

THE FAMILY SESSION

INTRO GUIDE





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getting STARTED

WELCOME TO THE INTRO GUIDE

Whether I'm photographing your sweet family, or doing a session to celebrate a special moment in your life, like a pregnancy or updating your family pictures, I want you to know that I'm honored to be considered as your photographer and humbled that you've trusted me with the responsibility of helping you create memories you'll look back on and cherish for a lifetime.

My goal is simple: for your session to be as fun and stress-free as possible! Your only job is to be yourself, laugh a lot, have fun and let me do the rest! I can't wait to get you in front of my camera and I'm so excited to see you soon!



XOXO,

JANALEE





BEAVER MOUNTAIN



SCHEDULING *your* SESSION

I PHOTOGRAPH PORTRAIT
SESSIONS THE WAY I LIKE TO BE
PHOTOGRAPHED MYSELF:

Outdoors, in natural light, because I love images that are clean, bright, fresh and timeless. Images that look and feel like you! That's why I begin all of my sessions 1-2 hours before the scheduled sunset -- during the magical "golden hour" -- when the light in the sky is the softest, dreamiest and most flattering.

You can use a sunset calculator online to determine the scheduled sunset for the date and location you'd like to do your session. Then, just subtract an hour to figure out your approximate session start time. When scheduling your date, it's important to remember that the sun sets much earlier during the colder months of the year and much later during the warmer months, so make sure to factor that in -- especially if you have small children with a specific eating or sleeping schedule, or if you (or your spouse) will need to leave work early to get ready for the session and arrive on time.

My weekends fill up fast and far in advance, but my weekdays are much more flexible. So if you'd like to do your session sooner rather than later, scheduling mid-week is the way to go!



USU CAMPUS



TONY GROVE

CHOOSING *the* LOCATION

THE LOCATION OF YOUR PORTRAIT SESSION IS COMPLETELY UP TO YOU!

The location of your portrait session is completely up to you! I mostly hold sessions showcasing the natural beauty of our gorgeous valley. For most of my sessions, outdoor, open-air environments are always my first choice. I love shooting in wide-open natural spaces because the light is divine, especially during golden hour. There are great options all around the state, so even if you've never seen me photograph in a specific place before, I'm always up for exploring a new spot together!

For more pictures of locations in different seasons, and other information visit my [blog](#) and search for locations. I am constantly updating it with new locations. For a short video of more ideas in Cache Valley, click [here](#). These are locations I haven't had sessions at yet, but would love to visit these and more!



RIVERWALK

THINK OUTSIDE *the* BOX

**WHEN IT COMES TO CHOOSING LOCATIONS,
DON'T BE AFRAID TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!**

I encourage you to brainstorm unique places that you might have special access to that most people don't. For example, maybe you (or someone you know) have access to an amazing location that would otherwise be off-limits, like a beautiful private estate, family ranch, exclusive country club or luxury resort. Spend a few minutes thinking about it and checking around with people in your personal and professional network. You'll be surprised with what you come up with! If something seems out of reach, just remember: you never know until you ask! You can also consider Airbnb or other property rental sites. In the past, my clients have secured permission to shoot in some pretty incredible places!

If you need some location ideas and inspiration, I have plenty! Check out my Instagram ([@janalee.berentzen](#)) and the location section of my blog. If there's a certain session you really love, just let me know which one and we can go to that location!



DESTINATION

locations

Your portrait session includes my travel time anywhere in Cache Valley. If you'd like to go somewhere else in Utah, I'm up for the adventure! If you'd like to shoot outside of the Valley, like in SLC or Bear Lake, for example, there will be a travel fee to account for the extra hours of drive time there and back, the time required beforehand for me to scout locations and the overall longer session time.

If I'm already going to be in or near an area you've always dreamed of doing your photos, and we can coordinate our schedules, let's set it up! I'd love to meet you somewhere beautiful and make it work! If you'd like me to meet you in a destination outside of Utah for your portrait session where I don't already have plans to visit, just let me know and I'll send you a custom quote.



FALL *and* WINTER SESSIONS

Typically, I open spots for Fall sessions in July. These fill EXTREMELY quickly. If you want a fall spot, don't wait to reach out to me. I do offer mini sessions. [Click here to join my e-mail list](#) for notifications when I release these days. I usually do not advertise them on social media because they get booked so fast.

Keep in mind that the fall leaves usually are best from the middle of September through the 2nd week of October. Mountain locations have the first leaves changing (mid to end of September), while downtown locations last longer into October. Talk with me about locations you are interested in to find the best time for fall colors.



THIRD WEEK OF SEPT

SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER





COLD WEATHER SESSIONS:

I do offer sessions in the winter months, but have fewer spots. With the sun setting so early, it can be tricky to get everyone home from school and/or work and make it to the session before the sun sets.

Keep in mind that kids get cold quickly. When they are cold, they don't smile and have as much fun. Mini sessions are a great way to go for winter sessions.

GENERAL FAMILY SESSION FLOW

Please keep in mind this is a general flow. Depending on how kids do, I change it up. It is very fluid and can be done in any order.

I typically start with the whole family

- Everyone smiling and looking at me
- Parents snuggling in while kids look at me
- Kids and parents look at each other

Then move to kids

- All siblings together (smiling and looking at me, looking at each other, hugging, etc)
- Each child individually
- Can do just boys, just girls if requested





Mom with kids

- Mom with all kids
- Mom with girls/boys
- Mom with each child individually

Dad with kids

- Dad with all kids
- Dad with girls/boys
- Dad with each child individually

Mom and Dad

Whole family

- Playing games
- Walking
- Interacting

* I send out a questionnaire to find out which pictures/poses/configurations are most important and always end with asking if there is ANYTHING else you want to make sure we get.

PHOTO DELIVERY TIMELINE



ONE WEEK - SNEAK PEEK

In the week following your session, I'll post a sneak peek of one of my favorite photos from our time together on my Instagram account -- so keep an eye out for that! I'm so excited for you to see how beautiful you look through my eyes.



TWO WEEKS - BLOG POST

About two weeks after your session, I'll post a blog with some of my favorite highlights at www.janaleeberentzenphotography.com/blog.



THREE WEEKS - FULL GALLERY

Three weeks after your session, I'll send you a link to your online gallery with all of your final, retouched, high-resolution images. You can share the link with your family and friends, post to social media and more! I recommend changing the lock screen on your phone first :) Also, don't forget! Your gallery comes with unlimited downloads for you and anyone you share the link with, as well as the option to purchase prints from my professional lab and have them drop-shipped straight to your door. If you prefer, you can also upload the digital files to the retail lab of your choice and print them there.



ONE *final* NOTE

I know I just gave you A LOT to think about! Don't panic :) Just take it one step at a time. If you have any questions at any point, please know I'm here for you! If you're deciding between two dresses and can't commit, no problem! I'm here. If you love two locations but can't make up your mind, no worries! I can help with that, too. If you need a recommendation of any kind, I'm on it! Remember, I'm just one email away :)

At the end of the day, though, the location you choose and the outfits you wear won't matter nearly as much as the fun we have together and the memories you make. The style choices you make will definitely enhance your photos, but the most important accessory to bring with you is joyfulness -- which is the one that makes the biggest difference in your photos anyways. You don't need to have prior experience in front of the camera. Just show up with a smile and I'll take care of the rest :)

I'm so excited! See you soon!

- J



WWW.JANALEEBERENTZENPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

 Janalee Berentzen
P H O T O G R A P H Y