

10 steps

# TO A RELAXED WEDDING DAY



A step-by-step guide  
to ensure your wedding day is  
smooth sailing.

BY ASHLYNN MILLER  
PHOTOGRAPHY

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# You want to sail right to the romance and memories...

After photographing weddings for 8 years, I've found myself in many different wedding situations--days that don't go according to plan, days that don't have enough help, and days that are just about perfect. I'm here to share with you the best ways to ensure you have the relaxing wedding day of your dreams!



*important tip*

I highly recommend **buying a planning notebook** to keep all your thoughts, appointments and to-dos in order. You can find this custom bound one on Etsy!

What does a relaxed wedding day look like? One that gives you the chance to soak up the experience, eat the food and be fully present. You want a day that you want a day that you can remember the sunset, the smell of his cologne and the sound of ocean waves crashing-- you get the picture.

Let's dive in to 7 ways to ensure a relaxed wedding day!

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## Biggest tip? Hire the best team!

1. Step one? ***Hire a full service planner!*** Someone who is designed to handle all possibilities of your day. A planner will guide you through the entire wedding planning process and help take so much stress off your plate. On your wedding day they can put out any "fires" that may arise.
2. ***Choose a relaxed venue:*** Look for a venue that has a relaxed atmosphere and plenty of space for guests to mingle and enjoy themselves. A beautiful outdoor setting with water can help create a laid-back and romantic vibe. Check with the venue about any restrictions before booking.
3. ***Keep your guest list manageable.*** Invite only those who mean the most to you and who you can see yourself still speaking to in 10 years. A smaller guest list means a more intimate day and a more meaningful experience for those who are invited.

“Additional peaceful tip! Consider adding in a first look. This gives you more time together on your wedding day and can help ease some of the nerves before the ceremony. And don't worry, he'll still have that special look on his face when you walk down the aisle!

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## *important tip*

*Planning a unique wedding day that reflects your personal style and preferences is key. If you're not interested in a traditional wedding venue, consider renting a private beach house. For non-traditional food options, you could hire a food truck or create a menu featuring your favorite cuisine. There are countless ways to design a wedding day that feels personal and brings peace to both you and your partner.*

Planning a timeline that allows for peace moments is essential.

4. ***Plan your timeline well in advance and allow for plenty of wiggle room.*** You want a curated timeline that gives space for peaceful moments, room to run a little behind, and moments just about the two of you. Your planner and photographer will guide you through the timeline planning process.
  5. ***Take a walk and enjoy the sunset.*** Plan for sunset photos during your reception if your ceremony is at an earlier time. Summertime weddings are perfect for this as the sun typically sets around 8:30 pm or later. These sunset portraits give you a chance to step away from the party and take in the day.
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Include details important to you.

6. ***Make your day memorable with personalized touches.*** Consider adding signature cocktails featuring your pet's name, creating a custom place card wall, hiring a live painter, or booking an ice cream truck. These unique and special details will make your day unforgettable.
7. ***Eat the food!*** You deserve time to eat and enjoy the food of your day. Far too many times I see brides talking to everyone during dinner instead of eating. Visit with guests after your meal during the reception!
8. ***Invest in a band or quality DJ.*** The last thing you want to be worrying about is speakers going out or a playlist accidentally playing your most hated songs. Live bands have a way of creating fun and memorable reception experiences. 10 out of 10 recommend!



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Don't forget to breathe! Plan some time getting ready to have a few moments for prayers or medication with your bridesmaids and family. Taking some deep breathes throughout your day will help you stay joyful on your big day.

Expect the unexpected.

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***Skip the wedding magazine traditions.***

The garter and bouquet toss were traditions created by 1960's magazines. If they don't feel true to you, then toss em! Replace it with a unique idea such an anniversary dance or an invitation to that ice cream truck .

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***Expect the unexpected.*** No wedding day will ever go 100% according to plan. There will always be a few hiccups in the road to your dream day and that's okay! Put your trust in the team you hired and know that your day will be perfect for you and your new Mr.



## Your day. Refreshingly relaxed.

Having a peaceful wedding day is an essential element to ensure that you and your partner can fully enjoy the day without any undue stress or anxiety. By following the tips outlined above, such as hiring a full-service planner, planning a timeline with plenty of wiggle room, and incorporating memorable touches, you can create a day that brings a sense of peace and joy. Remember, your wedding day is a celebration of the love between you and your partner, and with some planning and thoughtful touches, it can be your most favorite day for years to come.



Ready to start your photography experience? Let's work together curating the peace-filled experience of your dreams. Reach out about your date!

*Thank you!*

[hello@ashlynnmiller.com](mailto:hello@ashlynnmiller.com)  
[www.ashlynnmiller.com](http://www.ashlynnmiller.com)