

WEDDING & ELOPEMENT TIMELINE GUIDE



How To Plan Your Day Your Way



Wedding Itinerary

Planning a wedding means orchestrating a day filled with meaningful moments, special traditions, and cherished time with loved ones. Whether your wedding lasts six, eight, or ten hours, a well-planned timeline ensures everything runs smoothly while allowing you to be present and enjoy every second. This guide will help you craft a seamless wedding timeline with sample structures for different coverage options.

10 HOUR TIMELINE

IDEAL FOR

- Larger weddings with multiple events
- Extended time for portraits and special traditions
- Weddings that include an after-party or grand exit

10 HOUR EXAMPLE TIMELINE

- **10:00 AM:** Getting ready and detail shots (1.5 hours)
- **11:30 AM:** First look and private vow exchange (30 minutes)
- **12:00 PM:** Wedding party and family portraits (1 hour)
- **1:00 PM:** Break before the ceremony (30 minutes)
- **1:30 PM:** Ceremony (45 minutes)
- **2:15 PM:** Post-ceremony portraits (45 minutes)
- **3:00 PM:** Cocktail hour coverage (1 hour)
- **4:00 PM:** Reception begins, dinner service (1 hour)
- **5:00 PM:** Speeches and toasts (30 minutes)
- **5:30 PM:** First dance and parent dances (30 minutes)
- **6:00 PM:** Golden hour couple portraits (30 minutes)
- **6:30 PM:** Open dance floor (1 hour)
- **7:30 PM:** Grand exit or after-party (1 hour)
- **8:30 PM:** Coverage ends

8 HOUR TIMELINE

IDEAL FOR

- Traditional weddings with multiple locations
- Couples who want a relaxed pace
- Weddings with a cocktail hour and full reception

8 HOUR EXAMPE TIMELINE

- **12:00 PM:** Getting ready and detail shots (1 hour)
- **1:00 PM:** First look and wedding party photos (45 minutes)
- **1:45 PM:** Family portraits (30 minutes)
- **2:15 PM:** Break before the ceremony (30 minutes)
- **2:45 PM:** Ceremony (30 minutes)
- **3:15 PM:** Cocktail hour coverage (45 minutes)
- **4:00 PM:** Couple sunset portraits (30 minutes)
- **4:30 PM:** Reception begins, dinner service (1 hour)
- **5:30 PM:** Speeches and toasts (30 minutes)
- **6:00 PM:** First dance and parent dances (30 minutes)
- **6:30 PM:** Open dance floor and candid moments (1 hour)
- **7:30 PM:** Coverage ends

6 HOUR TIMELINE

IDEAL FOR

- Small or intimate weddings
- Simple celebrations with fewer formalities
- Single-location weddings

6 HOUR EXAMPLE TIMELINE

- **2:00 PM:** Getting ready and detail shots (30 minutes)
- **2:30 PM:** First look or wedding party photos (30 minutes)
- **3:00 PM:** Ceremony (30 minutes)
- **3:30 PM:** Family and couple portraits (1 hour)
- **4:30 PM:** Cocktail hour coverage (30 minutes)
- **5:00 PM:** Reception begins, dinner service (1 hour)
- **6:00 PM:** Cake cutting and first dances (30 minutes)
- **6:30 PM:** Coverage ends



Wedding Itinerary

A well-planned wedding timeline allows you to focus on what truly matters—celebrating your love. Whether you opt for six, eight, or ten hours of coverage, having a structured plan ensures a seamless and joyful wedding day experience!

WHY YOU NEED AN WEDDING TIMELINE

1

A wedding timeline keeps the day organized and stress-free, ensuring all key moments are beautifully documented. It allows vendors, family, and your wedding party to stay on the same page while creating a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.

HOW TO STRUCTURE YOUR WEDDING DAY

2

When building your timeline, start by identifying the most important moments you want to include, such as:

- Getting ready
- The ceremony
- Portraits
- Activities (e.g., hiking, dining, exploring)
- Sunset or stargazing

TIPS FOR BUILDING YOUR TIMELINE

3

Factors to Consider:

- Lighting: Plan key moments during golden hour for dreamy photos.
- Travel Time: Account for distance between locations.
- Weather: Have a backup plan for outdoor ceremonies.

Buffer Time and Flexibility:

Include buffer time to prevent feeling rushed and allow for unexpected moments.

EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE

4

- First look with a parent or wedding party
- Private vow exchange
- Live music or entertainment
- Special sunset or golden hour portraits
- Fireworks, sparkler exit, or send-off celebration

HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER

5

Open and clear communication with your photographer is essential to ensure your wedding day runs smoothly and all your special moments are beautifully captured. Here's how to effectively collaborate with your photographer:

- Share your vision
- Provide a draft timeline
- Highlight "Must-Have" moments
- Discuss Locations
- Be Open to Recommendations
- Review and Confirm Details



Elopement Itinerary

Planning an elopement means you have the freedom to create a day that feels uniquely yours. Whether your celebration lasts four hours or spans a full day, crafting a timeline ensures you'll enjoy every moment without feeling rushed. This guide will walk you through creating a perfect elopement timeline, offering variations for 4-hour, 6-hour, and 8-10 hour photo coverage.

8-10 HOUR TIMELINE

IDEAL FOR

- Capturing the entire day's story
- Multiple locations or adventurous elopements
- Couples incorporating additional activities

8-10 HOUR EXAMPLE TIMELINE

- 8:00 AM: Getting ready and detail shots (1 hour)
- 9:00 AM: First look (30 minutes)
- 9:30 AM: Sunrise ceremony (10-30 minutes)
- 10:00 AM: Portraits at ceremony location (1 hour)
- 11:00 AM: Breakfast or coffee break (30 minutes)
- 11:30 AM: Scenic hike or activity (2 hours)
- 1:30 PM: Lunch or picnic break (1 hour)
- 2:30 PM: Secondary portrait location (1 hour)
- 3:30 PM: Downtime or candid moments (30 minutes)
- 4:00 PM: Sunset portraits (1 hour)
- 5:00 PM: Coverage ends (8-hour day) or stargazing photos for 10-hour day

6 HOUR TIMELINE

IDEAL FOR

- Couples wanting more variety in locations and moments
- Including a few activities or a relaxed pace

6 HOUR EXAMPLE TIMELINE

- 10:00 AM: Getting ready and detail shots (45 minutes)
- 10:45 AM: First look (15 minutes)
- 11:00 AM: Ceremony at a scenic location (10-30 minutes)
- 11:30 AM: Couple portraits at the ceremony location (1 hour)
- 12:30 PM: Light picnic or adventure (1 hour)
- 1:30 PM: Second portrait location or candid moments (1 hour)
- 2:30 PM: Coverage ends

4 HOUR TIMELINE

IDEAL FOR

- Simple Ceremonies
- Couples looking for minimal photo coverage
- Locations close to your starting point

4 HOUR EXAMPLE TIMELINE

- 1:00 PM: Getting ready and detail shots (30 minutes)
- 1:30 PM: First look or private vow exchange (30 minutes)
- 2:00 PM: Ceremony (elopement ceremonies can last 10-30 minutes)
- 2:30 PM: Couple portraits at the ceremony location (1 hour)
- 3:30 PM: Candid moments or short hike to a secondary location (30 minutes)
- 4:00 PM: Coverage ends



Elopement Itinerary

Creating your elopement timeline is about making space for connection, adventure, and authentic moments. Whether you choose a short and sweet celebration or a full-day experience, a well-planned schedule ensures your day is as unforgettable as your love story.

WHY YOU NEED AN ELOPEMENT TIMELINE

1

An elopement timeline ensures that you have enough time to savor every part of your day without worrying about logistics. A thoughtfully planned schedule allows your photographer to capture key moments while leaving room for spontaneity and adventure.

HOW TO STRUCTURE YOUR ELOPEMENT DAY

2

When building your timeline, start by identifying the most important moments you want to include, such as:

- Getting ready
- The ceremony
- Portraits
- Activities (e.g., hiking, dining, exploring)
- Sunset or stargazing

TIPS FOR BUILDING YOUR TIMELINE

3

Factors to Consider:

- Lighting: Plan key moments during golden hour for dreamy photos.
- Travel Time: Account for distance between locations.
- Weather: Have a backup plan for outdoor ceremonies.

Buffer Time and Flexibility:

Include buffer time to prevent feeling rushed and allow for unexpected moments.

EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE

4

- Hiking to a scenic viewpoint
- Sharing a private meal
- Writing letters to each other
- Exploring a local landmark
- Stargazing or dancing under the stars

HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER

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Open and clear communication with your photographer is essential to ensure your elopement day runs smoothly and all your special moments are beautifully captured. Here's how to effectively collaborate with your photographer:

- Share your vision
- Provide a draft timeline
- Highlight "Must-Have" moments
- Discuss Locations
- Be Transparent About Expectations
- Ask for Tips and Advice
- Review and Confirm Details

