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BALAZS

EVENTS

PLANNING • DESIGN • PRODUCTION

Welcome to the beginning of an elevated, intentional planning experience.

The Roadmap

01

Date Reserved

Once your agreement is signed and the retainer is received, your entire wedding weekend is secured on the calendar.

02

Planning Guide

Your Wedding Planning Guide serves as a trusted resource throughout the planning journey, providing expert recommendations, timelines, planning insights, and helpful guidance every step of the way.

03

Discovery & Vision

Our Vision & Design Discovery session shapes the emotional tone, priorities, and guest experience for your day.

04

Wedding Workbook

Your personalized Wedding Workbook serves as the central hub for vendor information, budget management, payment tracking, and planning details throughout the process.

05

Vendor Framework

Curated vendor recommendations and an aligned budget framework provide a clear path forward.

06

Planning Touchpoints

We schedule recurring check-ins, ensuring you always know the next step with confidence.

07

Wedding Weekend Production

Our team manages every logistical and production detail, allowing you to remain fully present throughout the celebration.

Section I

Welcome to Balazs Events

Congratulations on your engagement!

Planning a wedding is about far more than selecting vendors and making decisions. It is about creating an experience that reflects your story, honors the people you love most, and allows you to be fully present throughout one of life's most meaningful celebrations.

This Planning Guide has been thoughtfully created to help you navigate the journey ahead with confidence. Inside, you will find planning insights, professional recommendations, timeline guidance, and helpful resources designed to simplify the process and provide clarity at every stage.

Whether we are discussing logistics, design, guest experience, or wedding weekend flow, this guide will serve as a trusted resource throughout our time together.

We are honored to be part of your celebration and look forward to bringing your vision to life.

Parris Balazs

Owner & Lead Planner
Balazs Events

The Balazs Events Planning Process

A wedding is not planned all at once. It unfolds in carefully considered phases, each building upon the last.

Discover
We begin by understanding your priorities, vision, guest experience goals, and overall investment.

Design
Together, we develop the aesthetic direction of your celebration, including florals, rentals, layouts, color palette, and overall visual experience.

Refine
As plans take shape, we review proposals, confirm selections, and fine tune every detail.

Produce
We coordinate logistics, create timelines, oversee vendor communication, and prepare for flawless execution.

Celebrate
When wedding weekend arrives, our team manages every detail behind the scenes so you can remain fully present with your family and guests.

Understanding Your Wedding Budget

One of the most common misconceptions about wedding planning is that budgets should be built around traditions.

In reality, budgets should be built around priorities.

The most successful celebrations begin with a clear understanding of what matters most to the couple and where investment will create the greatest impact.

Factors That Influence Budget

- Guest Count
- Venue Selection
- Catering & Bar Service
- Floral Design
- Rentals & Décor
- Entertainment
- Photography & Videography
- Transportation & Accommodations

A Helpful Rule

As guest count increases, nearly every wedding expense increases alongside it. Guest count is often the single greatest factor affecting overall investment.

Building Your Vendor Team

Your wedding vendor team is made up of experienced professionals who each play an important role in bringing your celebration to life.

Typically Booked First

- Venue
- Planner
- Photographer
- Videographer
- Entertainment

Typically Booked Next

- Catering and Bar Service
- Hair & Makeup
- Florist
- Cake and Desserts
- Transportation

Typically Finalized Later

- Signage
- Specialty Rentals
- Guest Experience Enhancements
- Welcome Bags
- Specialty Entertainment

Booking key vendors early provides the greatest flexibility and access to preferred professionals.

Planning Timeline Overview

While every celebration is unique, most weddings follow a similar planning rhythm.

12+ Months -or- Immediately After Engagement
Vision, venue selection, budget development, and vendor booking.

8–12 Months Before
Design development, guest experience planning, and foundational decisions.

4–8 Months Before
Floral planning, rentals, stationery, attire, and logistics.

2–4 Months Before
Guest communication, timeline development, and detail refinement.

Final 60 Days
Production planning, confirmations, final selections, and wedding weekend preparation.

Wedding Week
Final preparations, vendor coordination, and execution.

Section II

Your Wedding Planning Checklist

The following timeline provides a comprehensive overview of common planning milestones and recommended completion dates.

While every wedding is unique, this checklist serves as a helpful guide to keep your planning process organized and on track.

Let's begin.

Balazs Events | Forms

Upon booking:
Complete Balazs Events "Wedding Planning Intake Form"
Complete the Balazs Events "Client Contact Form"

Six months from wedding date:
Complete the Balazs Events "Ceremony Participants Form"

45 days from wedding date:
Complete the Balazs Events "Music Planning Form"
Complete the Balazs Events "Photography Shot List Form"

The Planning Checklist

A thoughtfully curated timeline designed to help you understand the planning milestones commonly associated with preparing for your wedding celebration.

12+ Months -or- Immediately After Engagement

Establish the Foundation

At this stage, the focus is on defining your vision, setting expectations, and securing the key elements that will shape the planning process moving forward.

Planning & Vision
- Establish a preliminary wedding budget
- Discuss overall priorities
- Determine estimated guest count
- Define the desired guest experience
- Consider preferred wedding season and date

Venue Selection
- Research potential venues
- Schedule venue tours
- Compare venue offerings and requirements
- Select ceremony and reception venue(s)
- Secure wedding date

Professional Team
- Hire a wedding planner/designer
- Begin researching photographers
- Begin researching videographers
- Begin researching entertainment
- Begin researching hair and makeup artists

The Planning Checklist

Build Your Vendor Team

With the venue secured, attention shifts to assembling the professional team that will help bring your celebration to life.

Vendor Booking
- Book photographer
- Book videographer
- Book entertainment
- Book officiant
- Secure hotel room blocks if applicable
- Select a save-the-date design

Guest Experience
- Launch wedding website
- Discuss transportation needs
- Consider welcome party or rehearsal dinner plans

Attire
- Begin wedding attire shopping
- Begin wedding party attire discussions

Forms
- Complete Balazs Events "Wedding Planning Intake Form"
- Complete the Balazs Events "Client Contact Form"

The Planning Checklist

8–10 Months Before

Begin Design Development

This phase focuses on translating ideas into a cohesive design direction.

Design
- Establish color palette
- Develop overall design direction
- Begin floral discussions
- Research rental options
- Consider ceremony design elements
- Consider reception design elements
- Order save-the-dates

Vendor Booking
- Select caterer
- Select bar service
- Secure florist
- Secure rental company

Photography
- Schedule engagement session

Wedding Party
- Ask attendants to participate
- Begin ceremony planning

The Planning Checklist

6–8 Months Before

Refine the Details

Many of the larger decisions have been made. Focus now turns toward guest experience and logistical planning.

Planning
- ▫ Begin selecting your music and songs *(45 days out, submit music form)*
- ▫ Reserve transportation for guests and/or newlywed getaway
- ▫ Begin rehearsal dinner planning
- ▫ Register for gifts

Vendor Booking
- ▫ Secure cake designer and/or dessert baker

Stationery
- ▫ Prepare guest mailing addresses
- ▫ Mail save-the-dates

Attire
- ▫ Select your wedding attire (wedding dress, veil, shoes, accessories)
- ▫ Select wedding party attire

Forms
- ▫ Complete the Balazs Events "Ceremony Participants Form"

4–6 Months Before

Bring the Vision Into Focus

This is often when the design begins to feel tangible.

Design & Production
- Review floor plan concepts
- Discuss signage needs
- Discuss guest flow
- Attend catering tasting

Guest Communication
- Finalize invitation design

Personal Preparations
- Order wedding bands
- Schedule hair and makeup trial
- Schedule bridal portraits
- Arrange a bridal bouquet if coordinating with bridal portraits

The Planning Checklist

2–4 Months Before

Refine & Confirm
This stage focuses on details, guest communication, and logistics.

Invitations
- ▫ Mail invitations
- ▫ Monitor RSVP responses
- ▫ Follow up with outstanding guests

Planning
- ▫ Review transportation schedule
- ▫ Discuss ceremony details
- ▫ Discuss reception flow
- ▫ Begin family photo planning
- ▫ Review preliminary timeline
- ▫ Create ceremony script with officiant
- ▫ Complete wedding insurance if desired

Attire
- ▫ Schedule dress fitting

The Planning Checklist

Final 60 Days

Production Planning
The focus now shifts from planning to execution.

Final Selections
- Finalize menu
- Finalize bar selections
- Finalize floral selections
- Finalize rental selections
- Finalize ceremony details
- Finalize reception details

Logistics
- Submit final guest count
- Confirm hotel block details
- Finalize transportation schedule
- Finalize seating arrangements
- Complete seating chart

Personal Preparations
- Obtain marriage license

Forms
- Complete the Balazs Events "Music Planning Form"
- Complete the Balazs Events "Photography Shot List Form"

Final 30 Days

The Final Stretch
Most decisions have been made. The goal now is confirmation and preparation.

Confirmations
- Conduct final venue walkthrough
- Confirm vendor arrival times
- Submit final payments

Attire
- Final dress fitting

Wedding Weekend Preparation
- Prepare welcome bags
- Organize gratuities *(download guide on page 9)*
- Prepare personal items

The Planning Checklist

Wedding Week

Preparation & Celebration

Final Tasks
- Confirm rehearsal attendance
- Pack wedding attire
- Gather rings
- Gather marriage license
- Gather vows
- Prepare detail items for photography
- Pack overnight bags

Personal Preparation
- Hydrate and rest
- Delegate responsibilities
- Trust the process
- Download “Wedding Week Guide”

CLIENT RESOURCES

- WEDDING WEEK GUIDE
- GRATUITY ETIQUETTE GUIDE

The Planning Checklist

The Day Before
- Attend rehearsal
- Give vendor payments/gratuities to wedding planner
- Attend rehearsal dinner
- Stay hydrated

Wedding Day
- Eat breakfast
- Stay hydrated
- Be present and enjoy your wedding day

After the Wedding
- Order certified marriage certificates
- Complete name change process
- Preserve wedding attire
- Send thank-you notes
- Submit vendor reviews
- Preserve bouquet if desired

CLIENT RESOURCES

- THE NEXT CHAPTER
- NAME CHANGE CHECKLIST



Section III

Understanding Wedding Design

How thoughtful design transforms a wedding from an event into an experience.

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Understanding Wedding Design

Many couples initially think wedding design is simply choosing colors and flowers.

In reality, wedding design is the thoughtful combination of aesthetics, functionality, and guest experience.

Every element, from the invitation suite to the final candlelit table, contributes to the overall atmosphere of your celebration.

The most memorable weddings are not defined by a single detail. They are defined by how every detail works together to create a cohesive experience.

Wedding Design Includes:

- Color Palette
- Floral Design
- Rentals
- Lighting
- Layouts
- Stationery
- Textiles & Linens
- Signage
- Guest Experience Elements

Understanding Wedding Design

Building a Color Story
A successful color palette does more than look beautiful in photographs. It helps establish the emotional tone of the celebration.

When developing a color story, we consider:

Primary Colors
The foundation of the design.

Secondary Colors
Supporting tones that add depth and balance.

Accent Colors
Intentional moments of contrast, richness, or visual interest.

Metallic Finishes
Gold, silver, brass, blackened iron, or other finishes that influence the overall aesthetic.

Seasonal Influence
The surrounding environment, venue architecture, and natural landscape often help inform the palette.

Planner's Perspective
The strongest palettes are often the most restrained. Thoughtful layering creates greater impact than introducing too many competing colors.

Understanding Wedding Design

Floral Design Fundamentals

Flowers are often one of the most visible design elements of a wedding, but their impact extends far beyond centerpieces. Floral design helps establish scale, movement, texture, and atmosphere throughout the celebration.

Personal Flowers

- Bridal Bouquet
- Bridesmaid Bouquets
- Boutonnieres
- Corsages
- Floral Hair Pieces

Ceremony Flowers

- Entry Arrangements
- Aisle Flowers
- Ground Meadows
- Arches
- Statement Installations

Reception Flowers

- Centerpieces
- Cocktail Tables
- Bars
- Escort Displays
- Hanging Installations

Planner's Perspective

A thoughtful floral plan considers where flowers will have the greatest visual impact and how arrangements may be repurposed throughout the day.

Understanding Wedding Design

The Role of Rentals

Rentals often have a greater influence on the overall design than couples initially realize.

They establish texture, shape, layering, and visual cohesion throughout the celebration.

Common Rental Categories

- Tables
- Chairs
- Linens
- Dinnerware
- Flatware
- Glassware
- Lounge Furniture
- Bars
- Dance Floors

Thoughtful Design Is Layered

The most successful designs are rarely dependent on a single statement piece. Instead, they are created through the layering of multiple carefully selected elements.

Understanding Wedding Design

Lighting & Atmosphere

Lighting influences how a space feels more than almost any other design element.

Even the most beautiful floral arrangements and rentals cannot achieve their full impact without proper lighting.

Common Lighting Elements

- Candles
- Bistro Lighting
- Chandeliers
- Pendants
- Pinspotting
- Architectural Lighting
- Specialty Lighting Installations

Planner's Perspective

If there is one design element that consistently exceeds expectations, it is candlelight.

Understanding Wedding Design

Designing for Guest Experience

Beautiful weddings are memorable.

Beautiful weddings that feel effortless are unforgettable.

Every design decision should support the guest experience.

Considerations Include

- Arrival Experience
- Parking & Transportation
- Welcome Signage
- Ceremony Comfort
- Cocktail Hour Flow
- Seating Arrangements
- Accessibility
- Departure Experience

A Guiding Principle

Guests may not remember every floral variety or linen selection, but they will remember how the celebration made them feel.

Understanding Wedding Design

Bringing It All Together

Great wedding design is not about trends.

It is about creating an environment that feels authentic, intentional, and reflective of your story.

When florals, rentals, lighting, layout, and guest experience are thoughtfully considered together, the result is a celebration that feels cohesive, welcoming, and memorable.

The most meaningful celebrations are never defined by perfection.

They are remembered for how they made people feel.

Section IV

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Thoughtful celebrations extend beyond the wedding day itself. This section explores the events, logistics, and experiences that create a seamless and memorable wedding weekend.

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

The Modern Wedding Weekend

Today's weddings often extend beyond a single day.

For many couples, wedding weekend provides additional opportunities to welcome guests, spend meaningful time with loved ones, and create a more immersive celebration experience.

Whether your celebration includes only a wedding day or an entire weekend of events, thoughtful planning helps ensure guests feel welcomed, informed, and cared for throughout their experience.

Common Wedding Weekend Events

- Welcome Party
- Rehearsal & Rehearsal Dinner
- Wedding Day
- Farewell Brunch

Planner's Perspective

Not every wedding requires multiple events. The most successful wedding weekends are thoughtfully designed around your guests, priorities, and overall vision.

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Rehearsal Dinners

Traditionally hosted the evening before the wedding, the rehearsal dinner offers an opportunity to gather close family members and wedding party participants before the celebration begins.

Typical Attendees

- Couple
- Immediate Family
- Wedding Party
- Ceremony Participants
- Out-of-Town Guests (optional)

Common Formats

- Formal Seated Dinner
- Restaurant Private Dining Room
- Cocktail Reception
- Backyard Gathering
- Welcome Reception Hybrid

Planner's Perspective

The rehearsal dinner often sets the tone for the wedding weekend and provides valuable time for meaningful conversations before the pace of wedding day begins.

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Welcome Parties

For celebrations with a large number of traveling guests, a welcome party can be a wonderful way to begin the weekend.

Unlike a rehearsal dinner, welcome parties are often open to a broader guest list.

Benefits

- Creates additional time with guests
- Reduces pressure on wedding day
- Encourages guest connections
- Establishes the tone of the weekend

Popular Formats

- Cocktail Reception
- Casual Gathering
- Rooftop Reception
- Welcome Drinks
- Hospitality Lounge

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Accommodations & Hotel Blocks

Providing guests with clear lodging recommendations helps simplify travel planning and improve the overall guest experience.

Considerations

- Hotel Proximity
- Transportation Needs
- Room Block Commitments
- Check-In & Check-Out Times
- Guest Communication

Planner's Perspective

Convenience is often more important than luxury when selecting accommodations for wedding guests.

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Transportation Planning

Transportation is one of the least noticed elements when it works well and one of the most noticeable when it doesn't.

Common Transportation Needs

- Hotel to Venue Shuttles
- Wedding Party Transportation
- Family Transportation
- Late-Night Return Service

Transportation May Be Especially Beneficial When

- Guests are unfamiliar with the area
- Parking is limited
- Alcohol is being served
- Venues are located in remote areas

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Guest Communication

One of the most overlooked aspects of wedding planning is ensuring guests have the information they need before arriving.

Guests Commonly Need To Know

- Where to Stay
- Transportation Information
- Dress Code
- Ceremony Start Time
- Weekend Schedule
- Parking Instructions

Planner's Perspective

Clear communication reduces confusion, minimizes guest questions, and contributes to a more enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

Planning Your Wedding Weekend

Creating a Seamless Experience

The most memorable wedding weekends feel effortless from the guest perspective.

When accommodations, transportation, communication, and event flow are thoughtfully considered, guests are able to focus on what matters most: celebrating with you.

The goal is not simply to host an event.

The goal is to create an experience.

Section V

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Thoughtful celebrations are built upon intentional experiences. This section explores the key moments that shape the flow, energy, and guest experience of your wedding day.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Understanding the Wedding Day Flow

A well-designed wedding day should feel natural, comfortable, and unrushed. While every celebration is unique, most wedding days follow a similar progression:

Getting Ready
The morning begins with hair, makeup, photography, and preparation.

Ceremony
The official beginning of your marriage and often the most emotional portion of the day.

Cocktail Hour
A transition between ceremony and reception, allowing guests to mingle while photographs are completed.

Reception
Dinner, toasts, dancing, and celebration.

Farewell
The final moments of the evening and your departure as newlyweds.

Planner's Perspective
The most successful timelines build in breathing room. A wedding day should feel enjoyed, not rushed.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

First Look or Traditional Aisle Reveal?

One of the most common questions couples face is whether to see each other before the ceremony.

First Look
A private moment shared before the ceremony.

Benefits

- More time together on wedding day
- Reduces timeline pressure
- Allows many portraits to be completed before the ceremony
- Can ease pre-ceremony nerves

Traditional Aisle Reveal
The couple sees each other for the first time during the ceremony.

Benefits

- Traditional experience
- Creates anticipation
- Preserves the aisle moment

Planner's Perspective

There is no right or wrong choice. The best option is the one that aligns with your priorities and desired experience.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Creating a Meaningful Ceremony

Your ceremony is the reason for the celebration.

While receptions are often remembered for their energy, ceremonies are remembered for their significance.

Considerations

- Ceremony Length
- Readings
- Personal Vows
- Officiant Selection
- Special Traditions
- Family Involvement
- Cultural Elements

Planner's Perspective

Meaningful ceremonies are often personal, sincere, and focused on the couple rather than lengthy or elaborate.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Ceremony Design & Guest Comfort

Thoughtful ceremony planning considers both aesthetics and guest experience.

Considerations

- Seating Layout
- Shade & Weather Protection
- Accessibility
- Ceremony Programs
- Audio Quality
- Signage
- Arrival Experience

A Helpful Reminder

Guests are most comfortable when they know where to go, where to sit, and what to expect.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Cocktail Hour

Cocktail hour serves an important purpose beyond providing refreshments. It creates a natural transition between the ceremony and reception while allowing time for photographs and room transformations when necessary.

Elements to Consider

- Signature Cocktails
- Passed Hors d'Oeuvres
- Live Music
- Interactive Experiences
- Lounge Seating
- Guest Flow

Planner's Perspective

A well-designed cocktail hour should feel like an experience rather than simply a waiting period.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Reception Flow

The reception is where your guests spend the majority of the celebration. Creating a thoughtful flow helps maintain energy and ensures guests remain engaged throughout the evening.

Common Reception Components

- Grand Entrance
- Welcome Toast
- First Dance
- Dinner Service
- Toasts
- Parent Dances
- Cake Cutting
- Open Dancing
- Farewell

Planner's Perspective

There is no single "correct" reception format. The best timeline reflects your priorities and guest experience goals.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Toasts & Special Moments

The most memorable moments are often the most personal.

Common Reception Traditions

- Welcome Toast
- Maid/Matron of Honor Toast
- Best Man Toast
- Parent Toasts
- Anniversary Dance
- Private Last Dance

Planner's Perspective

Shorter, heartfelt toasts are often the most impactful.

A few meaningful stories will almost always resonate more than a lengthy speech.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Dinner Service Styles

The dining experience plays a significant role in the overall guest experience.

Common Service Styles

Plated
A formal and structured dining experience.

Buffet
Offers variety and flexibility.

Family Style
Encourages interaction and sharing.

Stations
Provides movement and a more interactive experience.

Planner's Perspective

The best service style is the one that complements your guest count, venue, and overall vision.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Dancing & Entertainment

Entertainment helps shape the energy of the celebration.

Popular Options

- DJ
- Live Band
- Hybrid DJ & Band
- Specialty Performers
- Late-Night Entertainment

Considerations

- Guest Demographics
- Reception Length
- Dance Floor Size
- Venue Restrictions

Planner's Perspective

Guests are more likely to dance when they feel comfortable and included than because of any particular song.

Reminder: Complete the Balazs Events "Music Planning Form" 60 days from your wedding date.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

Ending the Evening

The final moments of the celebration should feel intentional and memorable.

Popular Farewell Options

- Private Last Dance
- Sparkler Exit
- Ribbon Wand Exit
- Vintage Car Departure
- After Party

Planner's Perspective

A private last dance is one of the most underrated moments of the entire wedding day and often becomes a favorite memory for couples.

Ceremony & Reception Planning

A Final Thought

The most successful weddings are not defined by trends, perfection, or elaborate details.

They are defined by meaningful moments, genuine connection, and thoughtful experiences shared with the people you love most.

As you continue planning, remember that every decision should support the celebration you want to create - not the celebration others expect.

Section VI

Planning Notes from Parris

Lessons learned from planning and producing more than 150 weddings and events.



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Planning Notes from Parris

The Things Guests Actually Remember

When couples begin planning, it is natural to focus on details. However, guests rarely remember individual details the way couples imagine they will.

They remember experiences.
They remember emotions.
They remember how they felt.

Guests Remember

- Being warmly welcomed
- Great food and drinks
- Meaningful ceremonies
- Comfortable seating
- A packed dance floor
- Thoughtful hospitality
- Genuine moments

Guests Rarely Remember

- The exact napkin fold
- The specific charger plate
- The type of chair used
- The exact shade of a floral arrangement

Planner's Perspective
Invest in experiences before details.

Planning Notes from Parris

Where to Invest

Every wedding budget has limits.

The key is investing where guests will experience the greatest impact.

Areas Often Worth Prioritizing

Photography & Videography
Long after the celebration ends, these become your memories.

Entertainment
Great entertainment can completely transform the energy of a reception.

Food & Beverage
Guests spend a significant portion of the celebration dining and socializing.

Lighting
Lighting often has a greater impact than couples anticipate.

Guest Comfort
Transportation, shade, restrooms, and thoughtful logistics matter.

Planner's Perspective
A beautiful wedding should also feel comfortable.

Planning Notes from Parris

Where You May Be Able to Save

Every wedding is unique, but there are areas where thoughtful decisions can create savings without significantly impacting guest experience.

Consider

- Reducing guest count
- Repurposing ceremony florals
- Limiting paper products
- Simplifying favors
- Focusing décor where guests spend the most time

Planner's Perspective

A smaller guest count often creates more flexibility than almost any other budget adjustment.

Planning Notes from Parris

Common Wedding Planning Mistakes

Booking Before Establishing Priorities
A budget should reflect priorities, not assumptions.

Underestimating Guest Count
Even small increases can significantly impact overall investment.

Waiting Too Long to Book Key Vendors
Highly sought-after professionals often book well in advance.

Overcomplicating the Timeline
More activities do not always create a better experience.

Forgetting Guest Comfort
Logistics matter.

Planner's Perspective

Simple and intentional almost always outperforms complicated and crowded.

Planning Notes from Parris

Timeline Advice

One of the most valuable things a couple can give themselves is time.

Build Margin Into Your Day

Allow extra time for:

- Getting ready
- Transportation
- Family photographs
- Weather delays
- Unexpected moments

Planner's Perspective

No couple has ever regretted having extra time in their timeline.

Many regret not having enough.

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Planning Notes from Parris

Family Photo Advice

Family photographs are often among the most treasured images from a wedding day.

Recommendations

- Keep the list concise
- Include first names
- Notify family members in advance
- Consider family dynamics
- Prioritize elderly relatives

Planner's Perspective

The more organized the photo list, the more time you gain for enjoying your celebration.

Reminder: Complete the Balazs Events "Photography Shot List" 60 days from your wedding date.

Planning Notes from Parris

Weather Happens

Weather is one of the few elements beyond anyone's control.

The Best Approach

Prepare rather than panic.

Considerations

- Rain plans
- Shade
- Temperature
- Wind
- Seasonal timing

Planner's Perspective

Guests take their cues from the couple.

When couples remain positive, guests usually do as well.

Planning Notes from Parris

The Power of Hospitality

Hospitality is often what separates a good wedding from a remarkable one.

Thoughtful Touches

- Welcome drinks
- Comfortable seating
- Clear signage
- Transportation
- Water stations
- Welcome bags

Planner's Perspective

Hospitality is not about spending more.

It is about making guests feel cared for.

Planning Notes from Parris

Things I've Learned After 150+ Weddings and Events

1. Guests remember how they felt more than how things looked.
2. Transportation is rarely noticed when it works and always noticed when it doesn't.
3. Build breathing room into your timeline.
4. Great lighting changes everything.
5. A shorter toast is usually a better toast.
6. Weather rarely ruins a wedding.
7. The best weddings feel personal.
8. Guest comfort matters.
9. Candles are almost always worth it.
10. Nobody notices every detail you worried about.
11. Family photos take longer than expected.
12. Hungry guests become impatient guests.
13. Trust your professional team.
14. A packed dance floor is never accidental.
15. Personalized details create meaningful memories.
16. Simplicity is often more impactful than excess.
17. Great design feels cohesive.
18. Trends come and go.
19. Hospitality never goes out of style.
20. The wedding day passes quickly.
21. Take private moments together.
22. Delegate whenever possible.
23. The ceremony matters.
24. Your guests are there for you.
25. The most meaningful celebrations are never remembered for perfection. They are remembered for how they made people feel.

The most meaningful celebrations are never remembered for perfection.

They are remembered for how they made people feel.

— Parris Balazs, Owner and Lead Planner

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