



# 101 Wedding Guide

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION TO CONSIDER BEFORE PLANNING YOUR WEDDING

BERTINO BROTHERS MOBILE FOOD

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

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HELLO FRIENDS

# *I'm Daniel*

I have spent years immersing myself in the intricacies of wedding planning. I've collaborated with vendors, attended various events, and interviewed industry professionals. My passion lies in helping couples navigate their unique journeys while capturing the essence of their love stories.

In this concise "101 Wedding Guide," I aim to assist every couple in their preparations for their special day.

According to the top industry experts, from wedding photographers to bridal stylists, which surveyed in several countries. The most important wedding vendors are (in no particular order) Venue, Photography, Catering and Entertainment (DJ/Band).

These vendors typically have the biggest impact on the overall experience and satisfaction of both the couple and their guests.



## **Let's see how your wedding can be a true Success or a totally Disaster!**

### *The key to a successful wedding includes several essential elements:*

1. **Clear Planning:** Start with a well-organized plan, including timelines, budgets, and a checklist to keep everything on track.
2. **Communication:** Maintain open communication with vendors, the wedding party, and family to ensure everyone is aligned and informed.
3. **Choosing the Right Vendors:** Select reliable and experienced vendors who understand your vision and can deliver quality service.
4. **Realistic Budgeting:** Set a budget that reflects your priorities and stick to it, allowing for some flexibility for unexpected expenses.
5. **Guest Experience:** Consider your guests' comfort and enjoyment, from venue accessibility to food and entertainment.
6. **Personal Touches:** Incorporate meaningful elements that reflect your personalities and relationship, making the day unique and memorable.
7. **Flexibility:** Be prepared for changes and unexpected situations, maintaining a positive attitude throughout the day.
8. **Focus on the Moment:** Take time to enjoy the day with your partner, family, and friends, creating lasting memories.

By focusing on these aspects, you can create a wedding that is not only successful but also truly reflective of your love story.

### *Several factors can potentially ruin a wedding, including:*

1. **Poor Weather:** For outdoor weddings, unexpected rain or extreme heat can create significant challenges.
2. **Vendor Issues:** Last-minute cancellations or no-shows from key vendors (like the photographer or caterer) can lead to chaos.
3. **Guest Misbehavior:** Disruptive behavior from guests can detract from the celebration and create uncomfortable situations.
4. **Budget Overruns:** Unexpected expenses can lead to stress and dissatisfaction if the budget isn't managed carefully.
5. **Timing Problems:** Delays in the schedule can cause a domino effect, impacting the ceremony, reception, and other events.
6. **Communication Breakdown:** Miscommunication between the couple, vendors, and wedding party can lead to misunderstandings and mistakes.
7. **Neglected Details:** Overlooking important details, such as seating arrangements or meal preferences, can create awkward situations.
8. **Unrealistic Expectations:** Having expectations that are too high or unattainable can lead to disappointment if things don't go perfectly.
9. **Family Conflicts:** Tensions among family members can create a negative atmosphere.
10. **Stress and Pressure:** High levels of stress can lead to conflicts or emotional breakdowns, affecting the couple's enjoyment of their day.

Being prepared for these potential issues with contingency plans and a flexible attitude can help mitigate their impact and keep the focus on the celebration.

# *Average Wedding Costs in Queensland*

## PRICE GUIDE

The average cost of a wedding in Queensland typically ranges from \$30,000 to \$50,000, depending on various factors. Here's a general breakdown:

### *Main Expenses*

1. Venue: \$2,000 to \$22,000
2. Photography: \$2,000 to \$4,500
3. Food Catering: \$70 to \$150 per person
4. Entertainment: \$1,500 to \$3,500
5. Wedding Planner: \$1,500 to \$5,000
6. Hair & Make Up: \$300 to \$600
7. Celebrant: \$700 to \$1,500
8. Videography: \$1,500 to \$3,500
9. Flowers: \$500 to \$6,000
10. Basic Decor: \$1,000 to \$3,000
11. Furniture: \$1,000 to \$5,000
12. Jewellery: \$1000 to \$4,000
13. Wedding Attire: \$1,200 to \$4,000
14. Drink Catering: \$800 to \$2,000 BYO
15. Cake: \$500 to \$1,500
16. Cars and Transport: \$500 to \$2,000
17. Photo Booth: \$500 to \$1,500

These costs can vary widely based on individual choices, date, guest count, and specific preferences. It's essential to set a budget and prioritise the vendors must be on site the wedding day.

*Take into consideration that many Vendors and Venues may apply  
Discounts for Low Season, Weekdays or Fridays.*

# *Essential*

THE FOUR MOST IMPORTANT VENDORS IN A WEDDING ARE:

1. VENUE: The wedding venue sets the tone and atmosphere for the entire event. Whether it's a church, ballroom, or outdoor setting, it plays a crucial role in the experience and logistics of the day.

2. PHOTOGRAPHY: Capturing the memories of the day is essential. A skilled photographer and videographer will preserve the moments for the couple to relive for years to come.

3. CATERING: Food and drink are central to any celebration. A good caterer will provide a memorable dining experience that reflects the couple's tastes and ensures guests are well taken care of.

4. ENTERTAINMENT (DJ/Band): Music and entertainment are key to setting the mood and keeping the energy lively throughout the celebration. A great DJ or live band ensures that the dance floor stays full and guests are engaged.

CONTACT FIRST YOUR FAVORITE VENDORS BEFORE LOCKING  
THE VENUE



# Venue

# 01

## *Average prices:*

The average price for a wedding venue in Queensland can vary widely based on factors like location, size, accommodations and amenities. Generally, you can expect:

1. Budget Venues: \$2,000 to \$5,000.
2. Mid-Range Venues: \$5,000 to \$15,000.
3. Luxury Venues: \$15,000 to \$30,000 or more.

These estimates often include venue hire but may not cover additional costs like catering, decorations, and other services. It's advisable to get quotes from various venues to find one that suits your budget and needs.

## *Why the Venue is so important?*

1. **Setting the Tone:** The venue establishes the overall ambiance and style of your wedding, whether it's formal, casual, rustic, or modern.
2. **Layout:** Finding a venue that accommodates your guest list and allows for the desired layout (ceremony, reception, dancing) is essential.
3. **Logistics:** A suitable venue can simplify logistics, including accessibility for guests, parking, and space for vendors.
4. **Weather Considerations:** An indoor venue provides a backup plan for unpredictable weather if you're considering an outdoor ceremony.
5. **Location:** The venue's location can influence your guests' convenience and travel arrangements, making it an important factor to consider.

Overall, selecting the right venue is a key step in creating a memorable wedding experience.

## *When looking for a Venue for your wedding, consider the following factors:*

1. **Capacity:** Ensure the venue can comfortably accommodate your guest list.
2. **Location:** Choose a convenient location for you and your guests, considering accessibility and travel options.
4. **Amenities:** Check for necessary facilities, such as restrooms, parking, and catering options.
5. **Availability:** Confirm the venue is available on your desired date and for the required time.
6. **Cost:** Understand the rental fees and what's included, like tables, chairs, and decor.
7. **Flexibility:** Determine if the venue allows for customization in terms of layout and decor.
8. **Weather Considerations:** If considering an outdoor venue, check for weather contingency plans.
9. **Vendor Restrictions:** Inquire if there are any restrictions on using outside vendors for catering, decor, or entertainment.
10. **Reviews and Reputation:** Look for feedback from past clients to gauge the venue's quality and service.
11. **Budget:** Venue costs can significantly impact your overall budget, so it's vital to find a place that fits your financial plan.

Taking the time to evaluate these factors can help you find the perfect venue for your wedding day.



# Photographer

# 02

## *Average prices:*

The average price for a wedding photographer in Australia typically ranges from \$2,000 to \$4,500.

1. Budget Photographers: Around \$1,500 to \$2,500.
2. Mid-Range Photographers: \$2,500 to \$4,000.
3. High-End Photographers: \$4,000 to \$7,000 or more.

These prices can vary based on factors like experience, package inclusions (such as albums or prints), and location. It's advisable to compare packages and portfolios to find a photographer that fits your style and budget.

## *Why the Photographer is so important?*

A wedding photographer is essential for several reasons:

1. **Capturing Memories:** They preserve the special moments of your day, allowing you to relive those memories for years to come.
2. **Storytelling:** A skilled photographer tells the story of your wedding through images, capturing emotions, details, and the overall atmosphere.
3. **Quality and Experience:** Professional photographers understand lighting, composition, and timing, ensuring high-quality images that reflect the day beautifully.
4. **Detail Focus:** They document not just the major events but also the small, often overlooked details that are significant to your wedding.
5. **Expert Guidance:** Experienced photographers can provide direction and help pose you and your guests for the best shots, making everyone feel comfortable.
6. **Post-Wedding Keepsakes:** Professional photos can be turned into albums, prints, and digital formats, creating lasting keepsakes of your celebration.
7. **Documenting Relationships:** They capture the interactions and emotions between family and friends, preserving those connections in a visual format.

Overall, a wedding photographer plays a crucial role in ensuring that the essence of your wedding day is beautifully captured and remembered.

## *When looking for a Photographer for your wedding, consider the following factors:*

1. **Style and Aesthetic:** Choose a photographer whose style aligns with your vision, whether it's traditional, candid, documentary, or artistic.
2. **Experience:** Look for someone with experience in wedding photography, as they'll be familiar with the nuances of the day.
3. **Portfolio:** Review their portfolio to assess the quality of their work and see examples of past weddings.
4. **Personality:** A good rapport is essential; you'll want someone you feel comfortable with on your big day.
5. **Packages and Pricing:** Understand what's included in their packages (hours of coverage, number of photos, albums, etc.) and ensure it fits your budget.
6. **Reviews and Recommendations:** Check reviews from past clients or ask for referrals to gauge their reliability and professionalism.
7. **Backup Plans:** Inquire about their backup equipment and contingency plans in case of emergencies.
8. **Timeline and Communication:** Ensure they can accommodate your schedule and are responsive to your questions and ideas.
9. **Post-Production:** Ask about their editing style and the typical turnaround time for receiving your photos.

Taking these factors into account will help you find a photographer who captures your day beautifully and professionally.



# Food Catering

# 03

## *Average Prices:*

Average prices for wedding food catering in Australia can vary widely based on location, menu choices, and service style. Here are some general estimates:

1. Cocktail Reception: \$40 to \$80 per person.
2. Buffet Style: \$40 to \$100 per person.
3. Family/Feast Style: \$60 to \$120 per person.
4. Plated Dinner: \$70 to \$150 per person.

These prices include food and equipment, but may not cover additional costs like staff, travel fee or beverages. It's best to get quotes from multiple caterers to find options that fit your budget and preferences.

## *Why the Food Caterer is so important?*

The food caterer is extremely important for several reasons:

1. **Guest Satisfaction:** Quality food can significantly enhance the overall experience, making your wedding memorable for guests.
2. **Variety and Dietary Needs:** A good caterer can offer diverse menu options and accommodate dietary restrictions, ensuring everyone feels included.
3. **Professionalism:** Experienced caterers manage food service efficiently, allowing for a smooth flow during the event.
4. **Presentation:** Catering also involves the aesthetic aspect of food presentation, which adds to the overall ambiance of the wedding.
5. **Stress Reduction:** Hiring a reliable caterer takes the burden of meal planning and execution off your shoulders, letting you focus on other aspects of the day.
6. **Logistics:** They handle the logistics of food service, including setup, serving, and cleanup, which is crucial for a seamless event.
7. **Expertise:** They bring knowledge of food safety, presentation, and timing, which are crucial for a successful event.

Overall, a food caterer plays a vital role in ensuring that your wedding is enjoyable and memorable for you and your guests.

## *When looking for a Food Caterer for your wedding, consider the following factors:*

1. **Experience and Reputation:** Look for caterers with a proven track record in wedding catering and positive reviews.
2. **Menu Options:** Ensure they offer a variety of menu choices, including dietary accommodations (vegan, gluten-free, etc.).
3. **Tasting Session:** Request a tasting to evaluate the quality and presentation of the food.
4. **Service Style:** Decide on your preferred service style (buffet, plated, family-style) and ensure the caterer can accommodate it.
5. **Pricing and Packages:** Compare pricing, including what's included (staff, equipment, etc.), and check for any hidden fees.
6. **Flexibility:** Look for a caterer willing to customize the menu and adapt to your preferences.
7. **Communication:** Choose someone responsive and easy to communicate with throughout the planning process.
8. **Staffing:** Inquire about the staff-to-guest ratio and their experience in serving at events.
9. **Logistics:** Caterers handle the necessary logistics, including equipment rental, setup, and cleanup, ensuring everything runs smoothly.
10. **References:** Ask for references from past clients to get firsthand feedback on their services.

Taking the time to research and meet with potential caterers can help ensure your wedding food is a memorable highlight.





# Important Tips

*Before choosing the food service for your wedding, you should consider a few important factors:*

Firstly, when a quote is too low, it is never a good deal. This is because the caterer must cut costs in four important areas: Quality, Quantity and Variety of the food, last but not least, the Service.

The catering industry involves many staff members, the team can be inconsistent due to the varying number of guests at each wedding and the distance to the venues. As a result, it can be challenging for the caterer to find casual trained staff available for each event. In fact, according to Easy Wedding Report, one of the most common complaints from couples is about having untrained or insufficient staff at their reception.

If the venue does not have its own restaurant, It is recommended opting for a simpler food service. Why is this important? Because a kitchen is usually organized according to the menu and type of cuisine that the restaurant has chosen. For instance, the kitchen equipment in an Italian Cuisine is completely different from that in an Asian Cuisine. Many wedding venues either lack a basic commercial kitchen, or may have kitchens that are too small, or do not have a kitchen that is well-connected to the reception area, or do not have kitchen at all. This can create significant challenges for the caterer, especially in inclement weather. For these reasons, an experienced caterer often recommends simpler food service options in such circumstances, such as Cocktail-Style, Buffet-Style, or Feast-Style Services.

However, this issue usually does not occur if the venue has its own restaurant. When open during the week, the staff becomes better trained and more consistent due to increased working hours in their weekly shifts. Moreover, the kitchen is usually equipped with all the necessary tools to handle more complex services, such as alternate drop service, and has direct access to the dining room in case of rain.

*Another important factor not to be underestimated is knowing the following:*

1. **Catering Multiple Events:** It's essential to know if the caterer usually handles multiple events on the same day. This can lead to potential drawbacks, such as the caterer's owner not being on site and delegating responsibilities to someone less experienced. As a result, your special day may not receive the dedication it deserves. Additionally, they might be short-staffed or unable to provide a backup setup if it's already in use for another event.
2. **On-Site Management:** It's always better to work with a catering business where the person you communicate with will be present on the wedding day. This ensures they are aware of all your needs and familiar with the venue.
3. **Arrival Time:** It is recommended to have at least an "one-hour gap" between when the setup is completed and the service starts. Caterers are often on the road, and unforeseen circumstances such as flat tires or traffic jams can occur.
4. **Backup Setup:** Malfunctions with vehicles or accidents on the road can happen, so it's always wise to have a backup plan in place.
5. **Familiarity with the Venue:** It's important for the caterer to know the venue in advance, or to conduct an inspection beforehand. This allows them to plan the necessary equipment, identify flat areas for their vehicles, and locate power points to ensure a plan B for inclement weather.
6. **Business History:** There are significant financial investments involved in a catering business, which is essentially a restaurant on wheels. Understanding how long the caterer has been operating and how many weddings they have handled is crucial. Many businesses fail within two years, leaving couples without a caterer at the last minute.

In conclusion, having an Off Site Food Caterer with experience for your wedding is crucial for ensuring a smooth and successful event. Experienced caterers bring not only culinary expertise but also valuable knowledge of event logistics, timing, and guest management. They can create a menu that fits your vision while accommodating dietary preferences and restrictions. An experienced catering team can anticipate challenges, manage large groups efficiently, and ensure food is served at the proper temperature and in the right portions. They also understand how to handle unexpected issues with minimal disruption, such as food shortages, delays, or last-minute changes.

Ultimately, a professional catering service helps create a memorable dining experience, reduces stress for the couple, and enhances the overall enjoyment of the wedding, making it a key element in the success of the event.

# Types of Food Services

## Cocktail Style:

Average prices \$40 to \$80 per person.

### *Meaning:*

In a Cocktail Style Service food is served in a more informal, finger-food or small-plate format, rather than as a formal, plated meal. Typically, food is presented in bite-sized portions, and guests can either mingle and grab food from food stations or be served appetizers by waitstaff circulating with trays. Guests typically stand or mingle as they enjoy food and drinks, which promotes a more interactive, relaxed atmosphere.

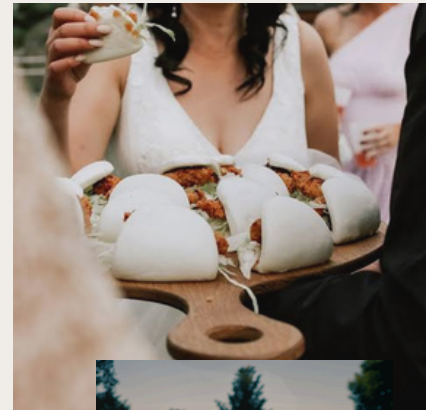
### *Advantages of Cocktail Style Service:*

1. **Cost-Effective:** The cost of cocktail-style service is often lower than that of full plated meals. It doesn't require extensive table setup or additional decorations. The absence of full dinnerware or formal table settings can make cleanup simpler and faster. This requests fewer staff members, resulting in reduced overall working hours.
2. **Variety of Small Bites:** Guests can enjoy a wide variety of finger foods or small servings, offering something for everyone and reducing the likelihood of dietary preferences being an issue.
3. **Space-Efficient:** Since there are no formal seating arrangements required, cocktail-style service can be ideal for events with limited space or those that want to maximize the number of guests.
4. **Informal and Flexible:** Cocktail-style service is more casual and allows guests to move freely, encouraging mingling and interaction without the need to sit down for a formal meal.
5. **Social Atmosphere:** It fosters a more social environment, with people encouraged to move around, engage with others, and enjoy the event in a more relaxed manner.
6. **Trendy and Unique:** Provides a modern twist to traditional wedding receptions, appealing to couples seeking a more contemporary, less formal vibe.

### *Disadvantages of Cocktail Style Service:*

1. **Limited Substantial Food:** Since the food is typically served in small portions, guests may not feel as satisfied as they would with a full meal, especially if the event is lengthy. (Consult the menu with your Caterer)
2. **Lack of Seating:** Not having seating available for all guests can be uncomfortable for some, particularly for older individuals or those with special needs who may prefer sitting down. (Check first the furniture with your coordinator)
3. **Manage Dietary Restrictions:** Accommodating specific dietary needs can be more complicated, as guests might not have the same options as they would in a plated dinner. (Please consult with your caterer how they will handle the dietary requirements)
4. **Less Formal or Structured:** For events that require a more formal or structured atmosphere, cocktail-style service might not convey the appropriate tone.
5. **Missed Bites:** When food is served while walking around, guests may miss out on some items.
6. **Alcohol Consumption:** A cocktail-style service might lead to higher alcohol consumption since guests can drink more freely.

Cocktail-style service works well for casual weddings, where mingling is encouraged, it can be an excellent choice for a laid-back, modern event but may require thoughtful planning to ensure guests are comfortable and well-fed. Moreover, it may not be the best choice for more formal or sit-down events requiring a more structured dining experience.



# Types of Food Services

## Buffet Style:

Average prices \$40 to \$100 per person.

### *Meaning:*

A Buffet Style Service refers to a meal setup where guests serve themselves from a variety of dishes laid out on tables. Instead of being served individual plated meals by waitstaff, guests can choose from a spread of appetizers, main courses, sides, and desserts, allowing for more variety and flexibility in what they eat. This style is often more informal and can accommodate larger groups more easily, offering a relaxed, self-serve dining experience.

### *Advantages of Buffet Style Service:*

1. **Variety and Choice:** Guests have a wide selection of food options to choose from, catering to different tastes and dietary preferences.
2. **Self-service Convenience:** Customers can serve themselves at their own pace, helping them control portion sizes and enjoy as much or as little as they like.
3. **Efficient for Large Groups:** Buffets can serve many people at once, reducing wait times and allowing guests to eat at their convenience.
4. **Cost-Effective:** For hosts, buffets can be a more economical option compared to plated meals, as less staff is required to serve individual portions.
5. **Social and Interactive:** Buffet-style meals often encourage mingling and interaction, as guests move around to choose their food and share tables.
6. **Reduced Staffing Needs:** Buffets require fewer waitstaff since guests serve themselves, which can lower labor costs for the event.

### *Disadvantages of Buffet Style Service:*

1. **Food Waste:** Guests may take more food than they can consume, leading to increased food waste.
2. **Quality Control:** It can be harder to maintain consistent food quality when large quantities are prepared and left out for guests to serve themselves.
3. **Crowding and Long Lines:** Popular dishes can lead to crowding around the buffet table, causing delays and a less enjoyable dining experience.
4. **Hygiene Concerns:** Buffets can present health and hygiene risks, as multiple people touch serving utensils and food trays.
5. **Less Formal:** For more upscale or formal events, a buffet might not create the same refined atmosphere as plated meals, which can affect the overall guest experience.
6. **Limited Dietary Control:** It's more challenging to accommodate specific dietary needs or preferences with buffet service, as food is often mixed together in large quantities.

Overall, buffet-style service is ideal for casual events, large gatherings, or when variety and efficiency are prioritized, but may not suit every setting or dining experience.



# Types of Food Services

## Feast Style:

Average prices \$60 to \$120 per person.

### *Meaning:*

The Feast Style Service refers to a more traditional, communal dining experience where large platters or dishes of food are served family-style at each table. Guests are typically seated at tables, and rather than receiving individual plated meals, they share large portions of food that are passed around among the guests at the table.

Wedding feast style service is popular for couples who want a relaxed, family-oriented, and communal dining experience, where guests feel comfortable and engaged, and the focus is on sharing a meal together.

### *Advantages of Wedding Feast-Style Service:*

1. **Casual and Social Atmosphere:** A feast-style service encourages guests to interact and share food, creating a warm, communal atmosphere. It can make the event feel more relaxed and intimate, fostering conversation.
2. **Variety of Dishes:** Typically, feast-style service includes a variety of foods, offering guests a wide selection of options to choose from, which can accommodate various dietary preferences or restrictions.
3. **Reduced Wait Time:** Since dishes are served in large portions at once, guests can quickly dig in without waiting for individual plates to be prepared, unlike a plated dinner service.
4. **Cost-Effective:** Depending on the catering arrangements, a family-style or feast-style meal can be more affordable than a plated dinner, as it often requires fewer servers and the food is presented in larger portions.
5. **Family and Tradition:** The communal aspect of feast-style service can evoke a sense of tradition and togetherness, making it ideal for couples looking to create a homely, family-oriented atmosphere at their wedding.
6. **Interactive Dining:** Guests can enjoy serving themselves or passing dishes around, which adds a fun and interactive element to the meal, contributing to the overall experience of the event.

### *Disadvantages of Wedding Feast-Style Service:*

1. **Limited Portion Control:** It can be challenging to ensure that everyone gets enough food, especially in larger groups. Some guests may take more than others, leaving certain dishes in short supply.
2. **Less Formality:** If the couple is looking for a more elegant, traditional dining experience, a feast-style service may not align with the desired ambiance. It can feel less polished than a plated dinner.
3. **Potential for Food Spills and Mess:** With guests serving themselves, there's a higher chance of spills or messy eating, which could lead to a less refined dining experience.
4. **Seating and Space Considerations:** Feast-style meals typically require large tables and enough space for platters and serving bowls, which may not be feasible in every venue, especially smaller or more formal ones.
5. **Serving Logistics:** Catering for a feast-style meal can be more complicated than other service styles. The caterer must ensure there's enough food to accommodate all guests, and the dishes need to be replenished regularly throughout the event, which can require more attention from staff.

6. **Guest Etiquette:** Some guests may feel uncomfortable with the informality of serving themselves, especially if they're used to more traditional dining styles.

Overall, this service style is ideal for creating a warm, informal, and communal atmosphere for large number of people, often chosen for its ability to bring people together around the table. It's especially popular when the venue does not have a commercial kitchen.



# Types of Food Services

## Plated Style:

Average prices \$70 to \$150 per person.

### *Meaning:*

Plated style service refers to a formal style of dining where each guest is individually served a pre-plated meal by waitstaff. In this style, the food is portioned and arranged on a plate in the kitchen before being brought to the table, ensuring that each guest receives a neatly presented dish.

Plated style service is ideal for weddings that prioritize a refined, elegant dining experience, and it works well for more formal or traditional weddings where guests are seated at assigned tables for a structured meal.

### *Advantages of Wedding Feast-Style Service:*

1. **Elegant and Formal Presentation:** Plated meals give a sense of sophistication and elegance to the event. It's ideal for formal weddings or those with a sit-down dinner style.
2. **Guest Experience:** With each guest receiving their own meal, there's an air of exclusivity and personalization. This also eliminates the need for guests to wait in line, enhancing the overall dining experience.
3. **Control Over Portions and Presentation:** The caterer controls the portion sizes and presentation, ensuring each plate looks polished and there is consistency across all servings. This can lead to a more aesthetically pleasing and well-executed meal.
4. **Minimal Waste:** Since the meals are plated and served directly to guests, food waste is often more predictable and manageable compared to buffet-style service, where portions may be taken but not eaten.
5. **Less Crowd Control:** With plated service, guests stay seated, avoiding long lines or crowding around a buffet, which can keep things organized and more relaxed.

### *Disadvantages of Wedding Feast-Style Service:*

1. **Limited Food Choices:** less variety of food which could lead to dissatisfaction between the guests.
2. **Cost:** Plated catering is often more expensive than buffet or feast style because it requires more staff to serve each guest individually, as well as additional preparation for the customized plates.
3. **Slower Service:** Depending on the number of guests, plating and serving meals can take longer, which might lead to delays between courses or a longer overall dining time. This could impact the flow of the event, especially if there are other activities scheduled.
4. **Logistical Complexity:** The caterer must coordinate the timing carefully to ensure all meals are served at the correct temperature and to the right guests, especially if there are multiple meal choices. Mismanagement could result in cold food or mistakes in meal delivery.
5. **Less Social Interaction:** In a plated meal setup, guests remain at their seats, which could limit social interaction compared to cocktail style meals where people move around, engage with different groups, and mingle more freely.
6. **Menu Restrictions:** Since the meals need to be pre-planned, it might be more difficult to accommodate special dietary needs (e.g., gluten-free, vegan, etc.) on short notice, and offering a wide variety of options may be impractical.

Plated catering is ideal for couples seeking a formal, elegant wedding experience and is well-suited for events with fewer guests or those on a set timeline. However, it comes with higher costs, less flexibility in meal choices, and potential challenges in accommodating special dietary needs. Above all, the kitchen equipment of the premises must be well organized. It's important to weigh these factors based on the wedding size, budget, and desired atmosphere.



# Entertainment

# 04

## *Average prices:*

In Queensland, the average price for wedding entertainment generally falls within the following ranges:

1. DJ: \$1,000 to \$2,500
2. Live Band: \$2,000 to \$5,000 (depending on the number of musicians and their experience)
3. Soloist or Duo: \$1000 to \$2,500
4. All day Musician/Dj (One Person): \$2000 to \$4,000

These prices can vary based on factors like number of setups (one for ceremony, one for reception, one after dinner, type of equipment and specific services offered.

## *Why the Entertainment is so important?*

Entertainment is crucial for several reasons:

1. **Sets the Atmosphere:** Entertainment helps create the mood for the wedding, influencing how guests feel and engage with the event.
2. **Keeps Guests Engaged:** Good entertainment keeps guests occupied and prevents lulls in the festivities, encouraging social interaction.
3. **Memorable Moments:** Unique performances or engaging activities can create lasting memories that guests will talk about long after the event.
4. **Encourages Dancing and Participation:** A skilled DJ or band can motivate guests to dance, fostering a lively and celebratory environment.
5. **Personal Touch:** Custom entertainment can reflect the couple's personalities and interests, making the celebration more meaningful.
6. **Transitions Events Smoothly:** Entertainment can help guide the flow of the day, such as announcing special moments like speeches or cake cutting.
7. **Breaks the Ice:** Fun activities or performances can help guests mingle and feel more comfortable, especially if they don't know each other.

Overall, entertainment plays a vital role in enhancing the overall experience of a wedding, ensuring that it is joyful and engaging for everyone involved.

## *When looking for a Musician for your wedding, consider the following factors:*

1. **Style and Genre:** Ensure their music style aligns with your wedding theme and personal taste.
2. **Experience:** Look for musicians who have experience performing at weddings and can handle the specific dynamics of such events.
3. **Repertoire:** Check their song list to ensure they can play your preferred songs, including any special requests.
4. **Performance Quality:** Watch videos or attend live performances to assess their skill and stage presence.
5. **Professionalism:** Look for reliable and professional behavior, including timely communication and a clear contract.
6. **Equipment:** Ensure they have high-quality sound equipment that suits your venue's requirements.
7. **Flexibility:** Confirm they can adapt to changes or requests during the event, such as adjusting the setlist.
8. **Reviews and References:** Read reviews or ask for references from past clients to gauge their reputation and reliability.
9. **Pricing:** Understand their rates and what's included in the package, such as setup time and travel expenses.
10. **Personality:** Choose someone whose personality meshes well with yours and your wedding vibe, as they will interact with guests.

By considering these factors, you can find a musician who enhances your wedding day and creates a memorable atmosphere.



# Celebrant

# 05

## *Average prices:*

The average price for a wedding celebrant in Queensland typically ranges from \$700 to \$1,500. Factors that can influence the cost include the celebrant's experience, the complexity of the ceremony, travel expenses, and any additional services (like rehearsal coordination, Mc or personalized vows).

It's a good idea to discuss your specific needs and compare quotes from several celebrants to find the right fit for your wedding.



## *Why the Celebrant is so important?*

1. **Legal Authority:** They are licensed to perform legal ceremonies, ensuring your marriage is recognized by law.
2. **Personalized Ceremony:** A celebrant can craft a ceremony that reflects your values, beliefs, and love story, making it unique to you as a couple.
3. **Guidance and Support:** They help you navigate the planning process, offering advice on vows, readings, and the structure of the ceremony.
4. **Professionalism:** Experienced celebrants know how to manage the ceremony smoothly, including handling any unexpected issues that may arise.
5. **Emotional Tone:** They set the tone of the ceremony, helping create a meaningful atmosphere that resonates with you and your guests.
6. **Customization:** Celebrants can incorporate cultural or religious elements, rituals, and personal touches to enhance your ceremony.
7. **Ceremony Coordination:** They often coordinate with other vendors to ensure the ceremony runs seamlessly.

Having a skilled and caring celebrant can significantly enhance your wedding experience, making the ceremony memorable and heartfelt.

## *When looking for a Celebrant for your wedding, consider the following factors:*

1. **Experience and Qualifications:** Ensure they are a registered and experienced celebrant with a solid understanding of the legal requirements for marriage.
2. **Style and Personality:** Choose someone whose style and personality resonate with you. They should be warm, approachable, and able to make you feel comfortable.
3. **Customization:** Look for a celebrant who is willing to personalize your ceremony, incorporating your love story, values, and any specific requests.
4. **Communication:** They should be responsive and easy to communicate with throughout the planning process.
5. **References and Reviews:** Check reviews or ask for references from previous couples to gauge their professionalism and effectiveness.
6. **Ceremony Structure:** Ask about their typical ceremony structure and what elements they can include (vows, readings, rituals).
7. **Fees and Packages:** Understand their pricing structure and what's included in their services, such as rehearsal time and travel costs.
8. **Backup Plans:** Inquire if they have a backup plan in case of emergencies, such as illness.
9. **Comfort Level:** Choose someone you feel comfortable with, as they will play a significant role in one of the most important moments of your life.



Taking these factors into account will help you find a celebrant who can create a memorable and meaningful ceremony for your wedding day.

# Wedding Planner - Stylist

# 06

## *Average prices:*

The average price for a Wedding Planner in Australia typically ranges from \$1,500 to \$5,000. Here's a general breakdown:

1. Partial Planning: \$1,500 to \$3,000 (for assistance with specific aspects of the planning process).
2. Full-Service Planning: \$3,000 to \$5,000 or more (for comprehensive planning from start to finish).
3. Day-of Coordination: \$800 to \$2,000 (for managing the event on the wedding day itself).

Prices can vary based on the planner's experience, location, and the level of service provided. It's best to discuss your specific needs and budget with potential planners to find the right fit for your wedding.

## *Why the Wedding Planner is so important?*

A wedding planner is important for several key reasons:

1. **Expertise and Experience:** They have knowledge of the wedding industry, including trends, venues, and vendor recommendations, ensuring you make informed decisions.
2. **Time Management:** Planning a wedding can be time-consuming. A planner helps manage timelines and deadlines, allowing you to focus on other aspects of your life.
3. **Budget Management:** They can help you create and stick to a budget, providing insights on where to allocate funds effectively and potentially saving you money.
4. **Vendor Coordination:** A planner has established relationships with vendors, which can lead to better rates and smoother communication.
5. **Problem-Solving:** They are equipped to handle unexpected issues, ensuring that the wedding day runs smoothly without added stress for you.
6. **Creative Ideas:** A planner can offer creative suggestions to personalize your wedding and make it unique to your style and preferences.
7. **Logistics Management:** They manage logistics like seating arrangements, timelines, and the flow of the event, ensuring everything happens as planned.
8. **Emotional Support:** Planning a wedding can be stressful. A planner provides support and guidance throughout the process, helping to alleviate anxiety.
9. **Day-of Coordination:** On the wedding day, a planner ensures everything goes according to plan, allowing you and your family to relax and enjoy the celebration.
10. **Customization:** They can help create a wedding that reflects your vision and personality, ensuring every detail is thoughtfully executed.

Overall, a wedding planner can enhance the planning experience and contribute to a more enjoyable and memorable wedding day.



## *When looking for a Wedding Planner, consider the following factors:*

1. **Experience and Credentials:** Check their experience in the wedding industry and any relevant certifications.
2. **Portfolio:** Review their past work to see if their style aligns with your vision for your wedding.
3. **Communication Skills:** Look for someone who is responsive and easy to communicate with, as this will be crucial throughout the planning process.
4. **Vendor Connections:** A good planner should have a network of trusted vendors, which can simplify the selection process and potentially offer discounts.
5. **Personalization:** Find someone willing to understand your preferences and customize the planning to reflect your unique vision.
6. **Organizational Skills:** Assess their ability to manage timelines, logistics, and details to ensure a smooth planning process and event.

By considering these factors, you can find a wedding planner who will help make your day as seamless and enjoyable as possible.



# Videographer

07

## *Average prices:*

The average price for a wedding videographer in Queensland can vary depending on several factors. Here some average pricing:

1. Basic Packages: \$1,500 to \$2,500. It might cover the ceremony and highlights video, typically with 4-6 hours of coverage.
2. Mid-Range Packages: \$3,000 to \$5,000. A more comprehensive package that includes full-day coverage (up to 10 hours).
3. Premium Packages: \$5,000 to \$8,000 It may offer multiple videographers, high-quality editing, drone footage, etc..

It's important to note that prices can fluctuate based on the specific needs of the couple, the season and the level of expertise of the videographer. Always check with the videographer for a detailed quote based on your requirements.



## *Why the Videographer can be important?*

It may be crucial at a wedding because they capture the motion in a way that photographs cannot.

1. **Preserving Memories in Motion:** Unlike still photos, a video captures the full experience of the wedding day. From the vows and speeches to the first dance and laughter, a wedding video immortalizes the atmosphere, sounds, and emotions that photos alone can't convey.
2. **Telling a Story:** A talented videographer creates a narrative of the wedding day. They skillfully blend scenes from the ceremony, reception, and candid moments, weaving them together to tell a personalized, cinematic story that's unique to the couple.
3. **Capturing Unseen Moments:** Not everything happens in front of the camera. While photographers focus on key moments and group shots, videographers can capture the subtler, behind-the-scenes moments — like a guest's emotional reaction during the vows or intimate interactions that may be missed in still images. These moments can be deeply meaningful when revisited.
4. **High-Quality Editing:** Videographers often include professional editing in their packages, turning raw footage into a polished product. This may include adding music, voiceovers, slow-motion effects, or special edits that elevate the video, making it feel like a movie.
5. **A Legacy for Future Generations:** A wedding video isn't just for the couple — it's a legacy for future generations. Children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren can watch and experience the day through the eyes of their loved ones.
6. **Sharing with Loved Ones:** Many guests, especially those who can't attend the wedding, will miss out on key moments. A wedding video offers a way to share the highlights with those who couldn't be there.

A videographer brings a level of depth, emotion, and storytelling to a wedding that photographs alone can't match. They capture the essence of the day, to relive the memories for years to come.

## *When looking for a Videographer, consider the following factors:*

You want someone who will capture the essence of your day in a way that reflects your style and preferences. Here are key factors to consider when looking for the right wedding videographer:

1. **Style of Filmmaking:** Some videographers focus on a Cinematic approach, creating a more stylized, movie-like film with dramatic shots and editing, while others offer a Documentary style, capturing the day in a more natural, storytelling manner.
2. **Highlight Reel and Full-Length Video:** Some videographers offer just a highlight reel, while others provide a full-length edit of the ceremony, speeches, and other key moments. Make sure the package aligns with your expectations.
3. **Experience and Portfolio:** Past Work: Review their portfolio to see if their style and quality meet your expectations.
4. **Equipment:** Professional Gear ensure the videographer uses professional-grade cameras, audio equipment, and stabilizing tools (like gimbals or drones). High-quality equipment helps deliver crisp video and clear sound.
5. **Backups:** A reputable videographer should have backup equipment in case of technical issues.
6. **Personality and Compatibility:** Comfort on the Day: You'll be spending a lot of time with your videographer, so it's important that they're easy to work with and make you feel comfortable.

By focusing on these factors, you can choose a wedding videographer who will capture your special day in a way that aligns with your vision and create a beautiful, lasting memory of your wedding.

# Bartenders

# 08

## *Average prices:*

Hiring a mobile bar, which includes both equipment and bartending staff, can range from AUD 500 to AUD 2,000 (alcohol and soft drinks excluded), depending on event size, location, specific services required. Furthermore, if you desire to have longer service, the extra hours can be from \$50 to \$100 per staff member depending the experience and job description required. Ensure you have adequate glassware, ice, and garnishes. Some venues or bartending services may provide these, while others might require separate arrangements.

## *Why the Bartenders are so important?*

Drink catering is a key part of a wedding because it enhances the guest experience, complements the food, and adds to the overall atmosphere. Here are a few reasons why it's important:

1. **Guest Enjoyment:** A well-planned drink menu ensures guests have a great time, whether they prefer cocktails, wine, beer, or non-alcoholic options.
2. **Smooth Service:** Professional drink catering ensures drinks are served efficiently, avoiding long lines and keeping the celebration flowing.
3. **Customization:** Signature cocktails or curated drink selections can add a personal touch that reflects the couple's taste and theme.
4. **Food Pairing:** Drinks can enhance the flavors of the wedding menu, creating a more refined dining experience.
5. **Ambiance & Socializing:** A well-stocked bar encourages mingling and keeps the energy of the event lively.
6. **Responsible Consumption:** Professional caterers help manage alcohol service, ensuring responsible drinking and compliance with venue regulations.



## *When looking for a Drink Catering, consider the following factors:*

1. **Budget & Pricing:** Determine if the service charges hourly rates, per-guest pricing, or flat fees. Ask about extra costs like setup fees, overtime, or travel expenses. Compare BYO vs. full-service packages—BYO may require corkage fees and additional logistics.
2. **Experience & Professionalism:** Look for bartenders with wedding and large event experience. Ask if they are certified in responsible alcohol service. Check reviews, testimonials, and social media for customer feedback.
3. **Service & Staffing:** Ensure the number of bartenders is appropriate for your guest count (1 bartender per 50-75 guests is standard). Ask if they provide mixologists for specialty cocktails. Find out if they assist with drink menu planning and recommendations.
4. **Drink Menu & Customization:** Decide if you want a full bar (cocktails, wine, beer, spirits) or a limited menu (beer & wine only). Ask if they offer signature cocktails to personalize the experience. Ensure there are non-alcoholic options like mocktails, soft drinks, and juices.
5. **Licensing & Insurance:** Verify that the bartending service has a liquor license if needed. Ensure they have liability insurance to cover accidents or alcohol-related issues.
6. **Equipment & Supplies:** Ask if they provide glassware, ice, mixers, garnishes, and bar tools or if you need to supply them. Check if they offer a mobile bar setup if your venue doesn't have a bar area. Confirm if they bring coolers, napkins, and drink dispensers.
7. **Venue & Logistics:** Ensure your venue allows external bartending services. Confirm the setup and breakdown times needed. Check if they require a water source, electricity, or a designated bar space.
9. **Additional Services :**Some bartenders offer themed bars, flair bartending, or cocktail-making experiences. Check if they provide table service for champagne toasts. Ask if they can supply alcohol recommendations based on guest count.



## **In Conclusion**

Whether you opt for a full-service package or a BYO option, make sure your bartenders are well-equipped, licensed, and prepared to provide top-notch service. Clear communication with your vendor, along with proper planning, will help avoid unexpected costs and ensure that your guests enjoy a well-stocked and responsibly managed bar.

# Wedding Insurance

# 09

A typical wedding in Australia now costs around \$30,000 on average. Realistically, you wouldn't invest such a significant amount in any other aspect of your life without taking precautions, which is why more couples are opting for wedding insurance.

## *What is a Wedding Insurance?*

Wedding insurance is a type of insurance designed to protect couples financially from unforeseen events or mishaps that could disrupt their wedding plans. It provides coverage for a range of potential risks and emergencies that could arise before or during the wedding. Wedding insurance can help cover financial losses due to cancellations, damage, liability, or vendor issues.

There are two main types of wedding insurance:

1. **Cancellation or Postponement Coverage:** This covers the costs if you need to cancel or postpone your wedding due to unexpected events, such as illness, severe weather, or a family emergency. It can reimburse you for deposits or non-refundable expenses related to the wedding.
2. **Liability Coverage:** This covers any damage or injuries that may occur during the wedding event. For example, if a guest is injured or property is damaged at the venue, liability coverage can help cover the costs of medical bills, repairs, or legal fees.

## *Why the Wedding Insurance is so important?*

Here are several key reasons why having wedding insurance is essential:

1. **Cancellation or Postponement:** If you or your partner fall ill, or if a close family member has an emergency, you may need to cancel or postpone your wedding. Wedding insurance can cover lost deposits and non-refundable costs, helping to ease the financial burden of rescheduling.
2. **Vendor No-Show or Failure:** If a key vendor (like the photographer, caterer, or Musician) fails to show up or goes out of business before the big day, wedding insurance can help cover the costs of hiring a replacement or reimburse you for lost deposits.
3. **Property Damage or Loss:** Accidents can happen on your wedding day. Wedding insurance can cover damage to property, such as rental items like tables, chairs, and linens, or even your wedding attire if it gets damaged.
4. **Weather-Related Issues:** For outdoor weddings, inclement weather could cause major disruptions. Some policies offer coverage for extra costs related to weather problems, like relocating to an indoor venue or having to rent additional equipment.
5. **Liability Protection:** If someone is injured at your wedding or damages property, wedding insurance can provide liability coverage. This is especially important for events at venues where you are responsible for the safety of your guests.
6. **Wedding Gifts and Jewelry:** If gifts or important items, such as engagement rings or wedding bands, are lost, stolen, or damaged, wedding insurance can help cover the cost of replacing them.
7. **Honeymoon Coverage:** Some wedding insurance policies include coverage for your honeymoon, protecting against unexpected travel issues like cancellations or interruptions due to sickness or other emergencies.
8. **Peace of Mind:** Weddings are major events with a lot of moving parts, and things don't always go as planned. Having wedding insurance gives you the peace of mind to focus on enjoying your day, knowing that you're financially protected against unforeseen circumstances.



Here are a few essential considerations when seeking wedding insurance providers. Always read the product disclosure statement, as you would with any financial product:

1. Understand what is not covered.
2. Check who is included in the coverage.
3. Know when claims can be made.

Wedding insurance is typically purchased as a one-time policy and can be tailored to suit your specific needs, depending on the size, location, and complexity of your wedding. It's generally an affordable way to ensure that you're financially protected against the risks associated with hosting such a significant event.

# Other Vendors

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10

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## *Hair & Make Up Stylist*

It includes: Bride, Mother, Bridesmaids.

Take into consideration the preparation timing per person.

11

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Florist*

It Includes: Ceremony, Bouquet, Table Decorations, Buttonhole Flowers, Etc...

12

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Fornitures*

It includes: Stationary, Marquee, Cold Rooms, Mobile Toilets, Decorations, Tables, Chairs, Ceremony Arch,

13

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Transport*

It includes: Bus for Guests, Bride and Groom Cars.

14

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Other Entertainment*

Magician, Baby Sitting, Dog Sitting, Kids Games, Photo Booth, Etc...

# *Do not Forget*

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15

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*Attire, Groom's Suit, Bridesmaids Dresses, Best Men and Groomsmen*

16

\_\_\_\_\_

*Beautician*

17

\_\_\_\_\_

*Jewellery*

18

\_\_\_\_\_

*Wedding Cake or Dessert*

19

\_\_\_\_\_

*Accomodation*

20

\_\_\_\_\_

*Honeymoon*

# Wedding Budget

<i>Vendors</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Actual</i>
<i>Venue</i>			
<i>Photography</i>			
<i>Videography</i>			
<i>Musician / Dj</i>			
<i>Food Catering</i>			
<i>Celebrant</i>			
<i>Drink Catering BYO</i>			
<i>Soft Drinks / Alcohol</i>			
<i>Flowers</i>			
<i>Decor</i>			
<i>Furniture</i>			
<i>Cake</i>			
<i>Hair &amp; Make up</i>			
<i>Cars</i>			
<i>Transport / Bus</i>			
<i>Photo Booth</i>			

# Wedding Budget

<i>Vendors</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Actual</i>
<i>Jewellery</i>			
<i>Rings</i>			
<i>Attire</i>			
<i>Groom's Suit</i>			
<i>Stationary</i>			
<i>Accomodation</i>			
<i>Honeymoon</i>			
<i>Wedding Planner</i>			
<i>Table Stylist &amp; Deco</i>			
<i>Insurance</i>			
<i>Wedding Favours</i>			
<i>Gifts</i>			
<i>Cold Room</i>			
<i>Mobile Toilets</i>			
<i>Marquee</i>			
<i>etc...</i>			

# *Planning*

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARDS YOUR  
SPECIAL DAY





# Wedding Planning Timeline

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## *18-14 Months Before Your Wedding*

First Step: Take Your Time with This Stage

1. **Create a Draft Guest List:** This is crucial for your venue (which may have a limited guest capacity), catering (as some caterers may not accept bookings for smaller or larger weddings), and budgeting (more guests means higher costs!).
2. **Research Vendor Prices:** Browse online to get an idea of average prices for key vendors: venue, photographer, catering, entertainment, and celebrant.
3. **Determine Your Budget:** You cannot set a budget without knowing the average prices of main vendors and your guest count.
4. **Evaluate Your Budget for Vendors:** If you have a limited budget, assess if you can afford all five vendors or if you need to eliminate one (venue, entertainment, or catering). Consider discounts available on weekdays and Fridays, which could also apply during low seasons.
5. **Consider a Separate Email Account:** While some suggest creating a wedding-specific email account, it may be cumbersome if not synced to your phone or computer. I suggest to use your personal account allows you to stay connected with your vendors easily.
6. **Start a Pinterest Account:** Begin pinning ideas that inspire you.
7. **Choose a Theme and/or Colours:** Think about the overall aesthetic you want.
8. **Select the Time of Year:** Be mindful that busy seasons can be more expensive, and your desired vendors may already be booked.
9. **Choose Multiple Dates:** Don't settle on just one date, as it reduces flexibility. Keep in mind that if your chosen date is too close (e.g., only 3-6 or 9 months out), popular venues and vendors might already be booked.

## *14-13 Months Before Your Wedding*

Second Step: Act Quickly

This step should be completed as soon as possible. Be sure you have time to dedicate to research, as the best venues and vendors often get booked quickly.

1. **Find Your Preferred Venues and Vendors:** Identify the venues and vendors that interest you most, prioritizing what is most important for your wedding (e.g., entertainment or catering).
2. **Check Availability and Quotes:** Inquire about availability and obtain quotes. Ensure the service aligns with the quoted price.
3. **Confirm Your Choices:** Try to match your preferred venue, photographer, catering, entertainment, and celebrant. (Keep in mind that catering typically requires a minimum number to guarantee and a possible maximum number of guests for a specific quote; for example, 70-90 guests. Regularly update the caterer on changes in guest count. In this way it can organise the staff. For example: if the number raise to 110-120). Check always the maximum capacity of the venue.
4. **Book Your Vendors:** Once you have made your decisions, proceed to book each vendor.

## *12-11 Months Before Your Wedding*

During this stage, book the other vendors required for your wedding day.

1. **Book Your Florist/Stylist.**
2. **Book Hair and Makeup Artists.**
3. **Book Transportation:** Don't forget transportation for the end of the night.
4. **Start Wedding Dress Research.**
5. **Order and Send Out Save the Dates:** This is a great opportunity to showcase your engagement photos and remind guests they will receive an invitation with all details 6-5 months before the wedding.
6. **Begin a Diet and Exercise Routine:** This will help relieve stress and keep your skin glowing.
7. **Start Planning Your Honeymoon.**
8. **Look for Wedding Rings.**

# Wedding Planning Timeline

## *18-14 Months Before Your Wedding*

### 10-9 Months Before Your Wedding

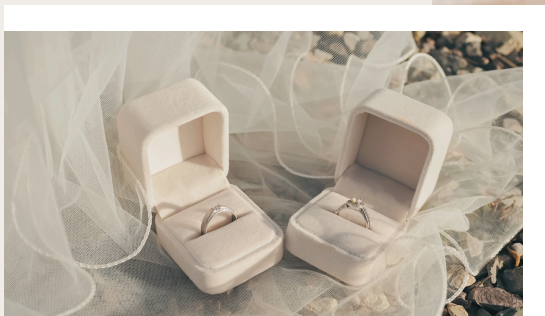
1. Order Your Dress, Veil, Headpiece, and Shoes.
2. Create a Wedding Gift Registry: This can also be useful for your bridal shower.
3. Book Hair and Makeup Trials.
4. Shop for Bridesmaids' Attire.
5. Book Your Wedding Cake. (if you want it)
6. Start Looking for Wedding Invitations and Stationery.

## *8-7 Months Before Your Wedding*

1. Finalise Wedding Rings.
2. Finalise and Book Your Honeymoon.
3. Order Wedding Stationery: This includes invitations, envelopes, seals and stamps, response cards, and direction cards.
4. Order Ceremony Accessories: Such as unity candles or sand ceremony items, ring bearer pillow, flower girl basket, pew decorations, and aisle runner.
5. Order Reception Accessories: Including guestbooks, guest favors, cake toppers, cake serving sets, toasting flutes, wishing well/card boxes, and centrepieces.
6. Consider Furniture Rentals: If needed, such as tables, chairs, marquees, lighting, and other props.

## *7-6 Months Before the Wedding*

1. Shop for Groom and Groomsmen's Suits.
2. Organize/Attend the Bridal Shower.
3. Choose and Ask Readers and Ushers for your ceremony.
4. Order Wedding Programs: Include a plain "A" for sunny weather and a plain "B" for rainy weather, outlining the ceremony details, musicians, caterers, and bartenders for both scenarios.
5. Meet with the Officiant and MC to discuss expectations.
6. Choose Music for specific moments:
  - Walking down the aisle
  - Signing the register
  - Exiting the ceremony
  - Entrance to the reception
  - Speeches
  - Cutting the cake
  - First dance and the next three songs
  - Bouquet and garter toss
  - Goodbye and exit from the reception



# Wedding Planning Timeline

## 6 Months Before the Wedding

1. Send Out Invitations: Include the names of the spouses and relevant details on the front or first page.

Front or First Page:

- What: Wedding Invitations
- Who: Spouses Name
- When: Date
- Where: Venue Address

Second Page:

- Brief Wedding Day Timeline:
- Arrival Timing
- Ceremony
- Canapés Starting Time
- Dinner Starting Time
- End of Day Timing

Third Page:

- Dietary Requirements
- Number of Adults and Kids Attending: (Include children's ages for the caterer, as not all families may be able to attend.)
- Cuisine Type or Caterer's Name: (Some guests may have dietary restrictions regarding certain cuisines, such as Asian, Indian, spicy, or others based on main ingredients used.)

2. Additional Details:

- Venue Information: If the venue is primarily grass or on the beach, this will help guests, especially women, know which shoes to wear or if they should bring an extra pair.
- Average Temperature: This lets guests know if the venue tends to be hot during the day and cold at night, which often occurs in hinterland venues or those close to the beach where it may be windy.
- Dress Code: Casual or Formal
- Color Code: If desired.
- Email for RSVP



Fourth Page

First Page



Second Page

Third Page

# Wedding Planning Timeline

## *5-4 Months Before the Wedding*

1. Organize/Attend Hens/Bucks Night
2. Maintain contact and update vendors (final details should be confirmed one month prior):
  - Caterer (Food and Drink)
  - Celebrant
  - Venue
  - DJ/Musicians/MC
  - Photographer/Videographer
  - Hair and Makeup Artist Schedule
  - Transportation Schedule
  - Etc.
3. Show Draft Wedding Programs: Plain "A" for sunny weather, Plain "B" for rainy weather, including positions for the ceremony, musicians, caterers or trucks, bartenders, etc., for both plans. (take a screen shot from Google Earth App to do so)
4. Order Bridal and Wedding Party Accessories:
  - Jewelry, Bags, Shoes
  - Cufflinks, Ties
  - Robes/Undergarments
5. Purchase Gifts for:
  - Bridal Party
  - Parents of the Bride and Groom

## *3-2 Months Before the Wedding*

1. Keep these two months free; relax or try something new from this list.
2. Remember to prioritize vendors who must be onsite the day of the wedding. For example, furniture can typically be placed the day before (check with the venue bump in and bump out).

## *5-4 Weeks Before the Wedding*

1. Determine Seating Arrangements and Finalize Guest Numbers and Place Cards (if sit-down service).
2. Confirm Final Number of Guests and Dietary Requests with the Caterer.
3. Schedule Final Fittings for the Entire Bridal Party.
4. Contact Vendors to Confirm They Have Everything Needed.
5. Write Wedding Vows and Speeches.
6. Confirm Duties with:
  - Ushers and Readers
  - Bartenders
  - Decorators
7. Meet with DJ/MC to Discuss Song List and Name Pronunciations.
8. Get Plenty of Rest and Stay Hydrated.



# Wedding Planning Timeline

## *3 Weeks Before the Wedding*

1. Finalize Seating Arrangements (if sit-down service).
2. Send the Vendors List and Day Run Sheet to the Bridal Party and All Vendors for Plans A and B.
3. Make Final Payments to Vendors.

## *1 Week Before the Wedding*

Get Your Hair Colored, and Schedule Massages, Manicures, and Pedicures.

1. Pack for Wedding Night/Honeymoon.
2. Create a Wedding Day Emergency Kit.
3. Dry-Clean Gown/Suit.
4. Send Out Thank You Cards.
5. Organize Legal Documents:
6. Official Marriage Certificate
7. Change of Name
8. Bank Accounts

## *3-4 Days Before Your Wedding*

1. Eat healthily, focusing on plenty of fruits and vegetables.
2. Spouses, Parents, Best Friends:
3. Avoid raw fish (sushi) and raw meats.
4. Don't eat out; the most important thing is to avoid takeaway food!

### **Note:**

Signs and symptoms of food poisoning may begin within a few hours of eating contaminated food or up to 3-4 days later.

## **WEDDING DAY**

Just relax and enjoy the day; don't stress about following the timeline strictly.

### **Important Rule:**

Avoid drinking red wine until dinner. Red wine can stain your lips and teeth, affecting photos, and you risk getting your wedding dress dirty (this happens more often than you might think).



# Wedding Day Timeline

Time	THURSDAY 8th <i>the day before</i>	Company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7:00 am	Marquee set up	NAME	
11:00 am	Cold Room Delivered	NAME	
12:00 pm	Forniture delivered	NAME	
1:00 pm	Drinks delivered	NAME	
2:00 pm	drinks stocked by	NAME	
2:00 pm	pre-set reception tables and chairs / store deco	NAME	
2:30 pm	Rehearsal with bridal party		

Time	Morning preparation GIRLS Friday 9th <i>Wedding day</i>	Company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6:00 am	Wake Up and breakfast	NAME	
6.45 am	Makeup artist to arrive & set up	NAME	
6.45 am	Hair stylist to arrive & setup	NAME	
7:00 am	<b>Makeup to commence. See below:</b>	<b>Hair style to commence. See below:</b>	
7:00 am	Maria	Georgia	
7:45 am	Sarah	Steph	
8:30 am	Georgia	Maria	
9:15 am	Steph	Sarah	
10:00-11:30 am	Photographer & Videographer begin photos with girls		
10:30 am	Lue (mother)	Julie (bride)	
11:15 am	Julie (bride)	Lue (mother)	
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch + <b>Gap in case of unexpected delay</b>		

Time	Morning preparation Boys Friday 9th <i>Wedding day</i>	Company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8:00 am	Wake Up and breakfast	NAME	
9:00 am	Boys check the last details		
11:45 am	Shower		
12:00 pm	Start preparation		
12:00 pm	Photographer & Videographer begin photos with Boys		
12:30-1:30 pm	Lunch + <b>Gap in case of unexpected delay</b>	NAME	

# Wedding Day Timeline

Time	AFTERNOON FRIDAY 9th <i>Wedding day</i>	Company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9:00 am	Florist to begin venue set up		
10:00 am	Ceremony & outdoor styling to commence		
12:00-1:30 pm	Lunch + <b>Gap in case of unexpected delay</b>		
12:00 pm	Coordinator arrives to the venue	NAME	
12:30 pm	Musicians arrive and set up at ceremony & reception	NAME	
1:00 pm	Catering & bar team to arrive	NAME	
1:30 pm	<b>Grooms party arrival to ceremony site</b>		
1:30 pm	Floral & styling set up to be complete		
1:45 pm	Pastor to arrive and set up	NAME	
2:15 pm	Guests ushered to ceremony area		
2:25 pm	Bride arrives to the ceremony		
2:30 pm	<b>Ceremony to commence</b>	<i>AISLE SONG:</i>	
2:50 pm	Ceremony to conclude		
2:50 pm	Signing of the registry		
3:00 pm	Guests confetti cones and cannons	<i>Recessional SONG:</i>	
3:05 pm	Starts Family & group photos		
3:15-4:15 pm	Garden Party starts (canapés & food + music)		
3:45-3:50 pm	Champagne tower		
3:50-5:30 pm	Bridal Photo and video shooting 1:30h		
5:17 pm	<b>Sunset</b>		
5:30-5:45 pm	<b>Gap in case of unexpected delay</b>		
5:45 pm	Everyone takes their sitting		
5:55 pm	Bridal party entrance	Song: NAME	
6:00-6:30 pm	MC to announce Welcoming & first speech NAME:		
6:30 pm	<b>Mains Commence Sit Down Feast Style</b>		
7:30 pm	Mains ends		
7:30-7:45 pm	Clean tables	Catering staff	
7:45-8:15 pm	Second Speech NAME:		
8:15 pm	Cutting cake		
8:20 pm	<b>First Dance</b>	Song:	
8:30 pm	Party On		
8:30 pm	Cake or Dessert served Cocktail style		
10:45 pm	Bus Arrives	NAME	
11:00 pm	Dj and Bar conclude	NAME	
11:15 pm	Guests Depart		

# Vendors Contacts and Requests List

## *Venue*

Business and Personal Name:  
Phone Number:  
Email:  
Instagram:  
Requests:  
Max capacity people: 100 pax, Max Capacity cars: 40, Etc...

## *Photographer*

Business and Personal Name:  
Phone Number:  
Email:  
Instagram:  
Requests:  
Must Provide meal, 1 car parking, etc...

## *Food Catering*

Business and Personal Name:  
Phone Number:  
Email:  
Instagram:  
Requests:  
Must Provide 2 car parkings, Flat Area 3x5 meters for mobile kitchen, 2x 10amp power points (no Power board)  
Service:  
Canapés 45 min Cocktail Style, Mains 60 min sit Down Feast Style, must provide dietary requirements One month Before, etc...

## *Musician*

Business and Personal Name:  
Phone Number:  
Email:  
Instagram:  
Requests:  
Must Provide meal, 1 car parking, 2 musicians, 2 Power Points 10 amp, etc...

## *Celebrant*

Business and Personal Name:  
Phone Number:  
Email:  
Instagram:  
Requests:  
1 car parking, etc...

## *Next Vendor and so on. Ex: Hair and Stylist*

Business and Personal Name:  
Phone Number:  
Email:  
Instagram:  
Requests:  
1 car parking, etc...





# Forecast Weather Planning

The chance of rain on a wedding day in Australia depends on the season, location, and specific date. Here's a general guide based on historical weather patterns:

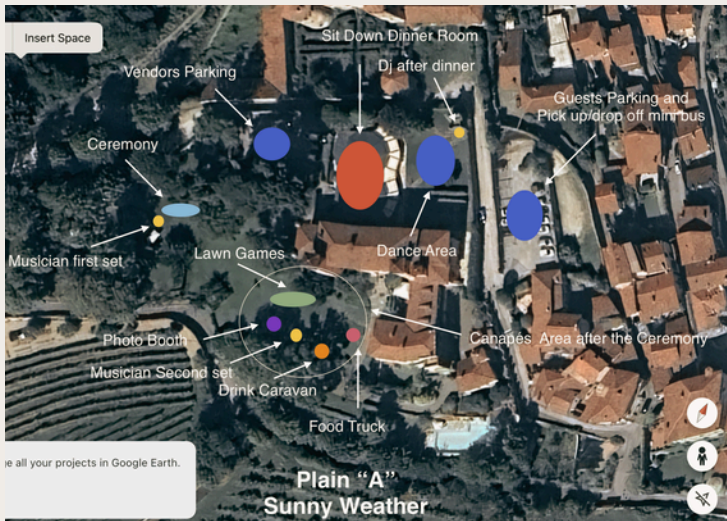
## Average Rainfall Probability by Season:

- Summer (Dec–Feb): 20–40% chance (higher in northern, tropical regions)
- Autumn (Mar–May): 20–50% chance (varies by location)
- Winter (Jun–Aug): 30–60% chance (rainier in southern cities)
- Spring (Sep–Nov): 20–40% chance (transition season)

## City-Specific Estimates:

- Sydney: ~30–40% chance in summer, ~40–50% in winter
- Melbourne: ~30% chance year-round, rain is more spread out
- Brisbane: ~40–50% chance in summer, ~20–30% in winter
- Perth: ~10–20% in summer, ~40–60% in winter
- Adelaide: ~20–30% in summer, ~40–50% in winter
- Hobart: ~30–50% chance year-round
- Darwin: ~70%+ in the wet season (Nov–Apr), ~5% in the dry season (May–Oct)

## Plain A Sunny Day



## Plain B Rainy Day





## Conclusion

Planning a wedding involves many details, from choosing the perfect venue to organizing catering, décor, and entertainment. A well-structured wedding guide helps ensure that every aspect of your special day runs smoothly, allowing you to focus on celebrating with your loved ones.

By setting a realistic budget, selecting reliable vendors, and carefully planning each element, you can create a wedding that reflects your unique love story. Whether opting for a grand celebration or an intimate gathering, thoughtful organization and clear communication will help bring your vision to life.

Most importantly, remember that your wedding is about celebrating love and commitment. While details matter, the most meaningful part of the day is the joy you share with your partner, family, and friends.





*Thank you!*

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