**FAQs**

1. How does booking/payment work?

Once an agreement has been made verbally/in writing I will send out an invoice. At the bottom of the invoice are payment info and details. I send one invoice, but all payment details, booking fee and the remainder of the payment due, will all be detailed on the bottom of the invoice.

I ask for 50% of the total cost as a non-refundable booking fee (payable by bank transfer; I do not accept cheques) so that I can reserve the date for you. The remaining 50% of the total is payable on the day of the event itself. After booking and ceremony songs (applicable to wedding bookings only. It is only applicable if you have booked the ceremony as your booking or part of your package) have been decided and any details discussed, I will be in touch about a week before the event in order to check in with you.

1. Is travel included in the quotation?

Yes it is - travel is calculated by the number of miles I would drive to the venue and back from my home in Brentwood, Essex (CM13) at the recommended Musicians Union rate of £0.45 per mile (and tolls, congestion charge if applicable). This covers the cost of the petrol, maintaining a very large car to transport the harp, in addition to the costs involved with moving the harp. However, if free parking is not available at the venue this will be added to the total which has been quoted.

I ask that you arrange with the venue to reserve a parking space, labelled ‘harpist’ which is closest to where I will be performing so that I can set up (preferably a large one!).

3) ONLY APPLICABLE TO WEDDING CEREMONIES - For which parts of the ceremony should I select music?

I will play a selection from my repertoire list for 20 mins prior to the ceremony as the guests are being seated. Select music from my repertoire list for:

-the entrance of the wedding party (x 1 song)

-the signing of the register (x 2 songs)

-the exit of the married couple (x 1 song)!

Please note religious music is not permitted for civil ceremonies.

4) What if we would like a song which isn’t included in your repertoire list?

I do have a rather extensive and varied repertoire, but if there is a song which isn’t on my repertoire list which you would like to be played, let me know and I will look into it for you to see whether it is possible and a harp arrangement would be suitable!\* I’m always open to suggestions! If the music is suitable to be played on the harp I charge an additional fee depending on where I have to source it from (the cost of the music itself, delivery, currency conversion charge and import taxes as it’s often from America), just to cover the cost of purchasing the music.

\*Please note this is applicable to weddings for the ceremony song choices only.

5) Can you move the harp easily?

The harp is a very large and heavy instrument. I have a specially designed trolley which I use to move it, as the harp is far larger and heavier than me! I would need some help to move the harp up a flight of stairs, but I am happy to move it myself short distances along flat surfaces and up the occasional step!

**Please let me know what the access to the venue and the rooms which I will be performing in is like (including any photos of any staircases – straight or spiral which I would be required to use) so that I can assess if the staircase would be wide enough for my harp trolley and feasible to get the harp up.**

6) Can you play outside?

Yes absolutely! Dependant on the great British weather of course! Besides the rain, as long as the weather isn’t too windy - it’s a yes! I do however require some shelter to protect the harp from direct sunlight and in case of a sudden change in weather! An awning is also very important if your event is being held outside in a woodland area as bird droppings would ruin this very expensive instrument! A flat surface is also needed for the harp. I have suitable matting to put underneath the harp for gravel/grass.

7) Do you have amplification?

No I don’t have amplification, but for most average sized weddings this isn’t necessary as the sound of the harp really does project.

8) Our wedding is being video recorded – does this affect copyright laws?

All musicians’ performances are subject to copyright so I would ask that you gain my written consent, when you book me, prior to the wedding if you are filming your event.

9) Do you offer a consultation?

Yes I can offer a consultation, but this cost is not included in the prices quoted. A consultation costs £80 per hour and would be held at my home in Brentwood where we can discuss everything to do with your wedding. I run a very busy teaching practise too, so we would have to find a convenient time for everyone during a weekday.

10) What time will you arrive at the Venue?

I normally arrive 30-45 minutes before I am due to start playing in order to set up.

11) What are your set times?

When playing for longer than one hour I do take regular short breaks as it is not very good for the back to be sitting at the harp for longer than an hour at a time.