

Top 5 Tips for Successful Beach Portraits!

GUIDE FOR A BEAUTIFUL AND LAID BACK EXPERIENCE



It is an exciting time

to spend time on the beach with your family, either it's a yearly trip to the beach with just two of you, or the whole family reunion that happens only once in a while. But, when you start planning a photo session to capture this fun time together, it may seem overwhelming and stressful to convince everyone to participate and to coordinate all the details.

Fear not! We are here to help!

Tip 1 - Plan Ahead



Yes, we get it, sometimes vacations are planned last minute, and sometimes you just drop the ball on booking your photo session in advance! Happens to all of us. Nonetheless, if you have a couple months before your trip to the beach, you will have less pressure and more time to pick your photographer, to select best outfits and get inspired!



Tip 2 - Pick Photography company based on your vision

First, research photographers in the area based on the visual appeal. There are tens to hundreds of photographers in the popular beach areas, and most of them will have different styles (they use different equipment and editing techniques).

Second, think about what kind of photography you like the best - posed portraits or in-between moments that show personality of each family member. It's always a good idea to find a photographer who is proficient in creating both.

Last, figure out if the photography company you like creates products you are looking for. A lot of the photographers offer just digital files, but some studios take it to the next level by offering beautiful family heirlooms.



Tip 3 - Coordinate Outfits

The beach is known for subtle muted off-white/tan sand, blue or emerald water and skies that vary from blues of the daytime to yellow sunset warmth.

CLASSY LOOK: If you are going for the classy look that has very neutral tones, your best friends would be whites, tans and light pastel blues. This style is the best for different interiors if you are planning on ordering a beautiful wall portrait!

ADD PUNCH: If you like more contrast, you can add navy jeans to create that vibrance but still be pleasing to the eye.

FUN FAMILY: Adding corals and aquas to the color palette can show how fun your family is!

DON'Ts:

- We don't suggest matching the color completely and put everyone in the same tops and bottoms.
- Bad ideas: fuchsia, blacks and browns
- Say No to: bold bright patterns that take away from your beautiful faces!



Tip 4 - Best Time for the Photo Session

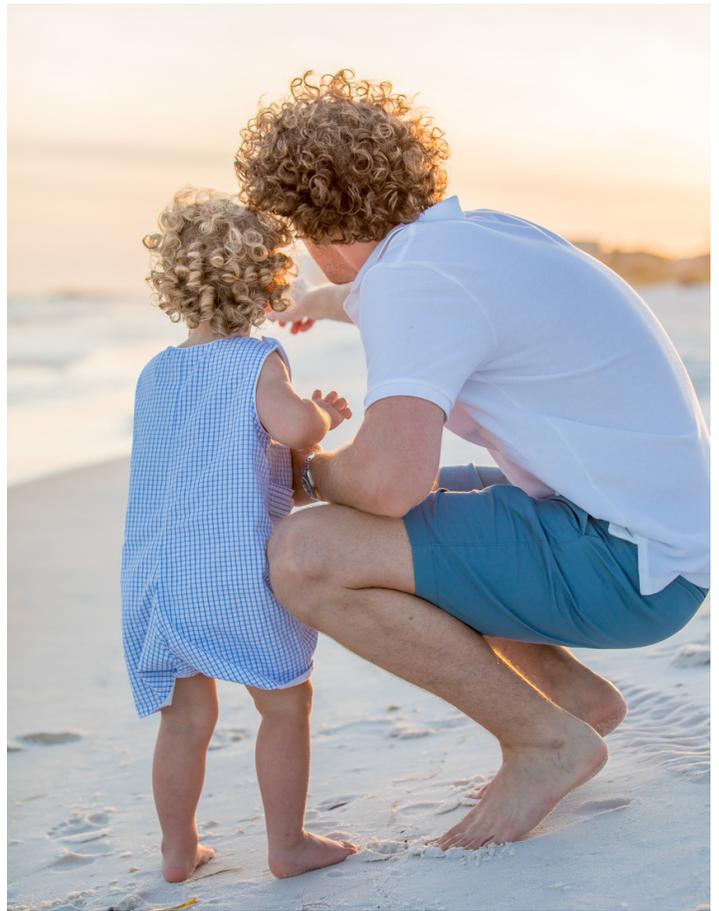
You have probably heard of the Golden hour - it's the time of day when the light is the warmest, softest and doesn't create harsh shadows. It happens twice a day: an hour right after the sunrise and an hour before the sunset.

WHY? The beach will be very bright during other times of the day. People tend to squint and not liking themselves in the photos. Plus, it's so hot in the summer in Florida, that it's best to wait till relatively nice time of the evening.

Things to consider

- During the summer sunsets are late, so plan accordingly, especially if you have little kids who have sleeping routines. It may be a good idea to prepare them with having later naps during the day, so they can last longer in the evening, starting a few days before the photo session.
- Feed everyone (or plan on heavy snacks) before the session, so nobody is starving and will have a pleasant experience.
- When we have clouds, sometimes it will make for a vibrant sky 10 minutes after the sunset that will give you a beautiful dramatic portrait. So just in case, plan to finish the session a few minutes after sunset.
- Weather permitting: sometimes your photographer may ask you to consider coming to the beach earlier because of the overcast. On the darker days we lose light faster, so we would need to start earlier.





Tip 5 - Go with the Flow

If you feel stressed before the session, you have to breathe in and out and remind yourself, no matter what - you are doing it to create memories and have fun with the family! Sometimes, the best moments our clients are in love with, are those non-posed in between moments when things just happen.

Let it go, and let your professional photographer take control.

It's ok if the kids don't want to smile at the camera, let them be themselves! It's this age you want to remember years later!

It's ok if someone is wearing "plan B" outfit because they spilled coffee/juice all over themselves 5 min before the session.

It's ok if things aren't perfect, because nothing in life is, and photographers are there to capture your family as you are now, at this stage, this year. So, when you look back at it 20-30 years from now, you would chuckle and make jokes about how fun it was regardless of little things!



" Childhood is a part of my story and that's why I am who I am today. The best and brightest moments you wish could have lasted forever. Everything in adulthood can be traced back to childhood ."

*For more beach
portrait inspiration*

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