



Wedding Guide



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Overview

One of Colorado's best-kept secrets, Piney River Ranch, is nestled in the heart of the White River National Forest, just twelve miles north of Vail Village. Located on a rustic 40-acre ranch at the edge of Piney Lake and beneath the stunning Gore Range, our venue is surrounded by thousands of acres of pristine backcountry wilderness.

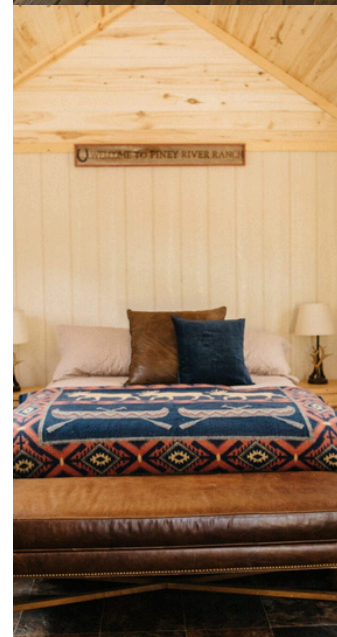
Our outdoor ceremony site is one of the most breathtaking in the state. It features a unique wedding deck that extends over the tranquil waters of Piney Lake. Two custom log pavilions and beautifully designed spaces complement the venue, offering you and your guests a truly unforgettable Rocky Mountain experience.

With over 30 years of combined experience in the wedding industry, our expert team is dedicated to ensuring a seamless planning process and delivering a memorable event.



Venue Highlights

- On-site professional PRR catering manager
- Private 40-acre ranch nestled in the White River National Forest
- Exclusive venue spaces are reserved for only one event at a time
- Unobstructed views of the stunning Gore Range Mountains
- Set-up and strike services are provided for all PRR items
- One-hour rehearsal time the day before your wedding
- Group-style menu tasting held in the spring
- Full staffing for set-up, ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception
- Ample parking for all guests
- 8-foot solid wooden tables and ceremony benches for up to 200 guests
- Wooden cross-back chairs for up to 150 guests
- In-house catering for a seamless dining experience
- Professional event planning services tailored to Piney River Ranch
- Onsite lodging accommodations for up to 52 guests



Event Spaces



Event Deck

Our outdoor event deck is one of Colorado's most breathtaking ceremony locations. It is also perfect for corporate cocktail receptions, outdoor bars, and cigar lounges. Set on the edge of Piney Lake and beneath the stunning Gore Range Mountains, this picturesque setting provides an unforgettable Rocky Mountain backdrop for your wedding or event. The deck comfortably accommodates up to 200 guests with rustic wooden benches, ensuring a memorable experience for all.

Cocktail Pavilion

Adjacent to our reception pavilion, our custom cocktail pavilion offers beautiful lake views and a versatile space for various occasions. It's ideal for smaller gatherings, day classes, cocktail hours for weddings and retreats, or even as a dance floor. The cocktail pavilion is included with all full-facility rentals.



Reception Pavilion

Overlooking the lake, our custom log reception pavilion spans 3,054 square feet, providing the perfect setting for dinner and celebrations. With heaters and custom sliding doors, this space allows for comfortable seating for up to 200 guests beneath the stars. Whether enjoying a delicious meal or dancing the night away, this pavilion offers an unforgettable atmosphere.



Packages

Our standard event packages include ten hours, divided into six hours for your event, three hours for set-up, and one hour for clean-up. Extra hours can be added at \$500 per hour if needed. Please note that all events must conclude by 10:00 p.m. to ensure a smooth transition and closure for the venue. Clean-up will occur from 10:00 to 11:00 p.m., and any tear-down after 11:00 p.m. will incur a charge of \$500 per hour.

We have a minimum guest requirement of 50 people and can accommodate up to 200 guests

Facility Fees

Saturday: \$19,000* Friday & Sunday: \$17,000* Monday – Thursday: \$14,000*

Holiday Rates *

Thurs, July 2nd: \$15,500	Sun, July 5th: \$17,800	Sat, September 5th: \$21,000
Fri, July 3rd: \$17,800	Mon, July 6th: \$15,500	Sun, September 6th: \$17,800
Sat, July 4th: \$21,000	Fri, September 4th: \$17,800	Mon, September 7th: \$15,500

Please Note: The facility fee does not include food, beverages, or service gratuity. Our experienced event team will manage these arrangements and assist with coordinating your vendor team. Rental pricing is only guaranteed once a signed contract has been received.

Included in Your Package

- Private use of the ceremony deck, reception pavilion, and adjoining cocktail pavilion
- Exclusive access to the couple's getting-ready suites
- 8-foot custom wooden tables and wooden ceremony benches for up to 200 guests
- Wooden cross-back chairs for up to 150 guests
- One-hour rehearsal walkthrough the day before the event
- Onsite parking for all guests
- Set-up of benches and chairs
- Full use of the property's stunning natural surroundings for photos and events

Ceremony-Only Package

For those seeking a more intimate gathering, we offer a Ceremony-Only package scheduled on non-peak days between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Permits

Photography Permits Including Elopements

Piney River Ranch and Piney Lake are among Colorado's most iconic and sought-after backdrops, offering unparalleled natural beauty. As we are private property, all photoshoots, video shoots, and any other type of production require a permit and written permission from Piney River Ranch. We kindly ask that all inquiries be directed through the proper channels to ensure a seamless and respectful experience for all parties involved.



Catering

When you book with Piney River Ranch, you and your guests will enjoy a locally sourced buffet-style menu customized to your preferences and expertly prepared by our in-house caterer. Our chef, recognized as one of the best in the Vail Valley, will ensure a memorable dining experience for you and your guests.

Our seasoned chef will be on-site, preparing a beautiful and delicious meal with a wide variety of mouthwatering "ranch-style" offerings tailored to your event. While Piney River Ranch offers a selection of desserts, please note that we do not have a pastry chef on-site for wedding cakes. However, you can outsource your wedding cake from an external vendor.

All menu pricing in this guide is subject to change and is not guaranteed. Pricing is based on food market rates during the season of your event. Please refer to our catering menu for a sample of our catering selections.





Beverage

All alcoholic beverages must be provided by Piney River Ranch and delivered through our distributors. Piney River Ranch holds a liquor license through the State of Colorado, which prohibits bringing alcoholic beverages of ANY KIND onto the ranch property. Violation of this policy will be strictly enforced and may result in vacating the premises, being fined, or both. Prohibited items include brewed kegs, wedding favors containing alcohol, or any form of alcohol for personal or guest consumption. Please refer to our beverage menu for a sample of our alcohol selections and packages.

Piney River Ranch has highly qualified bartenders and service staff that will be present for your wedding and event, professionally serving your guests. The number of bartenders and wait staff needed is based on your final guest count. Please refer to our beverage menu for a sample of our beverage selections.



F&B Prices

Food & Beverage Minimum

Piney River Ranch requires a \$9,100 combined food and beverage minimum, broken down as follows: \$5,600 for food/\$3,500 for beverage

Note: This minimum applies regardless of the final guest count.

Non-Alcoholic Beverage Service – A la Carte

- Coffee & Tea Service: \$3.95 per person
- Coffee, Tea, Cider & Hot Chocolate Service: \$4.50 per person
- Filtered Water Station: \$1.75 per person
- Lemonade & Iced Tea (served in a 5-gallon glass dispenser): \$65 each
- Bottled Water & Canned Soda: \$3.95 each

Additional Catering Costs

- Waitstaff: \$35/hour – 1 server per 25 guests (8 hours) = \$280
One server required for every 25 guests to ensure smooth service and efficiency
- Catering Captain: \$40/hour (12 hours) = \$480
- Chef Fee for Carving Station (Tenderloin): \$300 flat rate
- Individual Plated Salads: \$500 flat rate
- Cake Cutting Fee: \$400 (includes plates & utensils)
- Bench Removal Fee: \$550
- Security/EMT Personnel: \$650

Please note that all information in this document is not guaranteed and may be subject to change based on availability, pricing, and market conditions during your event season.

Beverage Packages

- Bartender: \$400 per bartender
(1 bartender per 75 guests)
- Barback: \$300 per barback
(required for over 100 guests)

Package 1

House Wine • CO Craft & Domestic Beer

4 Hours: \$46.00/person, 5 Hours:
\$48.00/person, 6 Hours: \$50.00/person

Package 2

Two Batched Cocktails • Call Spirits •
House Wine • CO Craft & Domestic Beer

4 Hours: \$51.00/person, 5 Hours:
\$53.00/person, 6 Hours: \$55.00/person

Package 3

Two Batched Cocktails • Premium
Spirits • House Wine • CO Craft &
Domestic Beer

4 Hours: \$56.00/person, 5 Hours:
\$58.00/person, 6 Hours: \$60.00/person

F&B Prices

Waitstaff & Bartending Services

Piney River Ranch provides a team of experienced and professional bartenders and wait staff to ensure your event is seamless. In addition to the services listed, we offer customizable options to create a truly unique experience for you at the ranch.

Bar Staff

For every 75 guests at an event, one bartender is needed to ensure smooth service and prevent long lines. Weddings with fewer than 100 guests require two bartenders to keep both bars open. Two bartenders are also necessary for events with 120 guests. For 150 guests, two bartenders and one barback are essential for support. Events with 150 or more guests will require three bartenders to maintain service. Additionally, four bartenders are required for events with 200 guests to accommodate the larger crowd.

Cake Cutting Service

Our cake-cutting service ensures a smooth and memorable dessert experience. Our team will expertly slice and serve your cake to your guests, handling all the details. This service includes dessert plates, forks, and cocktail napkins so you can focus on celebrating. Feel free to design your dessert display, and let us handle the rest!

Fire Pit & S'mores Experience

Create unforgettable memories with the warmth of a cozy fire and the sweetness of s'mores at your event. Our Fire Pit & S'mores package includes full access to the fire pit, firewood, and all the essentials for a delightful s'mores experience.

Please note s'mores must be ordered for at least 50% of your wedding guests.

S'mores Package

Roasting sticks • Marshmallows •
Rich chocolate • Graham crackers

S'mores Bar Upgrade

Take your s'mores to the next level with tempting add-ons like Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, crispy bacon, fresh bananas, creamy Nutella, juicy strawberries, crushed Oreos, and decadent caramel chocolates.

Fire Pit Only

Enjoy exclusive access to the fire pit for two hours during your event, including firewood.



Ranch Lodging

Imagine stepping out of your cabin or glamping tent, coffee in hand, to a private porch with a panoramic view of the majestic Rocky Mountains. Piney River Ranch offers a range of rustic, lakefront lodging options, perfect for a peaceful Rocky Mountain getaway or overnight accommodations for weddings and events. Our accommodations include six charming lakefront cabins and three luxurious glamping tents.

For larger groups, we offer an all-accommodation buyout at a discounted rate, making it an ideal choice for weddings, retreats, or family reunions. When planning your event, be sure to ask your Piney representative about current rates and securing your lodging reservation.



Map & Directions

The road leading to Piney River Ranch is unpaved, which can make for a rough drive. While four-wheel drive is unnecessary, we recommend allowing at least 45 minutes from the start of the dirt road to reach the ranch from Vail.

Piney Falls – 6 miles R/T

Lost Lake Trailhead – 5 miles

Upper Piney Lake – 14 miles

R/T Vail Village – 12 miles

Eagle Airport – 46 miles

Denver – 100 miles

Casa Bonita – 105 miles

Denver International Airport – 135 miles



Frequently Asked Questions

Are outside catering vendors permitted?

We do not allow outside catering vendors at this time.

What is included in the venue cost for a wedding or event?

The fee for the venue rental includes private use of the ceremony deck, large pavilion, adjoining cocktail pavilion, couples getting ready suites, 8' custom wooden dinner tables and benches for up to 200 guests, wooden cross-back chairs for up to 150 guests, gold or silver flatware, water goblets, bar glassware, china, cocktail table whiskey barrels, one-hour rehearsal, onsite parking, set-up of benches and chairs, and use of giant Jenga and cornhole.

I want an outdoor ceremony, but I am worried about the weather.**Do you have a contingency plan for inclement weather?**

Yes. We are prepared for the weather and have a great "Plan B" option to implement as early as the wedding day.

Do you provide transportation from the Vail area?

PRR does not provide transportation. However, we can provide you with a list of transportation companies permitted to access the ranch.

Will we have access to the ranch for a rehearsal?

Yes. All rehearsals will be scheduled the day prior to your wedding from 9:00 am-10:00 am.

Is there power available for the ceremony deck?

Yes, our deck and pavilions are all equipped with power sources.

Will there be a tasting for our event before the final menu selections are due?

Tastings will be offered prior to your event. Invitations to tastings will be sent out via email, and reservations will be required. Only two people will be offered complimentary tastings per event.

What are the dimensions of the tables, and how many do they seat?

The tables we supply are 8' X 3' and comfortably seat eight adults (four on each side).

What type of seating does PRR provide?

PRR provides ceremony bench seating for up to 200 guests. We have wooden cross-back chairs for up to 150 guests.

Does PRR provide linens?

PRR does not provide linens. Linens must be rented from an outside vendor by the client.

Does PRR have an AV sound system?

No, we do not have an in-house sound system.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does PRR have a microphone?

No. We recommend contacting your DJ or band.

How many hours do we have at the venue for our event?

You will have access to the venue for ten hours, including six hours for your event, three hours for set-up, and one hour for cleanup.

When does our 10-hour block of time begin?

The ten-hour rental begins three hours before your ceremony starts. For example, if your event begins at 4 p.m., you will have access to the space at 1 p.m. to begin set-up and will conclude at 10 p.m. Clean-up and breakdown will then occur between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Should you need additional time, you may purchase additional hours on the front end of your reservation at \$500.00 per hour. All events hosted at Piney must conclude at 10:00 p.m.

Who is responsible for setting up and taking down decorations?

PRR does not assume responsibility for setting up or taking down decorations. You must have a Day-of Coordinator to assist with this task. Pavilions will be ready for decorating three hours before your event, and all decorations are to be cleaned up one hour after your event. If additional site time is required for clean-up, you will be charged \$500/hour.

Are there any restrictions for décor such as hanging things, candles or fireworks?

Piney River Ranch does not allow holes to be placed into our structures for decoration. Strung décor can be tied to our structure with twine or wrapped around posts. Due to the amount of power drawn, we do not permit the use of string lights. We do not allow any open flames. All candles must be concealed within a closed-sided container, at least three inches above the top of the wick.

Due to the fire hazard, PRR does not allow pyrotechnics, fireworks, sparklers, or floating lanterns.

Does PRR have a ladder available for decorating?

Due to liability, you or your vendor must provide your own ladder.

Can I drop off décor and other items before my 10-hour block begins?

All setup, including deliveries, must be completed within your designated 10-hour block.

Can I pick up my décor and other items the day after my event?

All items must be picked up and removed from the premises immediately following your event.

Frequently Asked Questions

What time should I have my guests arrive at PRR for my event?

We recommend having your guests arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled event time. This allows them time to park and find the event space.

When can our vendors and I arrive on the property?

When your 10-hour block begins, you and your vendors may have access to the property.

Can we purchase additional hours?

Yes, you may add additional hours to the front of your reservation at \$500/hour. All events must conclude by 10:00 p.m.

How many guests can you accommodate for events?

The ranch can accommodate approximately 200 guests for an event.

Is the Ranch accessible during the off-season/winter months?

Piney River Ranch is closed from the last Sunday in September until June 21st annually. During the winter months, it is only accessible by snowmobile. To experience the breathtaking winter scenery of Piney River Ranch, you can arrange a snowmobile tour with Vail Back Country Tours by calling (970) 476-7749 and mentioning "Piney Wedding." Please note that the ranch is winterized when visiting during that time. USFS roads 700 and 701 close annually on November 20th.





Contact

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