



A Helping Hand

By Natasha Johnson

Organising a wedding can be a daunting task for even the most organised bride and groom. Whether your wedding is to be a simple affair or a grand event there are still many factors that need to be taken into account concerning anything from your chosen venue to wedding etiquette. Here are *Confeti*'s five top tips for planning their big day.

USE A REPUTABLE WEDDING PLANNER

The internet is without doubt one of the greatest modern inventions and for any couples getting married in Spain it is a useful resource in finding suppliers and ideas for weddings, BUT and it is a big BUT, as much as you may be able to pull everything together before you arrive, on the big day itself, you may find you are too busy yourself to oversee all of your plans, especially if you have more than twenty to thirty guests to cater for. It's not a great start to a wedding day when an hour and a half beforehand, the bride is hanging up decorations and the groom is directing the band where to set up, when really the bride should be up in her room with her girlfriends, enjoying a glass of cava and the groom knocking back a whisky (or two) with his best man and ushers. Wedding planners take care of all of this for you, so that you don't have to. They think of things you will not even consider and if any

issues do arise they will deal with them without you even knowing or needing to know. During the summer, planners are at weddings on a weekly if not daily basis, whereas you are only at your own wedding once, so take advantage of their experience, attention to detail, exhaustive list of contacts and knowledge of the area and start off your wedding day relaxed and raring to go.

USE A PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Everyone knows someone who is a photographer and although it may at first seem handy to have a guest at your wedding who can also take a good picture or who is a photographer, there is a big difference between asking them to take your pictures and hiring a professional wedding photographer. Firstly, your relationship with a professional photographer is just that, professional. They are there to take pictures on your behalf, because you have paid them to do so. They will get the pictures you want and the pictures you didn't even know were possible. Like wedding planners, they spend most of their lives at weddings. They know what shots to look for and they know where to position themselves to get them. Also, they live here, so they know about the Spanish weather, the light and whatever else they need to know for taking a good picture. The last thing you want is to get





into an argument with your guest/friend/photographer who is busy dancing and stuffing his face with cake! To ensure you get the quality mementos that you deserve for your big day, trust us and hire a professional photographer.

USE A HAIR AND MAKE-UP ARTIST

Even if you always do your own hair and make up, it doesn't mean you should do it on your wedding day. Your wedding day is a chance for you to relax, be pampered and have people to run around after you all day and having your hair and make up done professionally falls into this category. Again, as with the photographers and wedding planners, hair and make-up artists live and breathe Spain. They know how to do your make-up and style your hair to bear well with the weather and sunlight conditions that we have here and how to accentuate your best qualities for your photographs. Wedding hair and

make-up is a specialist art form, and you should take advantage of the wealth of experience that they have, so that you look the best you can on your wedding day.

USE A DJ/WEDDING ENTERTAINER

A wedding DJ is so much more than a man in a bad shirt dancing behind his turntables (there is a compliment in that quote!) It is true that i-pods have revolutionised the way we listen to music, but it doesn't always mean it is the best option for a wedding. A good DJ knows when to get everyone up on the floor and what songs to play to get the party started. For example, songs that you love listening to or love singing along to, might not be great songs to dance to and good DJs are well aware of that and will work with you to play the songs that you want, as well as stuff that they know will get people on the dance floor. DJs can also control your music for the start of your ceremony, end of the ceremony, your first dance etc,

which is much harder to do than you might think.

USE YOUR TIME TO RESEARCH WELL AND BOOK EARLY

Every year there seems to be certain dates that are in demand, certain weekends that seem to be more popular than others. If you do your research early and you find someone you like the look of, book them! Because good suppliers do not have free dates for very long and they do book up very early. If you have a date in mind, and have found the venue/wedding planner/photographer/hair and make up artists/DJ/wedding celebrant etc. that you like the look of and are happy with the service that they can provide, don't hesitate to seal a deal with them. Procrastination can lead to disappointment and to you not getting your first choice. There are so many amazing suppliers here, in all fields but you'll be surprised by how quickly they get snapped up.