

Top 10 Reasons to hire a Professional Wedding Photographer

Number 10. Equipment and Backup Equipment: Sure your friend has a camera, maybe even a 16 mega-pixel camera, but do they know how to use it? And what happens if their camera stops working or malfunctions? A Good camera isn't just about the mega-pixels, it is also about the focus abilities and the ISO levels. Knowing how to work the camera to get a great picture in dark places. Professionals also should have backup equipment, something they can pull out without missing a beat if the worst-case scenario happens and their primary camera malfunctions.

Number 9. Wedding Etiquette: Sometimes there are things that a wedding photographer should not do. For example stand in front of your mom as you start to walk down the aisle, or push a guest out of the way just to grab the "perfect shot". Incidents like this while they won't ruin your Wedding they can add stress to an already emotional filled day. A Professional Photographer will know the "does and don'ts" of the day, and can make sure everything goes as smoothly as possible.

Number 8. Post Processing and Editing Skills: While it would be nice if the picture came out of the camera perfect, that likely does not happen. Eyes are closed, someone moves, the lighting wasn't the best, etc. A Professional Photographer will often come home from a wedding with thousands of pictures to import, sort, and edit. This is no simple task either, it takes time. In fact a Wedding Photographer will often spend in excess of 40 hours editing pictures. Additionally a professional will have the skill required to make the picture the best or even take care of "aspects" of the picture that might not be so appealing.

Number 7. Knows The Shots To Make: During the course of a wedding did you know that there is a minimum of 50 different shots that should be taken, can you name them all? A Professional photographer could! A Professional knows the shots that need to be taken without looking at a list and can make sure that every important moment and detail is captured just for you. This is a skill that takes a while to develop and cannot be learned overnight. So if this is your photographer's first wedding it is likely they will miss a bunch of key shots, like maybe even the first kiss!

Number 6. Organization of Group Photos: Weddings are one of the few occasions when the entire family is together. So it is the perfect time to capture those family pictures that your mom is just dying to have. With a family of 10 or more it can add a lot of time to the schedule for pictures, unless you have a professional who knows how to get group pictures done in a timely matter while making sure everybody is in the picture, everybody is looking at the camera and nobody is hiding. These pictures are important to capture but shouldn't take time away from the other festivities of the day.

Number 5. Lighting Skills: Can your friend look at the scene and determine where the best place for you to stand would be based upon the light available? What if the scene needs light added to it, does your friend have the knowledge on how to add the right amount of light to create the right amount of emotion in the picture? Lighting skills are very important with any kind of professional photography. Ideally you would never have to use flash or extra lighting of any kind but unfortunately we don't live in that ideal world. A Professional Photographer will know how to work in any circumstance to create the perfect picture!

Number 4. Experience: The first time you see each other, the first kiss as husband and wife, your first dance, the tossing of the bouquet, these are all events that only happen once on your Wedding Day! A Professional Photographer knows about all these special moments and how to capture them the best the first time. Have you ever heard of something going wrong during the wedding day? Like maybe the grandparents got lost and aren't there when the ceremony is to start, or a bridesmaid tore her dress, or even an injury of some sort in the bridal party? A Professional Photographer will know how to go with the flow, keep a level head, and still manage to capture all the precious pictures you were wanting even with the itinerary changes.

Number 3. Ability to Anticipate and Catch Split-Second Action: This kind of goes along with previous reasons but it takes it a step further. A Professional Photographer will know how to anticipate the actions of the day, they will know what to watch for, cues that may lead to a picture worthy moment. A Professional Photographer does weddings week after week and are familiar with all the traditions of the day, they have experienced the uh ohs and mishaps, the unplanned surprises. A Professional will be there to capture any of those unexpected little treasures the moment they happen.

Number 2. Posing & Coaching Skills: A Professional Photographer will know the ins and outs of posing, how to position the couple that is most appealing to their body type. They will know how to coach you in your actions to capture that perfect picture that is full of emotion and love.

Number 1. 100% Dedication to YOU: Hiring a professional photographer means that they will take the time to get to know you before the wedding, find out how you envision your big day and what aspects are important to you. A Professional will do their homework on the venue and even surrounding areas that could be used for pictures. They will spend several hours prior to the wedding working on their shot list, the itinerary, and making sure they know every detail about your big day so that they can capture it in the best form possible. Then the day of your wedding they will be completely focused on you! There to take any picture you desire, capture those memories that you want to remember 20 years from now. If you hire a friend they might get distracted or decide to go chat with another friend and miss something. Hiring a professional means that you get their 100% full attention the day of your wedding!