

John Hamilton Photography

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Tentative Itinerary

We will spend several hours together. It is almost always best to start a session during the morning in the summer. It can get hot and humid really quick and that is particularly true by midday from 10 AM onward. The worst part of the day that I like to avoid is when the sun is high in the sky from 11 AM to 5 PM. If we schedule for the afternoon in the summer, then let's start at around 5 PM.

8 AM – Location 1

9 AM - Location 2

10 AM – Location 3

5 PM – Location 1

6 PM – Location 2

7 PM – Location 3

Locations

I am happy to spend several hours with you at a variety of locations. I love when moms come along. They can help with clothing changes, bringing out smiles, and making sure that the hair stays reasonably combed. Most seniors prefer casual clothing (jeans, t-shirts, comfortable shoes, shirts, etc.) and that is what I tend to prefer as well. Seniors tend to look best when they are wearing clothes that they like. Girls tend to like a broader variety of clothes (e.g., jeans, dresses, shorts, skirts) with more changes as compared to guys.

Seniors often bring props to a session that reflect some part of their personality and I encourage that (e.g., hats, a guitar, letter jacket, basketball, sunglasses, truck or car).

I like to go to several locations (usually around 3). It is not unusual for a session to last 2-3 hours and involve several clothing changes. Most guys wear jeans and/or casual slacks the entire time.

Please consider bringing up to 10 different tops to change into that vary in color (e.g., blue, tan, red, silver). It's nice to change a t-shirt or shirt from one location to another to change the "look" of the image.

I have a **portrait studio in my home** where I can take head shots under controlled lighting conditions. Most seniors prefer outdoor settings for pictures and I like them a lot as well. If the senior wants to do some studio head shots, then we can work out a time to do that.

Here is my cell phone #: **678-936-6972**

Some of the **locations** I use are listed below. We can't do them all, but we can get to several of them. Some seniors like an urban setting while others prefer the country. Some seniors like a mix of both. There are bathrooms at Clermont, downtown GVL, UNG, most city parks, Dahlonega area to include Yahoola Park

1. **Off the square in downtown Gainesville** (alleys, stairwells, 2 city parks, brick walls, fire escape steps, loading docks, fountains, white bridge to nowhere, nature scenes in parks like Ivy Terrace). The city parks allow us to get some shots with nature backdrops.
2. **Parks in Gainesville:** Rock Creek Park across from library, Ivy Terrace, Wilshire Trails (trees, grassy spots, shallow creek, rock steps, playground, flower gardens, bridges)
3. **Brenau's campus** (granite steps, ornamental trees, white columns, rocking chair, fire escape, grassy areas)
4. **High school football stadium, softball and baseball fields**
5. The **square in Clermont** (old buildings, rustic wood, brick walls, doorways)
6. **Fields in north Hall** (there are several fields with tall grasses that look pretty cool)
7. **Entrance to Wauka Mountain Springs** near Clermont (rock walls, ornamental birch trees, fields, large rocks, wooden fence)
8. **Railroad Station in Gainesville or Lula** (RR tracks, train cars, bridge, train station, murals, interesting location for shots)
9. **Hurricane Shoals Park near Maysville** (rapids, water features, bridges, rock formations, old buildings that have been restored)
10. Historic **Healan's Grist Mill** in Hall County near Lula on the North Oconee River (restored grist mill, rocks in a small stream, old wood)
11. **School Bus Graveyard** up 365 near Alto (lots of graffiti on the sides of the buses that can look interesting)
12. **Square in Dahlonega** (doorways, benches, walls, historic facades)
13. **Yahoola Creek Park** outside of Dahlonega (Creekside areas, benches, wooden bridges, woods and fields)
14. **Dahlonega campus of the University of North Georgia** (grassy areas, weeping willows, brick walls, steps, ornamental trees)
15. **Oakwood campus of University of North Georgia** (fields, fountains, brick walls, ornamental trees, low walls)
16. **Sterling on the Lake** near Cherokee Bluff high school
17. **Downtown Flowery Branch**
18. **Atlanta Botanical Garden in Gainesville** (off 129 near Limestone Pkwy)
19. **Laurel Park** in north Hall area
20. **Piedmont College** campus
21. **Chenocetah Lookout Tower** in Habersham County near Cornelia
22. **Eagle Ranch** near Flowery Branch (Union Church Road)
23. **Collection of old buildings and antiques by GA 60** (Thompson Bridge Rd) in Murrayville (near Fieldale Farms)
24. **Any place that you recommend** (home, special place in or around Hall County)

Suggestions for What to Wear and Bring

Girls generally bring a wide variety of clothing changes to include dresses and pants. Guys tend to just wear casual slacks like jeans for all of the shots.

1. **Props** - The senior might want to bring props to include in the pictures (letter jacket, basketball, sunglasses, hat, guitar, truck or car, etc.)
2. All in all, guys tend to look best in **jeans** or casual pants like khakis. It's ok if the senior stays in jeans the entire session. Most shots are from the waist up. Girls generally bring a wider variety of clothing to include dresses and pants.
3. It is generally best **not to wear shorts**.
4. I can edit out all of the **blemishes** on shots that you purchase. If possible, try not to pick at a blemish prior to the session since that tends to color that area of the skin with a reddish hue.
5. Consider bringing a **comb or brush** for the senior's hair if you think it will be necessary from time to time. If the senior is prone to sweating, then it might be nice to have a small cloth.
6. The senior is **welcome to wear whatever he or she really likes**. It's nice to have a variety of colors and different looks to the tops. If possible, try to stay away from too many brightly colored shirts, logos, and busy patterns as they tend to draw the eye away from the face.
7. You should consider bringing around **10 different tops** (T-shirts, shirts, blouses). I encourage seniors to change tops relatively often as we move from one spot to another. If mom comes along with the senior, then she can carry the tops in her arms. Some bring a small back pack. It's easy for guys to change their tops on the fly while walking around outside. Girls can often change in bathrooms at or near the locations we visit or in cars.
8. **Jewelry** - It's best **not to wear a watch** during the session, but there are exceptions. If the senior wears a watch a lot, he or she might have a tan line on the wrist. If that is the case, then he or she will likely have to wear the watch. In general, it is best to **wear less jewelry rather than more**. If jewelry or wrist bands or something else is part of a senior's "look," then bring them.
9. **Smile** - A "smile" is very much about the energy one sees in open and "awake" eyes that are fully engaged. We have to work to keep the senior happy and smiling with the **eyes**. It's easy for a senior, especially a guy to get bored with pictures after a while. I understand that. I usually do about half the shots with smiles. I try not to wear anyone's smile out.
10. **Do not wear white or brightly colored socks**. White socks are very bright and attract the eye to them. Darker colored socks tend to work best. It is ok to wear brightly colored socks if they are part of a favorite outfit.
11. Bring extra **makeup** for the girls as needed
12. **Facial Hair on Guys** – Guys should shave so that they have a clean face instead of stubble (unless the stubble is part of his "look").
13. Try to avoid getting a **sunburn** during the week prior to the session.

Prices

Here is a link to my basic prices.

<http://johnhamiltonphotos.com/>

Please make checks payable to John Hamilton

Popular Items to Purchase

I offer a full range of products from collages to framed prints to photo books to whatever you can come up with like graduation cards and vinyl banners. Here are some common things that people purchase.

Assortment of prints (4x6, 5x7, 8x10)

Wallets (8\sheet) – each sheet can have different photos

Graduation Announcement Cards

Vinyl Banner for Graduation (common sizes: 3x4, 3x5, 3.5x6, 4x6)

Photo Book (4.5x6, 8x10, other sizes)

Collage (11x14, 16x20)

Framed prints (I can provide a wide variety of frames) –from BayPhoto and ready to hang

Metal prints, gallery wraps, etc.

Digital images