

For a wedding reception far from home, schedule flowers to arrive near the event, while leaving enough time to set them up and handle delays. Work backward from the reception, check when the venue will allow access, and decide who will receive and look after the arrangements.

Plan around the reception timeline

Guest arrival is not necessarily the right point to use when planning delivery. Ask the venue when a person can enter, where deliveries should go, and when tables will be ready. This matters because centerpieces cannot be set out until the tables are in place, and staff may need time to show a driver where to go.

Give the flower supplier the reception start time and the venue's access rules. With those details, the supplier can recommend a delivery window that fits the flowers and the conditions at the site. If the ceremony is at a different location, allow time to transport any flowers you want to use again. Decide in advance who will move them, since you may be occupied with other wedding plans.

Leave some flexibility in the schedule. A journey may take longer than planned, or a driver may need extra time to find the correct room. But an early delivery only helps if there is a suitable place for the flowers to wait. Ask where they can be kept safely rather than assuming they can remain in a hallway or another unattended area.

Decide where to source the flowers

Ordering from a florist near the reception can spare you from carrying arrangements over a long distance. Ask about delivery and setup, then provide the venue address, contact information, permitted access hours, and a clear list of what you need. Name someone who can accept the flowers if you are still traveling or getting ready. A designated contact helps prevent a delivery from being left without care.

If you intend to bring flowers from home, think through the journey and how the arrangements will be secured. Water may spill, stems can move, and delicate petals can be harmed by heat or pressure. Keep flowers away from direct sunlight and heating vents during transport. If you are flying, check the relevant transport rules beforehand, especially for an international trip or a border crossing.

For flowers sent in a box, read the supplier's delivery instructions and check that the venue can accept the package. Someone may need to open it, put the stems in water, and arrange or position them. A sealed box should not be left unattended until the reception: the flowers may need attention soon after arrival.

Write down the delivery plan

A brief plan shared with the people involved makes the handoff easier before the room fills with guests. Include names and phone numbers as well as times. That way, a delayed driver or a venue contact can reach the right person without searching for details.

1. Confirm the reception start time, when the room is available, and when tables will be ready.
2. Set a delivery window and name the person who will receive the flowers.
3. Allow time to unpack, arrange, or place the flowers, based on what you have ordered.
4. Confirm a cool, shaded place to keep them, and access to water if the stems need it.
5. Review the arrangement with the venue and supplier before you travel, including what to do if delivery runs late.

Keep the instructions clear enough for someone else to carry out without asking you to coordinate each step. Weddings involve many people and moving parts, so knowing where the flowers belong and who is responsible for them makes a distant reception easier to manage.

A related guide: source