



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PORTRAIT

What is the price for a Portrait session?

Our prices start at \$125.00 +GST for an individual and go up to \$250.00 +GST for a large group. Location shots are by negotiation.

Do you do hair and make-up?

No, we do not provide this service. It would be advisable to have your hair done if you are not confident of doing a good job yourself, so you are happy with the final result. Make up is very personal and if you want a natural look and you are good at applying this yourself, do so. If you want a more glamorous look and you are not confident at doing this, you could consider booking a makeup session at one of the cosmetic houses at your favourite department store. Just remember to bring your lipstick, hairspray and comb for touch ups.

Where are the photographs taken?

Your Portrait Session can be at our studio in Rothesay Bay, on Auckland's North Shore and in our large, beautiful garden that offers many different settings in itself.

As we are fully mobile, you can also have your session at a location of your choice – at your favourite beach, park, or architectural building. Locations such as beaches or parks like Auckland Domain give a wider range of photographic opportunities. Location shoots will incur additional charges for travel and time. Please feel free to discuss any locations with us as some locations may require permission to use premises.

What happens if it rains?

We are happy to postpone until the weather improves if the location is an outdoors shoot. Inside studio shoots or inside location shoots would go ahead as planned.

How long are Portrait sessions?

The session can take between 1-2 hours depending on how many people there are. This gives us time for many different combinations of photographs in different places and with different outfits. If your portraits involve children, it is important to bring snacks so they can have a break and a play and be refreshed for another session of photographs. It takes a little while for some little children to feel comfortable about having their photograph taken, so bringing a favourite toy, doll, or clothes for them is a great idea. We have toys and props for them to play with and they will relax very quickly.

What do children need to know about the Portrait session?

The children need to be told they are going to go to the beach, garden or studio to have photographs taken of them while they are playing or while they are with the family. It is advisable not to encourage them to be good by telling them they can have a treat afterwards if they smile. This can cause them to be more concerned about the treat than participating well in the photo shoot. It may cause their smiles and poses to be unnatural. Rather, tell them this will be an adventure doing something they don't normally do. There will be toys to play with; a swing etc and they are to just

have a lot of fun playing. While they are playing the photographer will take photographs of them enjoying themselves.

Do we meet before the Portrait session to discuss ideas?

Yes. We like to discuss what sort of images you like or have seen in magazines or on websites etc. This is important so we get to know 'you', so that we can capture 'you' on the day in our images. If you do not have time to come and visit us at the studio we can talk over the phone or share ideas through emails and the internet.

What should be worn at the Portrait session?

You should aim to bring between 2-3 different outfits for each person, including long trousers/jeans, skirts, dresses, hats, t-shirts, shirts, ties. Some formal, some casual or what you feel comfortable in.

Please do not wear sleeveless tops or shorts. Too much skin showing on your body takes the focus away from your face.

If you are having a family portrait it is always good to colour co-ordinate so colours are harmonious and do not clash. Please avoid t-shirts/tops with large images, writing or logos.

Outdoor sessions look best with a range of darker toned coloured tops as these will blend well together in any images taken. If you like bright colours bring a set of these for something different but remember to make sure the colours of different family members do not clash. White tops and blue denim always look great as do black tops and denims.

For a studio shoot make sure you bring a range of clothes in pale and bright colours including black and white. Don't forget any favourite hats children like to wear or hair ties. Bring a fun umbrella ie. frilly, frog or lady bird is always great. Remember nice shoes – these can sometimes make a picture.

What time of day are the Portrait sessions?

If you are having a Portrait session in our studio it can be any time of day, but if you are having an outside shoot we prefer to do this in the morning or late afternoon when the light from the sun is not so harsh.

What happens during the portrait session?

The shoot is all about you and your personality and we want that to shine through the photography. This is best done when you are comfortable and enjoying yourselves. So we will shoot a variety of photos; candid, formal and fun. We will at times tell you where we want you and how to be sitting, standing or lying. At other times we will just get you to talk, play and have fun so that we can capture candid natural shots.

We will constantly check the images we are taking to make sure everything is as it should be (eyes open not closed, clothes not bunched up, hair looking good) and will at times get you to redo a shot until we are happy with it.

When will we see the photographs to choose from?

Approximately 1-2 weeks after the portrait session we will contact you. There are a couple of ways to view the photographs.

The first way is for us to email a link to our website where we will have a special area just for you to view the series of photographs we have taken. These 'proof' images will be numbered and you will be able to look at each one in a 6x4 format. You will be given a choice of some effects you might like to have done on your photographs. There will also be an order form to fill out – this includes the number, size and effect for each photograph. The proof photographs will generally be in their original format, but any blemishes, changes or stray hair will be taken care of when you choose the images you want and the effect you want. This digital editing service is included in the price of your session.

There will also be a link to a slideshow of an example album, so you can see how beautiful the images can look when presented in album format. We will also send you our product and price list so you are able to choose from our range of products.

We will make a date for you to come in with the order form and finalised the photographs you have chosen, and discuss any retouching you would like. This is where you would look at the various products we offer finalise your prints, choose types of albums, mounting or canvases.

If you do not have email or broadband you can view the photographs at our studio with a complimentary espresso or tea. You are welcome to choose the photographs at the viewing session or take the form away with you to fill out. We will give you a proof sheet of each photo and a copy of the effects we can offer. You will be given a product and price list so you are able to choose from our range of products offered.

What products are available to purchase?

We have a range of high quality products including unframed prints, canvas prints, Artmount block prints, albums, DVD slideshows and full resolution CDs.

How is payment made?

We ask that you pay the full amount for the portrait session before the day as this is a deposit to secure your booking. This will start in price from \$125.00+GST. Once you have viewed the photographs, chosen your favourites, told us of your choice of effect, size and product – we will get your order underway. We will give you a price for the product/s you are ordering and ask for a 50% deposit. When the photographs or product/s arrive we will have a showing at the studio and require the remaining 50%.



www.finessephotography.co.nz