

free
FROM RUCHI WITH LOVE

THE HAWAIʻI WEDDING CONTENT SHOT LIST

47 MOMENTS YOU'LL *WANT TO RELIVE* FOREVER.

The exact checklist I use at every wedding on the islands, from the first sip of champagne to the last sparkler. Print it, screenshot it, send it to your bridesmaids.

A LITTLE NOTE FIRST

ALOHA, *GORGEOUS.*



I'm Ruchi, the heart behind The BTS Dulhan. I left a career in tech at Apple and Facebook to capture weddings on the Big Island, and I've learned one thing for sure:

The moments you'll rewatch most are rarely the posed ones. They're the giggles, the happy chaos and the hand squeeze before the aisle.

Your photographer will nail the portraits. This list is for everything *in between*, the stuff that makes your wedding feel like *yours* when you replay it at midnight on your honeymoon.

Hand it to whoever is capturing your day: your content creator, your maid of honor, your cousin with the good iPhone. Moments marked ♥ are the ones my brides rewatch the most.

Ruchi

01

Check off what matters to you. Skip what doesn't. It's your day.

02

Share it with your content creator, planner or a trusted bestie.

03

Put your phone away and be present. That's the whole point.

i. Getting ready

8 MOMENTS

- [ ] The dress hanging in the window light, with ocean in the background if you've got it
- [ ] Champagne pop + the first clink with your girls ♥
- [ ] Detail flat-lay: rings, invite suite, perfume, lei, heirloom jewelry
- [ ] Hair & makeup "almost done" mirror moment
- [ ] Reading a letter or opening a gift from your partner ♥
- [ ] Mom or a loved one helping with the dress, veil or earrings ♥
- [ ] The "full look" reveal to your bridal party *(film their faces!)*
- [ ] Partner's side: cufflinks, cologne, the nervous pep talk

ii. First look & portraits

6 MOMENTS

- [ ] The walk-up, filmed from behind, then the turn ♥
- [ ] Their face. Just their face. For ten full seconds.
- [ ] First look with Dad, siblings or grandparents ♥
- [ ] Bridal party hype walk (slow-mo, wind in the dresses)
- [ ] Candid behind-the-scenes of your photographer at work
- [ ] Veil blowing in the trade winds *(Hawai'i gives you this for free)*

iii. Ceremony

9 MOMENTS

- [ ] Empty ceremony set-up before guests arrive
- [ ] Guests finding their seats, flower girl chaos included
- [ ] The pū (conch shell) call or Hawaiian blessing by your kahu ♥
- [ ] Your partner's face as you start down the aisle ♥
- [ ] Your walk, filmed from the *side* so we see you and the view
- [ ] Lei exchange, ring exchange, hands up close
- [ ] A guest wiping a tear (there's always one)
- [ ] The kiss, captured from two angles if you can
- [ ] Recessional + the celebratory toss: petals, bubbles or leaves ♥

PRO TIP Make your officiant say "please put your phones away." Unplugged ceremonies make your aisle footage 100× better.

iv. Cocktail hour & guests

7 MOMENTS

- [ ] Signature cocktails being poured (mai tais, anyone?)
- [ ] Grazing table / poke bar / shave ice cart
- [ ] Guest POV: friends' reactions to the view
- [ ] Grandparents holding hands ♥
- [ ] Quick guest messages to camera: "Any advice for the couple?"
- [ ] Kids running wild on the lawn
- [ ] The two of you sneaking away for a quiet moment alone ♥

v. Reception

10 MOMENTS

- [ ] Reception reveal: tablescape before anyone sits ♥
- [ ] Your grand entrance (tell the DJ the song early!)
- [ ] Speeches, plus the *listening* faces, not just the speaker
- [ ] First dance, wide and close-up ♥
- [ ] Parent dances
- [ ] Hula, fire knife dancers or cultural performance
- [ ] Cake cutting + the inevitable frosting moment
- [ ] The dance floor going OFF
- [ ] Outfit change reveal for reception or after-party
- [ ] Grand exit: sparklers, confetti, glow sticks ♥

vi. The reel-worthy extras

7 MOMENTS

- [ ] "POV: it's your wedding day" morning clip
- [ ] Golden-hour walk on the beach or lava rock ♥
- [ ] Outfit transition: robe → dress *(send your creator the trend!)*
- [ ] Ring close-up with the ocean behind it
- [ ] A slow-mo spin in the dress
- [ ] The two of you watching the sunset, from behind
- [ ] Last clip of the night: your shoes off, feet in the sand ♥

ISLAND INSIDER TIPS

HAWAIʻI HAS ITS *OWN RULES.*

Six things I tell every couple getting married on the islands. Your future self (and your camera roll) will thank you.

🌅

Book your ceremony around golden hour

Hawaiʻi doesn't do daylight saving, and sunset moves between roughly 5:45 and 7:20 pm through the year. Look up the exact time for your date and plan portraits for the hour before.

💨

Embrace the trade winds

Bring extra bobby pins, and pick a veil that looks good blowing sideways. Windy veil shots are the most-saved content I make.

🌋

Lava rock is not your friend (in heels)

Pack flat sandals for portraits on the rocks. Your ankles, and your dress hem, will survive.

🌦️

A little rain = rainbow content

Island showers usually pass in minutes. Don't panic. Rainbows after the rain make the best reels of the year.

🌺

Honor the culture

A Hawaiian blessing, a pū call or lei exchange adds deep meaning. Ask your planner about a kahu and learn what each tradition means.

📱

Decide who's capturing what

Your photographer does portraits; your videographer does the film. Someone needs to own the real-time BTS, or it simply won't exist.

— OKAY, REAL TALK

WANT ME TO CAPTURE *ALL 47*, AND SEND THEM TO YOU IN *24 HOURS?*

That's literally my job. Content creation, photography and Super 8 film across every Hawaiian island. Limited dates each year.

CHECK MY DATE →

@THEBTSDULHAN

Or DM me the word **DATE** on Instagram

Mahalo, love