

# BRIDE & GROOM

## IDEAL TIMELINE GUIDE - SAMPLE FIRST LOOK TIMELINE

### PREPARATION

START	FINISH	DESCRIPTION	PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES
<b>BRIDE PREPARATION (ALWAYS COVERED BY LEAD SHOOTER, UNLESS BRIDE/GROOM PLAN OTHERWISE)</b>			
6:00 AM	8:00 AM	BRIDESMAIDS MAKEUP/HAIR/PREP	Bridesmaids prep is a great time for fun candid/journalistic imagery of the girls getting ready and having a good time.
7:00 AM	9:00 AM	BRIDE MAKEUP/HAIR/PREP	30 - 60 Minutes capturing all of the details, last 15 - 20 minutes shooting the bride's hair/makeup images.
9:00 AM	9:15 AM	BRIDE + BRIDESMAIDS ROBE SHOTS	Robe shots with bride + bridesmaids all dolled up. Requires everyone ready with hair/makeup in robes.
9:15 AM	9:30 AM	BRIDESMAIDS STEP INTO DRESSES	Bridesmaids get fully prepped so they can help the bride get into her dress, and then take photos after.
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	BRIDE STEPS INTO DRESS (BRIDESMAIDS HELP)	Bridesmaids or family helps the bride to get into dress, photography generally starts after stepping into the dress.
10:00 AM	10:15 AM	BRIDE OPENS GROOM'S GIFT & LETTER	Bride takes a moment to open the groom's gift and letter. This can also be done in the robe after hair/makeup.
10:15 AM	10:45 AM	BRIDE SOLO PORTRAITS	Solo portraits of the Bride focusing on her, the dress, details, hair and makeup.
10:45 AM	11:00 AM	BRIDE + BRIDESMAIDS ROOM PORTRAITS	Bride + Bridesmaids fun portraits in the room, jumping on bed, hanging out drinking champagne, etc.
<b>GROOM PREPARATION (IF GROOM PREP IS HAPPENING AT SAME TIME AS THE BRIDE, 2ND SHOOTER COVERS THE GROOM)</b>			
8:30 AM	9:00 AM	GROOM DETAIL PHOTOS	Images of the groom's shoes, suit, cufflinks, watch, and other details before getting ready.
9:00 AM	10:00 AM	GROOM + GROOMSMEN PREP	Candid/journalistic imagery of the groom and groomsmen getting ready and having a good time.
10:00 AM	10:15 AM	GROOM OPENS BRIDE'S GIFT & LETTER	Groom takes a moment to open the bride's gift and letter. Generally done once dressed.
10:00 AM	10:15 AM	GROOM SOLO PORTRAITS	Solo portraits of the Groom focusing on him, his suit and details like cufflinks, watch, socks/shoes, etc.
10:15 AM	11:00 AM	GROOM + GROOMSMEN PORTRAITS	Groom + Groomsmen take fun/candid portraits. Ideally out of the room at the bar toasting, or a nice area on property.

### PRE-CEREMONY PORTRAITS

START	FINISH	DESCRIPTION	PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES
11:00 AM	11:15 AM	POSITION GROOM THEN BRIDE FOR FIRST LOOK	Plan 10 - 15 minutes to get the couple into position. Actual first look is fairly short, usually around 5 minutes.
11:15 AM	11:30 AM	FIRST LOOK	Allow the bride/groom time to talk and enjoy the moment. When completed, we start their couples portrait session.
11:30 AM	12:15 PM	COUPLES PORTRAITS	Early photos session focused on capturing must have shots around the property.
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	WEDDING PARTY GROUP & INDIVIDUAL SHOTS	Wedding party together, then just the girls, then just the boys. Individual shots w/ bride and groom if there is time.
1:45 PM	2:45 PM	FAMILY FORMALS	Simple family portrait sessions can be 30 minutes, family portraits with all variations can last up to 1 hour. Have the formals list person guide and prep everyone for each image.
2:45 PM	3:15 PM	BRIDE/GROOM SEPARATE & FRESHEN UP	Separate the bride/groom, let them prep and allow the anticipation build again prior to the ceremony.

### CEREMONY

START	FINISH	DESCRIPTION	PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES
3:30 PM	3:40 PM	PROCESSIONAL	Remember to remind everyone in the processional to look up and smile, don't just walk and look at the ground.
3:40 PM	4:20 PM	CEREMONY	For all activities, allow audience visibility. I.E. keep hands open for the ring exchange, pour sand facing the audience, etc. Hold important moments, like the first kiss for 2-3 seconds.
4:20 PM	4:30 PM	RECESSIONAL	Great moment to be excited, half fun coming down the aisle, pump your fists/flowers, at the end of the aisle go for a dip or kiss, etc.
4:30 PM	4:45 PM	CLEAR GUESTS TO COCKTAIL HOUR	Allow 15 minutes for guests to be cleared before planning to start portraits, otherwise coming out too soon will end up in a "receiving line."

### POST-CEREMONY PORTRAITS

START	FINISH	DESCRIPTION	PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES
4:45 PM	5:30 PM	EXTENDED FAMILY PORTRAITS (ALTER)	Quick family and extended family formal session, again guided by person assigned to the formals list. Photographer will organize them into photos, just need everyone present and ready.
5:30 PM	5:45 PM	WEDDING PARTY FORMALS (ALTER)	Quick wedding party formals shots on the alter before the alter gets broken down. Generally a shot of entire wedding party, just the girls and just the boys.
6:00 PM	6:30 PM	SUNSET COUPLES PORTRAITS	Golden hour (sunset) is the best time for the perfect light and pictures. The golden hour couples session is generally when the best "dramatic/landscape" imagery will be created.

### COCKTAIL HOUR + RECEPTION

START	FINISH	DESCRIPTION	PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES
5:00 PM	6:30 PM	COCKTAIL HOUR	Generally the 2nd Shooter will cover cocktail a few minutes of cocktail hour details and candid, then move to the ballroom to capture reception details once they are "picture perfect."
6:30 PM	6:45 PM	GUESTS ENTER RECEPTION	Bride and groom return from their sunset portraits and line up. Photographers prepare lighting and gear for the grand entrance and reception.
7:00 PM	7:15 PM	FAMILY + WEDDING PARTY + COUPLE GRAND ENTRANCE	The best shots here come once they get closer to the dance floor with guests surrounding, so tell everyone to dance and celebrate all the way through the entrance, not just at the door.
7:15 PM	7:30 PM	FIRST DANCE + FAMILY DANCES	Ideally start the first dance in the center of the dance floor for a dramatic wide image. Remember, the longer the dance, the better the expressions we can capture.
7:30 PM	8:00 PM	TOASTS (DINNER SERVED)	Ideally those giving toasts should stand close to the bride/groom's table in order to capture the speaker and bride/groom within a single frame.
8:00 PM	9:00 PM	RECEPTION PROGRAM CONTINUES	Photographers continue to shoot journalistically through the evening.
9:00 PM	9:15 PM	GARTER/BOUQUET TOSS	Photographer will setup best throw direction. Sometimes in darker environments, it's great to do a "fake throw" just for the photo opp. Confirm with the Lead photographer just prior.
9:15 PM	10:00 PM	OPEN DANCING, BRIDE & GROOM JOIN	A large group shot with all of the guests, bride and groom + families/wedding party front and center is one of the best ways to get the dance floor started. Bride/groom join for first 15 min.
9:30 PM	10:00 PM	NIGHT TIME PORTRAIT SESSION	Pre-light the first shot before pulling bride/groom. Make sure bride/groom are ok to leave. Be sensitive to their wants and the reception program, session can be 10 up to 30 minutes.
10:00 PM	10:15 PM	CAKE CUTTING, BRIDE AND GROOM TOAST	After the night time portrait, Bride/Groom cut cake. Again confirm with photographer for the best direction/placement. This is a great moment to go from cake into toasts as guests watch.
10:15 PM	12:00 AM	OPEN DANCING + DESSERT BAR OPENS + LATE NIGHT SNACKS	Continue with journalistic and artistic shots of everyone dancing. 2nd Shooter to capture dessert/snack bar details.
12:00 AM	12:20 AM	GRAND SPARKLER/FLOWER/CONFETTI EXIT	Allow 10 to 15 minutes to setup for the grand exit. Exit itself only takes a few minutes. Again pause at the end of the exit for a dip/kiss/etc. with everyone standing behind the couple.