

## SNAP HAPPY

Why bringing a photographer to your destination wedding may be the best investment you make in your wedding budget.

*Photos by Photos by Krista*

Destination weddings don't just mean tropical locales. Many Winnipeg couples choose to tie the knot elsewhere in Canada to be with their family or in order to get a quick getaway; others will head to cosmopolitan locations like Europe, Vegas, or New York City depending on where they want to travel. No matter where the wedding is taking place, one thing that most couples will agree on is that they want beautiful photographs to remember their day with. Our best piece of advice for you is to hire a local photographer, and bring him or her along with you!



With a destination wedding, you won't have full control over many of the wedding's elements. You've likely never seen the venue before, tasted the food, or met with the florist. What you can control is the ability to have beautiful photographs from a professional who you have met with at home, to confirm that you like their photography style and know what you will be getting at the end.

## Top Reasons for Bringing a Professional Wedding Photographer to your Destination Wedding:

**HAVING THE ABILITY** to meet your photographer in person before the wedding is a huge asset. This allows you to establish a comfortable relationship with him or her, meaning that when your photographer keeps telling you to kiss for the camera, you won't feel awkward—and better yet, you won't look it!

**WHILE MANY RESORTS** will include a resort photographer, those sessions are usually limited to a short time frame or number of images, and not all will include digital proofs, meaning that your wedding memories will have to gamble on just a few photos.

**VARIETY OF PHOTOS:** Usually your photographer will document much more of the trip than just the wedding, including engagement photos, a trash the dress or day after session, family portraits, and so on.

**CREATIVITY:** In all likelihood, your wedding will be the first time that your photographer sees the site you are taking your photos in. This means that he or she will have unlimited creativity, and the ability to take advantage of the opportunity to try new things.

## Top Tips for Getting the Photos You Want:

**BOOK A PORTRAIT SESSION** for AFTER the wedding (a day or two later). When it's all said and done, you'll be much more relaxed and your photos will show it.

**DON'T BE AFRAID** to venture away from your resort or wedding venue, to add local scenes into your photos.

**PICK THE RIGHT TIME** of year for your planned location: avoid the rainy season in the Caribbean or hot summer days in metropolitan cities. You'll be glad you did this extra research.

**PLAN FOR EVENING PHOTOS:** no matter where your wedding takes place, the sunset will be beautiful and those portraits are sure to be among your favourites.

**DON'T FORGET TO CONFIRM** with your hotel or resort to ensure that out-of-town photographers will be permitted.



"If there is one thing I love about destination weddings, it is documenting the couple in different shoots that allow us to capture the unique attributes of the destination they have chosen, as in a recent Cuba wedding, where we spent time on the beautiful beaches and in awesome vintage cars!"

KRISTA ANDERSON, PHOTOS BY KRISTA

## Questions to Ask Your Photographer:

- *Has he/she shot in a locale like yours before?*
- *Has he/she shot a destination wedding before?*
- *Will the photographer document more of your trip than just the wedding? (engagement photos, day-after sessions, rehearsal dinner?)*
- *Will the couple be required to pay for the photographer's travel and lodging?*

"Photos by Krista attended our wedding in Varadero, Cuba. We met Krista about 1 year prior to our trip to view her portfolio and go over cost. When we met with her, we had already considered using an onsite photographer from our resort. The resort sent over a few sample pictures, the costs and what we would get using the resort photographer. While the sample was ok and the costs were reasonable, I felt that the wedding photography was one of the most important parts of the wedding. Not only would the photos be a way to remember our wedding day, but also a way to remember a beautiful, tropical destination that both myself and my husband love. When we saw Krista's portfolio, including some other destination weddings she had done, I knew that we had to have her! A lot of our friends and family were surprised that we would bring a photographer with us, mostly due to cost, but I found that the cost was comparable to hiring a photographer for a wedding in the city. It was just another part of the wedding budget to me."

LINDSAY WEBBER, PHOTOS BY KRISTA BRIDE | [PHOTOSBYKRISTA.CA](http://PHOTOSBYKRISTA.CA)

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