



Gareth Digital Photography Wedding Day Timeline



With the diversity of the cultural aspects of all our weddings, it's difficult to pinpoint an exact wedding photography timeline template. However, there are ideal time frames you should consider when planning your day. Some of these times may seem long on paper but keep in mind that 1) the day will fly by, 2) most weddings run slightly behind schedule, and 3) we'll make these photo sessions fun, so it won't seem like a long time.

RINGS, DRESS, SHOES, AND OTHER DETAILS



- Ideal Time Allotment – 30 minutes
- Ideal Time of the Day – Morning
- Ideal Location – Bridal Suite or Hotel Suite

Advice – Having at least 30 minutes for details ensures that we have plenty of time to get that perfect photo of the dress, rings, shoes, bouquets, and the other details of the day.

There are times when a hotel room is too crowded or simply unappealing; we have to take the dress all the way down to the lobby or even outside. This can take some time, but as you can see from the results, it's well worth the additional work.



PREPARATION



- Ideal Time Allotment – 60 minutes
- Ideal Time of the Day – Morning or Early Afternoon
- Ideal Location – Bridal Suite or Hotel Suite

Advice – Having an hour of preparation is ideal for our style. During this time, we are getting close ups of the makeup and hair being applied as well as the candid moments and the bridesmaids and groomsmen get ready for the day. Keep in mind that these are some of the most emotional and fun times of the day, so you don't want to cut it short.

The lead shooter will be with the bride while the second shooter will be with the groom. While it doesn't take guys an hour to get dressed, there are still tons of great moments during this time between the groom and his family and friends.



INDIVIDUAL PORTRAITS



Ideal Time Allotment – 30 minutes

Ideal Time of the Day – Morning or Early Afternoon

Ideal Location – Bridal Suite, Hotel Suite, Venue Lobby, or Venue Garden

Advice – Right after prep is the best time for individual portraits of the bride and groom (separately). Besides makeup and hair being completely fresh, the day hasn't gotten hectic yet so we can take our time and get those perfect portraits.

Also, keep in mind that the window lighting in most hotel rooms creates a unique look that can't be duplicated in any environment throughout the rest of the day.



CEREMONY DETAIL AND VENUE



- Ideal Time Allotment – 30 minutes
- Ideal Time of the Day – Morning or Afternoon
- Ideal Location – Ceremony Site

Advice – Please allow 30 minutes for the second shooter to take pictures of the ceremony site, completely set up with no guests or vendors in the area.

Before you have the guests seated, it's important that we are there to capture the complete set up of your ceremony site so we can capture the scene at its best.



FORMALS (EXTENDED FAMILY, IMMEDIATE FAMILY, AND FRIENDS)



- Ideal Time Allotment – 30 minutes
- Ideal Time of the Day – Morning or Afternoon (Post Ceremony)
- Ideal Location – Ceremony Site

Advice – Formals should take around 45 minutes to 1 hour depending on the size of your family and the number of guests.

Plan on 3 minutes per group on average. For example, if you have 10 groups, schedule in a 30 minute time slot.

Some couples have decided that they want a picture with all guests while others have decided that they only want pictures with select VIPs to save time. We recommend something in between.

We also recommend being very organized, with a list of groups and helpers from each side of the family to help round people up.



COUPLES SESSION



Ideal Time Allotment – 1 Hour

Ideal Time of the Day – Late Afternoon (Sunset)

Ideal Location – Venue Garden, Beach, Hotel Lobby, Park

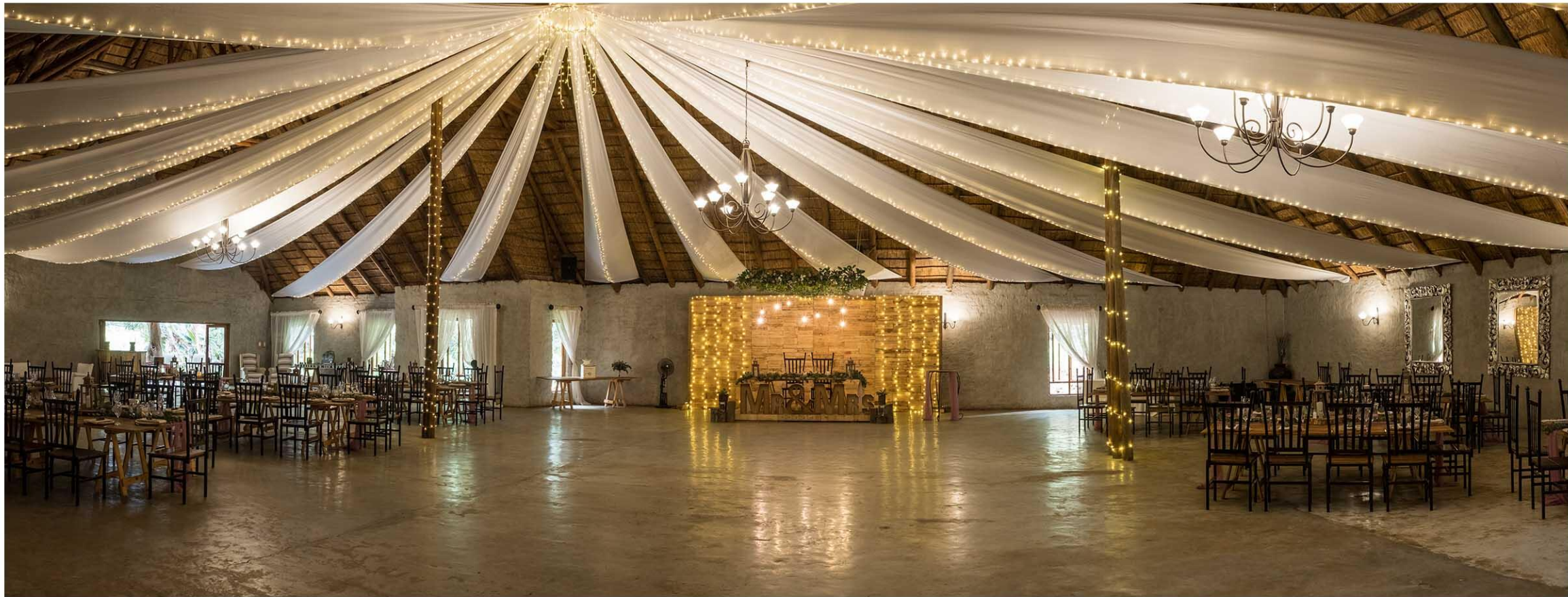
Advice – Couple session should be around 1 hour and should take place ideally 30 to 45 minutes before sunset. This is the best time in terms of lighting.

It also allows us to capture the awesome scenic shots with colorful skies. If your wedding is in downtown or in an area with tall buildings, it's not as important for us to have this specific time frame (although it still helps).

However, if you booked your venue because of the spectacular view of the ocean or the gorgeous vines in the winery, it's essential to follow this advice in your timeline.



RECEPTION DETAIL AND VENUE



Ideal Time Allotment – 30 minutes
Ideal Time of the Day – Morning or Afternoon
Ideal Location – Reception Site

Advice – Please allow 30 minutes for the second shooter to take pictures of the reception room, completely set up with no guests or vendors in the area.

Similar to the ceremony details, this is the only opportunity we have to capture the beauty of the reception room prior to guest arrival.



NIGHT SHOOT – RECEPTION SNEAK OUT



Ideal Time Allotment – 20-30 minutes

Ideal Time of the Day – Dusk to Night Time

Ideal Location – Areas with interesting lights, fountains, city scapes and mirrors

Advice – During the reception, please plan on sneaking out for a couple of night shots. We only need 20-30 minutes, as we understand the importance of being a good host. However, this time is important if you appreciate the night photography that we deliver. The ideal time for this is right after you grab a bite to eat or during the open floor dancing after you've danced a few songs and would like a break. Another suggestion would be to get these shots at the very end of the night once all the guests have departed.

