

40 Wedding Photography Tips

Choosing a wedding photographer can be difficult with so many different styles, prices, albums etc out there. So with that in mind here are a few tips and questions to ask when speaking to or looking for a wedding photographer.

1. What style of photography do you like? Traditional posed style, semi formal but still posed or totally informal, candid photographs.
2. Do you want a story of how the day unfolds with photographs from you getting ready, your partner getting ready all the way to the first dance and possibly beyond?
3. Does the photographer charge extra for staying longer?
4. Will the photographer allow you to choose the photographs for your album?
5. Will the photographer give you a chance to help design the album?
6. How many images can you have in an album?
7. Is it a digital album or an old style print (also known as a matted album) album?
8. Will the photographer charge extra for black and white shots?
9. Will the photographer charge you extra for sepia or spot colour type shots?
10. Will the photographer charge extra for touching up your album photographs?
11. Does the photographer have a range of album sizes and shapes?
12. Does the photographer produce matching books for parents, grandparents or as gifts?
13. Do you get a CD of all the images as proofs?
14. Do you get a book of all the images as proofs?
15. Does the photographer charge extra for an online gallery?
16. How many pre-wedding meetings are included in the price?
17. Is there a pre-wedding (or Engagement shoot) included in the price?
18. Do the people in the sample albums look real? If not they may be models or actors! (Yes this does happen!)
19. Ask the photographer how long they have been working in photography
20. Ask the photographer how long they have been shooting weddings
21. Ask the photographer how they will cope with poor or bad weather
22. Has the photographer got insurance?
23. Is the photographer well groomed and smart in appearance?
24. Does the photographer have good manners and good communication style?
25. If the price range seems high for you, ask what added value the photographer adds, if the price seems to low think about the quality that may be on offer
26. Make sure that the photographer you speak to will be the one photographing your wedding. (Be careful of photographers saying they shoot more than 40 weddings a year.)

27. Does the photographer design the album himself or herself or do they 'out-source' this?
28. How long will it take to get the proofs back (CD or online)
29. Do you get a free print from the pre-wedding shoot?
30. Does your photographer send you a contract? (Be careful if it is all word of mouth or e-mails)
31. How much deposit is the photographer asking for?
32. Is the deposit non-refundable?
33. When will the photographer require final payment?
34. Can you pay by instalments?
35. Is the photographer prepared to give you a list of references from previous weddings?
36. Do they have backup equipment?
37. Will they work from a checklist of photographs that you want?
38. Beware of CD / DVD only packages at a very low price. (Sub £500 could mean that either an assistant is shooting the wedding or the photographer is not a full time professional.)
39. Do they visit the venue before the wedding to scout out good photo locations?
40. Are they prepared to 'chip-in' during the day? (Making tea, toast, helping to tie bride into dress, tips for the groom dressing, tie cravats etc)