

tAAra

LUXURY SOUTH ASIAN WEDDING PLANNING & DESIGN



THE VENDOR INTERVIEW GUIDE

10 Questions to Ask Every *Wedding Vendor*

*The right questions, asked early, are what protect
your budget, your timeline, and your peace of mind.*

VENUE · PHOTO & VIDEO · CATERING · DECOR

Your Venue

The venue's answers decide what is possible for every other vendor. Ask these first.

- 01** What are the earliest load-in and setup access times, both the day before and on the wedding day?
WHY Sets whether decor and vendor timelines are even possible.

- 02** Which indoor and outdoor spaces are available for each event — ceremony, lunch, cocktail hour, reception, getting-ready rooms, storage, and a vendor green room?
WHY Defines the floor plan and guest flow across the day.

- 03** What is the weather backup plan for every outdoor portion, and when is the final call made?
WHY Outdoor events need a credible Plan B and a decision deadline.

- 04** What are your catering rules — kitchen access, outside or Indian caterers allowed, warming, water and ice, trash, and bar/alcohol policy?
WHY This single answer shapes your entire culinary experience.

- 05** What tables, chairs, and linens are included, and what must we rent separately?
WHY Prevents surprise rental gaps and duplicated costs.

- 06** Where are the power sources, and what are the limits for DJ, lighting, catering, and live streaming?
WHY Undersized power is a common day-of failure point.

- 07** Is Wi-Fi available for guests and live streaming, and can we test it in advance?
WHY Live streams for family abroad depend on tested bandwidth.

- 08** What are the load-in, parking, loading dock/elevator, security, and certificate of insurance (COI) requirements for vendors?
WHY Vendors cannot be booked around unknown venue restrictions.

- 09** Are any room flips or turnovers needed between events, and who handles the reset and timing?
WHY Turnovers can quietly consume the middle of your day.

- 10** Who is the on-site venue contact on the day, and what is the emergency, medical, and security plan?
WHY You want one named person accountable when it matters.

Photo & Video

Capture only what matters — and protect the timeline while you do it.

- 01** Are you available for all our event dates, including setup details and any optional light-coverage days?
WHY Coverage must match the full multi-day event flow.
- 02** What arrival time do you recommend to capture getting-ready and detail shots before each event begins?
WHY The best details happen before guests fully arrive.
- 03** Do you have experience with our specific cultural and religious rituals, so no key moment is missed?
WHY Ritual familiarity is the difference in the album.
- 04** How much time do you need for couple, family, and event portraits, and how does that shape the day's timeline?
WHY Portrait windows quietly control the wedding-day flow.
- 05** Do you recommend sunrise or pre-ceremony portraits, and how would that affect hair and makeup timing?
WHY Beautiful, but it ripples into HMU and rest.
- 06** How will you build and manage the must-have shot list with us and our family point person?
WHY Must-have shots need an owner before the day.
- 07** How many photographers and videographers are included, and what hours are covered each day?
WHY Team size drives both quality and cost.
- 08** What lighting and audio support do you need for outdoor ceremonies or evening events?
WHY Outdoor and night events require real planning.
- 09** What deliverables are included — teaser, full gallery, cinematic film, reels/clips, and raw footage?
WHY Deliverables should match family and social needs.
- 10** Please itemize travel, overtime, extra shooter, drone, album, and the delivery timeline for each item.
WHY Prevents overtime and delivery surprises.

Your *Caterer*

Guests remember the food. Confirm timing, service, and every hidden cost.

- 01** Are you available for every meal across all our events, and can one package cover the full weekend?
WHY Confirms whether one caterer can handle the whole weekend.

- 02** Can you offer multi-event pricing across multiple meals and days?
WHY Bundled pricing often protects the budget.

- 03** What menus do you recommend for each event's mood and timing — haldi, ceremony lunch, sangeet or reception dinner?
WHY Menus should match the moment, not repeat.

- 04** Can you provide homestyle or regional dishes where we want them, or is that a separate vendor?
WHY Some events call for a different, homier approach.

- 05** Do you handle service staff, buffet setup, chafers, serving utensils, water/tea/coffee, and disposables or rentals?
WHY Service items are where hidden costs hide.

- 06** What kitchen, prep, power, water, trash, and load-in access do you require at the venue?
WHY Private estates especially need operational validation.

- 07** How do you handle vegetarian, vegan, Jain, allergy, and kids' meal needs?
WHY Dietary needs must be planned early, not day-of.

- 08** How do you time food around the rituals so meals are ready without interrupting the ceremony?
WHY Food timing must respect the ritual flow.

- 09** Who handles cleanup after each meal, and what is excluded?
WHY Cleanup ownership is critical at private properties.

- 10** Please itemize per-person pricing, staffing, delivery, rentals/disposables, taxes, gratuity, travel, and overtime.
WHY Makes every quote complete and comparable.

Decor & *Floral*

Beauty that is also practical, on time, and priced without surprises.

- 01** Are you available for all decor-heavy events, including setup and teardown windows for each?
WHY Confirms coverage of every decor-critical moment.
- 02** Can you design an outdoor haldi backdrop that handles turmeric and color, shade, seating, and family photos?
WHY Haldi design must be beautiful and practical.
- 03** Can you create an elegant indoor devotional backdrop for puja and ritual moments without overbuilding the space?
WHY Keeps sacred moments refined without overspend.
- 04** For ritual moments, do you provide decorated plates and trays and ceremony items, or should the family source them?
WHY Avoids last-minute confusion over ritual presentation.
- 05** Do you rent ritual-specific items such as a haldi sieve, kanyadaan plates, bride basket, and similar? Please list, by wedding style, what you can provide.
WHY Confirms which sacred items are covered versus family-sourced.
- 06** Can the mandap be fully ready by the time required for the muhurtham?
WHY The entire wedding timeline hinges on mandap readiness.
- 07** Can decor be converted between events — mandap to sangeet or reception — or do you recommend a separate build?
WHY Reuse can save meaningfully, or quietly cost more.
- 08** What rentals are included — mandap, seating, aisle, stage/platform, backdrops, florals, candles/LED, and tables?
WHY Prevents surprise rental gaps between vendors.
- 09** What are your staffing needs and earliest load-in time for each event?
WHY Validates whether venue access hours are realistic.
- 10** Are you able to set up decor away from guests' sight, so the reveal stays hidden until the moment?
WHY Protects the first-look impact for the couple and guests.
- 11** What weather backup changes the design or the pricing for outdoor events?
WHY Outdoor design needs a credible, priced Plan B.
- 12** Please itemize what is included, optional upgrades, taxes and fees, delivery, teardown, and any damage or cleanup charges.
WHY Protects the budget from hidden fees.