



AFTER THE ROCK

HEY THERE BRIDEY!

SO YOU ARE ENGAGED! A BIG FAT CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND YOUR LOVE! THIS REALLY SHOULD BE THE MOST EXCITING TIME OF YOUR LIFE AS A COUPLE SO FAR.

And you want to go shouting it to the world, and start the fun stuff like selecting bridesmaids, looking at dresses and telling everyone you know that they are invited to you wedding..... or maybe you are the shy bridey – quietly freaking out and feeling paralysed because you just don't know where to start. Don't worry, I got you. You need to start by stopping.

I need you to take a step back and sit down with your fiancé / partner to answer some REALLY important questions to lay the foundations. The reason you need to do this? It's not a secret that one can get very overwhelmed and stressed out planning their wedding - as you may have noticed with friends or family who have tied the knot. If you have these foundations laid, it helps you have a reference point throughout the planning. It also helps you to refer back to these down the track to help you make rational decisions rather than emotion based ones, and it will in-turn save you time and money!

START HERE

PRINT THIS PUPPY OUT (OR SIMPLY TYPE BELOW), SIT DOWN WITH YOUR LOVE AND FILL THIS OUT:

Firstly – how long do you want, or need, to wait before getting married? Is it a year, 2 years, 6 months? Be realistic and hear each other out on this. There may need to be some compromising.

1 WE NEED _____ MONTHS/YEAR(S)

* Keep in mind, for weekend weddings Bridey's are in general booking their venues 12-18 months before their big day.

So in order to answer this effectively,
Let's drill down a little more on your wedding basics. So let's say you've decided the big day will be next year. For now, start with your

2 DREAM DESTINATION

- Is it local?
- Is it in an exotic location?

Where exactly are you thinking? Use this to brainstorm and list a few different ideas

* this should be so much fun! Go wild with your imagination, see what is your dream location individually and then as a couple. If overseas, See www.aftertherock.com.au for some further insight to Destination Weddings -Wanderlust.

3 WHEN EXACTLY?

Season, the day and the time of day.

- Do you want a summer, autumn, winter or spring wedding?
(spring and autumn are the most popular due to the less extreme weather)

- Do you have a particular date that is significant to you as a couple?

Would you consider a mid-week wedding? A great option if you are having a destination wedding as most guests will be on holidays anyway. (keep in mind that this may be a more cost effective option for you, however some guests may not be able to make it due to work commitments so weigh up those pro's and cons)

- What time of day are you thinking?

Lunch time wedding followed by a long lunch? An afternoon wedding with a dinner? A casual stand up afternoon tea reception? What suits your personalities? Keep in mind – with a morning ceremony you need to consider how long you will need to get ready and set up for the ceremony – i.e. it could mean being in hair and make up at 5am... Also, consider the ceremony being held near an appropriate meal time.

These are a GREAT point of reference for you for now, as well as down the track when your focus seems like it is fading from what you desired your wedding day to be.



PRIORITIES

Have a think about the elements of your wedding and list the importance for you and your partner. These may differ. However treat these as the things you find most important at your wedding and it will be easy for you to play a bit of 'give and take' down the track.

WRITE A NUMBER NEXT TO EACH OF THESE.
1= OF MOST IMPORTANCE TO ME,
5 = IT HITS THE BOTTOM OF MY LIST OF PRIORITIES.

- EVENT STYLING AND AESTHETICS**
Is it all about the look and feel of your ceremony and reception? Décor, styling, floral, the aesthetic elements?
- LOGISTICS AND ORGANISATION**
Is how the day runs, that everyone is moved smoothly and easily, that there is no confusion or waiting around and everything runs perfectly from sun up to sun down?
- TOP QUALITY FOOD AND DRINK**
Are you foodies? Do you love cocktails? Is this the most important thing for you to get 100% right at your wedding?
- MUSIC AND PARTYING**
Is it all about the D-floor? All about the entertainment and just having a big fat party?
- SUPERB PHOTOGRAPHY & FILMING**
Is how the day and night captured of most importance to you?

And if there are specific elements within these that are very important to you add the as your 'must haves'. For example – champagne must be from the champagne region or 'I desperately want a Ricotta Cheesecake for my wedding cake'. But remember to just list the non negotiables. So print this out or slick and save this at the front of your bridal folder to remind yourself down the track what is really important to you to help with those emotion vs. practical decisions.

YOU DID IT

you legend!

STEP ONE! MOTIVATION BEGETS MOTIVATION, AND THIS IS YOUR FIRST STEP TO PLANNING LIKE A PROFESSIONAL.

So use this to start the conversation and start thinking about the next steps to planning the most important day for you as a couple so far. Hint – it's good to start thinking about reception venues now ;)

Remember, you don't need a million dollars to plan the wedding of your dreams, you just need to be informed, inspired and guided by the best!

Happy planning and see you in your inbox soon!

Georgie. x

PS Got any pressing questions? Why don't you head on over to After the Rock's Facebook page - where you can chat to other brideys to be, and of course chat to me!

GEORGIE | AFTER THE ROCK
WWW.AFTERTHEROCK.COM.AU



@aftertherockweddings



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