



Whitefish, Montana-based wedding and portrait photography.

HOWDY!



Photo credit: Kelly Kirksey Photography



Photo credit: Amber Lynn Photography

My name is Matt—or rather Matthew I suppose which is where the name “thewmatt” comes from—and I moved to Montana’s Flathead Valley in 2017. The story of how my family decided to move here is just about the least original story you can imagine. We took a family trip here one summer to visit Glacier National Park, and stayed the week in Whitefish. We fell in love with the town, the scenery, and the people. A whirlwind 12 months later we were newly minted Montana residents.

Part of our move was my leaving my full-time gig as a graphic designer where for 15 years I worked on everything from branding internationally renowned music and culture festivals, the digital strategy for beloved Texas travel publication *Texas Highways*, to collateral and marketing communications for multiple Texas universities, Fortune 500 companies, and local businesses. It was my design education that first re-introduced me to my love of photography through the required photography classes, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Through my work as a graphic designer, I was able to work closely with some of the most talented commercial and fine art photographers in the country, providing many once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for continuing my photography education.

There is nothing like the rush of documenting once-in-a-lifetime moments that simply can’t be recreated no matter how hard you try—such as your first kiss or first dance as man and wife—and capturing those memories for you, your children—should you choose to have them of course—and many generations thereafter.

When I’m not out documenting people’s lives through wedding or portrait photography you can probably find me shuttling my daughter to and from school, playing Xbox—Gamertag *Mattuke* if you’re so inclined—hiking the Flathead Valley’s many trails with my family, covering Formula 1 and other motor sport events whenever I can, and working with the board of the My Montana Wedding Association, the best darn group of wedding vendors you’ll find.







WORKING WITH ME

One of my favorite things about documenting landmark events in people's lives is developing a friendship you and your families throughout your wedding day. During the ceremony and reception however, I really try to be a fly on the wall. I love hearing from a couple or their family after a wedding about how they feel like they can't believe I was able to capture a specific event during the wedding because they don't remember seeing me there. And while I am happy to direct when it is necessary—for instance during portraits of you and your betrothed or the family and group photos—your wedding is about you and the things you want, not about me and what I want.

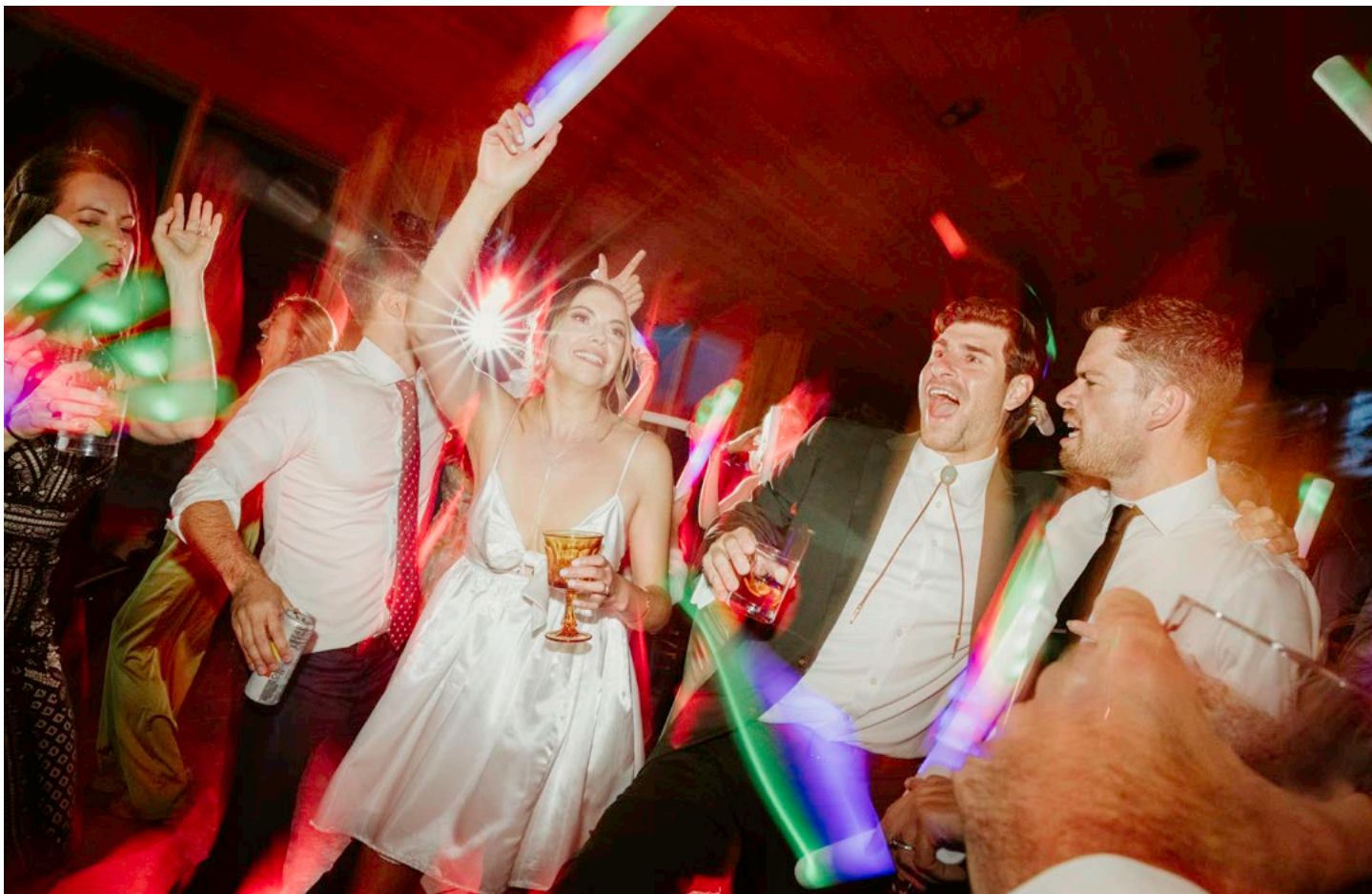
That said, we will be spending many hours together on your wedding day, and my goal during that time is to be the point of least stress. One thing I've learned throughout the years is there are things throughout the course of a wedding that will likely not go according to plan. And that is okay! We'll all get through it together, and it'll be documented, and perhaps many years—or even weeks—down the road you'll be able to look through your wedding photos and laugh about the time the flower girl or ring bearer had a

complete meltdown during the ceremony or rain turned the ceremony into a scene from Guns N' Roses "November Rain" video. Yes you and your guests got soaked, but those storm clouds turned into the most amazing sunset a couple of hours later.

Your wedding is likely the happiest day of your life up to that point, and I consider it such an honor to be included in that moment. I take weddings super seriously, but that in no way means we can't and shouldn't have fun along the way.

Finally, my texts include too many emojis for someone my age, and I use way too many exclamation points in my emails.





BASIC SERVICES

Here are just a few things that are included when you book me for your photography needs no matter what kind of wedding you're planning:

- Password protected on-line photo gallery delivered within eight weeks with the ability to download your high-res originals with personal printing rights that will remain online for a minimum of one year.
- Online print and canvas ordering at your discretion.
- Back-ups of the back-ups! All images saved to multiple hard drives as well as on-line cloud backup for data security and archival purposes.
- Liability Insurance. I hope to never have to use it, but I've got it!
- Your day captured on multiple, professional grade cameras and back-up cameras in the event of gear failure.
- Unlimited consultation email/text/phone consultation leading up to the wedding day.
- My sunny disposition, easy-going nature, and stress-free approach to documenting your important day.





WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY PACKAGES*

As cliché as it sounds I truly believe every wedding is unique. So while I have created these different photography packages to fit a broad range of needs, please don't hesitate to reach out if what you're planning doesn't seem to fit any of these and I'll be happy to work with you on something that might be more appropriate.

Elopements (\$1,650)

This is for those couples who want to keep their special day super intimate with just themselves and ten or fewer guests. Whether you're tying the knot at home or hiking to a glacier inside Glacier National Park.

- Up to four (4) hours of photography coverage.

Small, Intimate Weddings (\$2,750)

This is the ideal starting point for weddings with fewer than 100 guests.

- Up to six (6) hours of photography coverage.

Standard Weddings (\$3,850)

This is the ideal starting point for weddings with 100 guests or more.

- Up to eight (8) hours of photography coverage.
- Second photographer from the beginning of photography coverage through dinner.

Deluxe Weddings (\$5,000)

Ideal for weddings with more than 100 guests, but great for anyone that would like absolutely every moment captured.

- Up to 10 hours of photography coverage.
- Second photographer from the beginning of photography coverage through dinner.
- Five-hour adventure portrait session at location(s) of the couple's choosing.
- USB memory stick of high-resolution, un-watermarked JPG images.

* Elopements are only available Sunday-Friday. Discounts may be available for off-season weddings from November through April.



ADDITIONAL À LA CARTE SERVICES

The following services can be added to customize any of the wedding photography packages previously described.

- Additional wedding coverage and/or rehearsal dinner coverage: **\$175/hr**
- Second Photographer: **\$550**
- Two-hour Engagement **or** Bridal Session: **\$450**
- Engagement **and** Bridal Session: **\$900**
- Five-hour adventure sessions: **Start at \$1,000**
- A wide variety of custom wedding albums are also available and will be estimated on request.
- Travel fees may be required for locations more than two hours from Whitefish.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We want to book you, what do we need to do?

I unfortunately cannot guarantee availability for your wedding date without a \$500 non-refundable retainer and signed contract. But don't fret, as both can be done quickly and easily on-line!

How many photos can I expect in my final gallery?

Typically speaking, you can expect 75-100 photos per hour of photography coverage on your wedding day. (ie - eight hours of coverage will yield around between 600-800 final photos.)

When can I expect my final gallery?

Per my contract, galleries will be delivered within eight weeks of the wedding day, though it is rare for it to take the full eight weeks. During my busiest times five to six weeks is the average delivery time.

Do I need a second photographer?

Second photographers are great, and can really help to flesh out your final wedding gallery with more candid photos than what you might get otherwise. If you think those candid/fly-on-the-wall photos are what you're most interested in, I say absolutely, especially when you've got 100 or more guests. Additionally, if having photos of you both getting ready is important, and you'll be getting ready in separate locations, it really helps facilitate that. All of that said, the biggest determining factor for a second photographer ultimately comes down to the wedding day timeline. As the wedding planning progresses, I am always happy to provide guidance and will make my most informed recommendation for your specific wants and needs.

I don't think we'll be a good fit, what's the best way to tell you?

It's super easy, you can simply say "we've decided to go with another photographer, thank you for your time." As much as I'd love to be everyone's photographer, that's unrealistic. And I'll let you in on a secret. If you're hiring another local photographer, chances are they're a friend of mine, and I'm stoked for them and for you to get to work with them!



TESTIMONIALS

Emily & Zach

"Loving. Authentic. Magical. These are just a few words that come to mind when I think back to our wedding day. Matt captured all of the moments and was a major support leading up to the big day. I was able to spend the whole day focusing on my best friend without worrying about a thing. Matt seamlessly helps orchestrate the process and truly is a joy to be around. My husband and I decided on a small destination wedding just a few short months before taking the plunge to book everything. Matt responded quickly and answered any questions we had in a very timely manner. Matt also went above and beyond to make suggestions for any last minute items I was unsure of like local florists. Don't wait to book your day with Matt, you won't regret it!"

Morgan & Brian

"We used Matt for both our engagement and wedding photos. Matt was incredibly responsive and professional as we organized our schedules for each of the days. He made us both feel very comfortable, and captured the magic of our wedding day! With a large wedding (~150 people) and sizable family, he was able to very efficiently capture our desired photos, allowing ample time to spend enjoying our wedding day. Highly recommend."

Paige & Christopher

"Working with Matt was better than even anticipated! He captured our day perfectly, which allows us to relive it every time we look through the gallery. We also did an adventure session in Glacier National Park a few weeks after the wedding along with some photos with our dog, and it was just like hanging out with a friend in the park for a day. Matt is such a down-to-earth guy and made us look way cooler in the photos than we really are. We will be using Matt for any future photography needs!"

Samantha & Austin

"I am so glad we worked with Matt on our wedding day! He took beautiful, authentic photos that captured all of the moments, big & small. Matt helped us organize a day-of timeline, created a fun & relaxed atmosphere, and coaxed out some wonderful portraits of us after the ceremony. He was super responsive leading up to and on the big day, and had a quick turnaround time with the finished gallery. I would 100% recommend him for any events in the Flathead Valley!"

Krissy & Todd

"I will start by saying I probably offended Matthew right off the bat by telling him that photos were not our main focus for our wedding. We wanted to have a great time and have the fun and beauty of the day captured, without spending too much of our time being pulled away for photos and let me tell you, he took this feedback and ran with it in the best way possible. Not only are the posed photos we have beautiful and timeless, but we ended up with so many amazing candid photos of our families and friends that we will treasure forever, and we got to enjoy our cocktail hour with everyone! Not only that but we still ended the day with an insane number of beautifully edited photos that have allowed us to relive our day from start to finish!"

Matthew was so easy to work with, very communicative in planning and day-of, and a ton of fun to be around. He made us feel so comfortable in front of the camera and worked with us and our guests to create a stunning album that fulfilled everyone's visions.

Could not recommend him more highly!"

Leah & Hans

"Matt was very personable and helped to make our wedding day go so smoothly! He was flexible with timing and photo plans before the ceremony, and he was very easy to work with through it all. He made it easy to pose for photos when we felt awkward, and seeing the photos now after the wedding, he did such an amazing job capturing us and all the special moments of the ceremony and reception. I usually feel awkward seeing photos of myself, but he captured our happiness and his photos made us and the day look truly magical. It was wonderful to see special moments that we had, but also to see the special, fun times all the guests had too. We will treasure our wedding day for the rest of our lives, and we have perfect photos to commemorate it all, thanks to Matt."



THANK YOU!

I look forward to learning more about you and your big day!

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