



The White Dove Company

ESTABLISHED . 1991

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About Us...

The White Dove Company was the very first company to provide pure white homing doves for release at funerals, memorials and other events here in the UK.

We pride ourselves on achieving the highest quality of service by providing an unforgettable moment which can be personally tailored for individual occasions.

Over the past two decades The White Dove Company has provided doves for release at thousands of funerals, memorials and remembrance occasions.

The White Dove Company is a member of NAFD (The National Association of Funeral Directors) and SAIF (The National Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors).





How Our Service Works...

An experienced and smartly dressed dove handler will arrive with the dove(s) at an agreed time and place:

- At graveside
- Crematorium
- At the place of worship/prayers i.e. church, mosque etc...
- At the house before the funeral cortege leaves
- At the wake after the funeral
- A memorial site

Upon arrival the doves will be placed in single carriers or baskets. The family will be offered the choice to release the dove(s) from the equipment or by hand. Our experienced dove handler will be there to assist them throughout.

Our doves can be released from almost anywhere, and they are trained to navigate home.

The family will receive personalised memorial cards with the deceased name printed on them, plus (subject to availability) naturally moulted white feathers in a small keepsake bag.



The Release Options...

- **By Single Carriers** - our elegant hand held dove carriers are perfect for family members who wish to release individual doves.
- **By Hand** - for those who wish to release the doves by hand, our dove handlers will assist them in holding the dove. Most people like to take a moment of thought before releasing.
- **From baskets** - we have various shaped and sized baskets.
 - * Smaller heart shaped baskets that hold from two to five doves.
 - * Larger oval baskets that hold from six to twelve doves.
 - * Large rectangle baskets that hold from twelve to twenty-four doves (the birds release in a streaming effect - one at a time seconds apart)

Personal Messages can be attached to the doves leg-ring. Messages should be written on soft paper (not card) 10mm x 40mm. The messages are usually and poignantly lost in flight.



The Symbolic Dove...

A Single Dove

Symbolises the soul and spirit of the deceased.

A Pair of Doves

Symbolic of the joining of two souls - perhaps the deceased is joining another who has departed.

The Trinity Release - Four Doves

The release of three doves, followed by a fourth single dove, to be escorted to heaven.

Friends, Family & Children

May each release a dove, All making their own individual contribution. Young children may find it hard to understand death. The release of a dove will provide a lasting memory to hold onto.

A flock: 10 - 100 doves

Can be released to celebrate the life of the person who has died - perhaps the number representing their age.



Our Doves Are a Unique Breed...

Our pure white homing doves are the only breed of their kind in the world today. We believe that we are the only company in the UK to provide pure bred white 'doves' for release and not the large white racing pigeon!

The White Dove Company house around 200 working birds and 30 breeding birds.

Our original breeding programme involved crossing the common farm dove which is petite in size and can home from just 8-10 miles with the larger white racing pigeon, which can home from distances of 700 miles.

Year on year the hybrid birds were paired back with farm doves, until virtually all of the white racing pigeon blood was bred out to leave the unique breed of petite white dove that we use today.