

Booking Prices, Policies & FAQ

FAQ

Are Gwen's performances appropriate for audiences with children?

Yes, all of Gwen's performances are completely family-friendly and appropriate for children. Children tend to enjoy the show as much as the adults. They get very excited about the music, the dancing, as well as the beautiful costumes.

What kind of music will we hear during the performance?

Gwen has a large collection of performance music that she uses for her shows, ranging from classical to modern Arabic pop. She may also use; Lebanese, Greek, Armenian, or Persian music. However, you will need to provide a sound system that plays burned CDs, or an iPod.

This is my first Belly Dance show? What can I expect when I am in the audience?

When seeing a show at a restaurant or party, you may not be sure what is acceptable behavior and what is not. No problem; it is from another culture after all. Just follow the tips below...

Dancers love their audience to:

1. **Clap along** with the music; also after she finishes a song.
2. **"Zaghareet"**, a sound women sometimes make by moving the tongue quickly and using a loud, high-pitched voice. Sometimes Americans find this to be startling since it is usually so loud. But don't be scared! This translates as, "Great Job!" and "We're excited to see the dancer!"
3. **Dance** along with the dancer, especially if invited by her. Just make sure you...
 - Keep an appropriate distance from the dancer, especially if you are male.
 - If you're not sure what to do, just follow her lead. Belly Dance is for EVERYONE after all.
 - Do not approach the dancer if she is balancing fire or sharp objects.
 - NEVER, repeat, NEVER touch the dancer for any reason besides a hand shake.
4. **Take Pictures** of the performances. If you would like a posed picture with you and/or your friends, please wait until the dancer is done with her song before asking.
5. **Videotaping**, with a cell phone or otherwise is usually fine. But because some dancers are protective of their choreographies, musicians of their music, and other intellectual property, it is best to ask first. Most dancers will not have a problem with it. You can always ask your server/hostess to ask the dancer for you.
5. **TIP!** – a traditional part of the Belly dance experience.

How far in advance should I book Gwen?

To put it simply - the earlier the better! The earlier you book, the more likely she will be available. Especially during busier times of the year, for instance, during wedding and holiday seasons. However, if advance notice is not an option, please check with Gwen anyway. If she isn't able to perform for you, she has access to a network of other wonderful dancers that she can refer you to or arrange for you.

What if I want several dancers?

Gwen collaborates with many wonderful local dancers. If you are interested in more of an extravaganza, duet, or troupe performances, please email Gwen for rates and availability.

Is tipping appropriate?

Yes. Unless the host has requested otherwise, the dancer will gladly accept tips. Guests may hand Gwen money directly or throw money (bills only, please) above her head as a "money shower".

If you have a question that is not answered here, please email Gwen at Gwen@bellydancebygwen.com.

Price List (for local venues)

BellyGram - \$150 and up

5 min - Surprise that special someone on an important day. What a birthday surprise!

Classic Belly Dance Show - \$150 and up

10-15 min. - Want a little more than one song, but not a full show? This show is your best choice!

Complete Belly Dance Show - \$200 and up

20-25 min. - Ideal for large events including corporate functions and parties that want more audience participation.

Hourly Rate - \$300/hr and up

Gwen can do two(2) smaller shows with time between shows or provide "atmosphere" style entertainment for large Arabian-themed events or parties.

"Ladies Night" Lesson - \$100 and up

Have some fun with your girlfriends by learning some exciting dance moves you can use on any dance floor! Great for all-female events, like showers, bachelorette and hen parties!

Performance + Mini-Lesson - \$175 and up

Great for all-female events, like showers, bachelorette and hen parties! Or personalize your bellygram with a short 10-15 minute lesson.

Monthly or weekly restaurant or nightclub performances available at discount rates, as well as educational fairs/school bookings. Please contact Gwen for rate information and availability.

*Prices vary based on several factors including event type and size and travel time outside of the Frederick area. Special rates apply on holidays, as well.

Booking Agreement Policies

Sound System Requirement

You must have a sound system or DJ that can play burnable CDs, or an iPod - loud enough to fill the performance area.

Changing room / safe place to store Gwen's items

If a costume change or long wait time is required, you must provide a clean, well-lit private room where Gwen may change and wait to perform, and store her personal items during the performance. This may be a room, an office, a dressing room, but NOT A BATHROOM. (Special circumstances may excuse this requirement)

Space Requirement

You must provide a clean space with a solid/hard surface for Gwen to dance. Carpet is ok, grass/dirt is not.

Prompt Show Time

The performance will start promptly at the booked time or additional fees may apply (\$50/extra 15min).

Venue Permission

You must obtain permission from the venue owner/manager to have belly dance entertainment on site.

Cancellations/Reschedules

Clients may cancel up to 2 weeks before the event to get a full refund. The deposit becomes non-refundable within two weeks of event. You may cancel up to 72 hours before you are charged the remaining balance. For cancellations within 72 hours of event, client is still responsible for total fee (i.e no refund). If the show must be rescheduled (or the performance time adjusted) within 2 weeks of the original booking and Gwen cannot accommodate the date or time change, any monies paid will be applied to a future show, no expiration, no refunds. If Gwen is unable to make the agreed performance time due to unforeseen circumstances, all monies paid will be refunded.

Harassment

Gwen's shows are family friendly and she expects your guests to keep things family friendly too. Any guest(s) at your event behaving inappropriately towards or harassing Gwen without being dealt with promptly, will be grounds for immediate show termination.

Book a Show Now!