do things their own way, without too much fuss or interference. But if you ever need a hand or extra guidance, our dedicated team is here for you. Whether it's helping you plan every detail or being there on the day, we're all about making your experience as smooth and unforgettable as possible.

Escape the ordinary and embrace the extraordinary with a woodland celebration. Contact [events@tortwortharboretum.org](mailto:events@tortwortharboretum.org) today to start planning your next celebration.



A horizontal banner image at the top of the page. On the left, a couple in wedding attire (a man in a blue jacket and hat, a woman in a white dress and floral headpiece) are looking at each other. On the right, a woman with long dark hair is looking down. The background is a lush green forest.

# Useful information

## How many guests can we have?

We find events under 100 people work best, but if you're considering more than this let us know. Capacity is mainly dictated by the two on site toilets and parking, which is limited to a maximum of 30 vehicles along a single track lane.

## What happens if there's bad weather on the day?

Whilst we're not put off by a little rain, use of the woods is subject to favourable weather conditions. Safety is our absolute priority, which means events and hire may be cancelled at short notice should forecasts deem it necessary. Full refunds will be issued should events be cancelled due to severe weather.

## Is there a refuse collection service?

No, there is no refuse collection on-site. Please plan to take all rubbish and recycling with you upon departure. This includes thoroughly litter picking the area.

## Are dogs allowed?

Yes, well-behaved dogs are welcome. We recommend keeping them on a lead around the roundhouse, and not allowing them to disturb wildlife.

## Is this an accessible venue?

Unfortunately not. Due to our natural pathways Tortworth is neither wheelchair nor buggy friendly outside of the Roundhouse Clearing.

## Is there a community code of conduct for the venue?

Yes, our community works by thinking of others and leaving the place as you find it or better.

## Is there anything we can't do?

We do not permit paintballing, mountain biking or amplified sound.

## What do we need to bring?

We have a handy list of what's here, and suggestions on what to bring in our hirer [FAQ's](#).

## Is it okay to hire a marquee and additional furniture?

Yes, you're welcome to organise these as well as external caterers and generators etc as desired.

## Do we need to coordinate deliveries and collections?

Yes, please check dates and times with us before to ensure smooth coordination.

## We're driving by, can we pop in and look around?

The arboretum is a private woodland, and is closed to the public outside of events and volunteer sessions. Please discuss appropriate visiting times with your event manager rather than just popping in.

## Do you have a preferred vendor list?

You're welcome to source your own vendors, or if you would like a list of people we know and trust please just ask your event manager

## Are there specific days and times to avoid booking?

We are not able to accommodate daytime events on Tuesdays, or Wednesdays and Thursdays during term times.

## Can we have fireworks?

We asked the owls and they've veto'd this one.

## Why can't we plant our tree on our event date?

Tree planting season is between November and March, to give the saplings the best start we'll invite you back during these times or plant the tree for you.