



How Much Should Guests Expect to Spend This Wedding Season?

Cost of attending weddings, bachelor/bachelorette parties and showers adds up fast

NEW YORK – March 28, 2018 – Wedding guests should be prepared to spend hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars per celebration this wedding season, according to a new Bankrate.com report. This includes the cost of attending the wedding, as well as associated events like bachelor/bachelorette parties and wedding showers. Click here for more information:

<https://www.bankrate.com/personal-finance/smart-money/cost-of-attending-wedding-survey-0318/>

The most expensive commitment comes with being a part of the wedding party. Members of the wedding party can expect to spend an average of \$728 on the wedding and related festivities of the bachelor/bachelorette party and wedding shower (including gifts, travel, attire and more). Northeastern wedding party members shell out even more than that, with an average all-in cost of \$1,070 to partake in all three events.

Attending a wedding for a close friend or family member when not part of the wedding party is not cheap, either. Guests attending those weddings and associated pre-parties spend an average of \$628.

Those attending weddings and related events for more distant friends/family members will experience some financial relief, comparatively, with a total average cost of \$372.

When it comes to gift-giving, Millennial guests (ages 18-37) seem to be less generous than the national average. Young adults report spending an average of just \$57 on wedding gifts when part of the wedding party, \$47 for close friends/family when not in the wedding party and \$48 for more distant relationships. The overall averages for people attending each type of wedding are \$153, \$116 and \$63, respectively.

“Wedding season can be a stressful time, and not just for the bride and groom” said Bankrate.com analyst Robert Barba. “While it’s fun to celebrate with friends and loved ones, the associated costs add up fast and can wreak havoc on your budget if you’re not prepared. It’s imperative to start planning early – open a dedicated savings account (<https://www.bankrate.com/banking/savings/rates/>) to start your own wedding fund. However, you shouldn’t go into debt to celebrate others. If you feel you can’t afford the financial burden of attending, think twice before RSVPing.”

Bankrate.com commissioned YouGov Plc to conduct the survey. All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2,228 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between March 7 – 8, 2018. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all U.S. adults (aged 18+).

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