

## WEBSITE – RANCHO CHIQUITA FAQ's FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Rancho Chiquita is a beautiful hacienda-style estate overlooking a spectacular panoramic ocean view and acres of rolling mountains. Rancho Chiquita offers you several locations throughout the estate, including a traditional Fountain Courtyard, Mexican Outdoor Sanctuary, Infinity Pool Terrace, and gently winding steps leading from an expansive Lawn & Garden down to our Pergola Terrace.

### **How many guests can you accommodate?**

The grounds of Rancho Chiquita are spacious and multi-tiered, and we are rarely limited with regard to guest count. We typically host up to 250 guests at the ceremony sight and for seated service on the Garden Terrace; 150 guests for seated service at the Fountain Courtyard; 125 guests for seated service on the Infinity Pool Terrace; and we regularly accommodate 400 guests for fundraising events serving cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

### **Do we have access to the house?**

You may arrange the use of one or both private suites that each has a small seating area, separate make-up area, single bathroom, and a beautiful private Palapa to enjoy cocktails, photographs and resting. There is no showering facility. Rancho Chiquita is a private home and there is no access to the main residence.

### **What are the site rental fees?**

Fees to lease the estate range from \$6,000.00 daily, and are determined by the type of event, the location(s) utilized on the estate, and the number of guests and/or crew.

### **What do you need to hold our date?**

A signed contract and a 50% non-refundable deposit for the site fee and site logistics fee are required to hold the date. The balance, along with a refundable security deposit, is due 14 days prior to your event.

### **What hours can we be at Rancho Chiquita?**

You may use the estate grounds for up to 10 hours daily. Extended hours beyond 10 can be arranged for an additional hourly fee. Guests and/or crew will depart from the property no later than 10:00pm.

### **What kind of food is catered here?**

Renowned chef, restaurateur, and author, Geraldine Gilliland owns two highly acclaimed restaurants in Santa Monica and is a recipient of the prestigious James Beard Culinary Award. As proprietor of Rancho Chiquita Events, LLC, she offers distinctive and exceptional gourmet cuisine, with a wide array of contemporary, cultural, and international choices, including (but not limited to): California-Contemporary, Mexican, New-Southern, Chinese, Continental, Indian, Japanese, Vegetarian, and Barbeque.

### **May we Taste-Test your food?**

If you are hosting an event at Rancho Chiquita, we are delighted to invite two hosts to one of our restaurants for a complimentary, *and very fun*, tasting. Any additional tastings are charged at the rate of \$100 per person.

### **Can we bring our own alcohol?**

For a hosted event we offer very competitive pricing for all your Bar needs, including: *Baseline Bar* (Beer, Wine, Champagne Toast, Soft drinks); *Well Bar* or *Executive Bar* (Well or Premium liquor in addition to the *Baseline Bar*); and our famous *Signature Cocktails*. If you would like to bring your own alcohol you may do so with management approval, and in accordance with some regulatory guidelines: alcohol may be brought onto the site on the day of the event and any unopened bottles must be removed from the site once the reception is over that same day. Corkage fees may apply. Last-Call for all liquor service is 30 minutes before the end of your event.

### **May we choose our own vendors?**

Absolutely! We do have a list of Recommended and Required Vendors; tried and true professionals with successful, long-standing relationships with Rancho Chiquita, who offer excellent service, low fees and are familiar with our estate and its requirements. You may, however, select your own vendors subject to management approval.

**What kind of music may we have?**

You have the option of live acoustic music (with the exception of bagpipes) or a DJ. Due to the serenity of our surroundings and Malibu guidelines, we do not allow electronically amplified live performers, brass bands, or live drums after 5:30pm. Music and playlists must be approved by Rancho Chiquita in advance; we do not allow music that has been banned from public airwaves, or that includes overtly sexual lyrics, racial overtones, or may be considered offensive to guests.

**May we use our own DJ?**

A DJ must be selected from the Rancho Chiquita pre-approved list. In the event that Rancho Chiquita management agrees to an outside-DJ, said party/ies are subject to all rules and regulations of the estate and the City of Malibu; must do a site walk-through with a Site representative prior to the event day; and management reserves the right to terminate performance at any time.

**Do you help with event planning?**

To assist you with the special components of hosting an event at a private estate, and to ensure that your event runs smoothly, Rancho Chiquita requires that you utilize our Site Logistics Coordinator to assist you during the final preparations of the event, and on the day of the event itself. The coordinator will help you with regulations, permits, rentals and vendors, and will coordinate the site and event logistics on your event day. If you require additional planning or assistance, we can provide you with a wide array of support to help you create your event vision.

**Are there other site fees?**

There is a nominal cleaning fee and a site logistics coordination fee. If you require catering, your catering fee (food, beverages, staff and rentals) will vary upon your event, guest count and culinary choices; once a catering contract is submitted to you for approval, it must be signed and returned with a 50% deposit, with the balance due 14 days prior to your event.

**Are there other costs incurred in hosting our event at Rancho Chiquita?**

An insurance policy estimated to be \$250, must be obtained to cover liquor liability, vendors (valet parking, etc.), outside rentals, homeowners, event cancellation, or "Acts of God". Additional costs vary in accordance with your event needs, and may include such items as valet parking, specialty lighting, or heat lamps in colder weather. Price estimates can be quoted for most items based on the rates charged by our Recommended Vendors.

**Where do my crew/out-of-town guests stay?**

Malibu and Santa Monica are close to the Rancho Chiquita, with easy access to an array of tourist attractions, including our beautiful beaches. Slightly further from the estate, yet still on the west-side are Venice, Marina Del Rey, Playa Del Rey, and further inland, Beverly Hills, and Westwood (home to UCLA). Closer to the Valley and inland are Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village, and Agoura Hills.

**What is your booking availability?**

In 2009, the estate may be booked from April 15<sup>th</sup> through November 15<sup>th</sup>. During late October and November you may consider a 'cool temperature plan' and include tenting and heat lamps as an option.

**When can we see Rancho Chiquita?**

We show Rancho Chiquita by appointment only from Monday through Saturday.

Please visit our website: <http://www.ranchochiquita.com>

For a Virtual Tour, please go to: [http://www.circlepix.com/tour.htm?id=289895&mls\\_tour=1](http://www.circlepix.com/tour.htm?id=289895&mls_tour=1)