

Booth & Curtis
PHOTOGRAPHY



YOUR
Wedding
GUIDE

Hello there!



We're absolutely chuffed to have you here - welcome to YOUR big wedding guide, love from Crystal & Dan at Booth & Curtis Photography!

No matter what stage you're at planning your wedding - whether it's just something for the future, you're in the midst of crazy planning that lasts for months or you've done it all last minute and it's a scramble, this is the wedding photography guide for you!

Wedding photography may seem like just a small piece of your wedding day, but it's actually one of the most important. Why?

Well, it's quite simple - your wedding photographs will make sure you always have amazing memories of your special day.

At B & C Photography, we wanna take some of the faff away from planning your wedding.

We put together this guide for you to help you understand more about wedding photography and thus hopefully remove some of said faff. Inside you'll find info on what you can expect on the day, answers to questions you might have - and, if we're being honest - a selection of really quite cracking puns are all included in this guide.

So, ready to get started? Keep scrolling and let's get into this!





Top Tips to Save on Your

Wedding Essentials

Weddings don't have to cost as much as you think! With a bit of clever thinking and some top tips from lovely photographer folk, you can save some of your hard-earned pennies on your wedding essentials!

1. Wedding Dress



Now, we understand that some brides don't want to sacrifice on their wedding dress but what about if you can still have a beautiful designer dress for a discounted price?

Many bridal boutiques have sample sales, so it's worth checking on their website to find when these are so you can grab yourself a bargain.

There's also the option of buying from the High Street. ASOS, Coast, Karen Millen, Phase Eight; the list goes on... You'll find dresses from around £100, which suits every budget.

2. Wedding Flowers



Depending on the season, this affects the price of certain flowers. So ask your florist what the most cost effective flowers are when you're getting married!

Do you really need/want button holes? If not, save a few pounds by having a snazzy or even jazzy pocket square instead.

There's also the option of bulking out your bouquets with foliage. You may think this sounds a bit bland, but the different textures and colours can be stunning. Just look at eucalyptus for instance - it's very versatile and striking!

3. Table Centerpieces



Think outside the box and rather than having flowers, you can have painted fruit decorated with petals as your centrepiece; more economical on the pocket and also eco-friendly.

Don't like the idea of fruit? Then how about an array of candles? Mix tealights with candelabras and you've got yourself a romantic and memorable centrepiece.



5. Photography

Now we'll try not to be biased here, but you really could save a fortune on your wedding photographer by picking a half day package or selecting a photographer who doesn't include a wedding album.

Also, ditch the idea of a photobooth and pop some polaroid cameras out for guests to get snapping, it'll get them involved and create great memories of the day!

4. Food



Catering - Do you have kiddiewinks attending your wedding? If so, you can always check with your caterer if they do children's portions, this will save you money and save food waste (win, win!).

Not fussed on a big sit down meal? If that's the case then why not have a buffet-style experience? It'll cost you less and gets your guests mingling whilst waiting for their grub in the queue.

Wedding Cake - There's nothing wrong with a bit of DIY if you have the time, so why not make your own wedding cake if you're a budding baker? The bonus is that you can make it however you want and also decorative in whichever way you fancy!

Our Fave North East Wedding Venues



High Force

Ever fancied a waterfall wedding but didn't think it would be possible in the UK? Well, we have news for you; High Force Hotel in Teesdale can offer you just that!

High Force waterfall can be used exclusively by you for either a private photo-shoot or a blessing.

Not only that, the hotel is set with the North Pennines, which is an area of outstanding natural beauty, so that ticks off another box on the wedding list!

Alnwick Treehouse

How about getting married in the world's largest treehouse? Sounds canny doesn't it? (For all of those not from the North East reading this, canny means good!).

They have three options to choose from for function rooms and you can even opt for having your ceremony inside the treehouse, 60ft above ground. Don't worry though - there's two rope bridges to help you get there...

Oh, we nearly forgot to mention that it's dog friendly too!



Source: Alnwick Garden



Source: Helen Russell Photography

Newton Hall

The second of our venues as mentioned above is the stunning Newton Hall in Northumberland, which is also the first venue to offer a beach wedding in the North of England. This means you could save a few pennies having a staycation wedding, rather than jetting off for those beach vibes (you may not be guaranteed the weather though...).

But if you're not after a beach wedding, no bother, there's three other options; from the Garden Suite with its wall of glass showcasing the North Sea and surrounding countryside, the Hall for a more intimate wedding with its mounted deer dressed in pearls (yes, really) and Booth's favourite, The Enchanted Chapel, with its floor to ceiling doors, indoor garden and water feature at the end of the altar.

Quick fact: The Enchanted Chapel was only recently discovered during renovations and hidden away for many years!

Le Petit Chateau

The first of the foursome of venues that's from the creative visionaries of As You Like It and Newton Hall (but more about them later!)

Le Petit Chateau is -you've guessed it - a quaint French-style country manor but in the heart of Northumberland. If you're looking for a shabby chic, dog-friendly venue, then you may have just found it. With three different ceremony locations within the grounds, you're spoilt for choice.

Also, if you're stuck on ideas to make your nuptials as unique as you, fear not, the website has a great inspirational guide section of ways that you can personalise your special day, from a confetti bar, guestbook piñata to bongo bingo and more!



Source: Newton Hall

Our Fave North East Wedding Venues Continued!



Source: Northumberland Gazette

Otterburn Castle

Another beautiful venue in Northumberland which is like any other, as it's a genuine castle from the 9th century! Understandably, not everything has survived since the 9th century but if you look closely, you will find original features.

Inside showcases renovated original oak panelling and stained glass windows, giving it a real touch of class and luxury.

With 32 acres of land, including terraced lawns, a lake and woodland, you're sure to find the perfect backdrop for those wedding photos!

As You Like It

The third of our of sister venues that we mentioned earlier and it doesn't disappoint! In fact it was awarded the 'Best City Venue 2019' in the Region in the Wedding Guide.

If this is your chosen venue, you'll get your own secret garden, private bathroom (which is always nice) and private bar for up to 200 guests and if you love a boogie and a drink, you're in luck as this is the only bar in Jesmond that is fully licensed until 2am! So, get those dancing shoes ready!

If you're only looking for an intimate wedding, they also provide a range of different budgets to suit every bride and groom.



Source: asyoulikeitjesmond.com



Source: hitched.co.uk

The Biscuit Factory

Fancy saying your vows in the UK's largest independent contemporary art and design gallery? Good, because you've found the place!

The Biscuit Factory is a former Victorian farmhouse, with original features but with a contemporary twist. There's even a plethora of art work as you walk your way down the aisle, which is not something you get at your ordinary wedding venue.

It caters for small intimate weddings of 40 guests to 250+ and was shortlisted in the UK Wedding Awards in 2016.

Runa Farm

This is the final of our fab foursome venues that we've been showcasing and if Boho Chic is more your style, then how about a rustic inspired hotel with Ibiza vibes thrown in for good measure?

As a new venue, they've got a lot to offer and they don't disappoint. If you're after a festival-style wedding they can most certainly do that, with welcome drinks in the meadows, courtyard, kitchen gardens and an abundance of animals, including pigmy goats, alpacas and even a deer named Dottie! There's something for everyone and with 11 different budget packages, you're bound to find one to suit you.

Quick Fact: Runa (Ru-Na) means the bridging of two worlds (which is very appropriate we feel).



Source: Dan McCourt

Get the Celebrations Started Early with an Engagement Shoot!



When was the last time you got professional photos done?

If you're like most people, it'll have been back in the day, standing awkwardly in front of one of those god-awful blue backdrops as you tried to smile nicely in a way that your parents wouldn't tell you off for when they got the school photo back.

If that's you, then the thought of a professional photographer snapping away in your face all day probably feels a little bit daunting, are we right?

We totally get it.

Who wants some randomer they've never met before sticking a camera in their face all day long?

Nobody, that's who.

That's why we love doing engagement shoots. They're available as an optional extra or as part of our top package, and they're a fantastic way for you to get to know us, and us to get to know you before the wedding. We are marvellous people and we're totally sure you are too, but this is just a great way to make sure our vibes align.

You'll get experience of being in front of the camera and - if we do say so ourselves, you'll get some awesome photos out of it afterwards too! We'll get rid of those awkward feelings and you'll go from cringing at the thought of those school photos to looking forward to your wedding photography.

On top of that, the engagement shoot is a fantastic way to start your wedding celebrations early by letting all of your family and friends see your engagement shoot, and - as we already mentioned - it just helps break the ice and get you used to your wedding photographers.





The Secret to Creating Awesome Engagement Photos!

SHHHHHHHHH - Totally Top Secret Info Right Here...

Alright - not really. We have a totally simple, easy and wonderful total of four steps to think about to make your engagement photos make everyone on your social media go 'AWWWWW, you two are so cute!' and 'Can't wait for the wedding!'

What be these four steps? Well, they're right here.



1. Location

If you're gonna do an engagement shoot, you're gonna need one of these!

Most engagement shoots take place outdoors. Think picturesque woodlands. Think beautiful parks. Think of a place that means something to you.

A beautiful backdrop is a big help when getting equally beautiful photos, but the location is just a backdrop **to you**.

We're very lucky here in the North East of England to have loads of fantastic places on our doorstep for photos. Hamsterly Forest, Castle Eden Dene, Penshaw Monument...the list goes on and on!

If you've got a place in mind - great. If not, we'll help you find one!

2. Outfits

No need for cocktail dresses and top hat and tails here!

Of course you want to look great for your engagement shoot. But the dress code is completely flexible.

As you're probably gonna be outdoors, you'll want something nice and warm but still looks good.

We want you to be comfortable for your engagement shoot, so pick something that gives you that sense of comfort.

An item of clothing that when you wear and look at yourself, you feel good about it.

If you really do want to come out in top hat and tails and your best party frock, we're not gonna stop you.

This is **your day**. You wear what you want!

3. Timing

When will your engagement shoot be?

We'd highly recommend considering this carefully. There's a couple of things that's best to avoid for photography.

We ideally don't want extremely harsh sunlight that'll make shadows all over your faces, but we also don't want complete darkness as there's little light to work with.

It's completely flexible and we'll work around you and your commitments, but an ideal time for an engagement shoot is just before sunset on a clear day. The light is beautiful, there's less people about, and there's loads of great opportunities for awesome photos.

We'll make it work whenever your engagement shoot is, but something to think about!

4. Have Fun!

AKA the most important part of the whole thing!

Like we said on the previous section, getting your photo done can be scary!

Your engagement shoot is all about throwing off these fears, getting used to the camera and trusting your photographers.

The best way to do this is simple - have fun!

Be willing to try out something different. If a pose sounds weird, embrace it, have a laugh about it, and those natural smiles will look so much better than those forced posed photos.

We'll have a chat, have a laugh, take some photos, and we'll all leave feeling great at the end of your shoot.

The Full Package

Bloomin' hell, weddings are a bit expensive, aren't they?

There's cakes to buy. There's dapper suits to be purchased. There's venues to peruse, there's little party favours to adorn the table...the list goes on and on and on and on.

Wedding photography can be mega expensive too.

At B&C, we don't believe it has to be. That's why we offer three easy packages which cover absolutely everything you want out of your wedding day.

All of our wedding photography packages include both Crystal & Dan as your wedding photographers, covering all of the angles like a pair of photography ninjas.



**Unexpected
groomsmen
lightsaber
fights are
always
readily
encouraged,
by the way.**

Owl Will Always **Love You**

AKA 'The Half Day' Package

This one includes:

- Half day shoot of approx 5 hours (you pick when!)
- 2 x Photographers as standard
- Professional photo retouching after the ceremony
- Your photos delivered on a USB stick in a beautiful personalised wooden box



You're My *Significant Otter*

AKA 'The Full Day' Package

This one includes:

- Full day shoot, covering everything! Bridal and groom prep, ceremony, speeches, cake cutting and all of the shenanigans in between up until the first dance
- 2 x Photographers as standard
- Professional photo retouching after the ceremony
- Your photos delivered on a USB stick in a beautiful personalised wooden box



Meow & Furever

AKA 'The VIP' Package

This one includes:

- Full day shoot, covering everything! Bridal and groom prep, ceremony, speeches, cake cutting and all of the shenanigans in between up until the first dance
- Engagement shoot before the wedding
- 2 x Photographers as standard
- Professional photo retouching after the ceremony
- Your photos delivered on a USB stick in a beautiful personalised wooden box



All packages will also include a mileage cost at £0.50 per mile (there and back) which will be added to your quote.

Your Wedding Day



Ready, let's get ready ready...let's get ready to get married!

It's here at last! The wedding day is busy, hectic, but loads of fun. Make sure you don't miss out on all the morning antics by booking your photographer for the full day too!

We absolutely love full day wedding shoots here at B&C.

Not only do you get to see our lovely faces for the day, but we get to get to know you, your bridal party, groom party and everyone else involved all before the big ceremony even kicks off.

There's loads of fun to be had during the prep stage. Getting makeup done. Dinosaurs protecting dresses (see to the right!), bridesmaids, mams and dads all having a laugh together.

It's lovely stuff, it really is.

If we had one piece of advice it's just embrace the fun of the day. You may not be fully glammed up at this point, but those moments on the morning do really matter; you'll look back on them fondly with the people closest to you once it's all said and done.



THE BIT WHERE YOU GET

Married



Once all that prep's out of the way, it's time...you're going to get married!

We'll be on hand to capture it all as it's happening. As this is your moment, with your friends and family, we'll try to be as sneaky as we can while still getting those all-important photos you can treasure forever.

As B&C Photography is both of us - Crystal & Dan - we can cover so much more than a single photographer can. Try as they might, a one-man band can't be in two places at once. **We can**, and we can cover angles all over the church or venue where you're tying the knot.

It really does make a difference.



THE Posey Bit



Once you've actually done the deed and got married, your photographer (if you want them to, that is!) may whisk you away for a bit for some of 'posey' photos that you won't get with the rest of the wedding party there.

This bit is all about you two. Celebrating your love and giving you photos of the two of you together, in your fancy gear, on your wedding day, taking advantage of the beautiful venue you paid loads of money to use.

How posey this bit is is entirely up to you. If you want it all to be carefully planned and have some poses in mind; go for it! If you're completely terrified of the whole thing, we'll help you out! We'll try to make it as natural and as fun as we possibly can.

This is a celebration. It's fun. It's daft. It's all about you, and making memories that matter.

So don't worry - we'll cater our wedding photos on this bit (as with all the way along) entirely to your personal tastes.





Reception

+ Speeches, slightly drunk people & general merriment

It's time to party! We'll disappear for a bit while you tuck into your wedding breakfast as nobody wants photos of them eating. But then we'll return, ready to capture all of the crazy fun that happens next!

First, there's the speeches. They're emotional. There will be tears. There will (hopefully) be laughter at the best man's speech.

After that, it's time to celebrate! People will be hitting the bar at this point, hair will be let down, dancing will be done, and we'll be wandering around, chatting to your guests, taking photos of them that they can nick off you later.

The reception part of the day is all great fun - it also usually includes the traditional cutting of the cake (we wouldn't say no to a slice, incidentally, if it's going spare) and we wouldn't honestly be surprised to see somebody's dad at some point loosening their tie and chucking it around their head like a bandana.

It's an inevitability. Embrace it.



Let's Dance!

The big finale! It's time to hit the dance floor for your first dance. Everyone will cheer. Blubbing shall be done. Then before you know it somebody will be hitting the floor and showing off with breakdancing.

...or at least, attempting to do breakdancing.

This is usually the point where we bid you a fond farewell. We'll stay for a bit of the dancing, then leave you to enjoy the rest of your night.

Editing

Your wedding is done, but our work is just beginning! We know you're itching to see your wedding photos, and we'll get them to you as quickly as we can once we're done with a few edits.

All photographers nowadays edit their photos to bring out the very best of the people they photograph.

It's not that the photos were bad to start with; it's just enhancing them even further to make them really pop. If you've seen any wedding photographers' work, we can guarantee they'll have been edited. That's why they look so much better than normal photos!

Once we've finished photographing your wedding we'll probably have a bit of a snooze, then boot up our PC the next day to start the process of selecting your photos and editing the best ones.

We normally take several thousands of photos on a wedding day so there's a big selection process goes on!



Receiving Your Photos

Once the edits are done, we'll pack them all onto a custom-made USB stick exclusive to you and send it off to your address.

We won't show you here what they look like as it might ruin the surprise, but trust us, the custom-made box you'll get is lovely.



A Little Bit About Us

Hi! We're Crystal (Booth) and Dan (Curtis) the people behind Booth & Curtis Photography and the ones who put together this little guide you've just finished browsing through.

We are - as you probably know by now - wedding photographers from up in the North East.

We're also a real-life couple just like you! We've been going strong since university some 12+ years ago now, and we still quite like each other (enough to start a business together anyway!).

Booth & Curtis Photography was born from our shared interest in photography. It all kicked off during the first COVID lockdown; we were bored, like everyone else, and decided to start a new hobby: photography.

Before long we'd bought our first DSLR camera, spent days fighting over who got to use it, and then bought another one so we could both use them together.

Fast forward a couple of years and that hobby has now extended into a full-blown business!

We absolutely love our photography work and love working with amazing couples for their weddings. If you think we sound like a good fit for you, get in touch today and we'll make some amazing stuff happen at your wedding!

Crystal & Dan



Book Now



Visit www.boothcurtisphotography.com
or email us: boothcurtisphotos@gmail.com