



Step-by-Step Hosting Checklist for Innkeepers

Use this checklist to confidently plan, price, promote, and host your own murder mystery weekend event. Designed for bed and breakfast owners and innkeepers.

Before You Book

- Choose your murder mystery theme
- Decide on open enrollment or private group booking
- Set minimum guest or room requirements
- Select event dates (weekend recommended)
- Secure Night of Mystery for-profit license

4-6 WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT

- Collect guest names and email addresses
- Assign characters using Night of Mystery materials
- Email character packets to guests
- Encourage costumes & role prep
- Promote event on:
 - Your website
 - Social media
 - Night of Mystery community events page

1-2 WEEKS BEFORE

- Confirm final guest list
- Print host guides and game materials
- Plan awards/prizes (best costume, best actor, top sleuth)
- Finalize menu and dining schedule
- Prepare simple signage or decor (optional but fun!)

PRO TIPS FOR SUCCESS!

- Encourage costumes early
- Keep rules simple and supportive
- Let guests have fun—perfection not required
- Rotate themes to build repeat attendance



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Creating an EPIC Event

FRIDAY NIGHT: WELCOME

- Host dessert reception or cocktail hour
- Review basic game rules
- Facilitate character introductions
- Encourage mingling and early suspicion

SATURDAY DAYTIME

- Serve breakfast as usual
- Allow guests free time to explore
- Light reminders to stay in character
- Optional clue drops or casual prompts

SATURDAY NIGHT: MAIN EVENT

- Guests arrive in costume & character
- Serve dinner in courses
- Introduce gameplay segments between courses
- Announce the murder at the designated point
- Guide group sleuthing and accusations

AFTER THE MYSTERY

- Reveal the killer
- Hand out awards and prizes
- Encourage photos & social sharing
- Collect testimonials and reviews
- Promote your next themed weekend

Now all that's left to do is set the scene... and let the mystery unfold.

Ready to plan your first (or next) murder mystery weekend?

For Repeat Hosts: Buy 3, Get 1 Free Bundle

Many repeat hosts choose the Buy 3, Get 1 Free bundle to build a full season of mystery nights. This allows you to rotate themes, plan ahead, and scale your event calendar with less friction.

- Ideal for monthly or seasonal mystery series
- Rotate themes or repeat top performers
- Simplifies long-term slow-season planning

[FIND THE BUNDLE HERE](#)



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