

These tips are not only for The Old St Thomas Chapel but can be used for any church or other ceremony venue.

The Old St Thomas Chapel

Phone 02 4648 5680

Wedding Tips

Benefit from our experience.

1. Arrive On Time

Many brides like to be late for their wedding. If you can arrive at the Chapel on time, it will be another 5-10 minutes before you walk down the aisle. Hire car drivers will roll out the red carpet before you step out of the vehicle, then you would usually have some photos outside the Chapel, then make final adjustments to your dress, veil or makeup. By arriving on time, you will walk down the aisle late.

2. Don't put an earlier time on the invitations

It is tempting to place an earlier time on the invitation so that latecomers arrive on time. Please don't! For most guests who arrive 30-45 minutes beforehand it means an even longer wait. It will also mean your guests may arrive whilst an earlier wedding is in progress. It can be quite off putting for a couple to emerge from the Chapel to be greeted by 100 strangers.

3. Videographers/Photographers

Videographers and photographers will often do whatever it takes to get the best shot, including standing in the middle of the aisle or standing in front of your parents at important moments. If you don't want this to occur make sure you specifically ask your videographer/photographer not to do this. It is your wedding after all and everyone should have happy memories.

4. Ushers

Having ushers who seat your guests can really improve the atmosphere of your ceremony. Ushers can ensure the front of the Chapel is full and everyone is not crowding up the back, or that all spaces are filled when seating is tight. The best ushers are positive people who know many of the guests.

5. Know your minister/celebrant

The better you know your minister or celebrant, the more relaxed and sincere your ceremony will be. Also ensure that if your minister or celebrant has another wedding ceremony to perform before yours that they leave plenty of time and are not cutting it a bit fine. Again by making sure you are on time, it will allow your celebrant/minister to leave on time if they have another wedding to perform after yours.

6. Candles

Candles can add a nice ambience to the Chapel. To protect the Chapel however we ask that you use non drip candles or bring along candle holders etc to catch the wax drippings.

7. Confetti, Rose Petals, Bubbles

Another nice thing to add an ambience to your ceremony. We ask that confetti not be thrown inside the Chapel or in the grounds. Rose petals both fresh and dried are welcome. Bubbles are also welcome but we request they are not blown inside the Chapel as some detergents can harm heritage building materials.

8. Time

It will be almost impossible for you to keep track of time on your wedding day as you will need to be focused on many things. We strongly recommend that you specifically make sure your photographer, videographer, bridal party and family are aware of the timing you need to keep you on track for the whole day, from hair and makeup to Chapel and reception. Delegate someone to worry about time for you. A responsible bridesmaid or groomsman is usually a good option and then gives them something to do.

9. Bridesmaids and Groomsman

These guys and girls are actually supposed to help you, not just hang around and look good! It is amazing how intimate a wedding becomes when a bridal party focuses on enhancing their bride and groom's day. Allocate tasks to each member of the party so that you can relax and enjoy your day. Even jobs like "help me with my dress when I move from place to place" will be a real help.

10. We are here to help

We don't want to control your wedding, but we do want to help. We have been through thousands of weddings and can give you lots of advice and even some ideas. On the wedding day we can play your music, ring the bell, set up the Chapel with your pew and floral decorations and generally help things run smoothly. If you have any questions, special requests or need some advice, please don't hesitate to give us a call.