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## **Birth Photography FAQ for Frankfurt and Hamburg**

### **Why hire a birth photographer?**

Birth is one of the most emotional events in your life . It is an event which is celebrated with Birthday parties, every year for a lifetime. We capture pictures from the day your child arrives.

We document the atmosphere for you, the interaction and facial expressions between you and your partner, the work of the midwife, doula and doctor. There are many non verbal moments that show you the intense moments during your labor and childbirth. Many parents say that the pictures are magical and a once in a lifetime experience that help to reflect on their birth.

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### **When and how to I book you?**

We recommend you to contact us as soon as you decided on having your birth documented.

Due dates sometimes fall at the same times and we only consider two births a months. We will check our availability right away and inform you if it is possible to schedule your appointment. Sometimes though we are sorry to inform you that we cannot capture your birth due to limited spaces. However, we do offer a last minute booking for your birth, when our schedules allow us to do so. If you have a planned cecerean we often can manage to photograph your birth on short notice.

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### Having a stranger in the delivery room, yes or no?

You might feel uncomfortable when thinking of having a stranger in the delivery room. It is very important to us that you feel comfortable with the idea that there is a photographer documenting your birth. It is your birth and your decision alone. We are mothers ourselves, and can relate to the importance of a nice atmosphere during your labor and birth. We assure you that our presence will be silent and we will not interfere in any way.

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### Do I need a permission from the hospital?

Yes, you need approval from your midwife or doctor and the hospital to ensure that we are allowed to take pictures before, during and after your delivery.

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### Will we get to meet you before?

If you are considering on hiring us then you inquire about our availability through our information portal or contact us directly by email, phone at our respective locations. We will get in touch with you shortly after receiving your inquiry. We think that it is very important to get to know each other before the birth, also for us to learn more about your birth plan, your preferences and your desires. We will be introducing ourselves and our work and you will be able to ask all questions you might have about birth photography. We want you to feel comfortable and therefore, we are keen on knowing all of your expectations and hopes you have towards birth. If you decide to have a birth at home, we will also meet at your home to discuss the light and space.

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### Why do we have to agree to a contract?

Birth photography is a very time consuming work for us. We only schedule 1 - 2 births a month to ensure that we can really attend these births. We are "On Call" the whole time, you can call us at any time, day or night. We are fully committed to you and your birth.

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### How "private" are the pictures?

It is your birth and you decide how private you want the pictures to be. We guarantee you to handle your photos with utmost privacy. Some parents decide on having everything photographed during birth. These images are very graphic and give you a detailed birth story, whereas some parents decide on modest images

photographed from the side and from above. It also depends on what kind of clothes you are wearing during childbirth.

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### How do we stay in touch?

After we have finished the formalities we exchange our

contact info. We are always happy to stay in close contact with our clients during their pregnancy. You are more than welcome to send us text messages, use Whatsapp, or email us at any time.

At the end of your pregnancy your midwife, doula or physician will closely monitor you. It would be great if you could let us know the results and their estimation about your birth. It helps us to prepare in advance and be ready.

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### Do you have any plan?

We each have two children and all four births were different. Jasmin had an emergency caesarean with her firstborn and a natural and uncomplicated birth with her daughter. Michelle had a planned C-section when having her daughter and a natural birth after labor was introduced. You cannot plan any birth and every birth is different. We will always try our best to be there for you when you suddenly go into labor five weeks early. Around your estimated due date we free our schedules and are always ready to leave at any time.

Many parents also ask us if we have a time limit, the answer is no. Every birth is different, some mothers are in labor for hours and some births are done in less than three hours. We will be there and we will accompany your birth. Normally, we are there for 3 to 4 hours before birth and 1 to 2 hours after birth.

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### C-Section & Emergency C- Section

When you are having a planned caesarean, it is easy for you and for us to plan. We know the estimated time and date and the birthplace. We usually arrive with you at the hospital and will document all procedures prior to your birth. Whether we can also photograph in the operating room is mainly the hospital's decision. If the hospital decides against this then there are still many wonderful moments we can capture for you.

In case you are having an emergency cesarean, we cannot fully guarantee to be there in time. But we will try our best to reach the hospital as fast as we can. Especially when having a general anesthesia you will want to have images that show those very first moments of your tiny bundle.

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### Last Minute Booking

We do offer the possibility of booking our services last minute. We cannot guarantee that we are able to capture your birth story though. If we have a free schedule we are more than happy to document your birth.

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### How can I convince my partner?

We find it very important that both, you and your partner are comfortable with the idea of having a birth photographer during labor, birth itself and the hours following after birth. We often hear from our previous clients that the dads were rather relieved of having to take pictures. It is also a very intense and emotional day for the dads. Freeing up the dads gives them the time to stay close to his partner, hold hands, help and be part of the birth story.

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### What if something unpredictable happens?

This is a very sensitive topic, which we want to discuss anyhow. There is always a chance that something might go wrong. We stay in the background, and will leave the room in an emergency immediately.