



*Sparkleigh Productions*

WEDDINGS AND EVENTS



*WEDDING*

**PHOTOGRAPHY  
TIPS**

## **Engagement**

### **#1. Have an Engagement Photo Shoot**

An engagement shoot is an amazing opportunity to capture the excitement before marrying the one you love. More importantly, it allows you to spend quality time with your photographer and loosen up in front of the camera. These photos can be used on a wedding website, save the date announcements, or printed on display on your welcome table.

### **#2. Lighting is Key**

Schedule your engagement photo session during the “golden hour,” which is two hours after sunrise or one hour before sunset. Avoid the hours between noon and two as the sun is at its highest, casting unflattering shadows upon the face.

### **#3. Pair a Makeup and Hair Trial with your Engagement Shoot**

A wedding makeup and hair trial are both must-dos before your big day. This practice run allows you to get to know your stylists and discuss the perfect look. Gather inspiration beforehand and request for a more casual look for your shoot. These photos are something to be extremely proud of and admired for years to follow.

### **#4. Match your Location**

After you have chosen your engagement shoot location, choose two to three outfits accordingly. Wear clothes that make you both feel comfortable, while at the same time complement each other. Standing out against your backdrop is important and that is why bright colors are encouraged.

## Wedding Day

### **#1. Ask for an entire wedding gallery album before booking a photographer**

It is important to choose a wedding photographer based on an entire wedding gallery, rather than single photos on their Instagram. This gives you an idea of the angles and details a particular photographer will capture on your day.

### **#2. Secure a photographer for at least 8 hours, including a second shooter**

For those having the traditional 6 hour wedding, an extra 2 hours should be added to your photography package. This time allows the photographer to capture special details and the getting ready process. A second photographer is key as they can capture both wedding parties, different angles, and assist the main photographer with family portraits.

### **#3. It's all about the details**

The very first thing your photographer should capture on your wedding day is the details; the dress, the veil, the shoes, the accessories, the bouquet, your invitation, special perfume, bridal clutch, etc.

### **#4. Make a shot list for family portraits**

This list should include the individual's first name to aid the photographer when calling out the next shot. Having this list ensures that you do not forget anyone as you typically only have 20 minutes allotted for these portraits. This documentation should be provided to your wedding planner and photographer before your special day.

### **#5. Do I want a first look or first touch?**

In the past, it was very common for the bride and groom to not see each other until the bride walked down the aisle. Modern couples are now opting to have an intimate photo session prior to the ceremony. If you still wish to keep the surprise of seeing each other at the ceremony, then a first touch is great for you! You can still hold hands, pass notes, give gifts, etc. all while not seeing each other. If you opt to have a first look before the ceremony, it offers a very intimate way of seeing each other without any guests present. Plus, you are able to take many of your wedding party portraits together.