



EAST RIVER PHOTOGRAPHER

WEDDING GUIDE

*engagement session tips, timeline
guidance, and more!*





NO. 1.

WELCOME

A NOTE ABOUT THIS GUIDE

I'm so honored that you've trusted me with capturing your wedding day! I'm looking forward to celebrating with you and getting to know you better over the next several months.

In the mean time, this guide is designed to help you create a wedding day that lends itself to the best photos possible! This will walk you through everything from timelines to details to family photos.

Thank you again for choosing to work with me and feel free reach out at any point during the planning process!

*XX
Patricia*

NO. 2.

ENGAGEMENT PHOTOS

& WHY I LOVE THEM!

Engagement sessions are a great way for us to connect and get to know each other before your big day arrives! You'll learn all about our posing structure and you'll be a pro by the end of your session! This will make your wedding day pictures a piece of cake!

BELOW YOU'LL FIND SOME HANDY
TIPS FOR NAILING DOWN THE
PERFECT STYLE.





what to wear

Engagement sessions typically last 1.5 - 2 hours. I recommend you bring an extra outfit, as you may wish to have two different "looks". Below you'll find some general guidelines to narrow down your perfect outfit.

ENGAGEMENT PHOTO STYLING TIPS



YES! YES! YES!

- Professional Hair and Makeup
- Complementary color schemes
- Comfortable + easy to move in
- Flowly skirts or tops that show movement
- Something you feel AMAZING wearing - we want you to feel confident and look your best!



NO WAY, JOSE

- Being "matchy-matchy"
- White Socks That Stick Out
- Big Logos and Writing on Shirts
- Small, Intricate, Busy Patterns
- Something that just isn't YOU
- Something uncomfortable that needs constantly adjusted

Some favorite looks...



recommended VENDORS

THAT'LL MAKE FOR AN EPIC WEDDING DAY



WEDDING PLANNER

Just Say Yes NY
Wedding M.D. New York
Intimate Occasions By Ikiya
Unruffled New York



FLORAL DESIGN

FlorEsta NYC
Fern Bonatica
A Lily Among Thorns
NYC Flower Project



OFFICIANT

Sammie Ties The Knot
Claribel G Photo



WEDDING DRESS

Danielle Frankel Studio
Lotus Bridal
Crystal Bridal Boutique
Anita Bride to Be (ES)



CALLIGRAPHY

Della Terra Goods & Design
Vidhi Dattani Designs
Caligraphy by Magnolia



WEDDING CAKE

Cakes by Klein
Vincenzo Salvatore Cakes
There Should Always be Cake



CATERING

Jillicious Foods & Events
Tastes Buds Required
Dish Food & Events NYC

NO. 3.

WEDDING DAY

DETAILS

I love getting to capture all the special details you've curated for your wedding day.

Details are one of the first things I'll photograph when I arrive on your wedding day so it's great if you have all these items in one place that morning. The list below is a great starting point if you're not sure what to include!



bride detail checklist

☐ DRESS & HANGER

☐ RINGS & RING BOX

Engagement + wedding bands (& if you have a pretty ring box!)

☐ SHOES

☐ HAIR PIECES

☐ VEIL

☐ JEWELRY

☐ BOUQUET

☐ VOW BOOK

☐ INVITATION SUITE

2 full sets with envelopes + stamps & any other paper stationary you may have (like program cards, etc)

☐ SENTIMENTAL KEEPSAKES

I once had a bride bring her grandmother's handkerchief. this is completely optional - but if you have something sentimental you'd like styled with your details, I love including family heirlooms in your detail shots.

☐ BONUS: EXTRA FLOWERS

I'd love to have a few cuts of the florals you'll be using throughout your wedding day. If your florist will supply a small bucket of extra pieces I can incorporate those in your detail shots.

groom detail checklist

☐ HIS SHOES

☐ SOCKS (IF THEY'RE SPECIAL)

☐ CUFF LINKS

☐ TIE OR BOW TIE

☐ POCKET SQUARE

☐ BOUTONNIÈRE

☐ VOW BOOK

☐ RINGS

☐ ANYTHING ELSE SPECIAL OR SENTIMENTAL.

The RINGS

I love capturing the detail of your rings up close. If possible, try to have your engagement ring cleaned or clean it yourself.

TO CLEAN AT HOME:

Soak your ring in warm water with dishwashing soap for 20 to 40 minutes. Then gently brush the stone with a soft toothbrush, rinse and repeat if needed.



NO. 4. FIRST LOOK

WONDERING IF A FIRST LOOK IS
RIGHT FOR YOU?

It's a special moment when you see your other half for the first time on your wedding day. It's a moment worth remembering whether you do or a first look or wait for an epic reveal as you walk down the aisle.

If you're wondering whether or not to do a first look on your wedding day, here are some ideas to consider.





01. A FIRST LOOK GIVES YOU QUIET MOMENT ALONE

Wedding days go by in a blur. As soon as the day begins there is so much to do and so many people to see. Doing a first look will give the two of you a moment alone (with a camera shooting from afar) to soak it all in and think through what the day means to you.

02. MORE TIME FOR PICTURES & YOUR RECEPTION

When you have a first look, we can take pictures of the two of you, the bridal party, and some family pictures before the ceremony even begins. This makes the day less rushed and allows us to take more pictures too!

Once you're married, we won't need as much time set aside for photos and you can get to your cocktail hour and reception sooner!

03. POSSIBLY AVOID BAD WEATHER

If there's bad weather on the forecast, a first look gives you the option to get pictures done earlier in the day and possibly avoid being stuck in the rain!

04. GET OUT ALL YOUR TEARS WITHOUT THE AUDIENCE

A first look give both of you a moment to cry without the audience of all your wedding guests. You can get all your tears out knowing you'll have time to freshen up before pictures too.

First look or not, the first time you see each other on your wedding day will be special.



NO. 5.

BUILDING THE PERFECT

WEDDING DAY TIMELINE

Whether you choose to do a first look or the traditional (not seeing each other until the bride walks down the aisle), we'll work with you to create the perfect wedding day schedule. Take a look at the examples below to get a general idea of when to plan for photos on your wedding day.



WITH A
first look timeline example

12:00 PM	COVERAGE BEGINS & DETAIL SHOTS
12:45 PM	BRIDE GETS DRESSED + FIRST LOOK WITH DAD
1:00 PM	BRIDAL PORTRAITS + BRIDES AND BRIDESMAID PORTRAITS
1:30 PM	GROOM'S FINAL PREPARATIONS & DETAILS
2:00 PM	GROOM + GROOMSMEN PORTRAITS
2:30 PM	FIRST LOOK PORTRAITS
3:15 PM	BRIDAL PARTY PHOTOS
4:00 PM	HIDE BRIDE AWAY
4:30 PM	CEREMONY DETAIL SHOTS
5:00 PM	CEREMONY BEGINS
5:30 PM	FAMILY PHOTOS + COCKTAIL HOUR
6:15 PM	PHOTOGRAPH RECEPTION AREA + DETAILS
6:30 PM	RECEPTION BEGINS
6:40 PM	GRAND ENTRANCE + FIRST DANCE
6:45 PM	DINNER IS SERVED
7:15 PM	TOASTS, SPECIAL DANCES, & DANCING
8:00 PM	EXIT PHOTOS + COVERAGE ENDS



NO. 6. FAMILY PORTRAITS

A FEW HELPFUL TIPS + TRICKS

CROWD MANAGEMENT

It's great if you can assign a friend or family member to help make sure we have everyone we need for family photos. This person should know who everyone on the photo list is but not be in too many photos themselves.

SHORT + SWEET

Family photos aren't anyone's favorite part of a wedding day and we try to take them as efficiently as possible. With that said, keep in mind that every grouping typically takes 2-3 minutes to pose. We want to make sure we get all the family photos that need to be taken without cutting into your cocktail hour or reception too much!

KEEP YOUR FAMILY IN THE LOOP

It makes the whole process of family photos faster when everyone in them knows what to expect. Let your family members (or anyone else who will be in a photo) to stick around as soon as the ceremony ends so that we don't have to take extra time finding everyone who's walked away.

CREATE A LIST

We'll ask you for a list of family picture groupings a few weeks before the day of your wedding. Please make sure you list everyone's first name so that we know who to call for when we're grouping people together for a photo.
(There's a template below that's super easy to customize!)

WITHOUT A FIRST LOOK
traditional timeline example

1:00 PM	COVERAGE BEGINS & DETAIL SHOTS
2:00 PM	BRIDE GETS DRESSED + FIRST LOOK WITH DAD
2:30 PM	BRIDAL PORTRAITS + BRIDES AND BRIDESMAID PORTRAITS
3:00 PM	GROOM'S FINAL PREPARATIONS & DETAILS
3:30 PM	GROOM + GROOMSMEN PORTRAITS
4:00 PM	PHOTOGRAPH CEREMONY SITE
4:30 PM	PHOTOGRAPH GUESTS ENTERING CEREMONY
5:00 PM	CEREMONY BEGINS
5:30 PM	FAMILY PHOTOS + COCKTAIL HOUR
5:45 PM	BRIDAL PARTY PHOTOS
6:10 PM	BRIDE + GROOM PORTRAITS
6:45 PM	PHOTOGRAPH RECEPTION AREA
7:00 PM	RECEPTION BEGINS
7:10 PM	GRAND ENTRANCE + FIRST DANCE
7:15 PM	DINNER IS SERVED
8:00 PM	TOASTS, SPECIAL DANCES, & DANCING
9:00 PM	EXIT PHOTOS + COVERAGE ENDS





sample family photo list

☐ BRIDE'S GRANDPARENTS

☐ BRIDE'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY + GRANDPARENTS

☐ BRIDE'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

☐ BRIDE'S SIBLINGS

☐ BRIDE'S PARENTS

☐ GROOM'S GRANDPARENTS

☐ GROOM'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY + GRANDPARENTS

☐ GROOM'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

☐ GROOM'S SIBLINGS

☐ GROOM'S PARENTS



PRINT & CUSTOMIZE THIS LIST!

no. 7.

RECEPTION + GRAND EXIT

RECEPTION

During your reception, I will be taking photos of the speeches and dancing as well as candid shots of your guests. I will always be available to grab a photo of you with a group of guests that may have not been in a planned group photo. I love being your personal paparazzi!



GRAND EXIT

Grand exits are such a fun bookend to your day! They typically consist of a human tunnel along with sparklers, bubbles, glow sticks or something else to celebrate with!

It is helpful if you can designate a few people attending your reception to help organize people into two lines and distribute whatever they will be holding.

If you're up for it, I like to have couples run through the tunnel twice to make sure we get that EPIC send off photo!



NO. 8.

IMAGE DELIVERY

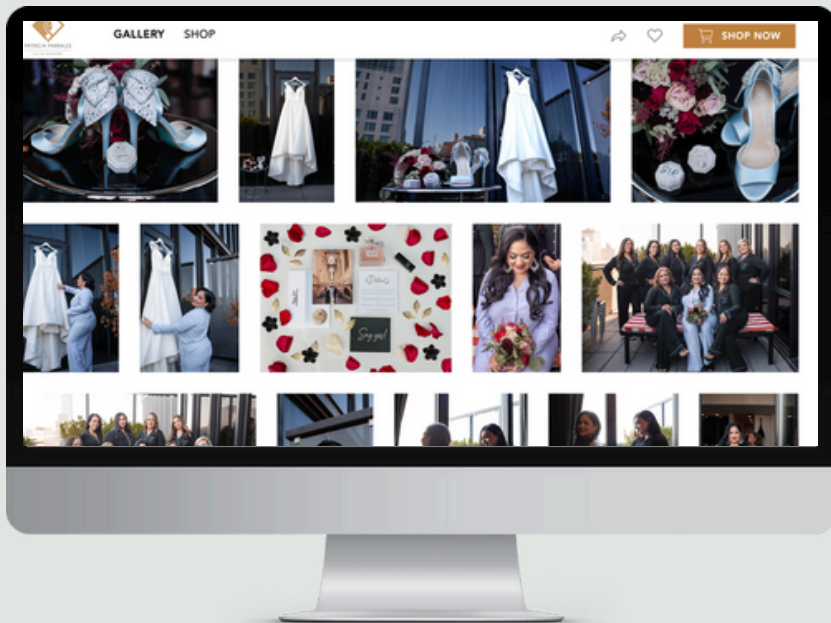
IN A CURATED ONLINE GALLERY

HOW IT WORKS

One of my favorite parts of the wedding experience is delivering your beautiful gallery of images! When your photos are edited and ready, you'll receive a link to your online gallery. This is a URL where you will have access to all of your images at high resolution. You can scroll through, view, and download them at any time. You'll also be able to share this link with friends and family so they can relive your best day with you!

view a sample gallery

[LINK TO GALLERY HERE](#)



NO. 9.
Heirloom
WEDDING
ALBUM



ALBUM DESIGN

A few weeks after your wedding (once you've received your online gallery!) we can start designing your wedding album. The process is super easy and you'll get to pick exactly how you want it.

The highest quality albums for your most treasured moments. these quality books will live on for generations.

album design process

1.

PICK YOUR OPTIONS

You'll have the chance to pick out your album size, material and color. I have a page outlining all of the choices!

3.

ENJOY YOUR ALBUM

Once everything looks good to go and you like the layout, I will order your album and have it sent directly to you.

2.

ALBUM PAGE LAYOUT

Once your options are selected, I'll create the page layouts using the best of your wedding day photos. When I'm done I'll send a proof your way and we can make any changes you want.

FEEL FREE TO SHOOT ME AN
EMAIL WITH ANY QUESTIONS!



GET IN TOUCH

THANK YOU

Thank you for trusting me to capture your special day! If you need to contact me at any point during the planning process, feel free to shoot me an email or text me!

INFO@EASTRIVERPHOTOGRAPHER.COM

EASTRIVERPHOTOGRAPHER.COM



PATRICIA PARRALES

east river photographer