



Whether you're planning a family reunion or a surprise birthday party, we're here to help! At [Devou Park](#), we've been helping friends, families and neighbors host their special events for more than 15 years. We've learned a lot along the way, and we're honored to share that expertise with you.

We hope the information in this guide will ease your planning and make the process as enjoyable as the celebration itself.

Best of luck. We're here if you need us.

– The Devou Events Team

WHERE'S THE PARTY?

If you answer yes to any of the following questions, you might want to forgo a house party and consider reserving an event space for that family reunion or surprise birthday bash you're planning.

- 1 Will I have more than 100 guests?** For their comfort and your peace of mind, rent a venue. In addition to enough space, restrooms and parking for everyone, you'll also have a professional to help you coordinate things.
- 2 Will I be serving lunch or dinner?** You'll want someplace big enough to seat your guests comfortably, while maintaining plenty of room for socializing and possibly dancing.
- 3 Do I want variety?** If you'd like your guests to be able to celebrate both indoors and outdoors, consider a venue with proximity to green space, like a public park or golf course.

ASK THE EXPERT

The Devou events staff is here with answers to the questions we're asked most often.

Q: Why should I host my party at an events center instead of at home?

A: Because you want to enjoy the celebration, too! Whether you're planning a birthday bash, retirement party or family reunion, you're going to want to spend time with friends and family just like everyone else. When you work with an events space like ours at Devou, a coordinator will be on-hand to manage catering, answer questions and handle potential problems, so the only thing you have to worry about is having fun.

Q: Should I have assigned or open seating at my event?

A: If you plan to host more than 100 people, I recommend assigning each guest to a table and using an alphabetized seating chart to direct them there. Open seating is often confusing, inefficient and stressful for guests. Save time and prevent drama by having a designated spot for everyone.

Q: My budget only covers venue rental and catering. How can I cut costs elsewhere?

A: If you have the capacity, consider DIY. Make your own invitations instead of paying a professional or consider serving homemade sweets for dessert rather than hiring a bakery. You'll save money while enhancing your event with personal touches.

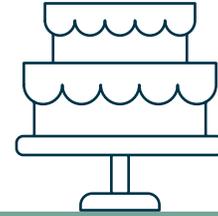


Scott Mescher is the Executive Director of Devou Golf & Event Center and Drees Pavillion at Devou Park



Bon Appétit

The food you serve at your party can influence the ambiance as much as the venue, music or theme. Our breakdown of popular catering styles can help you determine which is right for you.



Plated	Buffet	Stations
Formal	Casual	Active
Servers deliver each course to guests.	Guests serve themselves from a buffet line.	Guests serve themselves or are served by attendants at food stations.
Guests request their meal in advance, usually when they RSVP.	Guests choose from a limited selection of main dishes and sides.	Guests choose from a variety of options, usually grouped according to themes like "Italian" or "Night at the Ballpark."
One main dish per guest, usually chicken, fish or vegetarian	Guests can try multiple main dishes, usually beef, chicken or vegetarian.	Guests are encouraged to sample multiple small plates of a variety of food.
Service stops immediately after plates are served.	Service continues until the buffet line is closed.	Service remains open most of the evening.
Limited guest interaction	Some guest interaction	Considerable guest interaction

ON THEME

From costumes, props and decor, a theme is a great way to personalize your event and inspire guests to get involved. Here are a few of our favorite party themes to get your wheels turning.

- The Roaring 20s
- The Crazy 80s
- Dynamic Duos
- Beach Party
- Anchors Away
- Mardi Gras
- Cinco de Mayo
- Casino Royale
- Under the Sea
- Emerald City



BY THE NUMBERS

Keep these helpful facts in mind as you plan your next party.

- Send invitations up to **six weeks** before your event.
- Schedule your party for **three to four hours**.
- The combined cost of food and venue should be **no more than half** of your overall budget.



Celebrate at Devou



DREES PAVILION

In addition to unparalleled views of Cincinnati and Covington, the [Drees Pavilion](#) offers a welcoming reception center and cozy outdoor terrace designed to make your event as special as the milestone you're celebrating.

With a dedicated team of guest services professionals and culinary experts, Drees Pavilion provides a thoughtful and accommodating experience for weddings, anniversary parties, charity events, corporate meetings, retreats and more. It is an unforgettable space worthy of your most memorable moments, with the flexibility to celebrate your story in an individualized way.

DEVOU ROOM

Overlooking the pristine ninth green of our golf course, the [Devou Room](#) at Devou Golf & Event Center is a charming space designed with intimate gatherings in mind. From wedding ceremonies and seated dinners to corporate meetings and birthday parties, our reception hall offers versatile floor plans and unlimited style options for an experience that is as distinct and authentic as you.

Designed by the award-winning firm Hub + Weber, the Devou Room reflects the stunning beauty of the surrounding landscape while also paying tribute to Devou Park's storied history.

No matter the reason, we're delighted to bring families, friends and communities together to enjoy one another's company and make lasting memories in a unforgettable setting.



Our expert event coordinators would love the opportunity to meet you and discuss how we can make your event special. To schedule a tour, please call us at (859) 431-2577 or email us at events@exploredevoupark.org.

