



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

How soon do I need to book a wedding photographer?

There are many factors involved, but one of the most important is whether you will be getting married at a popular time such as the summer or at a holiday period. If so, then you will need to book at least 12 months in advance to get the date you want. I am taking bookings now that stretch 18-24 months in advance and the popular dates always get filled up first.

How do I choose a wedding photographer?

It's not easy to decide, but here are a couple of tips to make it easier:

- You must absolutely love the style of the photographer's work. Have a look at all the examples of my style on this website. They are a mixture of the elegant and timeless with a good selection of informal. This approach gives you a set of images that give a balanced view of the day.
- You must be able to forge a relationship with the photographer. You are likely to spend many hours with this person, and you need to have a rapport to get the best pictures.

I am very happy to provide references from brides who will tell you about their experiences with me as their wedding photographer.

Is wedding photography more expensive now than when my parents got married?

In terms of value, the simple answer is no. In the past, when your parents got married, wedding photography was mostly limited to formal set poses and there wasn't much album choice. Today's photographers can take many more pictures than before using digital technology, whereas their predecessors were limited by having to use rolls of film. There have been big changes in albums as well and mine are all custom-designed. They are constructed in traditional bookbinding methods, and I use the best suppliers in the world. This superior quality wouldn't have been available in your parents' day and that's why it takes longer to put albums together nowadays.

What about our engagement portrait?

All my clients receive a portrait session. This is a good opportunity for us to work together prior to the big day. It helps build trust and confidence in my ability to produce the outstanding pictures that you want

Can I get a discount for low season or weekday weddings?

The weekends in my diary get booked up much more quickly than weekdays, and I often have numerous requests from couples all requesting the same Saturday or Sunday. As I only attend one wedding per day, it limits the number of commissions that can be taken. Because of this, I do offer a reduced rate for people getting married on weekdays as there is more availability. It's the same great service and packages, for a little less money.

Someone I know has offered to do our wedding photography for £300 and give us the files.

There are photographers of all levels and experience all offering different prices for what looks like the same package. If a

photographer quotes a low rate, there's a very real risk they may not be able to produce the high quality pictures that you want. I have built up years of experience and have invested heavily in the correct equipment and ongoing personal development and training. I also hold professional liability and indemnity insurance to make sure that you, the client, are fully protected.

Why does our photographer have copyright?

This is standard practice across the photographic industry, and is a form of legal protection. As soon as a photograph is taken, the copyright is automatically afforded to the photographer. Any kind of reproduction of the images has to be agreed in writing with the photographer, .



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Will the wedding photographer call us if someone else requests a date we want (but haven't yet booked)?

All bookings have to be confirmed by signing a contract and paying a retainer, and I can't hold dates open for people. As a business, I have to take bookings on a first come first served basis. It also covers you too because once you have completed a contract and paid the retainer you know that everything is in place and your date is secured.

What if our photographer is ill on the day?

I am very lucky that, due to my position within the industry, I have a wide circle of colleagues who are at the same level and who could take over for the day. So far, this has never happened, but if it did, I would fulfill the rest of your package once I had recovered. If all else fails and something happens on the day which affects your coverage, I have indemnity insurance for your peace of mind.

Formal photographs – how much time should I allocate?

This depends on the pictures you want, and the size of the groups for the formal poses – so it can be from a few minutes to hours. As a benchmark, each formal picture will take about 3 minutes. I tend to limit my formal group shots to 10 or 12 because after that the bride and groom have usually had enough It's their day after all, and they want to enjoy it.

Can our friends take pictures at the wedding?

This is an exciting day for friends and family, and most will have a camera with them to record the memories. I welcome this as it provides lots of opportunities for unusual coverage. It is only a problem if guests get in the way of important shots – like the procession down the aisle. Also, other people taking pictures during formal group shots can slow everything down by distracting the guests. Remember that at the end of the day you are paying

your official photographer to get the photographs you want.

How many hours will our wedding photographer shoot?

This can be very confusing when you start to look for a photographer and find out exactly when they'll start and finish ... so I make it as easy as possible. Full day coverage is from bridal preparations till the end of the first dance. It doesn't matter if preparations start at 7.00 am and the first dance is 10.00 pm – there are no set number of hours with me. I also don't charge any extra to cover speeches or to stay longer than anticipated. Full coverage means full coverage.

Can I choose black-and-white, or colour for any shot?

As I shoot with digital equipment it is possible for any of your pictures to be converted to black and white from the colour original. Just discuss this with me as some may work better in one or the other. For album design I usually try and group colour or B+W on the same layout for consistency.

Do we design our wedding album?

I will ask for a list from your proofs of those pictures that you want

including in your album, and from this list I will design a layout that is then presented to you for approval. I think it important that we work together to get the finished result – but bear in mind that it is my job and if I think something won't work I will try and explain the reasons why.

What is colour correction?

Colour correction is a computer process by which your wedding photographer adjusts the photograph with regard to balance, tone, brightness to enhance the quality of the final print.

What does basic retouching cover?

This usually includes colour correction and the removal of any minor skin imperfections – you will still be able to recognise yourself, and this is why we use the word 'minor'.

What are the different types of wedding albums?

The matted wedding album is made up of pages in which photographs are hand-mounted to each page and surrounded by a mat, or border. Matted wedding albums can include one or more photos per page. A flush-mount album consists of photos or photo layouts mounted to the page without the use of mattes. The photos go to the very edge of the page, leaving no border. The flush-mount album style is sometimes called "magazine style" because the full-page layouts might remind you of a magazine spread, with numerous photographs assembled in interesting designs on each page. I provide both sorts and they are made by the best in the business. I am also able to provide albums that have a mixture of both and there are only two manufacturers



in the world who provide this, both the best at what they do, I have samples if you'd like to see them.

Can we keep the proofs?

Your proofs help you decide on what pictures to keep for your album and I provide them as a set of boxed prints which are yours to keep next to your album. This means that the album can be

dedicated to pictures you want included but you've still got copies of all the others.

I would like an album for my parents. How would this work?

The parent album is a popular choice and can either be a smaller copy of the main wedding album or one specifically designed just for them.

