

THE ORGANISER'S GUIDE

Hiring a photographer for a tango event

Free guide, which you may share freely. It explains French law in plain terms and is not a substitute for legal advice. A contract template is also available for download.

1. Before the event: choosing and committing

- 1. Choose a photographer, not a camera.** Look at their portfolio (low light, dance) and ask for references.
- 2. Book early.** Good tango photographers are booked months ahead, just like DJs.
- 3. Define your needs.** Hours, number of photos, key moments (performances, orchestra, classes), delivery time.
- 4. Sign a written contract.** Without one, you have no rights to use the photos (Art. L131-2 and L131-3, French IP Code).
- 5. Specify the uses.** Media (website, social media, posters, future editions), duration and territory. Any other use is negotiated separately.
- 6. Pay for the actual work.** Shooting, post-production (at least 8 h for a weekend), rights and expenses. Free entry is not payment.
- 7. Agree on a deposit and cancellation terms.** This protects both sides.

2. Before the event: preparing participants

- 8. Inform participants.** On the ticketing page, the website and at the entrance (Art. 9, French Civil Code).
- 9. Get clear consent.** State the media and duration, with a real option to refuse (Art. 4 and 7, GDPR).
- 10. Offer a visible opt-out.** A “no photo” wristband or badge at the entrance.
- 11. Think of guest artists.** Get their consent to use photos of their performances (Art. L212-3, French IP Code).

3. During the event

- 12. Brief the photographer.** Refusals respected, flash on the dance floor or not, no-go areas, moments not to miss.
- 13. Appoint a contact person** reachable by the photographer and by participants.
- 14. Make their work easier.** Access to all areas, a safe place for equipment, meals during working hours.
- 15. Act quickly on complaints.** If a participant feels harassed, step in: you decide who attends the event.

4. After the event

- 16. Review the selection before publishing.** Leave out any embarrassing or degrading image (Art. 16, French Civil Code).
 - 17. Always credit the author.** “© Photographer's name” or a tag of their account (Art. L121-1, French IP Code).
 - 18. Do not alter the photos.** Cropping and adding your logo if the contract allows it; filters and collages only with the photographer's consent.
 - 19. Do not pass the photos on.** Sponsors, DJs, schools and orchestras should contact the photographer.
 - 20. Handle removal requests** through a dedicated email address, within 7 days (Art. 17, GDPR).
 - 21. Pay on time.** Your right to use the photos usually starts only once full payment is made.
- In one sentence:** a clear contract, fair pay and informed participants mean great photos and a stress-free event.