

Peter Morgan

MORGAN JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY

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morganjamesphoto.co.uk

10 things to remember
when planning your
wedding

Interview with your
wedding photographer





“I just sobbed. They are actually perfect!” Carys Edwards

CONTENTS

FEATURES

04

Interview with
your wedding photographer

09

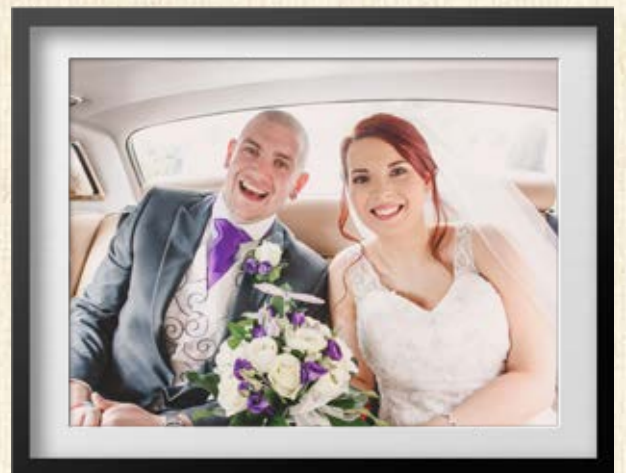
10 things to remember
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10

The Wedding
Timeline



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Interview with your wedding photographer



Q. How did you first get into photography?

A. I first got into photography to take better pictures of my children really. They came home from school one day and showed me the typical school photographs and they were awful. The photographer looked like he was having a bad day and with hundreds of kids to photograph on a tight deadline, they probably were. Practice and more practice led to me doing portraits and wedding photography became a natural extension of that as weddings are generally portrait photography at 100 mph.

Q. Why do you love wedding photography?

A. ***It's the best type of photography there is!*** On a typical wedding day the range of emotions and joy are vast. There's nothing quite as emotionally gratifying as getting the images that we know the couple are going to absolutely love for ever!

Q. Why should people choose your photography.

A. My vision stems from my personal love of making people happy and knowing what makes a great photograph and an amazing experience. When I design my packages, select my products and

take my shots I'm always thinking. ***How can I make this better?*** How can I give more value and provide a more complete experience from start to finish. I have so much invested in this because I ***LOVE*** weddings and I absolutely love being an important part of one of the most important days of their lives.

Q. What's your favourite shots to take?

A. Definitely the first look from dad. Important if he hasn't seen the dress on his daughter before. There'll be tears, almost guaranteed and that's what we want. True, raw emotion. That can't be faked. The first look back from the groom at the altar. They'll look back then look forward at me and smile and maybe try and hide the emotion. Let it out. The first dance I love as well. I try and group friends and family round the dance-floor to make for interesting framing for the couple plus it makes it great to see your friends and family sharing the moments with you.

Thank you for reading and I look forward to talking to you soon.

Peter

10

Get friends and relatives to help wherever possible. When I got married my sister in law, who is a dab hand at all things creative and arty, made our wedding invites and they not only looked fab but cost us SIGNIFICANTLY less, plus it felt like she was contributing to part of the day and she did an amazing job. That being said though, if a friend or relative offers to do the wedding invites for you ask them to make one up firstly as "you're evaluating which ones are going to go with your colour scheme the best" etc. Don't ever feel like you have to accept what others do for you if you don't like it. Remember it's your day and you should have what you want rather than what other people think you should have.

9

Etsy and Ebay! Do I need to say more? Actually there's lots of online stores that do great things that you just can't get anywhere else. Look online for things that are unique and represent you. Years from now looking back on your wedding it will look authentic rather than something that was in fashion at the time!

8

Don't forget to pick up the items you spent ages creating. Imagine this. You spent ages glueing things onto the centrepiece decorations, making them look perfect. The big day comes, you get a little tipsy (OK well maybe a lot) and forget about them. The cleaners have thrown away the hand made centrepieces, assuming you didn't want them. Not great. Assign someone to look after them (chief bridesmaid's job?) So you have something to look back on all those hard hours of work you managed to do.

7

Go Unplugged. Get a lot of cheap cameras and place them on the tables then tell everyone. **No phones at the wedding.** That saves you getting pop-ups on Facebook the next day with all your wedding shots on there. Honestly. We photographers hate that. Nothing worse than aunty Joan over your shoulder with an iPhone!!! Arrrrgh!!! Be in control of your own wedding!

6

Take some time out. Once the big day gets underway, you'll have no time for anything and time will fly. No time for yourself as you'll constantly be surrounded by SOMEONE!!! Mother in Law, Friends, Guests, etc. – you get the picture. Don't be afraid to tell people. "I have to go check my makeup" etc. and take 5 minutes out to breathe and relax.



10 things to remember when planning your wedding



I haven't been able to stop looking at the pics and they have literally taken my breath away" - Ceri Bracegirdle

5 Spend time talking to people but remember it's your day. Assign a bridesmaid to clock watch you in case you get trapped by elderly aunt Maude who is starting to tell you about the new teeth she got especially for the wedding....



4 Talk to your key speakers on the day before the speeches and let them know anything they need to know about your guests. A funny story maybe or things that have happened that day that meant the "groom might not have made it in time"

1 Thank you letters are a big yes. Remember to get the photographer to do a thank you shot. (If they are good they should remember this anyway) Makes sending things out much easier later and having an image that says thank you is always a good place to start.

3 Planning everything to the smallest degree will certainly ensure that things happen exactly as you like but remember that sometimes things do go wrong. It's the job of the Chief Bridesmaid/Maid of Honour and the best man to ensure that things all go to plan. So if the cake lady's freaking out as there's nowhere to put her cake.. Let the best man speak to the venue and sort it. You've done your bit by planning this and inviting them and now it's their turn.

2 Remember to thank all of your suppliers in your speech. We love that! One of the best things you can do for us as photographers is tell others how wonderful we are and that you're over the moon with what we do. Nothing sells our service more than a personal recommendation from a bride or groom. I've lost track of how many weddings I've booked through personal recommendation from other people. Truly a great act.



“From our very first meeting Pete’s energy and passion shone through and it was easy for us to decide he was the right person to capture our big day”

_____ Alice and Andy. _____



8:00 - 10:00 BRIDAL AND GROOM PREPARATION APPROX 2 HRS ON SITE

For consideration: hair, makeup, gifts, exteriors, interiors, champagne, breakfast, dress, shoes, garter, jewelry, cards, cars group shots with mum, dad, siblings, bridesmaids, flower girls, maid of honour, details, signage, dad first look.

12:00 - 1:00 CEREMONY APPROX 1 HR

For consideration: groom and best men, church interior, guests, taking seats, mum and dad's, dad/sibling walking bride down the aisle, groom first look, guest emotion, clergy, exchange of vows/rings, first kiss.

1:00 - 2:00 FAMILY AND GROUP SHOTS - MAX 1HR

For consideration: Elevated shot, bridal party, groom, groomsmen and friends, bride, best men and friends, bride and bridesmaids, groom and groomsmen, mum and dad's, siblings, close family.

2:00 - 4:00 CREATIVE COUPLE PORTRAITS - MAX 2HRS

For consideration: Close up (head and shoulders) behind and in front. Ring shots (hands and off if not captured earlier) 3/4 shots behind, in front, facing. bouquet shots, groom in focus, bride in focus, flowers in foreground, distance shot with landscape.

4:30 - 5:00 ANNOUNCEMENT AND ENTRANCE - 30 MINS

For consideration: photo couple outside room, both photographers ready inside, consider guests in way and shots of couples and bridal party at top table.

5:00 - 7:00 DINNER - MAX 2 HRS INCLUDING COFFEE

No photos during dinner but get postbox, gifts, cards, signs etc.

7:30 - 8:00 FIRST DANCE - APPROX 1 HR MAX

For consideration: Close up head and shoulders, dance shots, love letters, lighting, dj lights, mum and dad, father and daughter dance, full length of the dress. Any additional dancing and band etc.

8:00+ BOUQUET TOSS AND FINAL SHOTS

For consideration: Bouquet toss outside if possible, firework or band shots to consider and any last minute shots.

PLATINUM PACKAGE UP TO 12 HOURS OF COVERAGE
2 PHOTOGRAPHERS
30 PAGE FINE ART ALBUM (ANY SIZE UP TO 40 X 30)
2 MATCHING PARENT ALBUMS (ANY SIZE UP TO 8 X 8)
ENGAGEMENT SESSION
PASSWORD PROTECTED ONLINE ENGAGEMENT PROOFING GALLERY
6X9 MOUNTED SIGNATURE FRAME WITH 4" MOUNT
UP TO 100 SAVE THE DATE CARDS (ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES AVAILABLE)
USB DRIVE WITH 400 HI-RESOLUTION IMAGES AND 400 SOCIAL MEDIA SIZED IMAGES
HAND MADE 6X4 PRINT BOX INCLUDING 30 PRINTS.
PASSWORD PROTECTED ONLINE WEDDING PROOFING GALLERY
ACCESS TO ONLINE STORE FOR ALL ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS
30" X 20" PREMIUM CANVAS



GOLD PACKAGE UP TO 10 HOURS OF COVERAGE
2 PHOTOGRAPHERS
30 PAGE FINE ART ALBUM (ANY SIZE UP TO 30 X 20)
ENGAGEMENT SESSION
PASSWORD PROTECTED ONLINE ENGAGEMENT PROOFING GALLERY
6X9 MOUNTED SIGNATURE FRAME WITH 4" MOUNT
USB DRIVE WITH 400 HI-RESOLUTION IMAGES AND 400 SOCIAL MEDIA SIZED IMAGES
HAND MADE 6X4 PRINT BOX INCLUDING 30 PRINTS.
PASSWORD PROTECTED ONLINE WEDDING PROOFING GALLERY
ACCESS TO ONLINE STORE FOR ALL ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS



SILVER PACKAGE UP TO 8 HOURS OF COVERAGE
2 PHOTOGRAPHERS
USB DRIVE WITH 400 HI-RESOLUTION IMAGES AND 400 SOCIAL MEDIA SIZED IMAGES
HAND MADE 6X4 PRINT BOX INCLUDING 30 PRINTS.
PASSWORD PROTECTED ONLINE WEDDING PROOFING GALLERY
ACCESS TO ONLINE STORE FOR ALL ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS



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& Portrait Photographers

