

ASTON MARINA



The Boat House

The
hideaway

CONFERENCES
& EVENTS



Stone Group Ltd - Case Study Conference Event Using All Event Spaces on 5th September 2022

We initially enquired at Aston Marina in January 2022 as we were looking for a luxury venue to host a conference for our organisation.

We were looking for something a little different and not a city centre hotel or conference centre so the beautiful waterside nature and deluxe conference venues offered at Aston Marina appealed.



Expecting up to 150 attendees, we required one large conference room & three to four smaller breakout rooms.

We received a very timely response from Aston Marina's events co-ordinator, who had provided a detailed quote based on our requirements for their large conference venue The Boat House as well as suggesting that we may want to consider their newest smaller venue, The Hideaway, to provide the additional breakout space we required.



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Upon reviewing the quote, we arranged a convenient time to view the spaces available. Prior to viewing the venue, we called Aston Marina to check available dates and the team could not have been more helpful.

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

The events manager was aware of everything we had discussed to date. The date we required was available & was provisionally booked for both The Boat House and The Hideaway for two weeks, with no obligation, to allow time for us to view the venue and consult with the multiple parties involved in the booking whilst safe in the knowledge that the date was reserved.

We attended our venue viewing & upon arrival loved the peaceful countryside atmosphere and beautiful views over the water.

The Boat House is a gorgeous open plan barn style venue with beautiful lighting and two fully glazed walls with bifold doors to ensure you really make the most of the outside space.

The Hideaway is smaller and extremely comfortable with countryside views and a cosy fireplace. The team were helpful and really took on board what was important for us and tailored plans accordingly.

Following our visit we stayed for lunch in the No.26 restaurant. Lunch was delicious and confirmed to us that the catering side of things would be well taken care of by the award winning chef team.





The Boat House





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The
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Before leaving we had another walk around the entire venue to discuss our plans and the information provided. Whilst doing so we saw The Potting Shed and four waterside domes, which would provide several further breakout spaces that would be beneficial to us.


The domes are completely transparent igloo style pods on the decking overlooking the marina. The Potting Shed has it's own quirky design, seating up to 20 people and is located on the waters edge set in its own garden.

We were delighted to learn that we could exclusively hire these additional spaces, everything seemed perfect, so we added the four domes and Potting Shed to our provisional booking.

Once we had confirmed our itinerary for the day, Aston Marina updated our quote to reflect this, took into consideration our timings and included catering requirements for breakfast, breaks and lunch.

The Boat House provided our main conference base, with theatre style seating for 140 guests and buffet stations throughout the day.

The Hideaway was to be used for our vendor showcase, with 8 vendors exhibiting each with a 6ft trestle table & refreshments available.

A scenic view of a marina with a boat and trees reflected in the water. The background shows a clear blue sky and some bare trees, suggesting a cool season. The water is calm, reflecting the sky and the boat. The boat is white with a blue stripe and has a cabin. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box.

As we required additional breakout spaces, we also hired The Potting Shed and all four Domes to provide these private spaces with the added benefit of having stunning views over the marina and surrounding countryside.

We were very pleased with the quote and how things had been adapted to suit our requirements, so confirmed with Aston Marina we would like to proceed. The booking confirmation process was very smooth and easy, with an electronic copy of the terms & conditions sent via DocuSign which meant we could easily complete and return. Upon completion of this we received an invoice which clearly showed details for payment. We received a receipt for our payment within 24 hours of making our payment.

At this stage there were several months to go before our event. Aston Marina continued to respond promptly to all questions that arose as our plans developed and the team were very helpful, with all queries answered within a maximum of 24 hours. One particular example of this was, two months prior to the event, circumstances arose that meant a couple of our key staff would no longer be available on the booked date of our event.

We contacted Aston Marina immediately to ask if there was the possibility of transferring our booking from the Monday to the Tuesday. The team made this effortless and confirmed that they were able to offer the date change.

This was very much appreciated and the transfer to the new date was smooth, simply involving completion of a new booking agreement.

With our event fast approaching, several members of our vendor team wanted to have a look around the Aston Marina venues to finalise plans regarding our set up.

We contacted the team and were promptly booked in with one of the managers to discuss ideas. The manager greeted us upon arrival and was extremely helpful in explaining the various layout options available in each of the four event spaces that we were hiring, taking into account both the set up we envisaged but also providing great advice to ensure the smooth running of the event and all round fantastic guest experience.

We proceeded to confirm our final guest numbers 28 days prior to the event in line with Aston Marina's booking process, however when 20 additional guests confirmed less than two weeks prior to the event it was no problem for the team to accommodate.





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We also arranged for some equipment to be delivered directly to Aston Marina the day before our event, which the team received & stored appropriately for us, before making sure this was in the required venue spaces ready for our arrival on the day.

On the day of the event itself, the team were a credit to Aston Marina - friendly, professional and always available when we needed; co-ordinating the catering, assisting with the set up of our AV & directing attendees to the relevant spaces as required.



Our overall experience with Aston Marina was fantastic and our event a huge success, with many lovely comments from our attendees regarding the stunning waterside location, beautiful venues & excellent service.

The inclusion of facilities such as a projector & screen, integrated sound system, 4K TV, complimentary high speed Wi-Fi and free on-site parking were great.

We will certainly be looking to host future events at Aston Marina and would highly recommend the venue.



For me, it had to be seeing my wife for the first time in her dress walking down the aisle with our daughter – she took my breath away. One of our many highlights for Stacey was seeing the bride – this was a surprise for her, and the ‘icing on the cake’ when all our guests joined in.



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