



## Transport & Wedding Cars

Transportation: Finding the Right Ride  
Tips For Hiring A Limousine Company  
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Limousine Rental Comparison

# Transportation: Finding the Right Ride

In the past few years, the stretch limousine has all but replaced the other methods of transportation for the newlyweds. Today you can arrive in style in a specially built Lincoln, Cadillac, Mercedes, Rolls Royce, or Bentley. They are available in white, silver, or black; and, of course, are chauffeur driven. It's been said that renting a limousine for your day is "The Ultimate in Luxury". Believe me, it is: but the plain fact is, that a hired limousine removes the worry and the responsibility for the bride's father in getting to the ceremony and for the bestman going to the reception. Most limousines are rented by the hour, day, or half day; and the rental fee usually includes the gas and the chauffeur. Arrangements should be made at least 6 to 12 months previous. Whether you're leaving on a flight after the reception or having a secret rendezvous somewhere nearby, take full advantage of the limousine service to begin your new life in style

## THINGS TO CONSIDER

**Count me in.** Prior to selecting your vehicle of choice take into account how many people you are going to include in the car. If you'll be just traveling with a small group, you may want to hire a town car instead of a big limousine. On the other hand many brides like to travel with their maids. In this case, you may want to hire a stretch limousine.

**Style:** Incorporate your wedding theme with your mode of transportation.

**Compare Prices:** Be sure to investigate the packages of different limo companies to get the best package.

**Written Agreement:** A reputable company will happily agree to provide you with a written contract. Make sure the contract states the correct places, dates, times, specific vehicle, exact rate, extra costs, deposit amounts, overtime fees (if there are any), and cancellation policy.

**Check Out the Car:** Insist on seeing the actual car that will be transporting you. To make sure you get a top quality car, consider writing down the license plate of the car you've been shown and include that in your written contract.

**Tipping:** Check with the car service to see if gratuity is included in your bill. If not, drivers are usually tipped 10-20% of the total bill.

## SPECIAL OPTIONS

**Televisions:** Chances are, you're not going to channel surf on the way to your wedding, so you may want to tune out this option.

**Champagne:** If you want to pop the bubbly with your new mate on the way to the reception, request a bottle in advance of the big day.

**Sign of the Times:** Ask if the company provides a "Just Married" sign for the back of the car. If not, consider making one of your own

### **MONEY SAVERS**

**Town Cars:** Consider hiring town cars which are much less expensive than limousines. It can look just as elegant as a limo and it can be a cozy option especially if your group is small.

**Suitable Size:** Why get a 12-seater when there are only 6 people in your party? Cutting down the size of the limo can save you some dollars. Consider the amount of space you need before you get the biggest limo on the lot.

### **CREATIVE OPTIONS**

Some couples like to arrive in one-of-a-kind style. Here are some fun ideas that are great for wedding day needs:

**Sports Car:** Living a fast and furious life? Maybe a hot sports car is for you! There are many exotic car rental places that'll offer you anything from a red hot Ferrari to a sophisticated silver Bentley. The choice is yours.

**Vintage Automobiles:** A great choice if you'll be departing from the reception or church in full view of all of your guests.

**Hot Air Balloon:** An "uplifting" idea if you're celebrating in the countryside.

**Horse-Drawn Carriage:** Romantics will be "drawn" to this option especially if you've always wanted to play the part of Cinderella.

**Motorcycle Getaway:** If Harleys are your thing, grab your honey, and rev your engine.

**Double Decker Bus:** Loads of fun if you're in need of tons of room and transporting your guests to the reception site.

Whether it's the traditional limousine, the fast ride or the whimsical horse drawn carriage, be sure that what ever you choose fits both your budget and style.

# Tips For Hiring A Limousine Company

Rented wedding transportation can assure you will arrive to the church and to the reception in safety and luxury.

Whether you hire a horse-drawn carriage or stretch limousine you don't want any surprises.

Limousines can vary greatly in the number they can carry and their features. Be sure that the limousines you book have enough room for everyone that will be traveling in them.

Where to start looking? Ask friends, family or better yet, your wedding professionals for recommendations.

Depending on your budget, you may want to hire one limousine or several. You may wish them to transport you to the ceremony and reception sites.

Ask questions about the wedding day services. Are you just getting a driver or are you getting a professional chauffeur who will assist you on your special day? Do they actually have packages or do they just advertise them.

Never shop by prices alone. Fly by night companies are able to charge very low prices because they are improperly or under-insured or have poorly maintained limousines. You get what you pay for.

Make an appointment to see the limousines. Take the time to go out to the facility and see exactly with whom you are doing business and the EXACT car you will receive on your wedding day. It should be the company's responsibility to advise you of a change in your chosen vehicle.

Book your limousine 4-6 months prior to the wedding. You may want to book sooner if your wedding falls on a popular date or around major events. (Prom, concert, gala, etc.)

Use a limousine company close to your ceremony site. Many limousine companies charge add-ons or additional time for travel time and mileage. Ask about any hidden fees.

Ask for a list of references.

**GET IT IN WRITING!!** Have a signed contract that states which limousine you are requesting, how much the vehicle will cost, gratuities that may be required, and when

and how the balance must be paid. Most companies require deposits. What is the cancellation policy. Is it acceptable?

Transportation is one of the most important aspects of your wedding day. Don't take chances. By following these simple suggestions, you can make a difficult choice much easier.

### **JUST A COUPLE OF EXTRA NOTES**

Ensure that the Chauffeur of the company you have chosen will assist you with your gown as you are entering and exiting the vehicle. Every Chauffeur Should Assist You In Every Way To Make Your Day Run Smoother.

The Groom And The Ushers Should Be Picked Up 45 Minutes To 1 Hour Prior To The Start Of The Ceremony. The Ushers Should Be There To Seat Your Guests 30 Minutes Before The Ceremony. The Bride Should Be Picked Up 15 Minutes To ½ Hour Prior To The Start Of The Ceremony, Depending On Distance Between The Bridal Pick Up And The Church. Do My Parents Ride In The Limousine With Me ?

The Brides Parents Almost Always Ride In The Limousine With The Bride To The Church. After The Ceremony They Normally Will Have A Vehicle There Or Will Ride With A Relative. The Groom's Parents Hardly Ever Ride In The Limousine, Although It Is Not Unheard Of And Is A Nice Touch.

## Question To Ask A Limousine Company

	LIMOUSINE RENTAL COMPANY #1	LIMOUSINE RENTAL COMPANY #2	LIMOUSINE RENTAL COMPANY #3
	_____	_____	_____
	Phone: _____	Phone: _____	Phone: _____
QUESTION	ANSWER	ANSWER	ANSWER
Are the vehicles fully licensed and insured? (Don't be afraid to verify this by asking to see vehicle registration and insurance documents)			
Do you belong to any association that establishes reliability and service standards?			
How many Limos do you have?			
What type or model and size of vehicles will be used? <i>(You may have the option of choosing a particular vehicle or vehicles.)</i>			
What Colors are available for each vehicle? <i>(for each vehicle desired)</i>			
What color is the inside of the vehicle? <i>(for each vehicle desired)</i>			
May I see the actual vehicles before selecting them?			

QUESTION	ANSWER	ANSWER	ANSWER
What is your policy if one breaks down?			
How many people will comfortably fit in each vehicle? <i>(Remember everyone will be dressed up and you do not want them to wrinkle or be uncomfortable)</i>			
Will the vehicle(s) be freshly cleaned and prepared for us?			
Do the vehicles have working air conditioning/heating systems?			
May we consume champagne or other alcoholic beverages a/o eat in the vehicle?			
Do you offer wedding packages?			
What services do the fees include?			
If you opt for a package, what is the additional price per hour if you choose to keep the vehicle longer?			
Will there be any other additional charges?			

QUESTION	ANSWER	ANSWER	ANSWER
Are gratuities included in the price?			
What will the driver(s) wear on the job?			
How long will we have the vehicle(s) and driver(s)?			
How far in advance do I need to book the service?			
How much of a deposit is required?			
What is your cancellation policy?			
When is the final payment due?			
Can I get a signed contract stipulating the date, time, all locations, prices, type of vehicle including year, make, model and colour, payment, deposit and cancellation policy?			

# Limousine Rental Comparison

**LIMOUSINE RENTAL  
COMPANY #1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**LIMOUSINE RENTAL  
COMPANY #2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**LIMOUSINE RENTAL  
COMPANY #3**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL CHOICE**

Name Of Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Budgeted Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date Balance Due \_\_\_\_\_