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Photography Helpful Information

Choosing wisely!

We always recommend that you meet us before deciding whether to book us as your wedding photographers. After all, you're inviting us to your wedding – only invite us if you like us! If distance is an object, then let's have a good chat on the phone. Tell us your plans, what you're excited about, and what you most want to remember afterwards. The better we know each other, the more relaxed you will be with us on the day, and the better you'll look in your photographs. Take a look at the complete wedding albums available on our website. Any photographer can show you a handful of great photos from each event but you need to see an entire wedding to get a feel for our ability. Are you happy that the quality is consistent? And is the overall style what you are looking for?

Planning to enjoy your day

We usually start our coverage with the bride's preparations. Think carefully about whether you would like this; it can add to your stress – but it can lead to some fantastic images! Alternatively we can be with the groom in the pub with his attendants, or – if you're close enough and time allows – do both!

We will then endeavour to arrive at the church or venue in time to capture your guests arriving and get some shots of the groom, best man and ushers. The most important thing for the bride to remember on arrival is to relax and take your time! This applies even if you are running a little late! If this is the case, we will take documentary images at this stage rather than hold you up any further, but do take time for a few deep breaths and to savour the moment with your dad and your bridesmaids. You don't get this moment again.

Think about how much formal group photography you want. Even if the two of you are happy for the day to be covered in an entirely reportage form, your parents and other relatives will probably expect to take part in a formal family group or two – and a good variety will make the most appealing album. Build in time to take these sorts of photos, at any time between the ceremony and sitting down to dinner.

Now we've all been to weddings where the photographer completely takes over and the group photos get tedious and boring. To combat this, we don't recommend more than about half a dozen such formal groups. These can be completed very quickly and won't interrupt the flow of your day.

It also really helps to choose ushers who between them know both families and can help to gather people together for these photos. We'll take plenty more photos while you mingle and chat with your guests, so don't allow the formal photography to take up all your time.

Having said that, plan to spend a few quiet minutes away from your guests at some time during your drinks reception. In a peaceful corner of the grounds the two of you can collect your thoughts and savour the commitment you've just made. These few moments will often yield some of your most beautiful photographs, as you relax away from all distractions and concentrate on each other.

If you are happy for us to do so, we like to present a slideshow during the reception of a selection of the pictures taken so far. It will not take centre stage, but plays continuously on a laptop in an appropriate corner of the room. Guests love this, and we have found it can often add interest at a time when there may be a natural lull in the day, such as at the end of dinner, or while the room is being made ready for the evening. Of course, if you don't want anyone to see your images before the two of you, that's fine too.

We can stay until you want us to stay. The basic price covers from your preparations until the end of the speeches and toasts. But if you have particular events you really want a record of – whether it's a round of golf with the boys in the morning, your first dance, or a surprise entertainment act late at night – we charge just £60 an hour for additional coverage.

Relaxing about the weather

We have photographed weddings in all weathers and at all times of year; you don't need bright sunshine for great photos so there's no need to worry about a cloudy day.

Remember to discuss with your venue what indoor spaces you will use if it is simply too wet for any outdoor mixing and mingling. When you do this, keep in mind your group photographs – ask for a room where you can get away from the crowds, ideally one with good natural light.

Choosing your photos

You are likely to have between 250 and 300 images to choose from! Three weeks after the wedding, all the images will be on your own page on our website. We can make this password protected if you wish. You can then view at leisure all the images from which to select as many as you want, and you can send us your order via this page. The first 70 are included in the price you pay, but you can have as many as you like!

This website also means that your family and friends, wherever they live, can see your photos and make their own selections. If you don't have access to the Web, we can produce the same thing on a CD-rom, or we can provide small printed proofs. Alternatively, we would love you to come and see us and we'll present your images on our big screen!

If you have any questions, want more advice on timetabling the day, or anything else at all, please feel free to call us.