

Simon Reville
Photography



FAQ
Weddings

When should I book a wedding Photographer ?

There are many factors to consider in answer to this question. What month will you be getting married and is this during the summer months or a holiday period. Should this be the case then you will want to book at least 12 months in advance. If you want a particular photographer to cover your day then you will want to ensure that the date is not already booked – it would be best checking with them before deciding on a date and venue.

How do I choose a wedding photographer?

Several things should help you decide on whom you choose for your wedding. You must love the style of his or her work foremost and who is able to tell the story of your day in the way that you want. However this is of no use if you are not able to forge a relationship with the photographer; you will be spending many hours with this person and to get the best pictures you need to build a rapport. Would you, in the course of your social life, find that you would be friends with this person – if the answer is YES then you are probably going to get the right person for the job.

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

Value wise the simple answer is no. In days gone by when your parents got married wedding photography was full of formal set poses and album choice was very limited. Due to photographers using film there were probably very few pictures taken compared with the photographer of today. There have been big changes in albums as well and many are custom designed by your photographer and are constructed using traditional bookbinding methods – all which were not available in your parents days. These changes mean that the album process takes many hours more than previously.

What about our engagement portrait?

Without doubt a wedding photographer will either include a portrait session in any packages he offers or as an add on option. This is a good way for both you and your photographer to work together prior to the big day. It will help build trust and confidence that your photographer will produce the outstanding pictures that you want.

Sometimes it is not possible for the same person to photograph both the wedding and engagement – possibly due to logistics of where you live as opposed to where the ceremony will take place.

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

As the business of weddings are still predominantly a weekend affair it means that dates are limited in the year. Many photographers will have the same requests for a single date many times over and as most only attend one wedding per day it limits the number of commissions that can be taken. Some will offer a reduced rate for people getting married on weekdays or at certain months of the year; some will offer added services to their packages, others just have one price as they feel that the effort involved is the same whatever the day or month.

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 and that means that there will be a broad range of prices for what looks like the same package. Some who cover weddings for such a low rate may not be able to produce the high quality pictures that you want. People who offer this service for such a low price may be either starting their trade or be part time. Professionals will have built up years of experience and will have invested much in the correct equipment (and backup equipment) – all will have professional insurance to cover them in the event that something goes wrong.

Why does our photographer copyright the pictures at our wedding?

This is standard practice and is a form of legal protection. A photograph once taken automatically has the copyright afforded to it. Copyright is in force for a period of seventy years AFTER the photographer dies. Any use that is subject to reproduction of the photographs has to be agreed in writing with the photographer. Should you envisage that this will be a problem then discuss it with your photographer.

Proofs – what are they?

These are the first photographs of your special day that you see. They will be used for you to decide which pictures you want in the design of your album. There are different ways that photographers provide these to you – they may be printed or be posted online in a gallery. You will find that proofs will only have had basic exposure and colour correcting and as such are unfinished. Your final prints will have been produced using all the retouching skills available to your photographer.

Single photographer?

Many photographers work on their own and do this for a number of reasons. They want to be in the background of proceedings and don't want the bride and groom to know that they were there, this enables them to capture natural unposed images to help tell the story of the day. You will have built up a working relationship with the single photographer as this is the person with whom you will have had meetings and email correspondence. The more interaction with a single photographer you have, the better the end result because you know each other.

Will the wedding photographer call us if someone else requests a date we have not yet booked?

Unless you have signed a contract and paid a retainer the date will not be held open for you. This is for both of you – you know your photographer is booked and contracted to cover your wedding and the photographer has a guaranteed income for that booking. This is why it is best to book your photographer as soon as you have decided on who you want.

What if we cancel our wedding?

First and foremost inform all vendors including your photographer; this should be done in writing and some photographers will have a specific form for the job. In most cases any retainer paid by you to book the date will be lost. Sometimes if the wedding date is close – all monies paid will be lost. You need to check with your photographer about his or her contract with regard to this. Sometimes a photographer will offer to refund some of the money if the date can be rebooked by them.

Why do prices vary between wedding photographers?

Many reasons exist as to why there are differing prices between photographers. A person who has been covering weddings for years and built up a good reputation will command a higher price than someone who is just starting out. Photographers who are part time can afford to charge less as they do not depend on the money to pay the bills. Some will still be building a portfolio and will again use the wedding more for experience rather than income. The time you are paying for is not just for the day itself - but for all the hours afterwards processing and designing your album.

What if our photographer is ill on the day?

Discuss this with your photographer as all will have some form of backup. Many are part of a circle of local photographers who will cover in the event of sickness.

Will our wedding photographer be taking pictures of me getting dressed?

For many this is an important part of the day and they want it documenting as for the rest of the day. The level of undress is entirely down to you and your photographer will be respectful of your wishes. Any moments you don't want covered won't be. Speak to your photographer about this part of your day so that both of you are aware of what is required and what makes you feel comfortable.

Formal photographs – how much time?

This depends on what you want and the size of the groups for the formals – so it can be from a few minutes to hours. As a benchmark – each formal picture will take about 3 minutes. You need to allow for people getting lost or drifting to the bar. Talk about the formal groups that you require and the pictures that you want alone. Your photographer will help you organize this beforehand so that it runs smoothly on the day.

Do I need feed my wedding photographer?

Your photographer will be able to answer this. Some require that they have a hot meal and for others a quick sandwich will be enough. Then there are those that bring their own food or who eat nothing whilst working. Most who want to eat will do so at the same time as you do – so important events are not missed.

Can our friends take pictures at the wedding?

For friends and family this is an exciting day and most will have a camera with them to record the memories. Photographers usually welcome this as it provides different opportunities for unusual coverage. The only time a photographer will complain is if guests get in the way of important shots – like the processional down the aisle. Other people taking pictures during formals can slow the process down by getting guests to look away whilst the professional is trying to get those all important groups. At the end of the day you are paying your photographer to get the photographs you want.

How many hours will our wedding photographer shoot?

How much do you want – what time do you want them to start and do you want the whole reception covered. Some will want coverage for the day after or the whole of the weekend whereas others just the ceremony. Most photographers will tailor a package to suit your needs and this needs to be discussed at your initial meeting.

Why is there a deadline for creating the album?

This is so the photographer can organize his schedule and give each and every customer the top level of service they require. Without a deadline some couples can take months to choose albums and designs. Prices can increase and the availability of albums can change. Check in your contract for any deadlines set by your photographer.

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

As the majority of photographers now shoot using digital equipment it is now possible for your pictures to be converted to black and white or sepia from the colour original. Discuss this with your photographer as some may require that you have all of one or the other; some may also choose for you – using their artistic skill.

Do we design our wedding album?

Different photographers will have different methods used to design your album. Some will ask for a list from your proofs of those pictures that you want including, others will present you with a finished album that they have designed, and most will be somewhere in the middle. The type of album you choose will have a bearing on the amount of input required.

What is colour correction?

Color correction refers to the 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 minor skin imperfections – you will still be able to recognise yourself and as such this is why it is termed – minor. For more detailed retouching – including removal of unwanted items – most photographers will charge an hourly fee.

What are the different types of wedding albums?

The matted wedding album is a series of pages in which photographs are hand-mounted to each page and surrounded by a matte, 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 matts. The photos go to the very edge of the page, leaving no border. Magazine or coffee table albums are similar in format to flush-mount albums. This design is 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. Talk to your wedding photographer about specific wedding album details and choices.

Can we keep the printed proofs?

These are a great way to decide on what pictures to keep for your album. Those photographers that offer this as part of their packages usually allow you to keep them. The format that you get them in can differ from loose single prints to a book with many images on a single page. If not offered as part of the package – many photographers can offer them as an added service.

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. Talk to your photographer about the options available.

Why does my print look different than on your website?

This can be due to the size of the finished print. Different cameras create an image of differing size – called a ratio. Some prints have to be cropped from the original size to fit a particular album or a certain frame size. 8x10 for example does not fit with a standard image from the camera – but is a standard frame size – so the image has to be trimmed to fit.

What Is A Boudoir Photography Session?

Boudoir photography sessions are tasteful photos that hint at sexiness. Every person has their own idea of what sexy is as well as what they are comfortable with. These sessions are cute, fun, sexy, flirty and even a bit sensual all the while maintaining your comfort level. They are often done as gifts for the groom before or after the wedding.