

Turnaround?

Your portrait images will be done up and pretty 2-3 weeks after our session, depending on seasonal demand. Parties may be up to 4 weeks. A high resolution teaser can be provided for Thank You cards within 3 business days of our session if requested. For weddings, please see wedding contract for turnaround.

Latest work?

See my facebook feed ("Like" me to get updates on specials / new work):

https://www.facebook.com/bellawangphotography . I updated that very regularly. Every family's images get featured so you can see my consistency and the product I deliver (unless a privacy fee is paid). I don't just select the "best" to share.

Studio?

I'm a location photographer and love to be outdoors and inspired by new places and people. A studio just cramps my style. I am a natural light photographer for portrait sessions and can shoot indoors. I do have flash equipment for event photography, but not for portraiture as I find it prevents me from being nimble and keeping up with quickly developing moments and expressions. I'm open to travel to a sentimental location, or your home for sessions. Home sessions are especially essential for newborns as this is most comfortable for the new baby & mom. Unfortunately, I don't have a studio, so you can't come over for a session. This is also why my email turnaround can be up to 48 hours as it's just me handling everything from the photo shoot, the email consultations, the inquiry fielding, the print orders, the retouching and birth announcement designs... so thanks in advance for everyone's patience. The wait is well worth it!

Pricing?

Please see the investment tab on my website (also on the contact page you will fill out to reach out to me). Or click here: http://www.bellawangphotography.com/#/invest/ These are portfolio-pricing, but please see privacy fee for keeping images off facebook, the internet, or my portfolio, etc.

Teasers?

Web-sized previews will be sent to you and posted on facebook within 48 business hours of our session for you to share with family and friends. Additional teasers will be posted once I begin work on your set!

Why a model release?

Everyone wants to be able to see what to expect from a session with me. The images I create and share are how

you probably found me and decided to read more about me in the first place. A model release allows me to share the images I capture during our session to show people what we create together. Whether it's to use to submit to a blog, or a competition, the model release is necessary so that we are all on the same page about how I can use our images. I provide my digital images included with every package in exchange for being able to show off what I can do. If I can't share, then people can't see the consistency in the product that I deliver. I don't cherry pick what I show — I show images from every single family I photograph (except for those that pay a small privacy fee for not signing a model release). A model release allows me to use it on facebook, and other social media sites. Unfortunately, keeping images off facebook, or just for print will require the privacy fee as I don't do in person consultations to show my work, and usually all I have time to do is share on facebook!

Privacy Requested?

I totally understand the need for privacy. My pricing is for my talent and time. Instead of charging for digital negatives & retouching, they are complimentary in my packages in exchange for my portfolio and advertising usage. Everyone in the session must sign a safety waiver and model release in exchange for the digital negatives. There are no modifications to keep them off offline/ off Facebook and just in a hardcopy portfolio as I don't have a hardcopy portfolio. However, if this doesn't fit for you, I understand and offer the purchase of digital negatives with retouching for the listed privacy fee. Not valid for large events and weddings.

Vacations?

Upcoming vacations include the week of March 20-27, 2016 inclusive. Newborns scheduled to arrive around those dates, please just keep me updated and I will accommodate. If you have an event during the TBD dates, please do reach out. I may be available.

Early Morning?

I'm ready and willing to shoot whenever you are! But since I work 6-7 days a week, I try to set aside weekday mornings for my hubby so we can reconnect over a latte. The extra fee helps pay for our missed date! +\$20 but please know I'm always willing to work for the great light! Best light is before 9:30AM and after 3PM.

How far in advance do you take bookings?

I open my schedule to portrait sessions up 1.5 months in advance. Events/Parties/Weddings are open earlier. Newborn due dates are tentatively booked about 3 months ahead. The dates get adjusted about a month ahead of your due date once you get an update from your care giver. Then once the baby arrives, keep me updated to secure an exact date and time. The fee is locked in once session is confirmed at those times.

What hours are best for our session?

As a natural light photographer, I try to avoid noon. So I don't shoot between the hours of 11AM-1:30PM for outdoor portraits. For best light, request 8AM. Right now, the sun is setting earlier, so I want to end all sessions by 3:30 at the latest. Indoors should end by 2:45. For families, please suggest a time that does not interfere with nap or feeding times. A happy baby is the most important ingredient for a successful session. Newborn sessions take place around mid-day to allow for lots of indoor light, depending on schedule as babies arrive on their own time. Once babies arrive, we can set up the exact date/time. Please don't try to schedule sessions for when

extended family members are visiting. Though we all try to have it all, this is usually a stressful time for everyone and kids tend to not be themselves due to the additional stimulation, changes of schedules and feeling the extra stress. The best time for family portraits is when things are just normal! This will be the best opportunity to capture your baby just as they are.

How do you select which photos to retouch?

I tell stories through my photographs and capture the fleeting moments and shining personalities of those I work with. I choose images that I believe best captures those qualities, while featuring our chosen location. Additional retouched images may be ordered after your image delivery. Currently they are \$30 per image. They will be emailed after they have been completed, or a disc will be sent if over 4 images are ordered.

What file type/resolution do you provide?

I provide high resolution images without any watermarks in JPEG format.

Consultations?

I provide consultations Monday through Friday for couples that are interested in signing a contract for wedding coverage. Weekends are reserved for sessions.

How long are the sessions?

My sessions run for about 45 minutes-55 minutes. After a few years, I've learned that most children won't last longer than this. It will allow plenty of time for us to wander to a few spots in a location and capture a family fully without taxing the baby too much. I don't want to end a session in hysterics, and often this is the case if I go any longer. Please show up on time to allow for your full session as oftentimes, I have a session afterward that requires me to end on time. My family sessions are more about capturing interactions and lots of energy rather than multiple location and outfit changes. I find that if you have narrowed down your vision, it becomes very frantic and stiff without capturing emotion and the fun atmosphere you see in my portfolio. Please make sure I'm the right photographer for you!

Inclement weather?

I try to be as accommodating as possible. If the schedule allows and you're flexible, I'm more than willing to check in with you about weather 1-2 days before our session. The weather is unpredictable, so don't even bother checking more than 2 days in advance, unless a large weather disturbance is heading our way. Weekdays are more flexible obviously than weekends as those are booked up earlier.

How many people can join in?

Immediate family members (your children and you) are included (up to 5). If grandparents would like to join in, aunts, uncles, it's just \$30 additional per person (up to 4 adults in total). This will allow me to include 1 more retouched image per extra family member in your retouched set. Please note that I only do one family per session. If it's a large family portrait, please contact me for information. I must have sufficient light for groups larger than 5 people. Indoors, I cannot accommodate more than 4 adults unless there is a sunroom, or something equivalent. Again, scheduling sessions for when extended family is visiting makes for a stressful

session. Children tend to act out, you're stressed, there are a lot more people to get ready and just schedules are off. Though we all want it all, sometimes the best choice is to edit it down and keep it simple. Crying babies, lack of sleep and mass confusion don't lend for favourable conditions.

Less Is More

It's sort of my philosophy as you read further down — this trickles into everything from wardrobe, props, things to bring to sessions, # of people involved in the session, locations, etc. Editing is super important before the session starts so that we know what to focus on to create a beautiful final product.

Can I do a newborn session, a party session, a boudoir session...all in one?

Strangely, this question has been asked before! Each session is booked separately as each type of session must be approached in a unique way. Of course I will provide some beautiful family images for each newborn session, but the focus will be on the baby and its comfort. Babies unfortunately don't like being outside within the first month of life (as it's not accustomed to the elements like wind and the sun – unless the conditions are perfect/warm/still), so I try to keep these sessions indoors. You also will likely be exhausted and not up for transporting baby to a park (packing things, car set, unpacking things). Less is more! Parties are structured differently and there are so many additional factors. I include a mini session (5-10 min) at the start of parties, but do know these are not the same feel as a 45 minute portrait session. The posed standard photos don't capture the carefree nature that a portrait session would. You'll also be distracted greeting guests, running behind schedule with last minute party details - not to mention babies tend to be upset due to the heightened stress of the day. Parties are fun and full of energy with lots of candids: a portrait session they are not:).

Can I get something instead of the complimentary birth announcements/cards?

When I first started, I did purely digital on disc. I kept seeing the same wonderful families over and over again and then quite a few times I asked how the prints were looking around their home and if they made an album. Time and time again, I just kept hearing that they just didn't have the time, and things just got away from them, but that they adored the images as wallpapers on their phone, or as screensavers. I loved that they were being used and admired, but I still do treasure printed items so that you can touch and see your images presented beautifully and as they were meant to be seen. I introduced this gift as a way to ensure families at least have a few images printed right away after their baby arrives. Those first few months will be busy and I don't want the disc to be misplaced, or left on a shelf! That's why I provide these as a gift that cannot be substituted.

What do I wear/bring?

Please check out my Pinterest site for inspiration under bwcaptures what to wear and my style. I love bright colours and / or bold patterns. Nothing too fussy or intricate as busy patterns don't photograph too well. Textured white is another favourite, and brightens up your face. Do not bring lots of bags and things to carry. We don't want anything lost, or have you worry about your bag on the side during the session. I want you to be relaxed, and not to worry about anything except looking fabulous, listening to direction and wrangling the kids:). The focus isn't on multiple outfit changes as well. Kids hate to be changed, so I'd rather a happy baby than trying to put on a fashion show. Each parent knows how their child will react, so just know how it'll affect your child and go from there! Less is more! I also send a PDF to you once you book with me for additional tips. I

require the forms be read and signed ahead our session and sent to me before we meet up. I don't require a deposit, so please respect my request to have these ahead of time, preferably as soon as you receive it. Please also bring payment in full to our session. I'll be decked out in my finest fitness gear as I roll on the ground and try to chase the kids and get the perfect shot - so please don't be surprised when you see me!

Is there a limit to the number of people in a session?

I am limited by the light. Outdoors, I have more flexibility. Pricing is more than a traditional portrait session though for larger groups. This ensures that I have a wide selection of photos to provide you that reflects my style - the reason why you hired me! Posing of large groups is more complicated, as well as ensuring that everyone is looking their best increases as the group increases. I specialize in the connection between parents and their babies and want to focus on capturing those emotions and interactions rather than trying to fit more people in as that takes away from the energy of the session. There are other photographers that do specialize in more 'traditional' photos of large family groupings, so you may find their work more appealing for something like that!

How do I prepare for a newborn session?

Please try to book your session ahead of your baby's birth to ensure a spot. Aiming for a due date, I set aside a slot for about a week after expected due date. Of course, babies have their own schedules, so I just request to be kept updated if there are any changes. I will also send a design philosophy PDF to help narrow down a look for your session. Some parents like traditional/posed photos, others love a more casual/documentary style. For the newborn photos, I love to incorporate colours & textures for their individual portraits. I do love to know the nursery colours, or maybe be inspired by the seasons or your home's décor to design the look of the newborn images. The design philosophy PDF will help us plan accordingly based on your likes, my props and my strengths in photography. Once baby arrives, we can adjust the date to ensure the session takes place within the first 14 days of life. I don't take vacations longer than 5-7 days for this reason at any time that I am booked. This way, I can accommodate changing schedules. I just need a 4x4' space in front of a window for lighting and a warm space (85F) with a stack of receiving blankets. I will bring basic backdrops, baby props such as hats and hairbands & blankets per our design discussion. Please feel free to provide your own sentimental or personal pieces! Also be ready for a family photo or sibling shot if that's something you'd like. These sessions can take up to 2-2.5 hours to allow for changing, feeding and soothing of baby. If family members are away for part of the session, that is fine. Most of the time it's waiting for baby to fall asleep. So as long as we have everyone together for 20-30 minutes, that is enough for the family shots. Please select from my baby props (facebook albums has a newborn props link on the non-mobile version). Please note your 1-2 favourite backdrops as babies don't like to be disturbed and moving them will limit the number of usable images if they wake up and fuss. This combination, tied to changes in poses, and family portraits and mommy + baby, and daddy + baby and sibling shots is more than enough to round out a session before the baby becomes irritable. Less is more! If you would like a diaperless shot, please provide a soft throw that you don't mind soiled, because it is guaranteed that your baby will immediately relieve themselves when placed upon it and I will have no backdrop for the rest of the session. I will also show you templates when you book for you to choose your birth announcement design from. Each session includes complimentary printed birth announcements/thank you cards in addition to digital negatives on DVD. There is no dollar value to this complimentary gift.

Contact / email turnaround?

Being the sole photographer/secretary/editor/consultant in this venture, I sometimes take a while to get back to you. I value your emails and want to take care in responding to each inquiry and question. As a result, it sometimes takes up to 48 hours to get a response from me. I regularly receive about 20 (-60 in busy season) emails that I respond to in depth each day related to upcoming sessions. This is balanced with being out shooting, editing sets and ordering products for clients. Thanks in advance for your patience!

How do I select a location?

Even though 30 minutes travel from Davis Square by transit is included, I'm willing to travel! I love to shoot at new spaces and be inspired by what I see and what each person brings to each location. Pick something that screams your personality, or something sentimental like a first date. I love themed shoots that are stylized, so maybe some cute outfits and props to complement your chosen locale! Travel costs are about \$1-\$1.50 per minute by car from Davis Square using Google Maps if outside my coverage zone and I need to borrow the car. For instance, Newton/Wellesley/Needham are about \$40-50 travel. My Davis Square discount rate covers anywhere within a 12 minute walk using Google Maps from 1 Davis Square, including my favourite park - Nathan Tufts Park/Powderhouse Square. Please limit your expectations to the number of locations we can hit in an hour. It's not about running from place to place, but rather a focus on the interaction between members in the session. I focus a lot on close ups, expressions and shapes so the backdrop becomes secondary in the images a lot of the time. It's amazing how quickly 45 minutes flies by, especially with children and hoping they will warm up and cooperate! Expecting to run around to hit multiple locations sometimes may lead to disaster by adding stress to the session.

Where can I see past entire sets provided to other families?

I used to have a blog that featured entire sets, but since I moved to my new site, it has taken me a while to upload past client sets. However, if you go to facebook, there is a header titled "+ClientSites" and in there you can launch my newly branded personalized web links. Each family will now receive a link on bellawangphotography.com to share with family & friends! It's a new feature of mine and I'll be slowly adding more sets to this page as I get a moment. (https://www.facebook.com/BWCaptures/app_233170294394). I update facebook (www.facebook.com/bwcaptures) daily with sets I've shot and am currently working on.

Deposits, Waivers & Releases

All of my retouching is done for free so that I can showcase my work to others. I definitely respect the need for privacy and just require a nominal privacy fee be added to the basic portrait session. All waivers and releases must be sent to me via mail or PDF ahead of our session to guarantee your spot. Please notify me at the time of your booking if you'd like to keep your set private. I don't require deposits for portrait sessions as I've had the pleasure of working with some fantastic people and haven't seen a need for it! Weddings do require a \$1000 retainer fee with a signed contract to hold the date and guarantee your portfolio-building price. Prices & availability are subject to change.

Wedding Contract / retainers

A retainer of \$1200 is due with the signing of the contract. A retainer of \$1500 is due if two photographers are required. Another \$400 is due at the engagement session and then the balance is due 30 days before the big day. More information on the contract itself.

Loyalty Program?

After your session, you immediately become eligible for discounts off future sessions from my loyalty program. Past clients get 10% off automatically and 10% off for each referral! It adds up quickly and I've given out free sessions in the past to those wonderful families.

I look forward to meeting and working with you if I'm the right match for you :)