

What Is a Reasonable Budget for Wedding Catering?

brownbrotherscatering.com/what-is-a-reasonable-budget-for-wedding-catering



Planning your big day comes with plenty of decisions, and one of the most significant is your catering budget. After all, the food and drinks are a highlight for guests and a major factor in the overall wedding experience. At Brown Brothers Catering, we're here to help you understand what a reasonable budget looks like and how you can make the most of it.

Average Cost of Wedding Catering in 2025

On average, couples in 2025 are spending between \$25 and \$100+ per guest on wedding catering. Here in Utah, that range tends to lean slightly lower thanks to local vendor competition and venue flexibility. The price depends largely on menu style:

1. **Buffet:** \$25 to \$45 per guest
2. **Plated Meal:** \$45 to \$75 per guest
3. **Cocktail Reception:** \$30 to \$60 per guest

At Brown Brothers Catering, we tailor packages that fit your vision without compromising quality.

AVERAGE PER-GUEST PRICE		
		
Buffet	Plated Meal	Cocktail Reception
\$25 to 45 per guest	\$45 to 75 per guest	\$30 to 60

Wedding Catering Budget Breakdown

Per Person Catering Cost

A realistic budget starts by multiplying your guest count by the average cost per person. For example, 100 guests at \$45 per person equals \$4,500.

Hidden Costs to Consider

Make sure to factor in:

1. Taxes and gratuities
2. Staffing and serving fees
3. Equipment rentals (tables, chairs, linens)
4. Setup and cleanup
5. Cake-cutting and beverage service

Our team is transparent about pricing so you're never caught off guard.

HIDDEN COSTS

- ☒ Taxes
- ☒ Rentals
- ☒ Gratuity
- ☒ Staffing

What Influences Wedding Catering Prices?

Type of Cuisine

High-end entrees like filet mignon or seafood will cost more than a comfort food buffet.

Service Style

Buffet and food truck options are typically more affordable than plated dinners or family-style service.

Customization & Dietary Needs

Requests for vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, or allergy-friendly options can affect overall pricing.



Utah Wedding Catering Budget Examples

We've catered hundreds of weddings throughout Utah and offer flexible packages to suit every price point:

1. **Budget-Friendly Package:** \$30 per guest (buffet, two entrees, sides, dessert)
2. **Standard Package:** \$45 per guest (plated, three-course meal)
3. **Premium Experience:** \$65–75 per guest (multi-course, signature stations, dessert bar)

Pro Tip: Consider a brunch or weekday wedding for even more savings!

WEDDING CATERING PACKAGES FOR UTAH COUPLES

BRONZE

\$30
per guest

Water
& lemonade
Appetizers

SILVER

\$45
per guest

Water
& lemonade
Appetizers
Dinner

GOLD

\$75
per guest

Water
& lemonade
Appetizers
Dinner
Dessert

How to Plan a Wedding Catering Budget

Set Priorities

Decide what matters most to you—gourmet food, elegant presentation, or variety.

Estimate Guest Count Early

More guests mean more food—and more cost.

Get Multiple Quotes

We offer complimentary consultations and customizable menu options to meet your goals.



FAQs About Wedding Catering Costs

Why Choose Brown Brothers Catering?

We're not just a Utah caterer—we're an award-winning team dedicated to making your special day unforgettable. Our food is fresh, beautifully presented, and always delicious. From intimate receptions to large-scale celebrations, we bring expertise, flexibility, and heart to every event.

Let's Talk Budget—Get a Quote Today!

Ready to build your dream menu? Tell us about your wedding vision, and we'll create a custom catering experience that fits your budget.