



WEDDING GUIDE *by*

FRANZ LADOUCE FINE ART
PHOTOGRAPHY



I have waited all my life for
this moment For you to propose
to me, the love of my life, in
marriage To have you happy
and fulfilled by my side
You are my everything and I am
waiting more than anything the
day we will unite our hearts
for life I love to feel you close
to me, to feel the love we
have for each other My love you
share my life and I am the
luckiest of all women This
moment together is a
that I wish to engrave
in my memory I can
myself marrying anyone
you, you are the love
and I truly

Alyssa, on this day
and wedding, I promise
to love you with all my
heart
to
you

thing
to me
and to
everyday
than

A
K

her
could



WELCOME & THANK YOU

FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART

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Thank you for taking the time to read through this comprehensive guide. It is intended to be a helpful tool in your planning process. Thus, I've included valuable tips from a photographer's perspective for your iconic day to flow seamlessly.

In essence, when you radiate beautiful stress-free energy, it will be translated into your wedding imagery and photos.

Before we dive deeper, I would like to share something – my goal is to visually narrate yours and embellish your memory lane with the most candid images.

They will be whispers of the loving poetry of your hearts and evoke profound emotions every time you look at them.

Please don't shy away from asking me anything about this guide or your wedding day.

FRANZ LADOUCE



Eze, France - Contax 645 / Fuji Pro 400

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Château de Vallery, France

FIRST LOOK

YOUR VISUALLY INTIMATE EXPERIENCE

Traditionally, the bride and groom meet each other for the first time during the ceremony. But during the past years, the trend of having a First Look has emerged for many reasons. More and more couples opt to have this intimate experience.

It is raw, it is candid, it is beautiful, and it is visually poetic! When the First Look happens, you will have a chance to unleash your emotions and be unreserved in showing them. Usually, couples feel more reserved during the ceremony – especially the grooms.

With the first look, you both have the chance to surrender to this magical moment and savor the genuine power of your love – a true delight for any photographer!

Also, this means a part of your couple's shoot will be done so that you can spend some more moments with your family and friends.

A lovely place of your choice, no one is watching, hearts are beating, and you have this moment all to yourselves. The bride will approach the groom, gently tapping him on his shoulder.

As soon as he turns, he gets to see the love of his life. Allow your feelings to take over, and let the reigns of love dictate the moment!

When it comes to the location, I would suggest picking a spot that is close enough to have more time for the first look and photographic portrayal. That being said, I will be almost invisible, enabling you to cherish every second together.

Naturally, if you prefer to see one another during the ceremony and stick to traditions, that is perfectly fine!

Château de Bouthonvilliers, France



The first look is also an amazing opportunity to exchange your personal vows if you don't feel like sharing them in front of everyone during the ceremony.





BRIDE & GROOM PORTRAITS

JUST THE TWO OF YOU

This is a lovely opportunity to savor some quiet moments, just the two of you. Not only will the couple shoot allow you to revel in the newlywed bliss, but it will also enable you to have a breather and soak it all in.

The portraiture can be during the first look (*if any*), or after the ceremony, while the excitement of tying the knot is still fresh. The photos will beautifully reflect your connection, emotions, and pure love!

I. HOW MUCH TIME WILL I NEED FOR THE COUPLE SHOOT?

Generally, for everything to flow seamlessly without being rushed, I would need about 45 minutes. However, that doesn't include the drive time – if you have chosen a specific location.

Of course, I can be flexible and split the shoot into two parts. (*30 min*) can be after the First Look the second part during the magical Golden Hour (*15 min*).

II. WHEN IS THE BEST TIME FOR A COUPLE SHOOT?

In essence, light will be a key element in this case. In my opinion, the morning and evening lights are perfect to capture your essence. You will be adorned with a soft pastel glow, without featuring harsh shadows. Also, these ideal times are especially dreamy when it comes to portraits.

In addition, I would recommend avoiding planning the portrait session in the middle of the day. As the sun is very high, its light will appear harsh and cast unwanted shadows.



III.**WHERE SHOULD THE
SHOOTING TAKE PLACE?**

As for the location, we can use the venue's grounds, some place of your choice, or walk somewhere nearby. Being an experienced photographer, I am highly trained to find a perfect setting just about anywhere!

We will consult beforehand so that we can plan everything smoothly. If you have a special location nearby or would like to have your shoot on the grounds of the venue, I will explore it in the morning and simply scan where would be the perfect spot to frame your memories.

Besides the scenic backdrop, I will analyze the spot for the lighting conditions. That includes the position of the sun and even the reflection of the trees; so that I can judge whether there would be any green shadows cast upon your skin.

IV.**THE KISS**

To get the perfect kissing photo, I always suggest my couples incorporate the following suggestion – imagine you are shy and kissing one another like on the first date. Delicate posture, with mouths slightly open, and the lips barely touching.

In this way, you will avoid looking sloppy, and get the perfect elegant photo of your devotion.

V.**BAD WEATHER**

We cannot control Mother Nature but do not despair if something doesn't go as planned. There is always an alternative – an indoor shooting, for example – so make sure to have a plan B just in case.

Of course, light rain is not a problem and can result in magical photos; but if a storm happens, my equipment is not protected so we can always have an after-wedding session!



A LITTLE TIP FOR YOU

Morning and evening lights are perfect to capture your essence. You will be adorned with a soft pastel glow without featuring harsh shadows.



GROUP PORTRAITS

FAMILY FORMALS & BRIDAL PARTY

Another possibility is to schedule the session before the ceremony, allowing your family to enjoy the cocktail hour or reception.

Your wedding day is all about celebrating with your loved ones. Your family, bridal party, and friends will be there to support your new journey.

Thus, eternalizing those memories through photography will be a cherished keepsake to look back on. Apart from the candids, you will also have formal portraiture with them which is best done once the cocktail hour or reception starts.

In order to get the best photos, a little bit of planning beforehand is needed. That being said, it is best to curate a short but sweet list of your priorities. I would suggest opting for up to 10 constellations.

Also, think about assigning a special task to someone who knows the party and family well, so they can help you coordinate them for the portraits. Plus, your officiant can announce the ceremony, reminding everyone about the group photos.

In this way, things will run more smoothly. Keep in mind that if there is a large group, it would take from 5 to 10 minutes to have everyone organized.



UNPLUGGED WEDDING

SNAP SOME PHOTOS

Many guests attending your ceremony will love to capture your most memorable moments, such as walking down the aisle, vow exchange, saying I DO, and sealing your marriage with a kiss.

While I understand that they would love to snap some photos with their smartphones, I advise you to ask them to refrain from it.

As your photographer, I will cover everything and I would like for your loved ones to enjoy the ceremony to its fullest – instead of being hidden behind a small screen.

In addition, this may hinder my portrayal. Some of the guests may limit several frames when it comes to important parts of the ceremonial act.

For example, if people are trying to capture your walk down the aisle, all the while maneuvering different positions and using flashes; I wouldn't be able to properly photograph the overwhelming reaction of your beloved.

Of course, this is optional and a personal recommendation as your wedding photographer. If you choose to unplug some of the events of your big day, you can easily achieve that by noting the information in the wedding invitations, and by asking your officiant to make an announcement.

What will calm their expectations is also noting that they will receive access to your online gallery. Your family and friends will appreciate this gesture!

THANK YOU

FOR TRUSTING ME

This is the end of my guide, so I thank you for taking the time to read it thoroughly. I sincerely hope that what you have discovered through these pages will prove to be useful for you, making you even more excited about what is yet to come! My approach will be custom-

tailored to your love story, portraying every detail of your special day authentically.

Do you have more questions that you would like to be answered? Let me know because I will be glad to respond and elaborate thoroughly. *So excited to see you soon!*

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