THE INDIAN FESTIVE WEAR GUIDE

A friendly crash course for our Barcelona crew on the day the wedding season is style.

Don't stress if you don't know a lehenga from a saree or a kurta from a kurtaji. Indian festive wear can be daunting, but we've got you covered. We've made it easy, which to wear it, and how to look amazing while doing it.

Note: *Sabana may have given a little carried away while putting this guide together and realize it might feel a bit overwhelming if you're exploring Indian wear for the first time. So please don't stress - there's absolutely no rule or expectation for you to dress in Indian attire or a certain way or even to buy clothes and jewellery. The goal is simply to help navigate a shop in India, order something online if you wish, or get a sense of what to wear if you'd like to try Indian clothing just for the experience.*

Women's Wardrobe 101

A lehenga typically consists of a long, flared and flowy skirt paired with a cropped blouse or top, and often a dupatta (scarf). It's commonly worn for festive occasions such as weddings, sangeets and festivals like Diwali.

For wedding or sangeet events, you can go for an embellished or shimmery lehenga for dramatic on the left), or choose a simpler, solid-coloured version (as shown on the right) - it all depends on your personal style and comfort.

A petticoat (or underskirt) is worn under a saree to provide structure, support, and coverage. It helps the fabric drape smoothly, adds volume to the silhouette, and keeps the saree from showing through. It's not visible when you wear a blouse, or when the petticoat also remains modesty and comfort.

It's silent simplest to choose a ready-made, pre-draped saree that you can easily slip on or wrap around your waist - no complicated draping required. Check out the Shopping Discovery below for options.

Note: It's here to match the colour of your petticoat with your saree. For instance, if you're wearing a light-coloured saree (like pastel/light pink), choose a similar light-toned petticoat to prevent it from showing through the fabric. However, if you're going for a pre-draped saree, most of them already have a built-in petticoat so you're good to go! Still, it's always best to double-check before you buy.

If you're looking to explore traditional Indian sarees, check out Kanjeevaram (from South India), Banarasi (from Varanasi), but a Bengali favourite) tech, Mysticbilled silk, Tussar, or other handloom sarees - each has its own unique weave and charm.

Types of Salwar Kameez sets

Jewellery & Accessories

Note: It's not necessary to buy new jewellery - you can easily pair your Indian outfit with pieces you already own or even shop jewellery alongside. If you do choose to accessorise, you don't need to wear everything at once - go with what feels right, whether that's just earrings, earrings and bangles, or simply a necklace. Also, don't worry about being "too dressed up" - there's no such thing in an Indian wedding.

Shopping Discovery

Indian Clothing

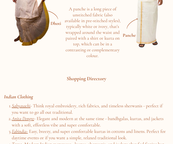
- Sabyasachi - The ultimate name in Indian couture - Sabyasachi is all about luxury, heirloom fabrics and bold embroidery.
- Fida Kanoor - Vibrant, elegant and full of traditional Indian prints and fabrics. Perfect if you want something authentic but not too heavy.
- Anita Dongre - A contemporary heritage label known for its sustainable craftsmanship and modern Indian elegance.
- Manyavar - Fun, bold, and full of colour! Manyavar places mix Indian prints with a cool, modern twist.
- Lashkaraa - Known for traditional, handloom sarees from all over India - elegant, colourful, and beautifully detailed.
- Fabindia - Super comfortable, natural fabrics. Great for daytime functions or more relaxed events.
- Pelame - A Kolkata gem! Beautiful handwoven sarees and fabrics that mix traditional craft with a modern touch.
- Biswa Devi Lahiri Shop - A curated luxury shopping platform for Indian designer wear - perfect for exploring different styles and easy international ordering or shipping.
- Delhi Fashion - Glamorous and ready-to-wear. Great for wedding events if you want something quality and stylish.
- Sure Boutique - Modern, lightweight sarees and blouses that are comfortable and easy to wear.
- Our Dreams Jaipur - Pre-draped sarees that you can literally just slip on - perfect for busy people.
- The Saree Sale - Ready-to-wear, pre-draped sarees that give you the classic saree look.

Jewellery

- Nilu Amarnath - Modern take on heirloom Indian jewellery.
- Kundan - Organ jewellery for a modern look that doesn't feel too heavy.
- Ashiana - Trendy and budget-friendly Indian jewellery.
- Kundan Indian Jewellery - Big selection of artificial, silver and statement jewellery.
- Sayana - Hand-crafted, artisan jewellery with a more subtle vibe.
- Urban Indian - A one-stop destination for every kind of jewellery - from everyday pieces to statement styles for any occasion.

Men's Wardrobe 101

Sherwani/Bandhgala



Saris

You can always go for a classic sari - a dinner jacket works perfectly for the sangeet, while a dhoti-pleat sari or one with a pallu is ideal for more formal events like the wedding or reception.

Traditional Kannadiga/Bengali Outfits

Shopping Discovery

Indian Clothing

- Sabyasachi - Think royal embroidery, rich fabrics, and timeless silhouettes - perfect if you want to go all out traditional.
- Anita Dongre - Elegant and modern at the same time - handloom, kurtas, and jackets with effortless silhouettes and super comfortable.
- Fabindia - Easy, breezy, and super comfortable kurtas in cottons and linens. Perfect for daytime events or if you want a simple, relaxed traditional look.
- Taneiro - Modern Indian menswear - kurtas, sherwanis, and jackets that feel festive but not over the top.
- Manyavar - Fun, classic kurtas to statement sherwanis, you'll find something for every occasion.
- Kanelo - Fresh, colourful, and budget-friendly options for guests. Great if you want something stylish without going too formal.