

Sample 4 PM Fall Wedding Timeline

A relaxed, photo-friendly wedding day plan with comfortable transition time built in.

10:00 AM	Hair and makeup begin Start with attendants who are not needed first for photos.
11:30 AM	Light lunch and hydration Choose easy, low-mess foods and keep water nearby.
12:00 PM	Photographer arrives Details, invitation suite, attire and getting-ready photographs.
1:00 PM	Wedding party gets dressed Set aside bouquets, boutonnieres, rings and accessories.
1:30 PM	Couple gets dressed Allow time for finishing touches and individual portraits.
2:00 PM	First look and couple portraits Optional; skip this if the couple prefers an aisle reveal.
2:40 PM	Wedding party and family photos Photograph key groups before guests begin arriving.
3:20 PM	Guest arrival and prelude music Couple rests, refreshes and stays out of sight.
4:00 PM	Ceremony begins Allow approximately 25-30 minutes.
4:30 PM	Cocktail hour Family photos, remaining portraits and marriage-license signing.
5:30 PM	Grand entrance and dinner The couple may greet tables as dinner winds down.
6:20 PM	Toasts Keep speakers scheduled and the microphone ready.
6:40 PM	Golden-hour portraits Adjust to 30-45 minutes before the local sunset.
7:00 PM	First dance and parent dances Open the dance floor immediately afterward.
7:15 PM	Open dancing Mix guest favorites with the couple's must-play songs.
8:15 PM	Cake cutting and dessert Follow with more dancing and evening photographs.
9:30 PM	Private last dance and send-off Have guests gather outside while the couple shares a final dance.
10:00 PM	Celebration concludes Collect personal items, gifts and marriage-license paperwork.

Helpful note: Every wedding is unique. Adjust travel, photo and sunset times for the venue and season.