



Pure: Photography by Lindsey Trope

Sweetwater Branch
Inn

LODGING & EVENTS

CIRCA 1885

The Gem of North

AT THE HISTORIC SWEETWATER BRANCH INN

Imagine your wedding and reception taking place amid lush gardens with flowing fountains, sparkling lights and inviting courtyards, all with the convenience of a covered patio and elegant banquet hall. The Sweetwater Branch Inn, located in the heart of hip downtown Gainesville, offers the vintage backdrop of our Bed & Breakfast with all the modern amenities you expect from a world class resort.

Every detail is taken care of by our friendly and knowledgeable staff who will help you create the wedding of your dreams. With over 50 years of combined event and catering experience, we can't wait to help you plan your wedding, reception, rehearsal dinner or other special event. You and your guests will be treated to expert service, delicious food and an unforgettable affair.

*We invite you to create lasting memories and celebrate
at the Sweetwater Branch Inn!*

625 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601
www.sweetwaterinn.com

Phone: 352-373-6760
1-800-595-7760
Fax: 352-371-3771
events@sweetwaterinn.com



Central Florida

Pure: Photography by Lindsey Tropf

Our Past...

The historic McKenzie House, built in 1895, is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. This magnificent three-story 1895 Queen Anne style Victorian home is one of Gainesville's most celebrated historic homes. This is the location of beautifully appointed Sweetwater Inn guest rooms and a private downstairs banquet area for small intimate gatherings.

Next door is our main Inn building, The Cushman - Colson House. Circa 1885, it was one of the original Gainesville homes that lined old Alachua Avenue which is now University Avenue. The Cushman - Colson House hosts more beautiful and unique Sweetwater Inn guest rooms.

In 1976 Giovanna and Juan Holbrook purchased the Historic McKenzie home and began its much needed restoration. After nearly two years of intense restoration, the house was completed and brought to its former glory. However, it was not until 1992, when **Cornelia Holbrook** bought the Cushman-Colson House (next door)



and restored it, did the Sweetwater Branch Inn open its doors

The McKenzie Banquet Hall was incorporated into the complex in 1995. This structure was designed to have all many of the amenities a person wants, yet upholding the vision of Victorian charm that Sweetwater is known for. The Sweetwater Branch Inn now boasts 20 guests rooms, suites and cottages, 2 acres of gardens, the McKenzie Banquet Hall and the Historic McKenzie House for receptions. Since its inception, the Sweetwater Branch Inn has proudly hosted thousands of weddings, celebrations and events.

Our Present...

We are proud to offer a full service wedding and reception location that is truly unique. We have earned a wonderful reputation through hard work and our staff's dedication to excellence. Sweetwater realizes that weddings are highly personal events that are expressions of a couple's individuality, hopes and dreams. We hope that we are able to be a part of your memories!

Our Mission...

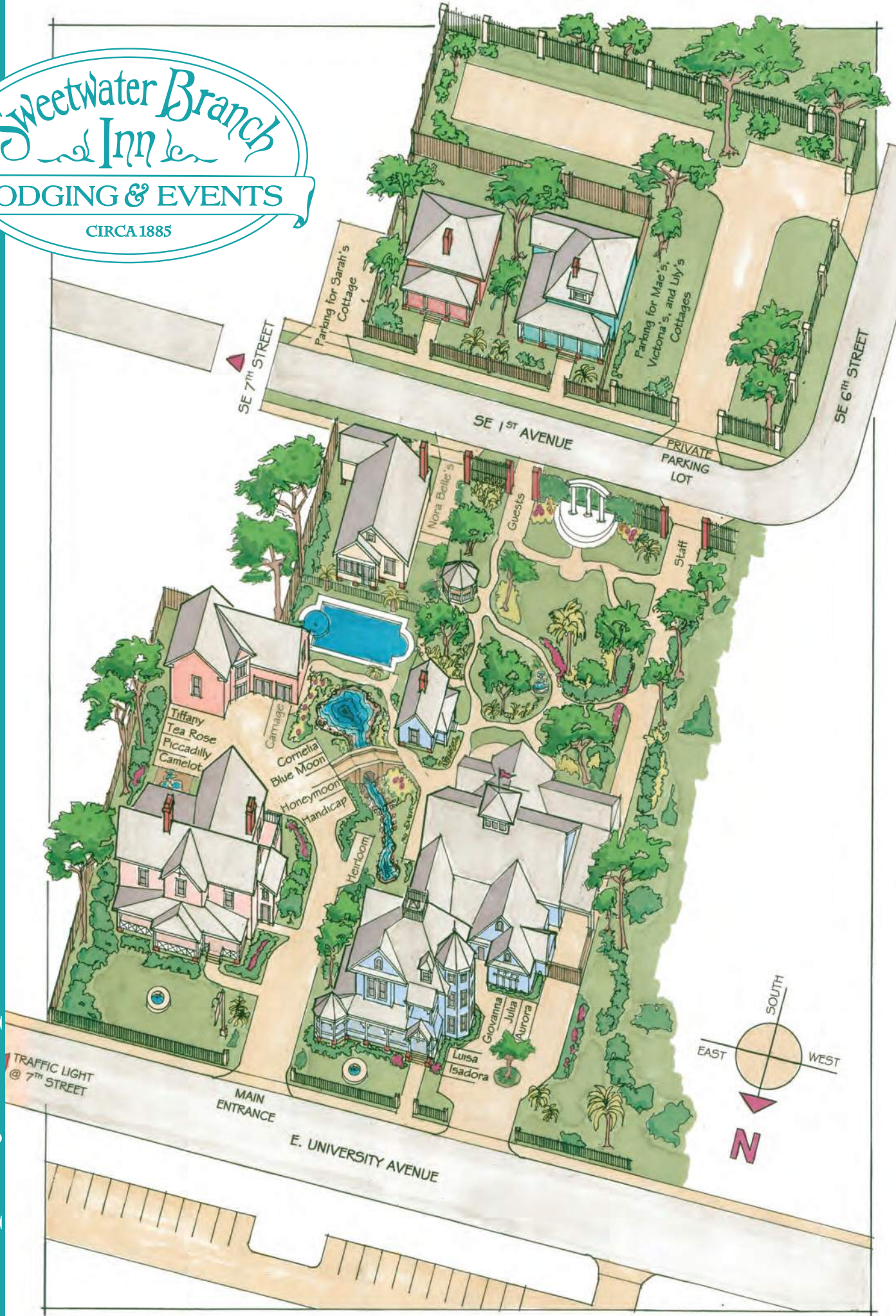
At Sweetwater Branch Inn we aim to create, through exemplary service, beautiful surroundings, and gracious attitude, a memorable and extraordinary experience for each of our guests that corresponds with the investment of love that has gone into the making of the Sweetwater Branch Inn Property.



Sweetwater Branch Inn

LODGING & EVENTS

CIRCA 1885





Ryan Caffrey Photography



Pure by Lindsey Tropf



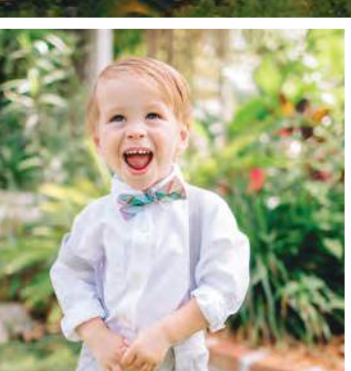
Verve Studio



Russell Martin Photography



Verve Studio



J Photography by Jessi Caparella



J Photography by Jessi Caparella



Pure: Photography by Lindsey Tropf



Footstone Photography



Garden Ceremonies

Unforgettable Receptions



From the bridal shower and rehearsal dinner to the after party, the McKenzie Hall and McKenzie House offer the right space and amenities to fit your reception needs.

MCKENZIE BANQUET HALL

The McKenzie Hall's spacious central room, with its many glass doors, opens to a large covered patio surrounded by lush gardens. The room is elegantly designed with high exposed truss ceiling and elegant light fixtures. The Hall and patio are perfect for receptions of over 200 guests for a

heavy hors d'oeuvres style dinner or 175 guests for a sit-down dinner. This 3,300 Sq. foot central area is supported by complete on-site catering facilities and spacious rest rooms. Day or night, the ivy laced bridge and arbor, seven fountains, lush vegetation, sparkling lights and reflecting Koi pond provide ambiance galore.





Chic Shot Photography



Verve Studio



Jimmy Ho Photography



Russell-Martin Photography



Jimmy Ho Photography





Jimmy Ho Photography



Jimmy Ho Photography



Pure: Photography by Lindsey Tropf



Jimmy Ho Photography



Chic Shot Photography



Verve Studio

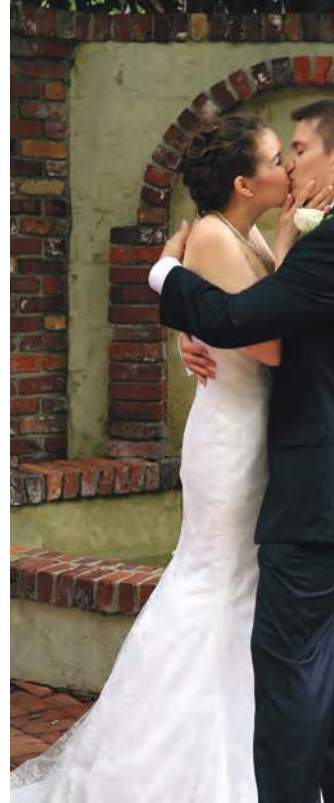


Pure by Lindsey Tro

HISTORIC MCKENZIE HOUSE

The McKenzie House is perfect for smaller, intimate receptions. Weddings are held in our Courtyard area with the beautiful fountain as the backdrop. Reception are held in your own private space on the first floor of the house. The McKenzie House is decorated with beautiful antique furniture, oriental carpets and vintage accessories. The dining room and banquet areas open onto a large wrap-around front porch that is perfect for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before dinner. The McKenzie House can accommodate up to 40 guests for a seated dinner or up to 65 guests with a heavy hors d'oeuvres buffet style menu.

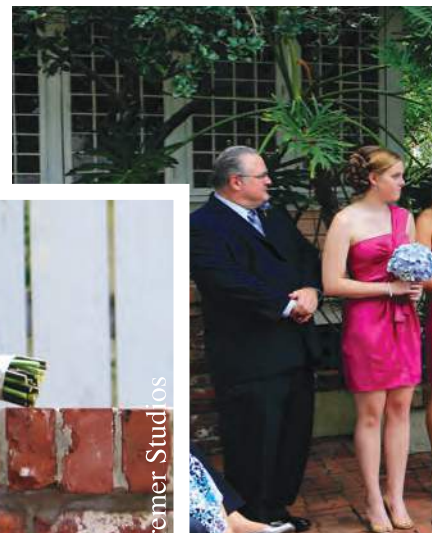
Special rental of both the Historic McKenzie House and McKenzie Banquet Hall is available for larger parties.



Verve Studio



Deremer Studios





Deremer Studios



Ryan Caffrey Photography



Deremer Studios



Vitalic Photography



Deremer Studios



Deremer Studios



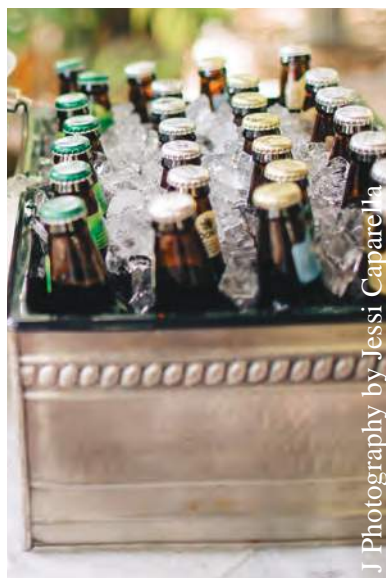
Deremer Studios



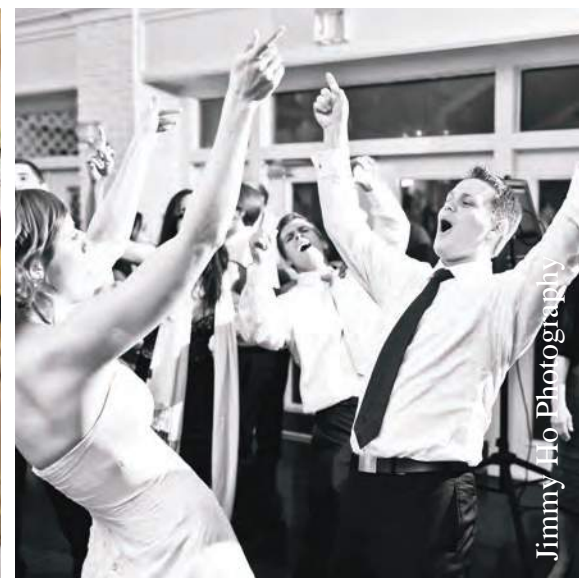
Pure: Photography by Lindsey Tropf



- Receptions up to 250 Guests
- Free parking for over 250 people
- Event Director & Banquet Manager on site
- Full catering - gourmet chef on site
- Tables, chairs, tableware and linens, all provided
- Gazebo, colonnade and courtyard ceremonies
- Hall and dance floor
- Wireless high-speed internet
- Fully air-conditioned and heated
- Handicapped ramps
- Honeymoon suites
- Overnight accommodations



J Photography by Jessi Caparella



Jimmy Ho Photography



J Photography by Jessi Caparella



Linelight Photography

Event Coordination Services

The Sweetwater Branch Inn Events Team is dedicated to making your wedding dreams a reality. We truly care about each and every client's individual needs and take pride in accommodating your requests.

Our on-site Events Team works with you from the beginning of your first tour of the grounds, all the way through the special day. It is our specialty to listen to your wedding dreams and customize floor plans, linens and menu to suit. We will plan to meet with you a few weeks before the wedding to finalize all your details and create a timeline. An Event Director and Banquet Manager are both present 2-3 hours prior to guest arrival for overseeing your reception set-up details, with the Banquet Manager staying through to the end of the event. The day of the wedding, you will be able to relax knowing we are in full knowledge of your wishes.

We can help you create any event, from Bridal Showers and Engagement Parties to Rehearsal Dinners and Farewell Brunches. Thinking about *Going Green*? Sweetwater prides itself in protecting the environment and being conscience of waste. Ask about our special Green Weddings and carbon neutral options.

Please Note: We ask that you make arrangements to have your Wedding Officiant or coordinator present for your rehearsal and for coordination of your ceremony details. Our focus during the ceremony is to ensure your food and other receptions details are perfect!



Event Directors Sarah Larson and Lauren Guidi

Sweetwater Branch Inn's Coordination duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Coordination of on-site staff and bartenders
- Development of floor plan layouts customized to your needs and desires
- Recommendations of vendors
- Menu development and customization
- Timeline coordination for events
- Seating guideline and tips
- Set up of favors, guest book, cake knife and toasting glasses
- Styling of food buffets with linens, white platters, etc.
- Suggestions for meeting budget restraints





Gracious Accommodations



Jimmy Ho Photography



Jimmy Ho Photography



J Photography by Jessi Caparella



J Photography by Jessi Caparella



Jimmy Ho Photography



Verve Studio



Caroline Johnson Photography

*"Give your guests more than just an overnight stay;
Give them a weekend to remember!"*

Sweetwater proudly boasts:

- 20 rooms, suites and cottages
- Complimentary wine and cheese hour for guests staying at the inn
- Complimentary, full homemade breakfast for guests staying at the inn
- Complimentary WiFi throughout the property
- Private bath for each room
- Cottages feature full kitchens, living rooms, Jacuzzis and more
- Rooms are located just steps away from the ceremony and reception areas; no transportation needed
- Guests are treated to a home away from home
- Families have the chance to spend time together on your special weekend
- Discounts are available for guests attending the event

**Please inquire about our rooms at
352-373-6760 / 800-595-7760 or
info@sweetwaterinn.com**

Gourmet Catering

Sweetwater's in-house catering compliments any occasion! We have many years of experience with weddings, business luncheons, dinners, special events and private parties. From hors d'oeuvres to buffets to full service, sit down dining, you will find menus to suit a variety of tastes and budgets!

Sweetwater has an on-site gourmet chef and is able to accommodate most needs with fully customizable menu options! You will have a full menu meeting with our Catering Coordinator to choose the perfect menu. In the meantime, please find a few of our Sweetwater Favorites listed below!

Sweetwater Favorites

Double Cream Brie
with Caramel Pecan Topping
Wrapped and Baked in a Puff Pastry
Served with Fresh French Bread

Mini Beef Wellingtons
Bite-Sized Cuts of Filet Mignon with
Gorgonzola Cheese and Mushrooms
Wrapped in a Flaky Puff Pastry and Baked

BLT Skewers
Crispy Bacon, Fresh Lettuce and Ripe Tomato
With a Dollop of Curry Mayonnaise

BBQ Chicken Flatbread Pizza
With Cheddar Cheese and Caramelized Onions

Mac & Cheese Bites

Chuck Roast Tender Skewers
With Orange Ginger Glaze

Mini Phyllo Cups
With Ropa Vieja, Black Beans, Tomatoes,
Fresh Cilantro and Avocado Creme Fraiche

Spanakopitas
Spinach and Cheese Wrapped in Phyllo Dough

Smoked Salmon on Pumpernickel Squares
With Herbed Cream Cheese, Capers and Sprigs of Dill

Caprese Skewers
Homemade Mozzarella Cheese,
Grape Tomatoes and Fresh Basil

The Cushman Salad
Spring Mix with Mandarin Oranges, Craisins, and Sunflower
Seeds, Tossed in a Raspberry-Orange Vinaigrette

The Colson Salad
Feta Cheese, Roasted Walnut, Sliced Tomato and Black Olives
Served on a Bed of Mixed Greens and Dressed with a House
Vinaigrette

Wild Mushroom Ravioli
With a Sherry Cream Sauce, Topped with Toasted Pine Nuts

Sweetwater's Italian Chicken
With Creamy Pesto, Artichoke Hearts and Kalamata Olives

Honey Pecan Crusted Chicken
Honey Mustard Marinated and Rolled in Sweet Flakes
Topped with Roasted Pecans and Orange Blossom Honey

Sweetwater's Italian Flank Steak
Marinated, Char-Grilled Flank Steak
Rolled with Roasted Red Peppers, Pesto and Prosciutto

Big Island Mahi Mahi
Marinated in Garlic Teriyaki,
Grilled and Topped with a Pineapple Salsa

Mashed Potato Bar
Served with Hot Gravy, Bacon Bits,
Cheddar Cheese, Green Onions and Sour Cream

Roasted Red and Sweet Potatoes
Finely Encrusted with Herbs and Spice

Ursula's Stuffed Tomatoes
Stuffed Plum Tomatoes with Sautéed Spinach,
Parmesan Cheese and Bread Crumbs,
Topped with Sharp Cheddar Cheese

Vegan Portobello Stuffed Mushrooms
Stuffed with Eggplant, Tomato and Sautéed Onions



Jimmy Ho Photography



Verve Studio



Pure: Photography by Lindsey Trof



Russell-Martin Photography



Jimmy Ho Photography



Jimmy Ho Photography



Pure: by Lindsey Trof



Jimmy Ho Photography



Pure: Photography by Lindsey Trof

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

At Sweetwater, we strive to create a one-of-a-kind experience for each of our clients. Here are a few frequently asked questions that will be useful during your venue selection phase.

Where do my guests park?

Sweetwater has full access to the Kirby Smith Center across University Avenue which has over 150 parking spots. There is also a private parking lot behind the gardens which has 30 parking spots.

I picked my date, how do I book? What is the deposit?

Please call or email us and we can set up a meeting time to talk about your details. Most contracts can also be done through the mail! The deposit amount varies on the day of week and ranges from \$800 - \$1,500.

Can my guests book rooms at Sweetwater's B&B?

Absolutely! One of the many benefits of a Sweetwater wedding and reception are the 20 guest rooms, suites and cottages available on-site. Upon booking your event, you will receive a promo code which gives your guests a discount on our rooms. For more information on booking rooms please contact info@sweetwaterinn.com.

Can I bring in my own decorations?

Yes, each wedding reception we host is unique to your preferences. Our beautiful McKenzie Banquet Hall is surrounded by beautiful gardens, little white lights and boasts a beautiful high ceiling with trusses creating a neutral but intricate backdrop for your unique style.

Can I bring in my own vendors?

Sweetwater provides all venue and catering services, but you are able to bring in your own wedding coordinator, photographer, videographer, florist, event designer, cake baker, DJ or band, officiant and alcohol.

Can we bring our own catering and alcohol?

Sweetwater is famous for great food! For this reason, we provide all catering services and require these services for receptions. You can be confident your food will be delicious and these details will be taken care of for you on your big day! We do allow outside alcoholic beverages to be brought in and Sweetwater will provide the bar service.

Will there be a Sweetwater coordinator on-site the day of the wedding?

An event director will be on-site the day of the wedding to facilitate your reception details and ensure our venue and catering services are exactly the way you imagined. Sweetwater does not coordinate ceremonies and suggests hiring a wedding coordinator for this. Your event director is focused on your reception food and bar details during the ceremony.

I'm on a budget, can I still have a wedding at Sweetwater?

Absolutely! We are able to accommodate most budgets. We have many options available, including open buffet stations, discounted Friday & Sunday weddings and a smaller venue for weddings of up to 65 guests.

Does Sweetwater provide tables, chairs and linens?

Sweetwater provides all of your tables, basic linens and white garden chairs for the ceremony and reception. Sweetwater owns many different table sizes including: 48" round, 60" round, 4' banquet, 6' banquet, 8' banquet, bar height and serpentine shapes. Your event director will help you create the perfect floor plan.

What happens in case of inclement weather?

Our beautiful McKenzie Hall becomes the ceremony location with the McKenzie Gardens as the back drop. Your guests then enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres on our covered patio while the room is reset.

Please contact our events department at 352-373-6760 or events@sweetwaterinn.com for more information or to schedule a tour of our property!

Preferred PROFESSIONALS

Beer, Wine & Spirits



JF Wines Imports, Inc
(352) 212-5868
7270 114th Ave
Largo, FL 33773
jfwineimports@gmail.com
jfwineimports.com

Wedding Officials



Jack Edmonds, Wedding Official
(352) 817-0048
2603 NW 13th Street PMB 302
Gainesville, FL 32609
jack@premierbride.com
jackedmondsweddingofficial.com

Bridal Shops



A Bridal Boutique
(352) 378-4213
3433 W University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32607
abridalboutiquellc@gmail.com
gainesvillebridalboutique.com

Florists



Prange's Florist
(352) 335-0100
16 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601
joan@pranges.com
www.pranges.com

Cake Bakers



Dream Day Cakes
(352) 336-8955
6352 NW 18th Dr Ste. 3
Gainesville, FL 32653
moreinfo@dreamdaycakes.com
dreamdaycakes.com



The Plant Shoppe
(352) 371-6249
303 NW 8th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601
theplantshoppe@aol.com
theplantshoppeflorist.zenportfolio.com

Invitations



KB Kakes
(352) 214-6778
5200 NW 43rd Street 102-414
Gainesville, FL 32606
info@kbkakes.com
kbkakes.com



Sugar, Refined
(352) 472-9895
25345 West Newberry Road
Newberry, FL 32669
cakes@sugar-refined.com
sugar-refined.com

Invitations by The Plant Shoppe

(352) 371-6249
303 NW 8th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601
theplantshoppe@aol.com
theplantshoppeflorist.zenportfolio.com

Preferred

Disc Jockey Services



AJ Entertainment
(855) 727-8994
110 NW 9th Terrace #207
Gainesville, FL 32601
info@ajentertainment.net
ajentertainment.net



Genius Entertainment
(352) 678-7030
2632 NW 43rd Street #2130
Gainesville, FL 32606
jarad@gnysentertainment.com
geniusentertainment.biz



Innovative Entertainment
(352) 692-4366
1709 SW 49th Place
Gainesville, FL 32608
innovatedj@me.com
innovative-dj.com



TDC Entertainment
(352) 331-0685
14260 West Newberry Road #228
Newberry, FL 32669
tom@tdcentertainment.com
tdcentertainment.com



Wayne's World Entertainment
(352) 262-3820
421 NW 95th Way
Gainesville, FL 32607
djwaynep@yahoo.com
waynesworldentertainment.com

Hair & Makeup



Gainesville Wedding Hair
(352) 222-2254 - Deborah
3501 SW 2nd Avenue, Suite C
Gainesville, FL 32605
gainesvilleweddinghair@gmail.com
gainesvilleweddinghair.com



Stefanie Humphrey Make-Up Artistry
(352) 328-0077 or 415-85-Shmua
4432 NW 23rd Avenue Suite 1A + 1B
Gainesville, FL 32606
stefaniehumphrey@usa.com
stefaniehumphrey.com

Videography



Platinum Digital Video
(352) 665-4343
Duck Pond Area
Gainesville, FL
shena@platinumdigitalvideo.com
platinumdigitalvideo.com

Wedding and Event Planning



Masterpiece Weddings and Events
(352) 317-3222
2725 SW 91st Street #110 PMB16
Gainesville, FL 32608
rachel@masterpieceweddings.net
masterpieceweddings.net

PROFESSIONALS

Photography



Chic Shot Studio
(352) 207-3558
Gainesville, FL
jeremiah@chicshotstudio.com
chicshotstudio.com



Russell Martin Photography
(352) 266-8015
studio@russellmartinphoto.com
russellmartinphoto.com



Footstone Photography
(352) 562-3066
Gainesville, FL
kristin@footstone.com
footstonephotography.com



Ryan Caffrey Photography
(352) 316-4188
Gainesville, FL 32605
ryan@ryancaffreyphotography.com
ryancaffreyphotography.com



Jimmy Ho Photography
(352) 871-7217
4048 NW 37th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32606
info@jimmyhophotography.com
jimmyhophotography.com



Verve Studio
(352) 397-2824
2145 NW 147th Street
Newberry, FL 32669
www.vervestudio.com
krystal@vervestudio.com

Sweetwater is proud to be recognized
each year based on reviews from our clients.





625 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601
352-373-6760 • 1-800-595-7760
events@sweetwaterinn.com
www.sweetwaterinn.com