



WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards
The Knot's Best of Weddings
www.romangrinev.com



About Us

We are wedding photographers who document real moments along with creative portraits using landscape features and striking architecture to achieve natural backdrops. Our approach has always been to unobtrusively capture your wedding moments as they naturally happen. Of course, we're always happy to organize some portraits as per your request, using landscape features and striking architecture to achieve natural backdrops. It is our belief that your wedding is about so much more than scheduled events. It's about those unexpected moments that you won't find on any list — moments that make your wedding unique and that you will want to remember for years to come. Our unique documentary approach is combined with the fine art of photography to produce creative and storytelling images. We strive to capture the joy, spontaneity, and excitement in all of your special moments. Our unobtrusive, photojournalistic photography by our team of experienced wedding photojournalists will guarantee an enjoyable experience & beautiful images to tell your story. We are wedding experts, passionate about telling your story.

How to Select the Best Wedding Photographer

There's no shortage of wedding photographers and hiring a photographer can be an overwhelming process. For most couples hiring a wedding photographer is their first experience with the process of hiring a professional photographer. So where should you start and what's most important?

There's more to a good wedding photographer than a good camera. Digital cameras have become accessible to most people including anyone with a mobile phone.

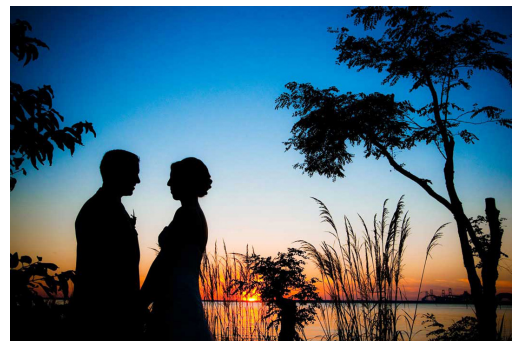


Lots of people have digital cameras. Unfortunately, the camera doesn't tell you about lighting or how to be where you need to be in order to capture a moment. Weddings move quickly and you'll want an experienced wedding photographer who can capture all the key moments without stopping the action to make you pose.

Whether online or in person, it all starts with reviewing portfolios. You need to be able to make a connection with the images, which should convey a story of the wedding day. Some photographers only show their best wedding images from several different weddings. While this is ok as an initial preview, its very important to see a larger collection of about 50-60 images from one wedding to see how the complete story was told. Its also important to see the work of the photographer who will be capturing your wedding story. Bigger studios sometimes show a general studio portfolio rather than the portfolio of the the photographer who will be capturing your wedding story. Not only should you see the work of the wedding photographer who will tell your story but you should also be able to choose your photographer prior to signing an agreement. Don't let a studio assign a photographer to you based on some personality test or algorithm. Sadly, some studios actually do that.

Go Local

Its always great to support local businesses and that goes for local photography studios versus the big national studios. During your search you will find solo operators, local medium sized studios, and national studios. Because of the size and scope of the national studios they generally don't offer a personalized service. You most likely will just be a number. From a quick glance they look like a good value but because so many people need to get paid within the studio you wind up loosing something along the way in terms of quality or service. Solo operators can be a good option since you get very personalized service as the photographer is invested in your wedding. They however generally lack a formal infrastructure and back up system. The best of both worlds is a medium sized local photography studio with a handful of photographers. You get the personalized service and attention you deserve. Since the studio has a number of photographers you have the peace of mind in knowing that they have back up photographers. With a small boutique studio, there is greater oversight and the photographers are held to a higher standard since everything they do is reviewed by the head photographer / studio owner.



RAW Format – the Ultimate in File Resolution

Raw? As in sushi? No, we are not talking about sushi but rather file format. Professional digital cameras can capture photos in a variety of file formats. RAW produces the best color saturation, more vibrant colors, and superior print quality. The format also allows the photographer more flexibility in the post processing of your wedding photos. Unfortunately, not all photographers spend the time required to post process wedding images which can be time consuming. Make sure to ask the photographers you interview what type if any post processing they do. Many studios shoot in JPEG format because it's easier and there's less post production work for them. The images come straight out of the camera "as-is". Then it becomes your responsibility to color correct the images. Also, JPEG's don't have nearly as much information in the digital file which means you can't make large prints and lose the beautiful rich colors you want. You definitely don't want a photographer to simply hand over the files without post processing them. Post processing entails color balance (adjust the color), touching up the images, and possibly applying creative effects.

One Photographer or Two Photographers?

For most weddings one good photographer is sufficient. In some cases like for larger weddings (more than 150 people) a second photographer may be a good idea. This is not to say that an experienced photographer can't handle a large party on their own, it just depends on the specifics of your event. Are the groomsmen & bridal party getting ready in the same hotel or across town from each other? Do you want both documented? Will your portraits be done during the cocktail hour? Sometimes it just boils down to logistics. Even the greatest photographer can't be in two places at once. In any of these situations a second photographer isn't required but should be considered. Every wedding is different and there are many factors to consider so we are always happy to discuss your wedding and make recommendations. If you decide that having a second photographer is the right choice for you, make sure that you'll actually have a second photographer and not an assistant. Some studios will bring a "second photographer" who is no more than an assistant who is learning on the job. The coverage by the assistant will probably not be as skillful or complete as the main photographer. Good studios will allow you to choose your second photographer based on their portfolios. The second photographer should have just as much experience as the main photographer, ensuring that your wedding coverage will be complete. It is our opinion that the photographers should not be learning on the job at your wedding. At Roman Grinev Photography, you get two experienced photographers when you book a second photographer. There are no "main" or "secondary" photographers so when you hire 2



photographers you get two primary photographers. As with the primary photographer, you get to see the work of the second photographer and choose who you would like to work with.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do we get to choose the wedding photographer we'd like to work with?

Yes, absolutely. We show individual wedding portfolios with the work of each of our wedding photographers and give you the opportunity to select your favorite. If you decide to add a second photographer, you will be able to select that photographer as well based on viewing their portfolio. There are no "main" or "secondary" photographers so when you hire 2 photographers you get two primary photographers. This is not the case with most studios who bring a second photographer with less experience. All of our photographers are equally skilled and will work as a team to ensure that your wedding day coverage is complete. Encouraging you to select who you want to work with will provide peace of mind in knowing exactly who your photographer (s) will be. We believe that this approach is far better than having a studio assign a random photographer to you.

Can we see complete weddings by each of the photographers?

Yes. Complete weddings by each of our photographers can be seen [here](#) and more when we meet. We show the full wedding in order to provide a sense of how each of our photographers tells a complete story. We show images specifically from the photographer who will be documenting your wedding, and emphasize that it's very important to see the work of the photographer you will be hiring rather than the studio's general portfolio.

Why are you so affordable?

We believe that quality photography shouldn't be reserved for those with only the most extravagant wedding budgets. Our intention is to provide excellent service & products at a fair price in order to work with a wide range of clients planning all types of weddings. From the intimate backyard affair to the high end hotel wedding, we're always honored to be a part of your most important day. See what couples are saying about us on Wedding Wire and The Knot. Read reviews where you'll see that our average rating is 4.9 out of 5 on Wedding Wire and 5 of 5 on The Knot.



Will our photographer shoot another wedding on the same day?

No. Each photographer does one wedding per day. Once you reserve your photographer, we block off the whole day just for you.

Do you shoot in RAW or JPEG's format?

All images are captured in RAW format, producing more vibrant colors and superior print quality. RAW format also allows us to do more post processing and make any necessary adjustments to the images. We deliver high resolution Jpegs which make it easier for you to use the files and make prints. By starting with a RAW file we can deliver a better Jpeg file for you to make beautiful and vibrant prints. If a photographer captures images in Jpeg format, there's very limited post processing and editing that can be done and large prints may look distorted. Since RAW is the standard format for professional wedding photographers, someone capturing images in Jpeg format might be a sign of an amateur photographer. Many studios shoot in JPEG format because it's easier and there's less post production work for them. The images come straight out of the camera "as-is". Then it becomes your responsibility to color correct the images. Also, JPEG's don't have nearly as much information in the digital file which means you can't make large prints and lose the beautiful rich colors you want.

Do you post-process the images?

Yes. We go through each image to color correct and touch up when necessary. We believe your images deserve the extra work.

Do we have unlimited rights for using our images as we wish including making our own prints, albums, and posting them online?

Yes, we give you unlimited rights to use the images as you wish including making your own prints, albums, and posting them online.

How many images will you post process/edit and how many will we receive?

We like to deliver as many images as possible and generally, depending on the number of hours covered, most couples receive about 1000 post processed images for one photographer and 1600 post processed images for two photographers. The only images we remove are those with eyes closed, out of focus, etc. Some photographers only post process/edit a handful of images out of the hundreds they may deliver to you. We believe that all of your delivered images should be processed/edited. Some



like to over edit and remove too many images that they personally don't like such as people mingling and other more general wedding images. They may feel that these images are not anything special and should be removed. We believe that these types of images, although they may not be the most dynamic, are important in providing a well rounded representation of your day. We believe in delivering all usable images which are captured.

What is your back up plan in case there's an emergency?

Unlike most solo photographers, we have an extensive back up system in place to assure that an emergency doesn't ruin your wedding. Because there are 8 of us, you can be assured that your wedding will be covered if your chosen photographer becomes severally ill or is in an accident. In addition to the photographers within the studio, we also have an extensive back up list of great photographers we know and respect in the area. We have staff on call for wedding days who will have your wedding information as well as all relevant contact information. You will be given their contact information before the wedding in case of an emergency. We are very happy to say that in 19 years we have never missed a wedding.