THE ADVENTUROUS ELOPEMENT CHECKLIST
Looking For An Elopement Photographer & Planner?

The best part about making the brave choice to elope is you get to dream up a completely custom wedding experience! While elopements are often more cost effective than a traditional wedding, they do come with just a bit of planning as well. If this is already overwhelming you, then I’d suggest you look into hiring a planner or photographer that specializes in planning elopements.

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1.) IMAGINE YOUR ELOPEMENT DAY

Start by imagining your elopement ceremony. Ask yourself these 2 questions:

What is the weather like? Describe it in detail. Do you hear waves crashing on the beach and feel warm wind on your skin, or is it snowing? Do you see yourself on top of a mountain? This will give you an idea of where to start when it comes to picking the best location for your elopement.

Do you imagine guests at your elopement ceremony? Is it just the two of you, or do you imagine a couple close friends or family members standing by your side? It’s suggested to keep your guest list for elopements under 15 - 20 people.
2.) SET YOUR BUDGET

What’s a realistic budget for you? Just throw a total number out there. How high above that budget would you be willing to go? The great thing about eloping is there are so many places where you can elope for free!

Action Item:

- Write down a number for your entire elopement budget
I’d like to let you in on a fun fact; It is still an elopement even if you’re bringing guests! Keep your guest list minimal to avoid additional stress and planning (less than 20 people).

**Action Items:**
- Book your lodging
- Book flights (plus travel insurance, baggage fees)
- Confirm mode(s) of transportation (how will you get to your elopement location, By bus, train, taxi, or do you need a rental car, etc)
- Make a list of nearby restaurants and places to eat that you may like
4.) WEDDING ATTIRE & ACCESSORIES

Action Items:

- Find your wedding dress or suite.
- Shoes/Hiking Boots! Buy shoes that are comfortable and easy to move in. A lot of brides opt for hiking boots if they plan to hike for their adventurous elopement.
- Bridal accessories can be easy to miss. Little things like jewelry, watches, or meaningful items you’d like photos of.
- The wedding rings (Qalo has an amazing selection of silicone bands).
5.) GET LEGAL

Action Items:

- Research the laws where you want to complete your legal paperwork. Every state/country is different.
- Check to see if you need an appointment to pick up your marriage license, or if there is a waiting period.
- Confirm if a witness or officiant (or both) are required.
- Bring along all the required documentation (your local county clerk can confirm what’s required, birth certificate, drivers license, etc)
Who you choose to be there for your wedding day is a big deal.

Elopement photographers and videographers will often account for the biggest part of your budget. You don’t need all these vendors to have the perfect elopement day, bring along whoever you need to!

- Elopement Photographer
- Hair & Makeup Artist
- Videographer
- Florist
- Chef/caterer
- Planner
- Musician or DJ
- Adventure or Tour Guide
7.) YOUR WEDDING CEREMONY

If you don’t have an officiant you may be thinking what the heck should I do for my elopement ceremony script? Whatever you want! You can write your own ceremony script, or don’t use one at all. Some couples just read vows to each other, then have a first kiss and celebrate.

Action Items:

- Purchase vow books
- Write your wedding vows

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8.) WHAT TO DO AFTER YOUR CEREMONY

This category to help you brainstorm how you should spend your time after your elopement ceremony. How should you celebrate becoming newlyweds?

Scroll down!
CELEBRATE YOUR LOVE!

- Enjoy a chef catered meal
- Dance around the campfire at your AirBNB
- Take a helicopter ride or other epic adventure
- Go out to dinner with your new spouse and friends/family
- Take a tropical vacation with all the money you just saved from eloping!
- Backpack together, build a campfire, lay under the stars and take it all in

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9.) ELOPEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Action Items:

- If you want to share some love with all the friends and family who couldn’t make it, consider ordering elopement announcements.
- Share the news online, in person or by phone.
You did it! You eloped and had the stress free wedding of your dreams.

Hiring the perfect elopement photographer is so important (even more so than a traditional wedding), as they may be the only person there to tell the story of how you got married.

If you're still on the lookout for the perfect photographer, then visit my website and see if we may be a great match!

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