

Wedding Style Guide



FOCUSIMAGERY
WEDDING FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY



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LUMINOUS - NATURAL - ROMANTIC



Introduction

Planning your wedding shouldn't be overwhelming. Quite the opposite, it should be an exciting and enjoyable process.

Your wedding should be a beautiful reflection of yourselves. Make sure you work out what is truly important and meaningful to you before you start planning.

Here are some key considerations for your wedding-

STYLE - There are many styles for a wedding, yet every wedding is different. Decide the overall look and feel of your wedding.

CONSISTENCY- Once you've decided on the overall look of your wedding, be consistent throughout. Trends can come and go, be true to your style.



SHARE THE LOVE - Enrol professional, experienced vendors who suit your style and personalities. Vendors have a wealth of knowledge and help you avoid pitfalls. They usually truly want to assist you to realise your dreams .

BE TRUE - For a truly meaningful wedding, stay true to yourselves and let that reflect throughout the look of your wedding. This is your day, get it all in place and then take your time and remember to enjoy it.

FOCUS imagery specialises in tropical weddings. These bring their own challenges, but we focus on you. Whether you choose a Palm Cove Wedding, Cairns Wedding, Port Douglas Wedding or surrounds, we aim to capture you in an artistic and relaxed way staying true to our brand's philosophy: Luminous ~ Natural ~ Romantic.

Please see our 'Advice' page on our website for further referrals.

Personal Style

From your colour palette to your music selection, your wedding should be a reflection of who you are.

How do you wish your day to look, feel, taste and smell?

What do you wish for your guests to remember?

What will make your wedding truly memorable and meaningful to you?

How comfortable will you be on the day, will it be hot and sunny, or windy and cool?

Less is often more, and elegance can be simple, and simple often means successful.



Engagement Shoot

Engagement shoots get you comfortable in front of the camera and this optimises results on your wedding day.

FOCUS offers free engagement shoots. These introduce you to your photographer and let you know the process we employ to capture you on your day.

They also provide you with a real time example of our product, removing this stressor from your wedding day, which should be relaxed and fun.

Engagement shoots also save time as we then work as a well-versed team on the day so you can concentrate on truly enjoying your special occasion.

We provide you with a clothing guide before the shoot, but again, we just want you to be yourselves. We aim to capture the real you.

Venue

The venue will really set the stage and style of your wedding. Find a location which will suit your style and which you will be comfortable at.

Consider finding a place that offers indoor and outdoor options in case of inclement weather. You may prefer a marquee with a sea view and hay bales. Wedding planners can really help you find your perfect location.

Do some research as sometimes the perfect venue for you may be somewhat obscure. For example, a row of tables in a field dressed to the nines in a boho picnic style.



RSVP

Choose invitations in the same style as you plan your day to look.

Invitations are more than just invites, they are your first chance to give your guests a feel as to how your day will look.

It lets people set aside your date and start to get excited about your dream wedding.

Keep the theme of your invites to match paperwork such as menus, place cards, table numbers and thank you cards.

Send your invites out early and remember to keep one for a memento of your special day.

Dress

When it comes to choosing your dress keep your options open.

Natural textures and tones will lend themselves well to beautiful wedding photography. Let your designer do what they do well, and help you choose a style to not only suit your body type, but maximise comfort on the day.

Think about the date of your wedding, will you be inside or outside? On a beach which may get hot and windy? Keep your dress in tune with both your style and your environment. Will you be having a long pictorial involving walking or climbing fences, or just in the local vicinity?

On a personal note, we have found simple dresses lend themselves best to film and photography.



Clothing

Pastel or natural bridesmaid's dresses often present the best for photography. This also helps enhance both the bride and groomsmen.

Ask your wedding Celebrant if they can match your colours, a small but impressive step.

If the groom and groomsmen will be wearing suits, have them tailored to fit. Consider accessories such as ties, braces, pocket squares etc which match the bridesmaid's dresses.

Practice tying your ties esp. if you choose a real bow tie, which look great draping your shoulders later, on the dance floor.

Again, consider comfort and the elements.

Hair

Consider choosing a stylist experienced with weddings. A good wedding hair stylist can advise you on which style will suit you, your dress and the elements. They will have the necessary products for their local weather conditions.

Look through their portfolio and reviews. Then book a trial appointment if possible and trust their advice because it's what they do.

Be careful of 'trends', stay true to yourself.

Your wedding morning should be relaxing so allow plenty of time for hair and makeup. Ensure your hair and makeup artist are aware of your schedule so you don't miss important photographs, pre-wedding ceremony.



Makeup

Choosing a makeup artist is a very personal process. Pick one experienced with weddings and look through their portfolio and talk them about your wedding plans.

Hair and makeup artists are with you a long time, so make sure you choose someone with the personality to enhance your experience.

Have realistic expectations to simply enhance your natural beauty. Less truly is more and heavy makeup can really present a photographic challenge, while melting makeup can ruin it completely. Remember we are in the tropics!

If you were planning on having a fake tan; please, reconsider. Fake tans are a photographer's nemesis. Your guests will not notice and unless you want all your wedding photographs in black + white you may be in for a disappointment. Trust me, it's not something that can be solved in Photoshop.

Accessories

You can really enhance the style of your wedding with accessories. Keep them simple yet beautiful. Head pieces and veils can really enhance your beauty and look magical and romantic in your photographs.

Bouquets, parasols and head-pieces for your wedding party not only look great but help your bridesmaids to really feel a special part of your wedding.



Ceremony

Probably the most important event of your wedding day. The celebration of your joining together as one.

Your wedding ceremony should feel intimate and beautiful. Have your celebrant invite your guests in close.

Consider the comfort of your guests and perhaps have refreshments at hand, or even hand out fans if its going to be warm.

Your celebrant should remind everyone to turn off their mobile phones. Consider having an 'Unplugged Wedding' - No phones or cameras. This not only ensures that everyone is truly present, but avoids ruining the photographer's and videographer's shots.

Pictorial

Your photographer/videographer will know all the great local spots and can work with you to keep your photoshoot consistent with your wedding's style.

Don't get too obsessed with lots of locations, as a good photographer will concentrate on you. One, maybe two, locations should suffice, and often just the immediate area will be enough, leaving you more time to enjoy your day and refreshments with your friends and family.

An engagement shoot will help save valuable time. Also, using a company that provides both film and photography ensures there is no competition for your time and participation.



Florals

Such a beautiful addition to your day. Although very personal, there is nothing like a fresh bouquet to make you look and feel special. Don't forget florals for your hair.

Talk to some local florists and ask for advice on what is seasonal. Wedding florists are insanely creative and skilful artists.

There is no limit to the amount of flowers you can have at your wedding. Decide which are the most important to you and remember you can use the same flowers from your reception to decorate your ceremony.

Your florist will give you advice on how to care for your flowers.

Decor

This is where professionals really come into their own, a good wedding stylist can really make your wedding.

Talk with your stylist about the look and feel of your wedding and try to make it bespoke. Have fun adding personal items or family heirlooms.

Consider lighting in order to bring a beautiful romantic ambience to your wedding. Perhaps a string of lights in an overhanging tree.

Really have fun with this and transform the space into your own.

There really are no limits.



Catering

You really want to take care of your guests who may have travelled from far and wide.

Have your caterer source local ingredients and let your guests have a local culinary experience.

If your wedding is outdoors, food vans are less formal and an excellent new option. This allows your guest to eat at their leisure, while mixing with other guests. Tapas menus offer a similar experience and can make your guests feel special.

Finger food throughout the day is a great way to keep your guests comfortable as well as perhaps soaking up the alcohol for those who may need it.

Food most certainly is the most popular subject we hear mentioned.

Entertainment

This really is one of the most important parts of your wedding. A good band, singer, DJ or compere will read your guests and provide the right energy at the right times.

You can relax and enjoy your reception leaving the responsibilities in their hands.

Please don't be tempted to save on this by opting for technology to stand in. For multiple reasons you are setting yourselves up for a fail.

Subtle as they may be, a good entertainer can really make your reception. After all who doesn't love live performers?

Consider having your cake cut and speeches early, leaving time for your guests to relax and let their hair down.



Cake

Weather permitting, make sure your cake is on display for your guests to view and photograph.

To avoid disappointment book your cake early if you are getting married in wedding season.

Choosing a cake is surprisingly complex so talk to some local cake makers and find out what will suit you.

We have advice on choosing a cake on our website.

Enjoy your tastings.

Timings

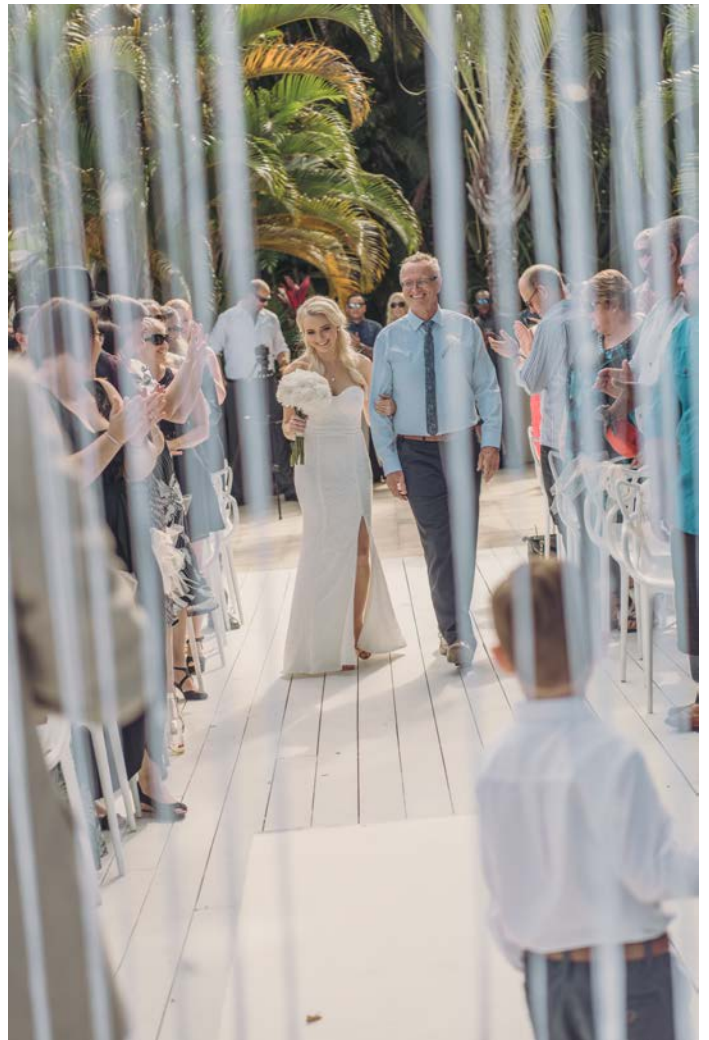
Your wedding day will evaporate before your eyes. Try to slow down and take it all in, while also having fun.

To help with this, factor in extra time for all your activities. It's far better to have a glass of champagne on the verandah with your girls than it is to be rushing to your ceremony.

A wedding planner really is invaluable in allowing you to relax and enjoy yourselves while knowing they have it all in hand.

FOCUS will provide you a free run sheet for the day and we also keep an eye on the clock for you.

Remember - Nothing ever goes wrong. Enjoy your day.



Heirlooms

Your photographs are your memories. In this digital world remember to back up your images in multiple places.

However, nothing beats the look and feel of a beautifully crafted wedding album.

We urge you to consider opting for an album, you won't regret it. FOCUS sources our albums from Europe which are truly beautiful works of art. Please ask us to see an example album. You will be impressed.

Cheap print labs can be disappointing, due to poor colour render and cheap papers. Ask your photographer for the print lab that they use so they match our colour index.

FOCUS provides the details of our professional print lab to our clients so your products will be perfect. We also deliver your film and photos via beautiful online sites.





About FOCUS

We aim to capture your day with our timeless, beautiful, artistic style of film and photography.

We put equal emphasis on both mediums and make sure we get it right, while having fun.

We take up as little of your day as possible whilst creating beautiful memories. We offer light direction, rather than contrived posing. This typifies our unique and natural style.

We aim to capture the real you with our candid style. You rarely even look at the cameras, yet we tell the story of your day, thereby perfectly reflecting who you are as a couple.

We are there when you need us to be, helping to make your day run perfectly and yet at other times you will not even notice us.

We always remember that this is *your* day.





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WEDDING FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY

Suppliers list

Venue

<https://www.castaways.com.au>
<https://www.kewarra.com>
<https://www.executiveretreats.com.au>
www.mulgravegardens.com.au
<https://www.lancemore.com.au/alamanda>
<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/crnhitw-hilton-cairns/>
<https://www.pullmanpalmcove.com.au>
<https://www.marriott.com.au/hotels/travel/cnssi-sheraton-grand-mirage-resort-port-douglas/>
<https://silkyoakslodge.com.au>

Dresses

<https://www.whitelilycouture.com.au>
<https://www.jonoviabridal.com>
<https://www.queenslandbridal.com>
<https://chaneljaymesbridalboutique.com.au>

Florists

<https://www.rainflowers.com.au>
<https://www.idoflowerscairns.com.au>
<https://stellaflorist.com.au>
<https://nineblooms.com.au>
<https://www.flowersnlace.com.au>

Caterers

<http://www.chriso.com.au>
<https://www.coralcoastcatering.com.au>
<https://www.portdouglascatering.com.au>
<https://www.nunu.com.au/catering>

Music

<https://tonygeorgeentertainment.com.au>
<https://www.millenniumweddings.com.au>
<https://www.electricdreamsentertainment.com.au>
<https://www.cairnspremierentertainment.com.au>
<https://www.drewboy.com.au>
<https://www.steverockman.com.au>
<https://www.janelinstead.com.au>

Planners

<https://www.maidofhonourweddings.com.au>
<https://www.spb.com.au>
<http://cairnsweddingplanner.com.au/cairns-wedding-planners/>
<https://weddingtreasures.com.au>

Hair + Make Up

<http://www.mariamorrison.com>
<https://www.eventsmakeupandhair.com.au>
<http://tropicalbeauty.com.au>
<https://cairnsweddingmakeup.com.au>
<https://cairnsbridalhair.com.au>
<https://www.innergoddesshair.com>

Cake Makers

<https://www.passionforcakes.com.au>
<https://www.cairnsweddingcakes.com.au>
<http://www.cakesannietime.com.au/wedding-cakes/>

Decor

<https://www.twotribestyle.com.au/>

<https://weddingtreasures.com.au>

<https://www.thecollectionco.com.au>

<https://www.stellabydesign.com.au>

Groovy Food and drink Vans

<http://www.thehungrynomad.com.au>

<https://www.thebedfordbar.com.au>

<https://www.kombikeg.com/australia/cairns/>

<https://www.thesoireevan.com.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/tacolocomobilecantina/>

Suit hire

<http://victormellick.com.au>

Invitations

<http://marnihappyrafter.com.au/wedding-stationery/>