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2019-20 / ₹ 100

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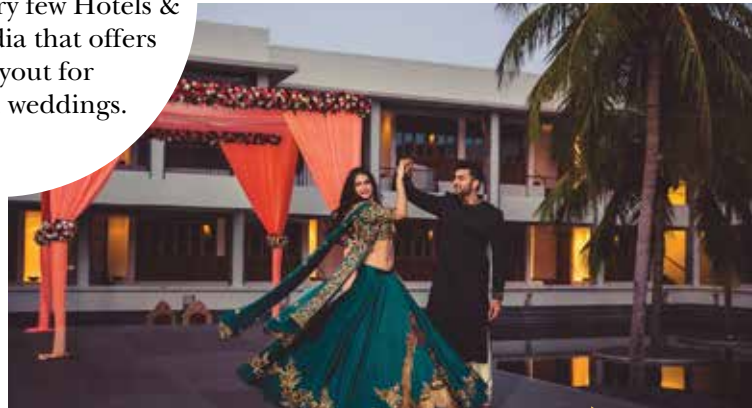


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Photographer Arjun Mark;
Stylist Mohit Rai;
Hair & Makeup Savleen Manchanda;
Models Avanti Nagrath (Runway Lifestyle) & Julio Moises (Toabh Talent Management)

ON HER Fagun Silk Organza Tailored Sari
ON HIM Fagun Print Bandhgala with Sapphire Trousers, all **Shivan & Narresh**

Location Courtesy: Wild Coast Tented Lodge, Yala



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Accept it. When you say, 'I do', it inevitably becomes one of the most important days of your life. And rightfully so! The paraphernalia around a wedding isn't stress-free. From the destination, venue, and F&B, to getting your trousseau right... there are a gazillion things you need to look into to make your fairy-tale wedding come alive. And

Travel + Leisure India & SA's black book on everything wedding is just what you need to curate a day made up of dreams.

From our carefully compiled list of Top 10s—from wedding photographers, jewellers, and designers, to top planners—this is the ultimate guide to making sure all your wedding essentials are taken care of. In addition, our detailed guide on the top wedding destinations helps you plan your D-day with ease, along with a dose of all the bridal spas you need to explore for the much-needed R&R to be able to gracefully sail through all the pre- and post-wedding shenanigans.

In this issue, designer duo Shivan & Narresh show you the way to dressing like a diva for a cool beach wedding, while our feature on celebrity weddings gives you some serious inspiration to make for a picture-perfect day.

The wedding season in India is right around the corner, so it's time to get ready for some band, *baaja*, *baarat* we say!

Aindrita

Aindrita Mitra
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@TRAVELANDLEISUREINDIA
@TNLINDIA



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2

1. Learn how to wed like a celeb from the likes of Deepika and Ranveer.
2. Dress the perfect beach wedding with help from designer duo Shivan & Narresh.
3. Find the perfect venue for your dreamy wedding.
4. Discover the best destinations for your honeymoon.



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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: HEMANT KHENDILWAL; ZUMA PRESS, INC./ALAMY; SHIVAN & NARRESH; COURTESY OF RALF TOOTEN/WESTIN MALDIVES; ROBERTO MOIOLA/SYSAWORLD/GETTY IMAGES

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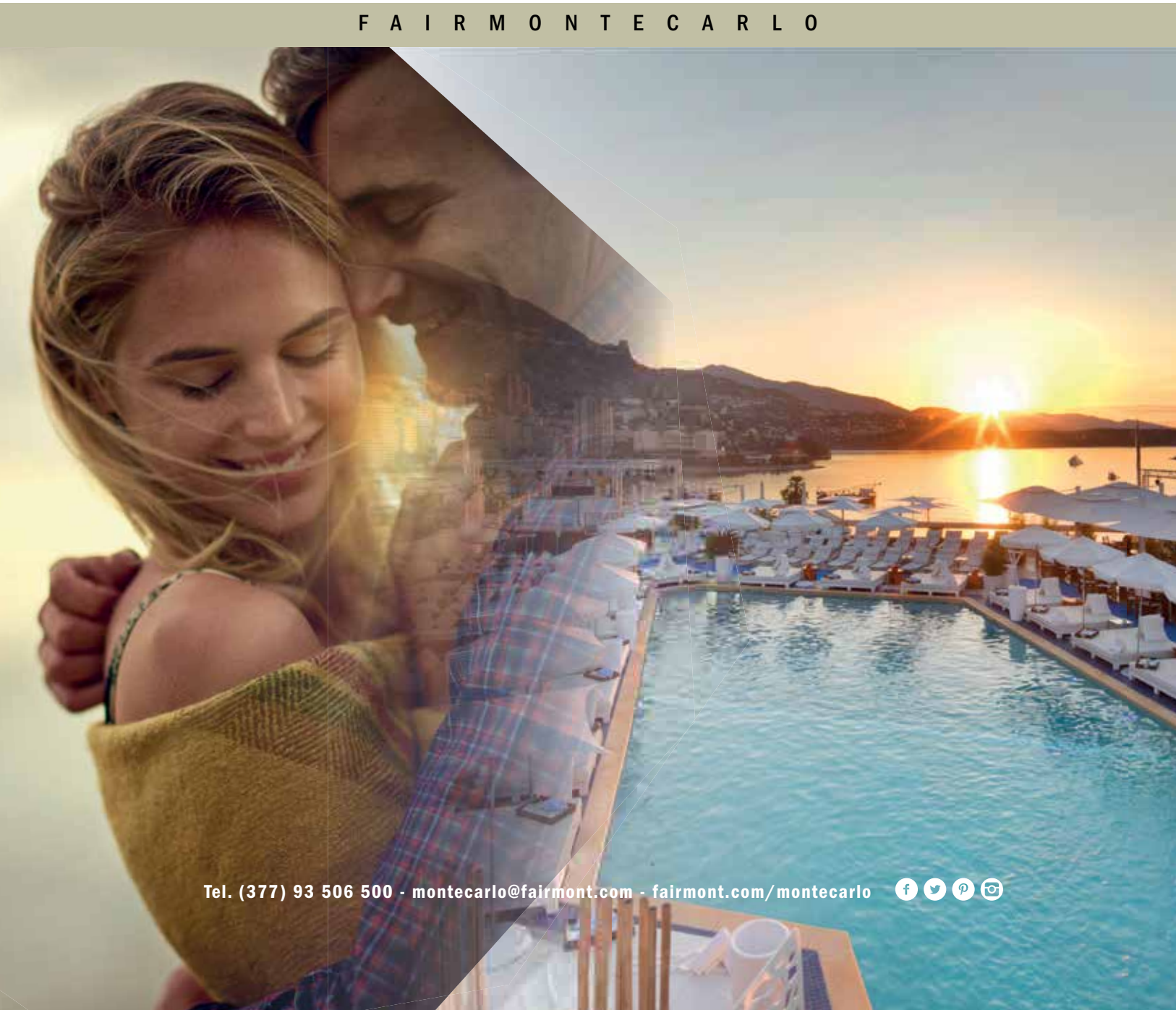
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With its variety of venues and unmatched services, the majestic Conrad Dubai makes for the ideal location for the enchanting fairy-tale wedding you've always dreamed of.



Think Dubai and your mind draws up images of skyscrapers and unbridled luxury. Conrad Dubai takes this illusion of Dubai to a whole new level. Standing tall, with its 58-storied premises casting a majestic shadow on the clear blue oasis within the property, Conrad Dubai could easily be crowned the UAE's most sought after luxury wedding destination.

Located in the heart of the city, this 555-room property features locally inspired and internationally designed rooms to wow every guest who steps foot into its grandiose structure. The temperature-controlled pool deck, hammam suites, cabanas, outdoor terraces, and yoga pavilion aside, the mammoth hotel also gives you the opportunity to make your betrothal truly magical. As

you take your vows at night, the twinkling lights from Dubai's skyscrapers will give you the illusion of a sparkling applause. Crystal chandeliers and ornate *mashrabiya* patterns in the ballroom add another level of glamour to the affair, and as many as a thousand guests can join you in your celebrations. You can heighten the extravagance by stepping out of a chauffeur-driven Maserati Quattroporte into the ballroom.

But if being within the confines of four walls is not your idea of a romantic wedding, then Conrad Dubai also has Bliss 6 Urban Oasis as an alternative. This elevated pool deck offers a sophisticated space replete with lush landscape and poolside bar, as well as white cocoon pods and loungers to relax in, for the ideal outdoor wedding celebration.

Clockwise from top left: Bliss 6 Urban Oasis, the pool bar at the hotel; a lavish guest room; a wedding in full swing at the ballroom; a couple celebrates their love by the pool; a happy bride at Conrad Dubai.

Whether you're looking for a traditional Indian wedding, or an Arabian-flavoured one, or something different altogether, Conrad Weddings are designed keeping you and your traditions and preferences in mind. Paying attention to the smallest details is inherent to the hotel's efficient wedding services team, and bespoke decorations are their speciality.

No matter what you have in mind, the magicians at Conrad Dubai can tailor make your celebrations to make your wedding dreams come true, and send you off with a suitcase full of royal memories. conraddubai.com

TOP

*Fashion
Jewellery
Make-up Artists
Beauty
Planners
Invites
Photographers*

10

bridal
must-

Thaves

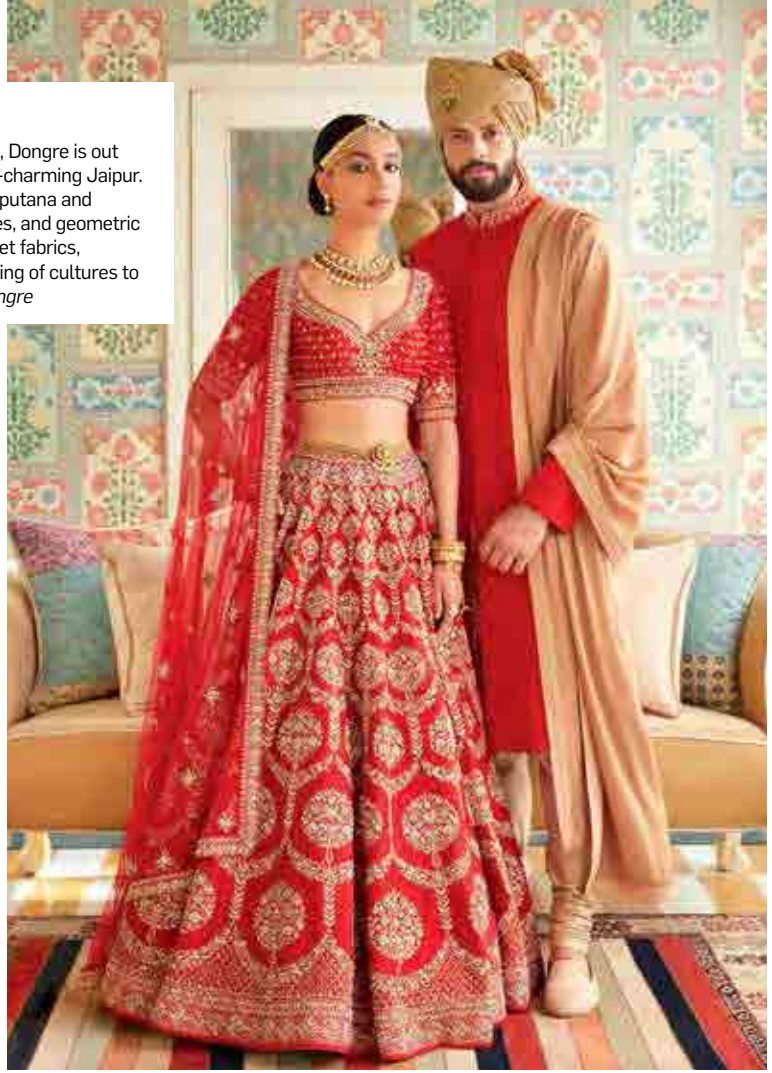
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BRIDAL COUTURE

DESIGNERS

ANITA DONGRE

A coveted name in bridal couture, Dongre is out with a collection inspired by ever-charming Jaipur. Here, embroidered peacocks, Rajputana and Mughal motifs, blush sunset tones, and geometric shapes find space in opulent velvet fabrics, creating a remarkable intermingling of cultures to don on your big day. [@anitadongre](#)



From choosing the right location, to the perfect flowers and narrowing down the guest list, there's just so much to do before D-day. Check out our list of exceptionally talented Indian designers whose creations you can aspire to wear and dazzle your guests with.

By Amitha Ameen & Bayar Jain

FALGUNI SHANE PEACOCK

When two dynamically opposite universes and influences converge under one label, you can only have an exquisite Falguni Shane Peacock creation. Bringing the vibrancy of the Pink City to their fabrics, Bonjour Amer is a befitting tribute to the yesteryear elegance of Jaipur. Playing with the idea of elaborate couture, while retaining their unconventional aesthetic, every ensemble of this collection is an explosion of grandeur. [@falgunishanepeacockindia](#)



ABU JANI SANDEEP KHOSLA

If Queen B is okay with it, so are we! Beyonce rocked an intricately designed custom red silk organza dress by the duo that literally made every jaw drop during the big fat Ambani wedding. The New Delhi-based label is best known for effortlessly blending Indian designs on European lines. [@abujanisandeepkhosla](#)



ROHIT BAL

Highly sought after, Bal pays close attention to detail and is regarded for his understated yet unique award-winning creations. His designs feature beautiful Indian motifs and cater to modern and traditional sentimentalities. [@rohitbalofficial](#)

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JJ VALAYA

Celebrated designer Valaya has carved a niche for himself in the fashion industry. The couturier's collection of hand-embroidered and timeless looks are a mix of edgy and elegant, while keeping in mind the ever changing needs of the modern Indian woman. [@jjvalaya](#)

SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE

His designs are so coveted that they have been worn by the likes of Oprah Winfrey. His bespoke bridal range is what every woman dreams of wearing during her special day. So, it's no wonder that everyone from Anushka Sharma and Deepika Padukone to Isha Ambani chose to wear the designer's creations on their wedding days. [@sabyasachiofficial](#)



GAURAV GUPTA

Emerging as a beacon of the dramatic cultural shift in the Indian bride and groom styles, Gaurav Gupta is known for his avant-garde designs and unparalleled creativity. Staying true to this, his Undercurrent collection draws inspiration from the fierce waves of the ocean that flow in a rhythmic, electric concentricity. Theatrical drapes, along with the bustling of feathers and clinching corsets help this collection stand out. [@gauravguptaofficial](#)



TARUN TAHILIANI

Flattering, feminine, and steeped in tradition best define Tahiliani's bridal wear. Referred to as the 'Karl Lagerfeld of India', the designer believes in making 'each garment a whimsical dream for our [sic] brides'. [@taruntahiliani](#)

AMIT AGGARWAL

This designer has become the pioneer of new-age Indian bridal couture by engineering innovative nature-inspired designs and combining them with environmental sustainability. Taking this legacy forward, the Lumen collection pays homage to the wonderful architecture of the human and plant anatomy. The collection was created using layers of recycled polymer understructures with meticulously hand-embroidered organza and motifs. [@amitaggarwalofficial](#)

MANISH MALHOTRA

The go-to designer for Bollywood celebrities, this talented designer has simply changed the way women are styled by finding the perfect mix of glam and simplicity in his outfits. [@manishmalhotra05](#)



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10 JEWELLERY

DESIGNERS



AMRAPALI JEWELS

Perfect for the bride who wants to imbibe a princess-like vibe on her big day, Amrapali blends traditional Indian details with contemporary design elements. The collection includes fashionable and tribal designs inspired by abstract and mythical themes. From *jadau*, *kundan*, and *polki* to more minimal designs, the collection has several jaw-dropping masterpieces. [@amrapalijewels](#)

FARAH KHAN ALI

Touted as the dream jeweller for every bride-to-be, this celebrity designer has designed pieces for Swarovski as well. Her exquisite pieces use diamonds, *polki*, *kundan*, yellow and white gold, and platinum. She is especially known for her signature rings and earrings that can transform any bride on her big day. [@farahkhanali](#)



POONAM GOENKA

The designer caters to a niche clientele with her customised jewellery. Perfect for the bride looking for a play of colours and different gemstones to add to their wedding trousseau, her collection exudes royalty and is personalised. [@johari_poonam](#)

THE HOUSE OF ROSE

Specialising in 'all things good', The House of Rose creates unique pieces for the one-of-a-kind bride. Its statement pieces have a traditional flair that sets them apart. [@thehouseofrose](#)

An Indian bride's wedding day is incomplete without the perfect jewellery to complement her outfit. Be it traditional or trendy, the choices are aplenty! We give you our top pick of Indian jewellery labels that have made a mark with their stunning designs and unique creations.

By Amitha Ameen



KALYAN JEWELLERS

With multiple stores in India and The Middle East, Kalyan Jewellers is one of the most trusted brands when it comes to bridal jewellery. The brand is known for its *Muhurat* range that includes pure gold and handmade jewellery, but it is the dancing diamond collection called *Glo* that has caught the modern bride's eye. The unique collection has stones that twinkle as the centrepiece—perfect for the bride who wants to be the centre of attention. [@kalyanjewellers_official](#)



Colonial Charm

Celebrate a royally resplendent wedding at The Imperial New Delhi.

A grand structure in the heart of the bustling capital city, The Imperial New Delhi is a befitting testimony to the days of the Raj. The buzz of the surrounding Connaught Place market finds a way to dilute itself at this colonial-style oasis of opulent luxury, while glimpses of India's legendary past resonate in every nook of the iconic hotel. At The Imperial New Delhi, royalty is second nature.

Wrapped in colonial elegance, this royal destination is home to manicured lawns and over 5,000 unique paintings. The Lutyens' theme resonates in its high ceilings and pillared verandahs, while glimpses of informal art-deco can be found scattered over the 235-room hotel. Designed keeping in mind the needs of business and leisure guests alike, each room overlooks the hotel's verdant spaces. Each of the 43 suites here is sure to make you feel like royalty. The Royal Imperial Suite is a luxe space ideal for travellers who enjoy a royal treatment, while the Eliza rooms for single lady travellers serves as haven for solo female travellers. Grand Heritage Rooms, Deco Suites, Heritage Suites, and Luxury Suites are the other options on offer.

Further emphasising the experience of the bygone era is 1911, the restaurant. Serving as a tribute to the year New Delhi was elevated

to national capital status, the restaurant offers a range of cuisines to its guests. Indulgent Southeast Asian delicacies can be found at The Spice Route, while scrumptious classic European dishes find a space at Nostalgia at 1911 Brasserie. Adding to this variety is Daniell's Tavern, a pan-Indian restaurant, and Sam Gimignano, a Tuscany inspired Italian restaurant. The Atrium is ideal for an authentic British-style high-tea experience, while the aptly named Patiala Peg - The Royal Bar serves as a classy watering hole.

To make the most of your imperial experience, a visit to The Imperial Spa is a must. Spread over 16,000 square feet within the hotel, the residents-only Imperial Spa embraces India's heritage of healing and rejuvenation, and further combines it with internationally recognised therapies to create a true wellness sanctuary. Follow this with a pampering session at The Imperial Salon which offers its guests signature massages, beautifying services, and haircare and body treatments.

With an assortment of facilities catering to all your needs, the hotel is the perfect venue for your wedding. So, head to The Imperial to take your vows and be assured of memories that will last a lifetime. theimperialindia.com



From top: A wedding setup at the hotel's ballroom; a luxury suite at the hotel; even the corridors at The Imperial New Delhi are steeped in colonial history.



KHANNA JEWELLERS

Bride or no bride, everyone is familiar with this brand. From timeless pieces to contemporary chic jewellery and elegant *polki* sets, it is known for creating statement pieces. [@khannajewellerskj](#)

VARUNA D JANI

With a tag line that reads, 'You could walk into a room or you could make an entrance', Varuna D Jani caters to the modern bride. Her collection is full of bold glamorous pieces. Jani takes inspiration from her bride and creates the most flattering personalised pieces. [@varunadjani](#)



RANIWALA 1881

This Jaipur-based jewellery house believes in giving you an experience, which is why it has exclusive regal experience centres to provide personalised services to the bride. At the by-appointment-only centres, brides can choose from one-of-a-kind handcrafted heritage sets to complete their wedding outfit. Its new collection features *polki* and *navratna* work finished off with pearls, emeralds, and *moonga* stones. [@raniwala1881](#)



SUNITA SHEKHAWAT

Based out of Jaipur, and inspired by India, Shekhawat gives a modern twist to traditional *meenakari* in her Modern *meenakari* collection. The range is completely handmade with intricate designs and hand paintings, and is sculpted to perfection. Her Polki collection, The Padampriya, set in 22-carat gold features lotus petals and South Sea pearls that give it a unique touch. [@sunita_shekhawat_jaipur](#)

TRIBHOVANDAS BHIMJI ZAVERI (TBZ)

One of the oldest houses of jewellery, TBZ needs no introduction. From traditional *kundan* to contemporary Italian designs, and a resplendent royal jewellery collection called Azva, the jeweller crafts every piece with precision. [@tribhovandasbhimjizaveri](#)



Elegance Unlimited at the Mansion

Make your bespoke wedding even more memorable with the perfect combination of tradition and sophistication that Hyatt Regency Delhi offers.



and Ballroom, with a capacity of 1,000 guests. Both the rooms can be combined to organise events of varying scales and sizes. Keeping in mind the Hindu tradition of *pheras* (the vows of marriage), the room also has an air-conditioned Vedi area for marriages that require the lighting of a sacred fire pit. To wow your guests further, the Oval Room at Mansion features Delhi's first-of-its-kind open show kitchens.

It's a well-known fact that Indian weddings can be tiring, especially with functions spanning across days. It's imperative then for guests attending the big day to feel comfortable throughout their stay. To accommodate this demand, Mansion's second floor houses multiple homely living rooms. These rooms are a series of multifunctional spaces that can be personalised and transformed into private party spaces for evening get-togethers, social events, or wedding receptions. Hyatt's multi-cuisine



Clockwise from top left: The ballroom at Mansion, all decked up for a wedding; couples can make use of the versatile spaces for a variety of events irrespective of the time of day; a couple ready to take their vows in the air-conditioned Vedi room.

Whether you want an intimate wedding or a flamboyant one, Hyatt Regency Delhi will assure flawless execution. Weaving elegance into your wedding is an art not many can master, but the hosts at Hyatt Regency Delhi excel at it, with Mansion, an energising event space that spans across 32,050 square feet.

While Delhi's rich heritage resonates throughout the architecture of this venue,

Mansion, spread over two levels, also boasts of diverse and contemporary decor. The aesthetic and thoughtful planning of the space allow the couple to organise separate functions with ease. The magnificent Regency Ballroom on the ground floor sports column-free visibility from all angles, along with a designated pre-function area. For added flexibility and intimacy, the room can further be divided into three sections. Adding to this extravagance are the Oval room

options add to this festive atmosphere. Staying true to its name, The China Kitchen offers authentic Chinese delicacies. La Piazza, on the other hand, brings Italian flavours to the table, thanks to its classic wood-fired oven pizzas and farm fresh ingredients. If Oriental cuisine is your calling, then TK's Oriental Grill is the place to be. Its delicious Indonesian, Japanese, and Thai flavours add zing to your traditional wedding.

For details, please visit hyattregencydelhi.com or call +91 11 6677 1559

10

MAKE-UP

ARTISTS

Hiring a make-up artist is one of the most important decisions a bride has to make. It's not like you can recreate those memories again. We give you the list of top bridal make-up artists who are known for making their brides look like a million bucks!

By Amitha Ameen



PAKKHI PAHUJA

If you want soft, dewy make-up that highlights your natural features, look no further. The founder of Team Vanity, a full-service salon, Pahuja creates some of the freshest bridal looks. [@pakkhi](#)



CHANDNI SINGH

This artist is famed for creating the perfect natural-looking base on her brides. Singh prefers to keep it fresh and glowy. Apart from make-up, the super-friendly artist is also known to create gorgeous hairstyles for her brides. [@chandnisinghstudio](#)

BHARAT & DORRIS

We are big fans of their make-up products. With more than 30 years of experience, this popular make-up duo is known to create flawless looks. With a star-studded fan base, the duo is always in demand. [@bharatandorris](#)



VIDYA TIKARI

She is known for completely transforming her bride with artistic and creative looks. Tikari loves experimenting with different techniques where the looks always turn out to be winners. If you want to make an entrance, Tikari is the artist for you! [@vidyatikari](#)

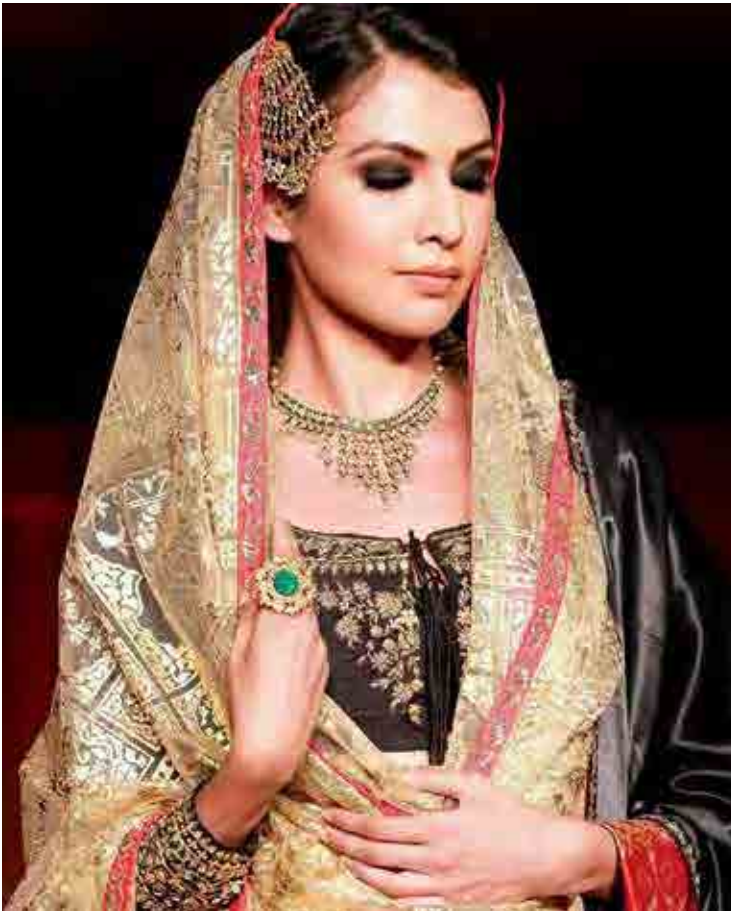
MICHELLE MONTES

She is another artist who believes in the 'less is more' concept. Her looks are elegant with subtle tones. Soft eyes, pink lips, and beach waves make her brides look very natural and real. [@montesmichelle](#)

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AMBIKA PILLAI

Known for creating some of the finest bridal looks, Pillai is a genius when it comes to sultry eyes, soft lips, and natural looking skin with textured hair. She and her team of skilled artists work on more than 5,000 brides a year around the country and internationally. So, you'll have to book her way in advance if you want to look your best. [@ambika_pillai](#)



AAKRITI KOCHAR

One of the best-known make-up artists in the capital, Kochar gives a lot of importance to the eyes. Bold, dramatic eyes with a clean face is her signature style. Kochar also has a full-fledged team to tend to the bridesmaids, so the bride can get ready with her gal pals. [@aakritikochar](#)

DANIEL BAUER

A favourite with actors, including Deepika Padukone and Priyanka Chopra, Bauer is a well-known name in the industry. From movie promotions to red carpet events, he is the go-to artist for most. When he is not doing the rounds, Bauer works on over 20 brides every year, making them look picture-perfect for their wedding day. [@danielcbauer](#)



ALIYA BAIG

If you want to look like you stepped out of a fairy tale, Baig is the artist you need. Glowing skin, and intense, exaggerated eye make-up along with glitter on the lids will have you looking like a princess on your big day. [@makeupbyaliyabaig](#)

NAMRATA SONI

Wielding those brushes like wands for 13 years now, Soni believes in using the right products in the right places to efficiently bring out their best features. Based in Mumbai, the ace artist is also skilled in airbrush make-up. [@namratasoni](#)

SOME DREAMS CAN'T WAIT



ULUSABA, SOUTH AFRICA



ULUSABA, SOUTH AFRICA



MAHALI MZURI, KENYA



MAHALI MZURI, KENYA

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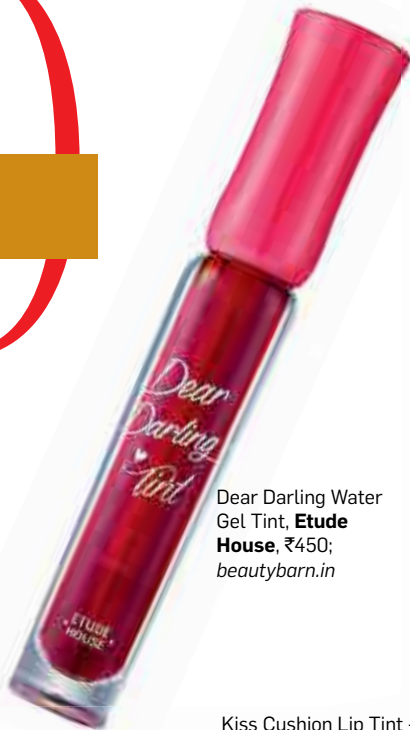
Virgin LIMITED
EDITION

10 LUSH

LIPSTICKS

No wedding ensemble is complete without that perfect lip colour. Pick from these bewitching shades, and let your lips slay all day this wedding season.

By Sushmita Srivastav



Dear Darling Water Gel Tint, **Etude House**, ₹450; beautybarn.in



Pure Color Envy Shine Sculpting Lipstick - Surreal Sun, **Estee Lauder**, ₹2,500; amazon.in



Raisin Lipstick, **Ruby's Organics**, ₹990; vanitywagon.in



Kiss Cushion Lip Tint - Berry Lit 2, **Revlon**, ₹980; amazon.in



Colour Crush Lipstick - Canberra Tulip, **The Body Shop**, ₹895; thebodyshop.in



Mettle Matte Lipstick, **SUGAR**, ₹1,099; sugarcosmetics.com



Masaba By Nykaa Lipstick - Face Palm, **Nykaa**, ₹599; nykaa.com



Whole New World (Disney Aladdin Collection), **M.A.C**, ₹1,800; maccosmetics.in

Plush Up Lip Gelato - Flirty Fuchsia, **Elizabeth Arden**, ₹2,040; ozcosmetics.com



Demi Matte, **Huda Beauty**, ₹1,825; nykaa.com



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THE RITZ-CARLTON

BAHRAIN

10 ENCHANTING

EYESHADOWS

Never let a moment dull you on your D-day by laying your hands on these colourful eyeshadows.

By Sushmita Srivastav



Holly Folly Eye Shadow, **M.A.C**, ₹1,500; maccosmetics.in



Naturals Eyeshadow Palette, **The Body Shop**, ₹2,195; thebodyshop.in



Molten Drama Eyeshadow Palette, **Bobbi Brown**, ₹4,950; shopperstop.com



Mirror Holic Liquid Eyes, **Etude House**, ₹900; amazon.in

Manish Malhotra 9 in 1 Eyeshadow Palette (Rendezvous), **MyGlam**, ₹1,850; myglamm.com



Beyond Limits Eye Shadow Palette, **KIKO Milano**, ₹1,850; mynta.com



Pure Color Eyeshadow Palette (Enchanted Berries), **Estee Lauder**, ₹4,250; amazon.in

Meet Matt (e) Shmaker Eyeshadow Palette, **theBalm**, ₹2,558; lookfantastic.co.in



Stellar Eyeshadow, **Ruby's Organics**, ₹850; vanitywagon.in



Just Wink It 12 in 1 Eyeshadow Palette (Crushed Berries), **Nykaa**, ₹1,499; nykaa.com

Timeless Sanctuary



Create cherishable wedding memories at the private island retreat that is **Vakkaru Maldives**.



The idyllic Maldivian islands with their powder-white sands and azure waters are the ideal choice when there's a wedding around the corner. And no place encapsulates the mood of this island nation better than Vakkaru Maldives. Imagine the sand kissing your feet as you walk down the aisle, and the waves cheering you on as you take your vows.

Located within the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Baa Atoll, Vakkaru Maldives is a half-hour seaplane ride from Male International Airport. Step into this scenic abode and get a taste of the 'timeless sanctuary' philosophy that runs through the property. Be it the private destination dining around the island or a pampering spa treatment for you and your loved one, the resort's dedicated team strives to cater to your every whim by delivering personalised experiences at any time of the day. As for you, the untouched splendour of the tropical island will take you on a fascinating journey.

In keeping with the rustic Maldivian theme,

each of the 113 beach and overwater villas offers an incredible sense of space and stunning ocean views. Featuring over 2,300 coconut trees, guest areas—including six restaurants and bars, a wine cellar, and extensive recreational spaces for all ages—Vakkaru Maldives is an all-encompassing getaway for your dream wedding. Not only does its natural splendour work wonders to create the perfect backdrop for your special occasion, but the bespoke wedding packages also add that exquisite touch. From personalised wedding assistance to live Maldivian Boduberu drum entertainment and a Maldivian celebrant, each customised experience is sure to heighten the celebrations.

Kick off your big day with a wholesome breakfast served by your private pool. Whether you want to indulge in the resort's floating breakfast set menu options, or create your own meal by choosing from an array of dishes from the resort's in-villa dining menu, Vakkaru's leisurely indulgences will set the tone for the day. Next, pamper yourself with

Clockwise from top left: Take a bicycle ride around the property; a luxurious overwater pool residence; enjoy a romantic dinner by the ocean; opt for a beach wedding at sunset at Vakkaru Maldives.

a luxurious full body massage at the in-house Merana Spa. While the spa itself houses overwater treatment rooms with see-through glass floors, you can also choose to relax in the comfort of your equally, if not more, surreal villa. Once the deeds of the day end, and the wedding ceremony is done and dusted, soak in the endless ocean views with a romantic dinner of authentic Maldivian cuisine at a location of your choice on the island.

Begin your life as a married couple amid manta rays and turtles while on private snorkelling expeditions and take a leisurely kayak ride down the island's private lagoons. Before you know it, the orange hues that paint the skies, and the gentle lapping of waves will create the perfect ending to your postcard holiday. vakkarumaldives.com

10

WEDDING

PLANNERS

The question's been popped, the ring's been bought, and the stars have aligned to bring in your big day. But with so many details to look into, the entire process of planning can be overwhelming. These ace wedding planners can help strike off items on your checklist as you cruise your way towards the celebration of a lifetime. **By Bayar Jain**



ELITE WEDDINGS INDIA

A wedding ceremony needs a lot of planning, detailing, and supervision, and Elite Weddings does it best. Started in the West Midlands, the company has set up base in Delhi and Agra as well. From big fat Indian weddings to serene intimate ceremonies in Switzerland, Indonesia, France, and more, Elite excels at providing you with a complete bespoke wedding experience. It even offers targeted services like venue scouting, guest management, logistics, etc. so you can sit back and relax!
 @eliteweddingsindia



L'AMORE WEDDINGS

L'amore is Italian for 'love', so it's only natural for L'amore Weddings to bring an added dose of romance to your big day. Driven by passion, elegance, and style, these creative minds have planned destination weddings in places like Turkey, Greece, Hawaii, and more. Riding with the waves and understanding the change in wedding trends, they can even facilitate a cruise wedding if you so wish.
 @lamore_weddings



DIVYA VITHIKA

When two former beauty pageant winners team up to start a wedding venture together, style and luxury are guaranteed. Founders Divya Chauhan and Vithika Agarwal believe that no detail is too small for your big day. From planning high budget NRI weddings to the relatively smaller budget affairs, they leave the final decision making to the couple of the hour. They even transcend beyond the week-long wedding day preparations and provide services to help plan your honeymoon packages as well.
 @divyavithika



3PRODUCTION WEDDINGS

Bringing suave to every event, Bengaluru-based 3Production Weddings is made up of a dynamic and flexible team. Understanding the fact that every wedding comes with unforeseen challenges, this detail-oriented company is malleable enough to incorporate its clients' individual tastes. Sparing you the trouble of having to go back-and-forth with the decision making, 3Production Wedding gets everything perfect right from the get-go.
 @3production_weddings

MARRY ME WEDDING PLANNERS

Being based out of Mumbai is no stumbling block for this bespoke wedding planning company. Marry Me Wedding Planners blends subtlety and tastefulness into each element while ensuring your preferred theme remains the prime focus. Whether it's a Gatsby-style extravaganza, or a colourful mela-style jamboree, or even a peacock-themed party, Marry Me Wedding planners recreate it effortlessly. All you need to do is let your imagination run wild!

[@marrymeweddingplanners](#)



REYNOLD WEDDINGS

Located in the heart of India's destination wedding hub, this Goa-based wedding planner has over 29 years worth of experience in the industry. Reynold Weddings prides itself for being one of the few planners who have an in-house warehouse to store all kinds of wedding equipment like staging, sound and light, and sound proofing. Which means that they are your one-stop-shop for all things wedding.

[@reynoldweddings](#)



MYSHAADIWALE

Founded in 2006, Myshaadiwale doesn't repeat any of their wedding ideas and patterns. Adding a tinge of personalisation to the wedding, this well-equipped team organises 10,000+ guest weddings in a Rajasthani palace with the same effortless charm as an underwater wedding in Bali. With offices in Sri Lanka, Dubai, Malaysia, Canada, and Turkey, apart from the three in India, Myshaadiwale can even help plan a unique multi-destination cruise wedding. [@myshaadiwale](#)



NEETA RAHEJA

A mastermind of million-dollar weddings, Neeta Raheja is your solution for a grand wedding. Big names like the Munjals, Singhania, and Ansals have sought her help for their family's big day, in some cases for weddings spanning different generations! Their only goal is to provide you with a colourful, cultural extravaganza so your wedding is unforgettable. [@neetaraheja](#)



REGAL WEDDINGS

An experience of over 500 weddings around the globe backs Regal Wedding planners. Sandy beaches, serene hill stations, mysterious jungles, and even vintage palatial forts feature in their wide list of exotic wedding destinations. With a name signifying royalty, it's only natural for Regal Weddings to fit the role perfectly. [@weddingsbyankit](#)



SHLOKA EVENTS

From scheduling fittings with big designers, to appointing pandits if the need arises, or even chartering a personal aircraft for your wedding, Shloka Events is undisputedly one of the best event planners in the country. Cambodia, Malaysia, and Italy are just some of the few exotic destinations that they have organised weddings in. Thriving on a 'never say no' attitude, the team efficiently handles hurdles along the way. [@shlokaevents](#)

Grand Escapes Start Here

When you are at the crossroads of booking a vacation, the only real choice is to Go Grand.



At Grand Hyatt Goa, every experience is spectacular, surprises are to be expected, and indulgence is a way of life. Allow a team of experts to offer a new perspective on the sunshine state, and discover Goa beyond the sun, sand, and beaches with their handpicked collection of 101 experiences.

FOR THE ADVENTUROUS

The extensive resort is home to an adventure park that features an array of exciting activities for people of all ages. For the not-so-faint hearted, the sky cycling and high rope course should definitely be on the must-do list in addition to wall climbing, aqua zorbing, and zip-lining. From sailing to archery to aerial yoga, and bouncy castle to trampoline for both kids and adults, there are





Clockwise from here: A romantic meal for two by the sea; a relaxing nook at Shamana Spa; the light-filled couples suite at the spa; the Indo-Portuguese-style Grand Hyatt Goa; breakfast with a view.

plenty of activities at the resort, so no one can ever get bored.

CULINARY AFFAIRS

Spoil yourself with an eclectic cocktail menu featuring cocktails crafted to match your zodiac by the mixologists. Those looking for a more intimate experience can choose between a quiet dinner under a starlit sky, an al-fresco barbecue picnic, or an evening of roasted marshmallows around a bonfire. Share stories over hot puff pastry dipped in a selection of sweet goodies including caramel, raspberry, chocolate, and creamy custard, and while you are at the Capiz Bar, make the most of the Happy Hours.

Discover the chef in you with cooking classes with the hotel's master chefs, who are happy to share their secrets and recipes from the Italian and Indian kitchens. If Asian is on your mind, the Asian Wok by the outdoor pool features delicious Oriental cuisine. Serving favorites like Thai curries, dim sums, and sushi, the restaurant has something for everybody. If you're feeling adventurous, set a sail with local

fishermen to cast your net and rope in the fresh catch that the chefs will cook for your meal.

GRAND SERENITY

For couples looking for the perfect spa sojourn, Shamana Spa is the final word in Goa. The resort's temple of tranquility aims to create a perfect balance between well-being and lifestyle through a serene environment and with an international range of products, some of which are exclusively available at the spa. Try the signature body and face treatments, which include ancient rituals that incorporate international techniques. The spa packages offer interesting combinations of massages, traditional body scrubs, and facials; all prepared using fresh ingredients. Even newlyweds can opt for the specially designed bridal treatments to improve their well-being.

Couples can retire to the couple suite, which has a personal plunge pool, and indulge in Southeast Asian healing traditions like Balinese, Thai, and Ayurveda.

Discover the thrill of #LivingGrand at Grand Hyatt Goa. hyatt.com



10

INVITE

DESIGNERS

When prepping for the biggest event of your life, your wedding, you want everything to be perfect. And it all starts from the first declaration of your wedding—the invite. These invite designers will make sure your wedding invitation looks no less than an artefact.

By Kumar Shree

RAVISH KAPOOR INNOVATIVE INVITATIONS

Renowned designer Ravish Kapoor specialises in wedding invitations that are crafted to make the first expression of your big day as momentous as it can get. The Delhi-based designer is a maestro in designing invites that cast a spell of grandeur and elegance. Ravish commands such innovation and craft that he can turn even the quirkiest of your demands into a reality. [@ravishkapoorinvitations](#)

THE ENTERTAINMENT DESIGN COMPANY

The brainchild of Kapil and Sandy Khurana, EDC is one of the most formidable invite design brands that has catered to the who's-who, including royalty. Their handcrafted and personalised designs are perfect specimens of impeccable aesthetic craftsmanship and execution.

[@theentertainmentdesigncompany](#)

TURMERIC INK

This design firm has cracked the code of marrying indigenous designs of historic significance with contemporary experiments to come up with lavish and exuberant invite designs that are affordable.

The innovations and experiments of Turmeric Ink set them apart and has labelled them as trendsetters.

[@turmericink](#)

ROHAN & APARNA INVITATIONS

This dynamic brother-sister duo is known for creating unique wedding invites that borrow from traditions and yet are modern and path-breaking in execution. Their invites are based on the philosophy of 'less is more' and the sleek and minimalist designs pack regal grandeur to declare your special day in the most elegant way possible.

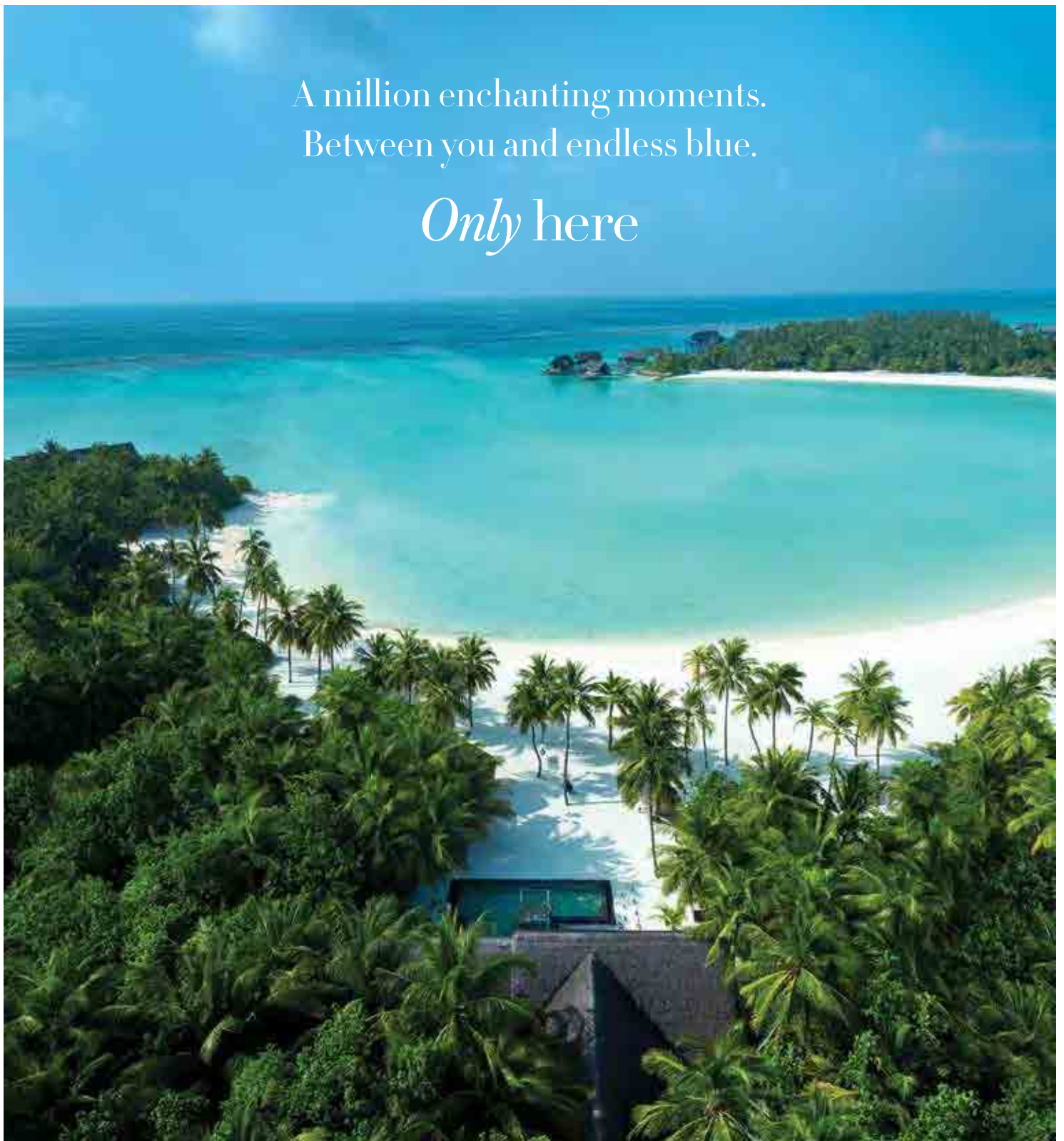
[@rohanaparnainvitations](#)

ITCHHA TALREJA DESIGNS

If you are looking for wedding invites that are bespoke, sophisticated, and exquisite with unique detailing, this Mumbai-based graphic and lifestyle designer is a perfect choice. Her designs are an aesthetic example of clean and non-fussy artwork that gets the job done. [@itchhatalrejadesigns](#)

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oneandonlyreethirah.com



SKETCH DESIGN STUDIO

Designs that are timeless and elegant, and a standing manifestation of old-world charm are the USP of Sketch Design Studio. Get them on board for wedding invitations that are specially crafted catering to your preferences and inputs. After all, it's your big day and you should be the one to call the cards!

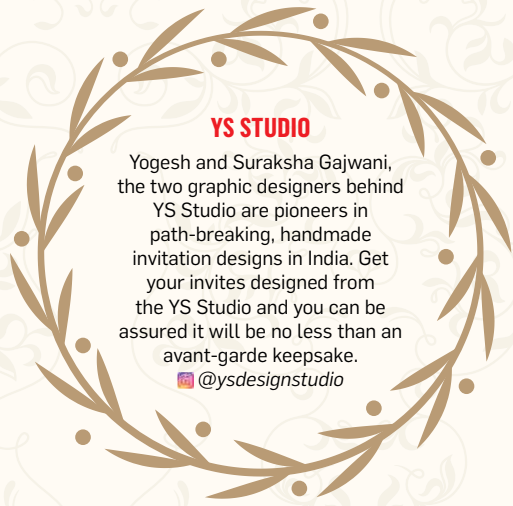
[@sketchdesignstudio](#)



UTTARA SHAH, BESPOKE FINE INVITATIONS

Invitations designed by Uttara Shah are a melange of innovation and experimentation, where your sense of style comes to prominence in the beautiful and luxurious way of breaking your big news. Having designed invitations for the creme de la creme of the country, including Shloka and Akash Ambani, Uttara Shah has a Midas touch when it comes to wedding invitations.

[@uttarashah.wedding.invitations](#)



YS STUDIO

Yogesh and Suraksha Gajwani, the two graphic designers behind YS Studio are pioneers in path-breaking, handmade invitation designs in India. Get your invites designed from the YS Studio and you can be assured it will be no less than an avant-garde keepsake.

[@ysdesignstudio](#)



PUNEET GUPTA INVITATIONS

Puneet Gupta is the star when it comes to haute couture wedding invitations. The NIFT alumni has designed invitations for celebrities like Sumeet Vyas and Bharti Singh. He is known for flamboyant, Parisian-chic, and outstanding designs that are a blend of exquisite composition and on-point execution.

[@puneet-gupta-invitations](#)



KANKOTRI

It is a surreal feeling when someone else is more thoughtful for you than yourself. That's the philosophy behind Kankotri. Here, intricate and thoughtful designs are woven into stunning ensembles that you can proudly send off to announce your big day.

[@kankotrinvites](#)



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Private Wedding Island

Dreaming of that perfect beach wedding? Think bigger. Think of a luxurious private island in the Maldivian archipelago where you can exchange vows with your loved one—*Velaa Private Island!* By *Amitha Ameen*



Picture this: a perfectly circular oasis of sorts surrounded by turquoise waters, perched high on a reef that is teeming with marine life. The love of your life standing by your side on a pristine beach, surrounded by friends and family. Wind tousled hair, sand between your toes, soft ocean waves, and palm trees gently swaying around you. This is the stuff of dreams, isn't it? At Velaa Private Island Maldives, the wedding of your fantasies can become a reality.

Your wedding day needs to be all about you and your partner. And that is precisely what Velaa offers. This tropical island paradise oozes luxury—from the moment you step foot in

their private lounge at Male Airport, to the exciting ride to the resort on Velaa's own branded luxury seaplane, and the warm welcome by the staff upon arrival. This lavishly appointed retreat allows you to take a step back and be utterly carefree, leaving all arrangements to the seasoned and discreet staff, which includes your very own personal butler, who will customise and cater to your every need, giving you exactly what you desire.

ACCOMMODATION

Apart from featuring subtle pan-Asian décor with dark-wood furniture, the 47 rooms are equipped with private pools





Clockwise from above: Aragu, the resort's modern European restaurant; an idyllic nook at Velaa Private Island; wed in style on the island; dinner for two at the beachfront Athiri restaurant; the spacious bathroom inside a Sunset Deluxe Water Pool Villa; overwater hammock at the Romantic Pool Residence.



that provide unobstructed views of the ocean. The overwater and on-land rooms range from one-bedroom Beach Pool Villas to the four-bedroom Private Residences and the Romantic Pool Residence that can be accessed only by boat—all thoughtfully decked with luxuries beyond your imagination.

DINING

The island is home to Tavaru Tower, one of Maldives' highest restaurant, which, at a whopping 22 metres high, serves some delectable Teppanyaki dishes. The resort also offers guests an unforgettable dining experience with their overwater European-style fine-dining restaurant, Aragu. Of course, you could just enjoy a romantic candlelit dinner by the shore, under the soft silvery light of the moon at Athiri, Velaa's casual beachfront restaurant offering international comfort food and signature wood-fired pizzas.

FACILITIES

To stimulate your senses further, the resort's award-winning spa, My Blend by Clarins, offers a unique rejuvenating experience. You can opt for a personalised programme and reap the benefits of an Asian therapy led philosophy.

Guests can also choose between

the only undercover tennis courts in the Maldives, a 9-hole golf course by Olazabal, biking around the island, or exploring the Indian Ocean in a miniature submarine. If you are feeling extra adventurous, a night diving expedition will be a truly unique excursion, creating an unforgettable memory of the ocean. What could be more beautiful than experiencing moments like these together?

WEDDINGS

Velaa Private Islands has a variety of special wedding experiences for guests. From designing an elegant ceremony under a beautifully decorated altar on a private white-sand beach and special lighting that exudes a soft glow for guests to enjoy the breathtaking sunset to the most divine wedding cake—the resort takes pride in providing personalised services to make your special day exceptional.

With its understated and thoughtful approach that makes guests feel at ease, Velaa effortlessly offers high standards of accommodation and experiences. Celebrating your big day at this paradise will set a benchmark among friends and family, and it will be an event that you'll remember fondly for the rest of your lives! velaaprivateisland.com



10 WEDDING

PHOTOGRAPHERS



PIXELSTORY.IN

Based out of Bengaluru, the creative minds at PixelStory.in seamlessly mingle with wedding guests and shadow the married couple to get that memorable Kodak moment. Despite taking up limited projects, emotion-filled images coupled with professional photojournalistic aesthetic is a guarantee. Whether it's in beautiful Sikkimese monasteries, or in the tranquil serenity of Ladakh, PixelStory.in is willing to travel across the country for your special day. [@pixelstory.in](#)

KNOTSBYAMP

Founded by BITS Pilani Alumnus Anupam Maurya, KnotsByAmp provides you with the perfect melange of candid, lifestyle, and fine-art photography. Whether your wedding is set in the mountainous ranges of Lonavala or at the beachside shores of Puducherry, their creative minds know how to tackle every kind of wedding. This self-motivated

A wedding might span a few days, but it's the memories preserved in photographs that last forever. The responsibility inherent in producing photographs commemorating this once-in-a-lifetime experience is enormous, so we decided to make things easier for you. Here's a carefully curated list of the country's best wedding photographers.

By Bayar Jain



team requires no 'management' or 'guidance', giving you one less thing to fret about! [@knotsbyamp](#)

PHOTO TANTRA

Vinayak Das and Snigdha Sheel of Photo Tantra bring a refreshing contemporary touch to your album. International destinations such as Thailand, UAE, Greece, and Italy are just some of the many places they've provided their services at. Besides, if they're good enough for *The Big Bang Theory's* Kunal Nayyar and former Miss India Neha Kapoor's wedding, then they're good for you! [@phototantra](#)



BADRUTT'S PALACE
ST. MORITZ SWITZERLAND

Luxury Alpine Wedding Destination

The picturesque destination of the Engadin Valley and the glistening Lake St. Moritz coupled with the elegance and rich history of Badrutt's Palace Hotel is the ideal canvas to paint your dream wedding.

**WHERE GENERATIONS CELEBRATE.
SINCE 1896.**

CANDID SHUTTERS

Wedding photography is all about capturing the delicate details and surge of emotions onto film, and Candid Shutters excels at it. This Mumbai-, Gurugram- and UAE-based team lives up to its name by breaking free from the cliché posed couple shoots. Armed with an experience of 500 weddings across various cultures around the globe, this talented pool of passionate creative artisans go the extra mile by doing research about the rituals and functions before the day arrives so that they get it just right. [@candidshutters](#)

FOCZ STUDIOS

Being based out of Chennai gives Focuz Studios the upper hand in South Indian weddings. However, an experience of more than 400 weddings around the globe in destinations such as London, Singapore, and Paris is what results in their perfection. Comprising a team



NAVDEEP SONI

Being based out of Pune is no stumbling block for this ace wedding photographer. Whether it is fort weddings in Udaipur, or palatial ones in Jaipur, Navdeep Soni is ideal for bringing the quirk into your otherwise emotional wedding album. His hawk-like eyes capture every intricate detail, while his chameleon-like ability to blend in with the family makes photographs seem more natural. [@navdeepsoni](#)

driven by passion and dedication, they ensure every detail is captured. Rest assured, they'll bring you colourful, jaw-dropping pictures to cherish forever. [@focuzstudios](#)



RAMIT BATRA

An ex-mechanical engineer, Ramit Batra has taken a deep dive into the visual field; and beautifully so! Having travelled to places like Oman, Bangladesh, Dubai, New York for weddings, he and his team know how to ensure quality content. His contagious energy is sure to make the couple feel at ease, culminating in a beautiful photo album to gush over for years. [@ramitbatraphotography](#)

TWOGETHER STUDIOS BY ARJUN AND PRAERNA KARTHA

Every wedding photographer aims for that perfect candid moment, but this Delhi based duo goes a notch higher with their thematic documentary style wedding videos. Twogether Studios' founders Arjun and Praerna Khatri believe that every wedding album should be crafted with love, a form of storytelling, which they have mastered beautifully in their decade-long career. [@twogetherstudios.in](#)

MOONSTRUCK WEDDINGS

If you've ever dreamed of a celebrity-style wedding album, Moonstruck Weddings is your answer! Celebrity photographer Karthik Srivasan, the founder, and his team ensure the couple takes centre stage. The glitz and glamour of his two-decade long career in advertising photography weaves its way into your wedding album, which could easily double as a fashion catalogue. His extensive network of stylists, designers, make-up artists, and fashion consultants make for a complete package. [@moonstruckweddings](#)



STORIES BY JOSEPH RADHIK

If you wish to replicate the gorgeousness of Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas' wedding, or even the surreal beauty of the Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli's big day, then look no further. Stories by Joseph Radhik brings elegance and class into each of your photographs. With an experience of over 300 weddings spanning every continent (barring Antarctica!), Joseph Radhik and his team don't just take photographs, they create a visual journey. [@storiesbyjosephradhik](#)



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Fashioning *a* Beach Wedding

Planning a lavish beach wedding and worried that you'll ruin your traditional lehenga on the beach? Designer duo **Shivan & Narresh** decode the perfect beach wedding look and show you how to do it right before you say, 'I do'.

Have a surreal beach wedding with Shivan & Narresh's breezy and beautiful couture.

Photography Arjun Mark
Styling Mohit Rai
Hair & Makeup Savleen Manchanda
Models Carla Aciar & Julio Moises
(Toabh Talent Management)

ON HER Tikini & Iconorosh Print Cape
ON HIM Embroidered Jumper
With Iconocrosh Print Cape, all
Shivan & Narresh

Location Courtesy: Wild Coast
Tented Lodge, Yala



Shivan & Narresh's
Iconorosh pearl
tusk encrusted
lehenga with pearl-
encrusted blouse.



THE SARTORIAL LANDSCAPE of the country has evolved tremendously over the decade. Breaking away from the guidance of the previous generation, the millennials have come of age and started dictating their own life patterns and choices to reshape the present economy. A remarkable rise in the shift of preference has been observed, where millennials are perceiving luxury today, in experiences over tangible products, which in turn has seen an upsurge in demand for holidays as a segment.

The big billion dollar wedding industry is experiencing a huge makeover as well. The number of requests of destination weddings and pieces for the same have shot up drastically over the years. Catering to what is the latest in fashion and here to stay, there is an increase in demand for design options that are multipurpose and can serve functionality while travelling.

A beach brings a sense of luxurious resort decadence that oozes charm when wrapped in the veil of wedding festivities. It is imperative that the sartorial selection for the celebrations is breezy and beautiful, with a focus on the multipurpose and functionality side of things. With experiences as the key ingredient for millennials to spend on, their purpose to indulge in wedding and trousseau shopping is about having as much fun and enjoying every occasion as their own guests attending their destination wedding. Hence, a 20-kilogram lehenga is being replaced with light neoprene or skein work lehengas that look heavy but weigh a fraction of the traditional ones, so that they can effortlessly shake a leg and enjoy each moment on their wedding day. They are light enough for brides and her friends to not weigh down their spirits and be open to jumping in a pool post their mehendi, or walk into the ocean post a beach wedding ceremony.

With the popularity of tailored saris in technologically advanced fabrics, millennials can happily carry forward the legacy of the sari from the previous generation to the next. This aspect remains close to designers till date, entrusting them with the responsibility

of carrying forth traditions by making them relevant to the mood of the present.

Beach wedding outfits need to illustrate modern resort elegance amalgamated with the culturally rooted Indian design aesthetic. With functionality and ease of travel as the key foci, the selection needs to emphasise on hues that are easy on the eyes. #Kabannng, the Indian destination wedding in the golden sands and crystal waters of Phu Quoc, Vietnam, was a three-day long extravaganza to celebrate the nuptials of Shivan & Narresh Couture beach bride, Kaabia Grewal and groom, Rushang Shah, as the couple tied the knot and unfolded a new chapter of their lives. As avant-garde as the ceremonies were, they were also deeply rooted in the extravagance and ardour of Indian rituals. While the auspicious mehendi ceremony was tribal themed, with the couple and guests dressed in signature Shivan & Narresh print ensembles, the guests witnessed a surreal beach wedding with the gorgeous bride in Shivan & Narresh's first couture.

The beach bride, Kaabia Grewal wished for an English aesthetic that also boasted the opulence of culturally immersed Indian traditions. The gorgeous Ivory Ecrú Carnation Skein Lehenga comprised 10-panel handcrafted ecru carnation lace that was skilfully put together by eight craftsmen. Developed as a unique symbol of the modern millennial Indian bride, it embodied the spirit of the traditional lehenga, yet adorned colours, surfaces and techniques bathed in modern sophistication. With craftsmanship that



Clockwise from above: All fun and games at the #Kabannng wedding; the designer duo created the beautiful ensemble Kaabia wore at her beach wedding.



spanned over two months and 450 man hours for its signature carnation skein work using pearls and ivory beads over the luscious surface, the ensemble was finished with an ivory lace bustier with a plunging neckline and a delicate three-metre-long custom ivory lace veil. The elegant couture look on Kaabia, against the rich backdrop of Phu Quoc, its turquoise waters and golden sands, captivated one and all, making it a vision to be cherished for years to come.

Hence, as designers what we bring to the table is to conceive these unique styles that revolve around experiences in each ceremony and communicate it appropriately with design so that the entire event is celebrated beyond templated run-off-the-mill styles for millennials. shivanandnarresh.com

Wed in Style



Whether you want stress-free nuptials along the coastline, or a traditional wedding in your own city, Hyatt Hotels can plan the perfect wedding for you.

When you decide to tie the knot, images of your dream wedding start to play out in your head. Finding that ideal backdrop, the best of food, and grand yet elegant decor under one roof can be cumbersome. But for Hyatt Hotels, playing host to the perfect wedding is second nature. And now there's even more to love about your wedding at Hyatt. When you celebrate your wedding at a participating Hyatt hotel, you can earn free honeymoon nights at any Hyatt Hotels & Resorts location worldwide—from authentic resorts that capture the essence of the destination to exciting city hotels across the globe. Simply request offer code HMOON and enter into a contract by December 31, 2022 to hold your wedding or commitment ceremony at a participating Hyatt hotel, and you will earn World of Hyatt Bonus Points redeemable for free nights with no blackout dates at Hyatt hotels or resorts worldwide.

ANDAZ DELHI

The Hindi word 'Andaz' translates to 'style' in English. It's only natural, then, for Andaz Delhi to imbibe it to the T. Whether it's an intimate affair or a grand week-long celebration, Andaz will take care of everything for you. The hotel offers over 37,500 square feet of space for the celebrations, and each of their innovative spaces is designed keeping the modern Indian in mind.



The pillar-free oval ballroom provides a blank canvas to customise and decorate the space as per your personal style. During the cold winter months, the al fresco spaces can double up as cosy outdoor venues. Between the functions, guests can choose to retire in one of the 401 rooms and suites, unwind at the relaxing Andaz Spa, or sip on sangrias by the poolside. Out-of-towners can even choose to take off on an Andaz Delhi Experience that enables visitors to get a glimpse of the culturally rich city through the eyes of a Delhi hero.



Clockwise from above: A beautiful dining setup at Grand Hyatt Mumbai; the bride and groom make a grand entrance at Grand Hyatt Mumbai; a wedding setup at Grand Hyatt Goa. Opposite, from top: At the ballroom at Andaz Delhi; the couple arrives in style for their wedding at Andaz Delhi.

Another reason to opt for Andaz Delhi is their innovative catering. From specialists in a variety of global cuisines to an in-house *maharaj* solely for Rajasthani, Marwari, and Gujarati dishes, the hotel offers customisable culinary experiences. Live chef counters further add to the spectacle, and can help you create dishes in your own *andaz*!

GRAND HYATT MUMBAI

Spread over 12 acres of greenery in the bustling business district of the Bandra Kurla Complex in Mumbai, Grand Hyatt Mumbai offers the convenience of a luxury hotel with a large dollop of unparalleled elegance. With over 30,000 square feet of sophisticated indoor and outdoor spaces, the hotel can translate your dream wedding into an opulent reality. You can choose to take your vows under the romantic night sky in one of the stunning grand lawns, or dance to your heart's content in the ballroom. Relatively smaller spaces such as the Grand Salon and Mahogany are ideal for intimate pre-wedding gatherings. The range of options extends to the catering services as well. Couples can choose from carefully crafted local and global menus.

Grand Hyatt Mumbai also understands that the planning doesn't end at the wedding stage. So, the hotel offers a lending hand with its customised honeymoon packages for couples. At Grand Hyatt Mumbai, the romance lasts well beyond the wedding.

GRAND HYATT GOA

The lush tropical greens, verdant lawns, and enchanting water bodies surrounding Grand Hyatt Goa make it an ideal wedding and honeymoon



destination. Whether you choose a waterfront wedding, or a ceremony at their 17th-century Indo-Portuguese-style palace, this regal hotel spells romance effortlessly. With a total of 15 spaces—10 indoor and five outdoor—the hotel allows you to organise every function in a different room, and still has space to spare!

Adding to this is the hotel's excellent culinary services. Catering to all palates, Grand Hyatt Goa offers a delectable range of dishes. If socialising during the wedding becomes too draining for the newly-weds, the hotel even helps plan an intimate dining experience for them in their room or on the lawns overlooking Bambolim Bay.

The best way to unwind after the ceremonies is by indulging in a spa sojourn at Shamana Spa. Couples can choose to retire in the couples suite that houses a private plunge pool. Here, they can pamper themselves with Balinese, Thai, or Indian Ayurvedic healing traditions. www.hyatt.com

Star-studded Affairs

A detailed look at the century's most exciting weddings and how to get inspired by each one for your big day. **By Nirja Dutt**

WHEN IT COMES TO THE BIG DAY, there are a few things you need to keep in mind: perfect outfit, matching accessories, dreamy location, ethereal decor, your complementing look... The one downside of weddings nobody can deny: we want our guests to never forget it. Then, can you imagine what happens when a celebrity is about to tie the knot? The pressure is intense, the options endless, it's stressful (to say the least!), and everyone is watching. Today, however, thanks to social media, we are all celebrities in our own right, with a captive audience of followers that appreciate our every move. We need to wed like the stars to make an impact. To make it easy for you, here's how you can do it just like your favourite celebrity did.

The Outfit

Want a look to wow? Here is a breakdown of the most iconic outfits from around the globe and how you can make them your own.



STUNNING INDIAN OUTFITS

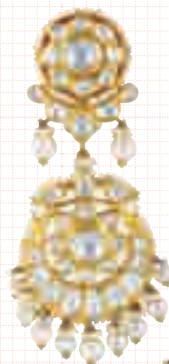
Beaded, sequinned, embroidered, or woven, Indian textiles never fail to impress. For the wedding day, pick an ensemble based on your function. If you have festivities through the day, pick brocade like Kareena Kapoor Khan did; this will remain light while looking rich and not weigh you down. For a morning ceremony, take inspiration from Anushka Sharma's Sabyasachi creation; the heavily embellished pink ensemble was easy on the eyes and not overpowering. If you like white but want to make it Indian, look no further than Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla. We love the look they created for Deepika Padukone's reception and they made one for Ranveer to match too! And if red is the way to go, Sonam Kapoor Ahuja's regal Anuradha Vakil was nothing short of spectacular.



ICONIC WHITE LOOKS

One of the hottest shades for a wedding look, an all-white ensemble is always beautiful. Think Zoe's look for a beach party with youngsters, Kate Middleton's look for the reception, the possibilities are endless. The idea is to choose a look that resonates with your style and suits your body type.

COMPLETE YOUR LOOK



Chandbali in pearl work by RK Jewellers; rkjewellers.in



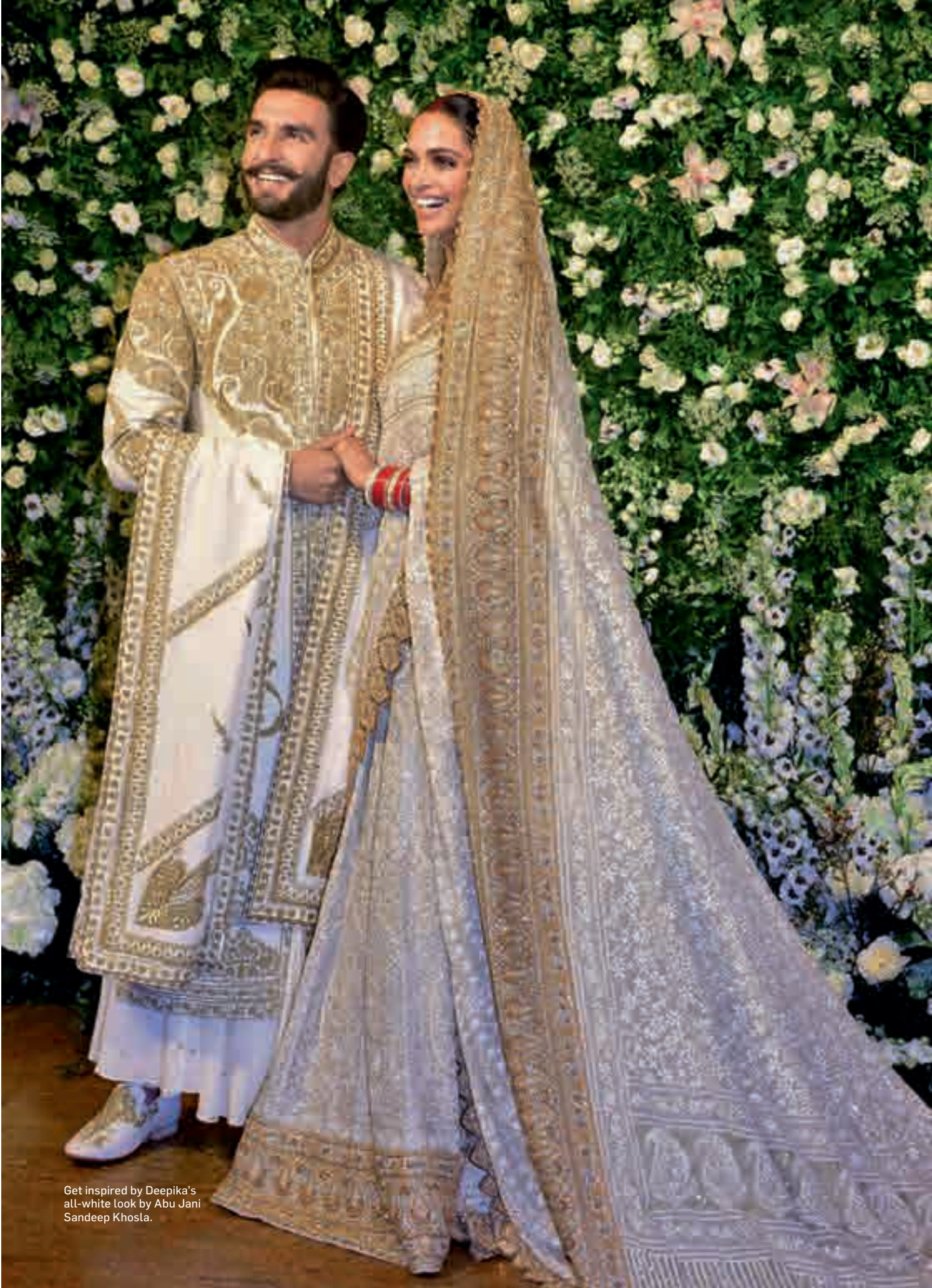
Polki bangles by House of MBJ; mbj.in



Diamond studs by Irasva; irasva.com



Necklace by NIAJ; niajbyshradha.com



Get inspired by Deepika's all-white look by Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla.

The Destination

Dream of all things larger than life? Here are two of the most breathtaking and beautiful spots to tie the knot just like your favourite star couple.



LAKE COMO, ITALY

From Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh to John Legend and Chrissy Teigen, and everyone else in between, Lake Como has been a favourite celebrity wedding destination. This breathtaking destination has called out to Hollywood and Bollywood to say 'I do'. With unfiltered views of the ocean to the sky, this Italian coast classic never gets old. High-tech security, vintage villas, the best wedding planners, exclusive access, and much more—there isn't anything this spot can't offer.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SIMONE POLATTINI/ALAMY; JANKO KASZ/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY OF VILLA TEOLINDA; FRANK LUKASSECK/GETTY IMAGES; TONY BARSON/GETTY IMAGES; SOPA IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY SHIRISH SHETE

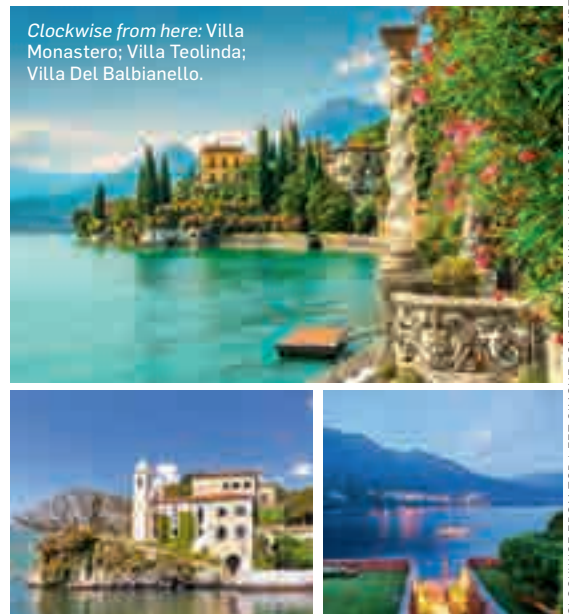
CELEBRITIES WHO TIED THE KNOT HERE



Clockwise from top: Anushka and Virat; Chrissy and John; Deepika and Ranveer.

POPULAR VENUES

Clockwise from here: Villa Monastero; Villa Teolinda; Villa Del Balbianello.





JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN
 Much closer to home, this blue city of dreams has called out to celebrities from around the globe for centuries. There is something about the feeling of getting married in a palace that can never stop being appealing. With views of the city at your disposal, Jodhpur offers several hotels and palaces that can be the venue of your dreams. What makes these even more special is the experienced planners who come with the venues. They just need so much as a mini brief and budget outline from the couple to put together the royal wedding of your dreams.

CELEBRITIES WHO TIED THE KNOT HERE



From left: Elizabeth and Arun; Priyanka and Nick.

POPULAR VENUES



From above: Ummaid Bhawan Palace; Indana Palace Jodhpur.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MAZZUR/BETTYPAGES; COURTESY OF UMAID BHAWAN; COURTESY OF INDANA PALACE JODHPUR; SOPA IMAGES/BETTYPAGES; MARTIN FRASER/BETTYPAGES



The Decor

The first impression anyone forms of a wedding depends entirely on the decor. You can dress up the venue or add elements to create an impact, but you can't ignore it. Inspired by your favourite stars, here are some of the finest decor ideas you need for your wedding.



FLOWERS

While you can get all the birds and the whistles to deck the space up, nothing can beat flowers. From Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma's to Kim Kardashian and Kanye West's weddings, flowers played a dominant role in the decor. In lush volumes, encased in crystal vases, accompanied by candles, and in so many more ways, flowers never fail. For a dramatic look, try to create an entire wall covered with similar shades of flowers placed in close proximity; this gives a grand look. For those who are looking to keep it subtle, large planters with overflowing peonies and hydrangeas mixed with baby's breath make for the perfect bunch to highlight any corner. These can be translated across various sizes, areas, and sections.



UNIQUE DETAILS

Take inspiration for not only the decor, fashion, and look of celebrity weddings, but also the details. We absolutely loved Sonam Kapoor Ahuja's idea of adding a 'scent' at her wedding with help from fragrance connoisseurs Jo Malone. Her festivities came to life with candles that populated the entryways, table tops, cosy corners, and main areas! For a couple with a sweet tooth, make sure you get the cake of your dreams to share on the big day. We are in awe of the eight-tier creation in all-white made for the royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. Take a cue and make it your own.



FLORALS FOR EVERY MOOD

Real or faux, flowers can really uplift a space. Try and fill the location with a few of your favourites. For exotic flowers that aren't in season, don't be afraid to ask your florist for faux options; these silk flowers create an equally dreamy effect.



1. Cocktail Pins by Joanna Buchanan, ₹5,380
2. Anna Weatherly Plate Setting, price on request
3. Salt and Pepper Shakers by Good Earth, ₹3,200
4. Crystal Glasses by Waterfold, ₹4,955
5. Spoons by The Label Life, ₹950



TABLE TOP CHIC

Dress up your table with quirky accents to create an atmosphere your guests will never forget. Think decadent placemats, gold-rimmed dinnerware, quirky flatware, and so on. Work closely with your planner and caterer to source creations that will truly set your sit-down apart!



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: "WPA POOL," GETTY IMAGES (2); VINCE BUCCI/GETTY IMAGES

The Look

No matter who you look up to, when it comes to make-up and beauty, always choose something that suits your face. What really helps is selecting aspects you like and putting them together in your own unique style. Here's a quick look at what we are crushing on.



JUST WING IT

Nothing complements an Indian ensemble quite like a bold, winged eyeliner. It's a classic look that has only gotten better with age. The age of liquid liners has given birth to all kinds of state-of-the-art brushes and pigments that ensure precision for even the most unsteady hands. Our current favourite is the felt revolution—simple, familiar, and super effective, this one is a 100 per cent hit every time. For the big day, accompany that perfect wing with strong lashes and a base of shimmer on the lid. We took our inspiration from Asin for this one, but the possibilities are endless!



Long-Wear Liquid Liner in Carbon Black, Bobbi Brown, ₹2,500; bobbibrowncosmetics.com



Obsessions Palette in Warm Brown Obsessions, Huda Beauty, ₹2,500; nykaa.com



BADgal Bang! Mascara, Benefit Cosmetics, ₹2,320; sephora.nnow.com



Always Sharp Lip Liner in Stylist, Smashbox, ₹1,850; sephora.nnow.com



Beauty Silky Satin Lip Colour in Lou Beach, Christian Louboutin, ₹11,230; net-a-porter.com



LIPS OF LOVE

When sporting dramatic eyes, play down the lips. For the big day, stick to shades of pink, peach, and coral—they appear almost neutral on the Indian skin tone with the right hint of glamour. For all-day festivities, stick to liquid formulations that dry matte; hydrate your lips with lip balm to avoid cracks before application. It is also a great idea to have your maid of honour carry a tinted lip balm for a quick touch-up. For an evening soiree, opt for a satin finish for that extra shine. Deepen the shade on the base with a lip liner that is one shade darker; this will not only amplify the tint but also seamlessly take you through the evening without any smudges.





Divine Youth Oil, L'Occitane ₹7,110; in.loccitane.com

SKIN-SATIONAL

Your skin is the canvas for your make-up, so don't ignore it. Scrub at least once a week to unclog pores and keep them clean, hydrate it with a serum for quick absorption. Once the serum has settled in, apply a moisturiser that suits your skin in swift upward motion. This improves circulation. Finish off your routine with face oil, which acts as a barrier and seals in all the moisture.



The Green Tea Seed Serum, Innisfree, ₹1,950; innisfree.com

Moisture Surge 72-Hour Auto-Replenishing Hydrator, CLINIQUE, ₹2,550; clinique.in



THE PERFECT MANE

The number one rule to rocking the perfect hairstyle is the health of your hair. Think oils, nourishment treatments, and an all-natural approach. This works best a few months in advance, especially when it comes to natural methods. However, for those who struggle with lack of time (don't we all!), we love the new Nutritive 8H Magic Night Serum by Kérastase. The iris root extract and blend of five vitamins progressively nourishes hair over a period of eight hours, reversing daytime loss of nutrients while sealing cuticles with a satiny finish. Just apply two to three pumps on your hair before sleeping, and wake up with detangled, fresh smelling, and deeply nourished hair. With your strands in place, there is no hairstyle you can't do.



Nutritive Magic Night Serum, Kérastase, ₹3,500 (90ml); kerastase.in



Flower Power

Hariharan Subramaniam, CEO La Fleur, talks to *Aindrila Mitra* about the latest trends in floral decor for weddings.



What are the trends in floral decor across the globe?

Globally, floral trends are leaning towards natural, soft, and textured styles. Bohemian and still-life designs are particularly popular in the wedding market. Foliage is also a key trend. Many clients are asking for arrangements that are dominated by foliage with only a few pops of impact flowers to add interest and colour. Bouquets for weddings are leaning towards asymmetric, free-form shapes with lots of beautiful trailing foliage for a bohemian look. Sustainability is also a huge trend in the floral design world, and many designers are now taking steps to reduce and remove all plastics from their trade.

The types of flowers and designs that seem to be most popular in India are those that include brighter, bold colours. However, younger consumers want more soft-coloured country type flowers. The biggest challenge for supplying these is the climate; the flowers need to be able to cope with the heat and humidity.

How do you envision the growth of the Indian floral decor market?

The Indian market was valued at ₹106 billion in 2016 with a projected growth of 20 per cent to ₹326 billion in 2023. The floral market in India is geared towards events and gifting. Floral decor plays a small role in the overall market and La Fleur has targeted this as an area of growth. We see a culture change happening with consumers' spending increasing in the next few years.

What are the growing trends in flower decor at Indian weddings?

Indian weddings are getting customised. Arrangements vary for every function. For instance, for ceremonies at home, like the mehendi or puja, traditional flowers like *mogra* and marigold are still being used. Marigold curtains and intricate designs around the settees and bolsters are popular for day functions and entrance decor. For cocktails, the flower arrangements have become chic and stylish with a focus on flowers at the bar, a conversational installation near the dance floor, and centre-pieces; some of these are also complemented with pearls and glitter to add to the glamour of the evening. For the wedding and reception, the flower arrangements are grand, with the entrance being the focal point followed by the stage where the couple greets guests. Overall, botanical centre-pieces, ceiling arrangements, imported flowers like peonies, hydrangeas, orchids, and calla lilies, and floral cabanas for the main ceremony are in demand.

What are your personal favourites?

I am inspired by the colours, form, and textures found in flowers and foliage. I am excited by seasonality and like to make the most of seasonal flowers when they are in their prime; a bit like strawberries in June! I like to showcase and also choose nature at its best.

What should one keep in mind while choosing flowers for a wedding?

The most important factor to keep in mind is the freshness, but the choice would mostly depend on the client. I think it's important to really listen to your customer and understand his vision. The budget also plays a major part in the selection of flowers, as does the theme. For example, if it's a countryside wedding, you would want wild flowers and green foliage, but if it's an extravagant wedding, then imported flowers could work. The choice of colours should complement the wedding dress, and theme; some flowers that always work are roses, peonies, orchids, hydrangeas, and calla lilies. lafleur.in



Where Dreams Come True

Whether you want an intimate wedding or a large-scale extravaganza, a city bash or a multi-day celebration at a sprawling resort, we've hunted high and low to get you the ultimate list of properties in India and beyond that will prove to be the perfect spot for you to exchange vows with your perfect someone. Look out for bespoke bridal packages, scintillating decor, delectable menus, and irresistible offers, all tailor-made for you at these resorts. **By Ananya Bahl**



Tie the knot against the backdrop of a glowy sunset at The ANVAYA Beach Resort Bali.



ITC Hotels India

WITH THE NAMASTE AS THE ENDURING symbol of its brand experience, ITC Hotels integrates India's abiding tradition of warm hospitality with globally benchmarked services. Guided by the credo of Responsible Luxury, the company's acclaimed hotels combine grandeur and nobility with the unwavering commitment to operate in tune with the highest principles of environmental stewardship.

Since its inception in 1975, ITC Hotels has carved a unique place for itself in the hospitality industry, with its pledge to remain true to the soil on which each hotel stands, while welcoming global standards and enhancements judiciously. Its award-winning portfolio of over 100 properties spread over 70 destinations in India is linked by one common legacy—warmth.

When it comes to celebrations of joy, ITC Hotels specialises in making each one truly unforgettable, offering magnificent settings, imaginative decor, superb cuisines and service that is without parallel. The spaces are large, yet versatile, so the wedding hosts can open the doors to hundreds of guests. Each wedding has a dedicated team of experts from the hotel, to ensure that every detail is impeccably envisioned, created, and executed.

Here is a carefully curated list of ITC hotels that you must consider when planning the wedding of the decade!

GOA: Beach Wedding

The ITC Grand Resort and Spa Goa, nestled in the serene milieu of South Goa, is set amidst 45 acres of landscaped gardens, swaying coconut palms, and shimmering lagoons. It offers 252 rooms and suites. As a wedding destination, this resort can conjure up pure magic. The property has direct access to Arossim beach, so the couple can take their wedding vows with the Arabian Sea as the backdrop of infinity, against the amber glow of a glorious sunset.

Architecturally, the resort is designed to recreate the Indo-Portuguese aesthetic that defines Goa, so other wedding events can be celebrated at

Clockwise from here: A dreamy wedding setup at ITC Grand Goa Resort and Spa; the impressive ITC Royal Bengal, Kolkata; a venue for romance at ITC Grand Chola; the majestic ITC Grand Bharat, Gurugram.



the Seaside Lawns, with its panoramic views of the sea. The after-party can move to the Magical Forest, a beautifully lit palm grove, spacious, and conducive to wining, dining, and dancing.

Guests and hosts can unwind in the open-plan marble baths with spa-inspired sunken tubs, enjoy the sea view from their private balcony or patio and explore the gastronomic delights that the chefs present every day. The fragrant spa with its menu of massages and various therapies will relax, rejuvenate and reinvigorate you.



KOLKATA: Heritage Wedding

If you want to plan your big day in the City of Joy, immersed in culture and heritage, the perfect host would be the latest addition to ITC's portfolio—the ITC Royal Bengal, truly one of a kind.

The hotel is located just beside its sister property, ITC Sonar and together, they create a majestic complex that can play the perfect host to large scale weddings. With a total of 693 rooms, 82 serviced apartments, 12 F&B outlets, and 22 meeting and banqueting venues spanning over 1,00,000 square feet, ITC Kolkata ensures that you and your guests write many new chapters to your own book of unforgettable celebrations.

Tie the knot under sparkling crystal chandeliers, then book a romantic night at a luxury suite, which sports the finest Italian marble, timber floors, and decorative high ceilings. The hotel will ensure that the experience will be an indelible memory for the happy couple, their family and friends.

CHENNAI: Royal Wedding

Located in the heart of Chennai, the palatial ITC Grand Chola pays tribute to one of South India's greatest empires—the Cholas, who influenced the region's art, architecture and culture from the 3rd century BCE. Inevitably, grandeur is the leitmotif when it comes to a wedding at the Grand Chola, which is also ITC Hotels' flagship property in South India.

If you have always dreamt of a royal wedding, then the Grand Chola makes the perfect venue. The majestic columns and stairways, the granite carvings, and the intricate detailing create a resplendent backdrop for your wedding. With 522 rooms and 78 luxuriously appointed serviced apartments, ITC Grand Chola is the finest choice if you are planning a wedding on a huge scale. The property also features one of the largest banquet and exhibition spaces in the country. Add to this, the culinary adventures that the chefs can take you on, with the hotel's celebrated restaurants—

Peshawri, Madras Pavilion, Café Mercara, Ottimo Cucina Italiana, and many more.

GURUGRAM: Modern Wedding

If the images in your mind's eye are of a modern and opulent wedding, think ITC Grand Bharat. Its four Presidential Villas and 100 suites offer outstanding standards of hospitality. Located 45 minutes from New Delhi, the hotel is part of a sprawling 300-acre retreat, with the irresistible attraction of the 27-hole signature golf course designed by the legendary Jack Nicklaus.

Add to this the pleasures of global culinary journeys, alluring wellness and spa facilities and banquet spaces that host fabulous weddings.

The design is influenced by exquisite architectural gems like the step wells of Adalaj in Gujarat, the Mukteshwara temples of Orissa, the royal palace of Baroda, and the ghats of Varanasi. *For more details, visit itc-hotels.in or call 1800 102 2333.*

OTHER ITC HOTELS

ITC MAURYA New Delhi

ITC GARDENIA Bengaluru

ITC WINDSOR Bengaluru

ITC MARATHA Mumbai

ITC GRAND CENTRAL Mumbai

ITC RAJPUTANA Jaipur

ITC KOHENUR Hyderabad

ITC KAKATIYA Hyderabad

ITC MUGHAL Agra



Namah Resort Uttarakhand

LOCATED IN Jim Corbett National Park, Namah is a jungle oasis ideal for couples who love the great outdoors. Combining wildlife and luxury, this resort is perfect for

an intimate destination wedding. Further, it makes for the perfect honeymooners' escape, with 50 well-appointed rooms and suites, idyllic safari drives, yoga sessions,

and nature walks. There's also the comfort of the in-house restaurant, Pratha, and Boond, a bar worth every tittle. For brides-to-be and grooms who want to steer clear of conventional ceremonies, Namah is an apt choice. *namah.in*



The ANVAYA Beach Resort Bali Indonesia

SAY "I DO" AGAINST THE BACKDROP of a Kuta Beach sunset glowing across the Indian Ocean at this gorgeous resort that oozes Balinese warmth and hospitality. Wedding specialists and event curators will ensure your nuptials—intimate functions or grand galas—are at the epitome of romance here. Rest assured that all legalities and administration are taken care of. It doesn't end there: enjoy a cosy ocean-view sunset dinner at Sands restaurant or a couple's treatment at Sakanti Spa as a pre- or post-wedding treat. After all, what's a better venue than the Island of the Gods to commemorate your made in heaven moment? *theanvayabali.com*



One&Only Reethi Rah Maldives

INTIMATE WEDDINGS ARE the order of the day at One&Only Reethi Rah, where the beach, glimmering waves, and a combination of sunny days and spectacular sunsets manifest in the perfect wedding blessings. Set on a private island in the North Male Atoll and enveloped by six kilometres of white sandy beaches, the resort is perfect as a secluded wedding venue. Choose from the sunset wedding pavillion, private villa nuptials, or a ceremony at Reethi for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The hotel's in-house wedding coordinator ensures every conceivable need or arrangement is taken care of. In-house florists and the Executive Pastry Chef ensure your wedding posies and cakes are of the best taste! Whether you have chosen a festive family celebration or a romantic rendezvous, the hotel is more than equipped to take it a notch higher.

Once you've raised the toast and cut your cake with the glorious

Indian Ocean as backdrop, it's time for the honeymoon. You need to rest and rejuvenate together. Choose from One&Only Reethi Rah's idyllic experiences to pamper yourself and your spouse. For starters, check into the private couple's retreat: a luxe villa cocooned in its own stretch of sand, overlooking a turquoise lagoon whose deck is perfect for star-gazing and sunbathing. The Indian Ocean then tantalises you into activities like diving in vibrant coral reefs, thrilling watersports, and sailing excursions. When your appetite for adrenaline is satiated, indulge your palate with an array of world-class cuisines at any of the resort's seven restaurants. There's also the option of a gorgeous seven-course menu that's served in a romantic Tree House with fabulous sunset vistas. Finish it off with a couple's spa therapy that's set up just above the tranquil waters. Once you're done with all this, hit repeat! oneandonlyresorts.com





Badrutt's Palace Hotel

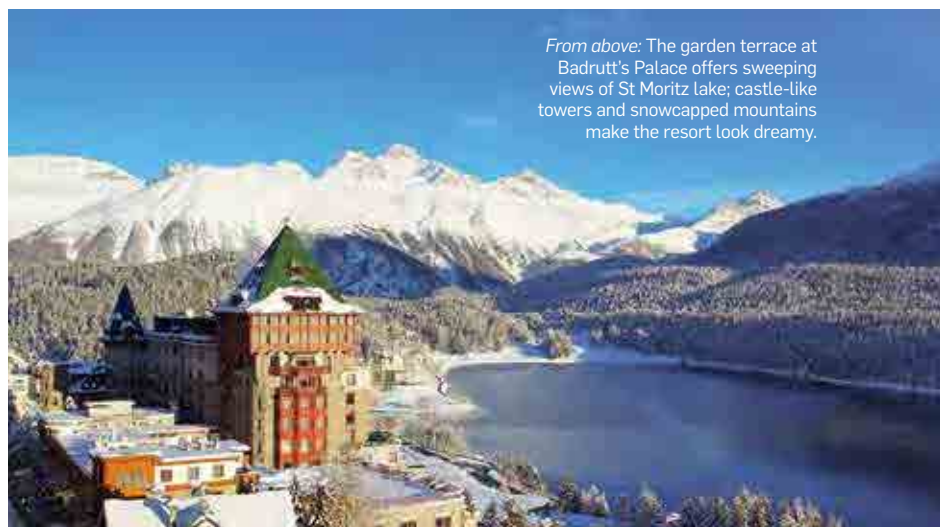
St. Moritz, Switzerland



IF YOUR PARTNER AND YOU are sticklers for not just exclusivity and luxury but also history and nature, then Badrutt's Palace Hotel in Switzerland is where you should tie the knot.

Nestled near Lake St Moritz in Switzerland, 6,000 feet up in the Swiss Alps, Badrutt's Palace is a landmark luxury hotel that offers unbridled views of the deep blue lake and the mighty Alps. The forested mountains are covered in snow from November to March, making the hotel, with its castle-like towers, look straight out of a Wes Anderson movie.

Opened to the public in 1896, the hotel's history goes as far back as 1856 when Johannes Badrutt, owner of the Faller pension in St.



From above: The garden terrace at Badrutt's Palace offers sweeping views of St Moritz lake; castle-like towers and snowcapped mountains make the resort look dreamy.

Moritz, bought a small guest house and started to rebuild it to create the Hotel Engadiner Kulm. Caspar Badrutt, son of Johannes Badrutt, purchased the St Moritz Hotel Beau Rivage, built in 1872 by C. Rungger. It was then altered to create the Badrutt's Palace Hotel that we see today.

Badrutt's Palace has stood witness to not only many fairy tale weddings but also to high-profile pre-wedding bashes, like that of Akash Ambani, who is said to have flown his guests in private jets to the town.

The hotel has 157 rooms, including 37 suites for guests to relax and get ready for your big day. The

high ceilings, church-like windows, antique furniture, and spectacular banquet hall are sure to wow guests. Walk around the hotel and admire its traditional decor—the sleek wooden furniture, heavy embroidered curtains, and liberal use of marble. Although modern facilities have been added to the hotel over the years, the aesthetics of Badrutt's Palace are firmly rooted in history and tradition.

The property sports eight restaurants; so, post the wedding ceremony, feel free to plan a romantic dinner at Le Restaurant, which offers timeless ambience



From left: The bride arrives for the wedding; she adds the finishing touches to her look in one of the 37 suites; the bride and groom have their first dance in the ballroom.

a barber service before the party. In preparation for the long day, get pampered with hydrotherapy treatments and aroma and salt steam saunas. Since Badrutt's Palace hosts a diverse range of parties and weddings with guests from different countries, they are unfazed by your cuisine demands. So, Continental, Mediterranean, Indian, or Oriental, the chefs at Badrutt's Palace are more than happy to prepare a spread of your liking.

To add to this, renowned Italian flower and event designer Vincenzo Dascanio, known for his dreamy



with French cuisine, or opt for the former first tennis hall in Europe, which is today the restaurant La Coupole/Matsuhisa that presents guests with Japanese-Peruvian delicacies by celebrity chef Nobu Matsuhisa. Withdraw for a fine cigar at one of the three bars or party with your bridesmaids or groomsmen at King's Social House by Jason Atherton, famed as the oldest nightclub in Switzerland.

The bride and the groom can soak in the indoor pool, which offers breathtaking views of the lake and mountains, or venture out to the heated outdoor pool at Palace Wellness. Your wedding guests can also avail of Ayurvedic therapies, yoga lessons, facials, and



designs, is collaborating with Badrutt's Palace. Dascanio has been in the business for over two decades and is one of the highest rated designers in Europe. His cutting-edge style, attention to detail and penchant for innovation are sure to make your wedding nothing short of a fairy tale.

So what is his vision for Badrutt's? Says Dascanio, "For the upcoming winter season events at the historic Badrutt's Palace, I want to explore the amazing colour spectrum created by the reflection of light on snow. I am envisaging iridescent and shimmering shades ranging from pink to blue—colours that perfectly match the beautiful interiors of the hotel, and enhance its beauty." badruttspalace.com



Hôtel Le Cep Beaune France

FOR A COUPLE WHO WANTS TO host a wedding in the ostentatious Medieval setting of Burgundy, there's no place like Hôtel Le Cep. History whispers from every corner as this five-star hotel is a hop, skip, and jump from the Hôtel Dieu des Hospices museum and Basilica Notre-Dame, if you and your partner love antiquity. The hotel's motto of extending courtesy to every guest is also one of the key hospitality nuances that spill over into your wedding celebrations. Boasting 62 rooms, including 32 suites, each of which is uniquely designed with

vintage furniture, Hôtel Le Cep is well-equipped to host small to mid-sized marriage festivities. The property is also home to 15 Nectar Suites, designed as an ode to Grand Crus wines.

The merging of two private mansions and their 16th-century courtyards has resulted in this charming hotel that houses a courtyard dating back to 1547, a French-style garden that's perfect for summer weddings, and a building with alchemical symbols dating back to the 1570s. Each section of the hotel brims with Burgundian charm, and a wedding here is nothing short of a fantastical Medieval tale. It is the perfect backdrop for a thematic nuptial ceremony. Trust the Michelin-starred *Loiseau des Vignes* restaurant of the Bernard Loiseau group to stir up your guests' palates, and the hotel bar, open 24/7, is a great place to clink together glasses of local wine!

If you are a couple wanting to indulge in spa treatments before, during or after your wedding festivities, head to *Spa Marie de Bourgogne* for a true taste of Burgundian pampering. Choose

from any of its 15 therapy journeys, some of which include cryotherapy, aqua biking, a hydrostatic bed, a balneotherapy bath, a floating bed, massages for couples, and grapevine-based cosmetics. You really can't go wrong with French romance!

hotel-cep-beaune.com



The LaLiT Hotels India

THE LALIT SURI GROUP aims to be the ultimate bridesmaid and best man for your wedding. Whether it is an intimate wedding at the lagoon of the LaLiT Spa & Resort Bekal, the golden sands of the LaLiT Golf and Spa Resort at Goa, or the royal settings of the group's properties in Srinagar and Udaipur, rest in romantic haven, knowing your wedding will be an affair to remember! Perhaps you would like a city wedding at any of their hotels in Mumbai, Bengaluru, or Gurugram, or a journey through India's wonders at the LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho! At each resort, a timeless wedding is managed by well-equipped and trained teams. thelalit.com



JW Marriott Hotel New Delhi Aerocity

BOASTING OF THE GRAND CRYSTAL BALLROOM that's capable of seating 1,000 guests, this hotel is a convenient and plush spot to host your wedding soiree owing to its location near the international airport. Fourteen smaller event rooms and about 30,000 square feet of versatile space for your nuptial functions can be taken advantage of here along with a seasoned team of wedding planners. Choose the hotel's Club Rooms for your guests and enjoy curated breakfasts, cocktail sessions, the opulent Executive Club Lounge, airport transfers in BMWs, Quan Spa, and a temperature-regulated swimming pool. marriott.com



Velaa Private Island Maldives

SITUATED IN THE NOONU ATOLL, Velaa Private Island Maldives comprises 18 overwater villas, 25 beach villas, and four four-room residences, making it the perfect luxe getaway for an intimate destination wedding. Its Romantic Pool Residence—accessible only by boat—is a plush abode for honeymooners. On the gourmet front, Velaa houses three restaurants, each boasting a unique USP. Agaru, its overwater restaurant, serves contemporary modern cuisine with an Asian twist; the 23-metre-high Tavaru, one of the highest in all of Maldives, flaunts a degustation Teppanyaki menu and the largest collection of wines in the country; and the beachfront Athiri whips up international comfort food. These venues have one thing in common: they are perfect for romantic candle-lit dinners!

Its vision of ‘beyond luxury’ directly translates to exclusive and exotic weddings. A verdant landscape, surrounded by hues of blue, whether you look to the ocean or sky, is the backdrop for your festivities. The dedicated team at Velaa is well-versed with the

stresses of planning a wedding and they go above and beyond to make the festivities stress-free for the couple and their families. True to the exclusive nature of the island, your wedding will be a bespoke event marked by the hotel’s signature style, opulence, finesse, and playfulness.

Whether it’s beachside soirees or moonlit receptions, rest assured that it’s their job to make your dreams come true.

For honeymooners, there’s the luxury yachts, PADI-certified diving, romantic dinners, snorkelling in coral reefs, jet skis, kite-skiing, wakeboarding, sunset dolphin-watching cruises, excursions on a traditional *bahteli* boat, fly boarding, and lots more!

The spa, My Blend by Clarins, recognised as the Best Luxury Private Island Spa in Indian Ocean at the 2018 World Luxury Spa Awards offers Asian therapies to ensure couples are relaxed on their honeymoon, after all the festivities are done with. velaaprivateisland.com





hotel has 1,350-square-foot Lodhi Rooms that are the most loved. Little things like in-room floral rangolis, rose petals in the bathtub, and candles near the exclusive private plunge pools add to the experience. Try the 4.5-hour-long Rajkumari and Rajkumar couples massage or the Romantic Getaway package, which include private jacuzzi time, a Signature Massage, and Royal Bath treatments. Post all this indulgence, the Mughal Daawat-e-Azeem meal can be enjoyed from the comfort of your private balcony. thelodhi.com

The Lodhi New Delhi

SPREAD OVER SEVEN acres of lush greenery in the heart of Delhi, this member of The Leading Hotels of the World clique is an oasis for honeymooners who don't have the time to travel. Boasting some of the largest rooms in the capital, the



Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport New Delhi

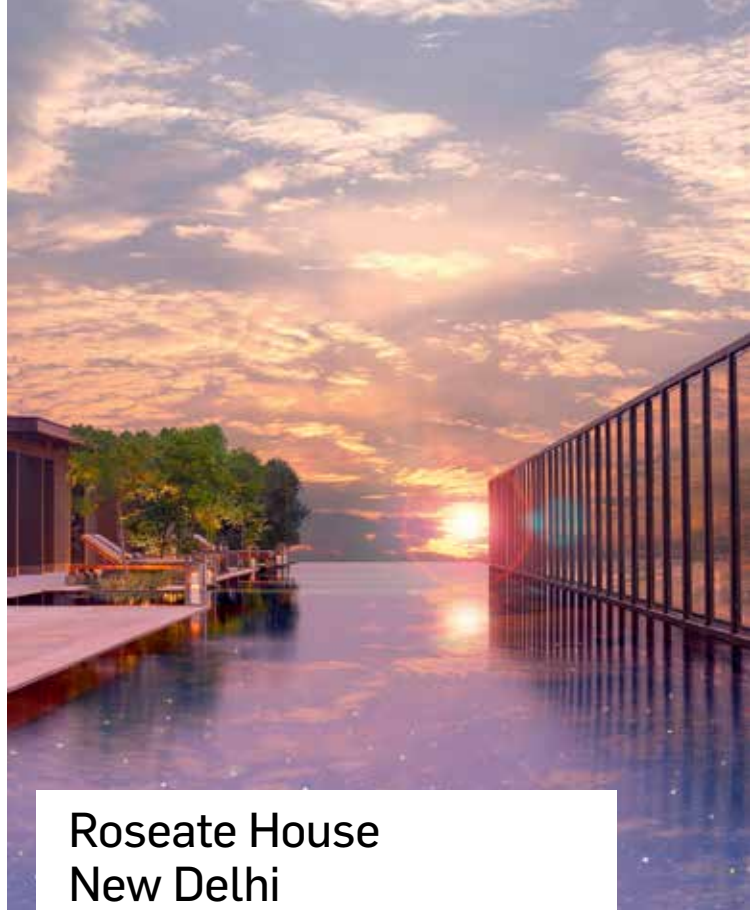
THIS GORGEOUS CITY property shows off a grand 20,000 square feet of function space, including a Crystal Ballroom, a melange of outdoor and indoor venues, and a versatile pre-function area. Well-appointed rooms and suites ensure that a large family wedding can be accommodated, and the dedicated decorators ensure any theme can be managed. With designated trails for the *baarat* and plush outdoor spaces along with trimmed poolside gardens that are perfect for winter weddings, the hotel also boasts a team of chefs capable of making bespoke menus. What's more: with every Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport 2019/2020 wedding, you get a free honeymoon at any Radisson property around the world! radissonhotels.com





The Eros Hotel New Delhi

THIS CITY HOTEL OFFERS not just a proficient team to take care of every single wedding detail—from booking a date to *bidaai*—but also provides you with plush space sprawled out across 20,000 square feet that’s enough to house 2,000 wedding guests. The Eros Hotel New Delhi Nehru Place’s culinary team is proficient at making curated menus based on your guests’ palates. They also have an array of set menus to choose from. The icing on the cake is their host of bridal packages that are designed to make the bride feel like nothing less than a princess! eroshotels.co.in



Roseate House New Delhi

A CONTEMPORARY AND PLUSH address, Roseate House New Delhi is for those who want to do things differently. Perfect for a small-scale city wedding, it houses a ballroom that can host up to 175 guests in round-table seating and 400 guests in a theatre-style seating. An aesthetically pleasing pre-function area leads people into this space. For honeymooners, Aheli Spa, the in-house avant-garde cinema space, and five dining options offer ample opportunity to relax. This hotel is the definition of minimalistic chic, and a wedding here is for those who prefer understated elegance over pomp and show. roseatehotels.com





Vakkaru Maldives

ONLY DREAMY WEDDINGS happen at a resort located in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Baa Atoll—that's Vakkaru Maldives for you. The resort takes its 'Timeless Sanctuary' philosophy very seriously: unbound by time and dipped in natural splendour, here's a wedding venue that's a hit with fans of sustainable and slow living. Think turquoise waters, powdery pixie dust-like sandy beaches, and Maldivian ceremonies to add touches of romance to your day. Whether you choose to get married here, or renew your vows, or get mushy on your honeymoon, the resort offers a host of indulgences like floating breakfasts, couples massages, private excursions, dining experiences, and even chocolate sessions with Alistair Birt, the head pastry chef at Harrod's London! vakkarumaldives.com



Virgin Limited Edition South Africa

FOR A UNIQUE WEDDING, choose the wildlife and winelands of South Africa with two of Virgin Limited Edition's luxury properties, Sir Richard Branson's private collection of hotels. The Mont Rochelle Hotel and Vineyard in Franschhoek is perched on a hilltop and home to 39 hectares of private vineyards—the perfect wedding or honeymoon destination for a food- and wine-loving couple. Private picnics on the estate and wine tram discoveries are the hallmark experiences here. Offering a completely different experience is the collection's other property: the Ulusaba Private Game Reserve in the Sabi Sand. Twice-daily game drives and safari walks in 13,500 hectares of unspoilt game bush to spot the Big 5, regal dining, and a host of accommodation options to choose from ensure you have an exquisite wedding or honeymoon out in the wild! virginlimitededition.com





Clockwise from left: Dukes The Palm, a Royal Hideaway Hotel, Dubai; The Leela Raviz Kovalam, Kerala; JA Manafaru, Maldives.

Preferred Hotels & Resorts

THE WORLD'S LARGEST independent hospitality brand, Preferred Hotels & Resorts offers a variety of ethereal properties for an unforgettable wedding bash or honeymoon.



The Leela Raviz Kovalam, India

This resort, with its 182 guestrooms and suites, is perched on a hill with two golden beaches on either side. Part of the L.V.X. collection, this sprawling hotel is perfect for large Indian weddings. It makes for the perfect honeymoon escape with its infinity pool, seafront experiences, ancient yoga sessions, spa therapies, and candle-lit dinners on a private beach. Add to this the luxury of a 24-hour butler (for club rooms and suites) and you've just gifted yourself a fabulous honeymoon!

Dukes The Palm, a Royal Hideaway Hotel, UAE

This resort not only blends luxury with elegance but also offers a different aesthetic compared to the usual 'bling' that is associated with Dubai. With 279 guestrooms and suites, and 287 studios and one-bedroom apartments, this member of the L.V.X. collection is the perfect location for a grandiose Indian

wedding. Additionally, it houses six dining outlets, including the first international location of the much-celebrated Indian restaurant, Khyber. Honeymooners can enjoy views of the Arabian Gulf from their rooms, unwind by the pool, and enjoy the other facilities of this elegant hotel.

JA Manafaru Maldives

A member of the Legend collection, this resort is spread out on 35 acres of verdant landscape by the Indian Ocean. Beachfront bungalows and overwater villas with private infinity pools are the order of the day here, as are its seven restaurants and bars serving international and Maldivian cuisines. Here, it truly is a honeymoon in paradise as couples are whisked away to a private isle owned by the resort, the Castaway Island, for a romance-filled picnic and stayover in a rustic island hut. Spa treatments, guided snorkelling safaris, diving expeditions, local cooking classes, watersports, and sunrise beach yoga are some of the other honeymooning experiences that spell bliss! preferredhotels.com

Alila Fort Bishangarh

Rajasthan

IF A FANTASTICAL FAIRY-tale wedding is what you desire, then Alila Fort Bishangarh is the venue for you. In the lap of the majestic Aravallis, this resort offers the perfect backdrop for a magical wedding with its host of indoor and outdoor venues. If you opt for the Royal Wedding Package, you get the resort to yourself for three days with special bespoke services and a team that will handle your mehendi, *sangeet*, and *haldi* arrangements, a royalty-inspired wedding ceremony and dinner, wedding cake, decoration services, spa treatments, photography services—in short, the wedding of your dreams! alilahotels.com



The Leela Palace Bengaluru

ONCE YOU'VE FOUND the one, you then have to find the perfect wedding venue for your wedding ceremony. Your search for the latter ends at The Leela Palace Bengaluru. With palm trees by a sparkling lagoon, a luscious garden, intricate art and artefacts, and tall pillars set amid palatial grandeur, this property thoroughly pampers you. With well-appointed rooms and suites, rest assured that your guests will be looked after. What's more, Bengaluru's pleasant weather offers the perfect ambience for outdoor weddings and the hotel even lets you bring a *maharaj* to sort out your menu woes! theleela.com





Four Seasons Resort Koh Samui Thailand

THIS LUXURIOUS PROPERTY is the perfect destination for honeymooners. Check in to the private pool villa, overlooking the Gulf of Thailand and let the hotel's experienced concierge look after your itinerary. How about dining with your spouse with your toes tucked in the sand? Or perhaps, a cruise on the Gulf of Thailand aboard

the resort's Sunseeker Manhattan 60 vessel? For those looking for less activity, the Secret Garden Spa offers the Siam Lovers ritual, which employs herbs and the hands of four therapists to work on your knots. To top the romance, a flower-fragranced bath beneath a forest canopy, the Sunset Connection, is mandatory! fourseasons.com



Alila Diwa Goa

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE spacious rooms and suites at this sprawling Goa property ensure large wedding parties can be carefully accommodated. Paddy fields and coconut palms give a different take to this sunshine state and provide a wedding marked by a 'surprisingly

different' motto. An ornate ballroom, the azure infinity pool deck, a banyan tree-lined courtyard, and a traditional Goan restaurant serve as wedding venues, while the full-service Spa Alila allows you a chance to recuperate from the festivities. alilahotels.com





InterContinental Chennai Mahabalipuram Resort

THE GORGEOUS InterContinental Chennai Mahabalipuram Resort boasts luxurious spaces that are perfect locations for you to not only exchange your vows but also enjoy the other functions that are typical to Indian festivities. Choose from the contemporary Samaya Hall that can host up to 1,000 guests and is also connected to functional pre-event spaces, or the Sama 1 Beach Lawns, a lovely garden space that can house up to 200 guests. Further, the InterContinental Beach Gardens by the bay offer you the chance to host thematic functions like a Mahabalipuram Shore Temple-style event or a Tropical Beach Party. Welcome dinners, cocktails, henna functions, wedding vows, and receptions—all sorts of functions can be handled by the hotel team with ease. The hotel's culinary ambassadors leave no stone unturned when it comes to curating menus to suit your palate. The resort also allows for a total buyout of the property for your functions: it is only then that you can look to bring your own chefs.

For honeymooners, experiences like Dine by Design by the Bay of Bengal, glamping, in-room breakfast spreads, decorative baths, Chennai story walks, and romantic rendezvous packages are only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to all the mush! ihg.com



Le Méridien New Delhi

WHEN THEY USE AN OFFICIAL hashtag like #DreamWeddingsAtLM to define their wedding services, you know it's going to be legendary! With handpicked wedding specialists on board, Le Méridien New Delhi ensures that your wedding, be it a private or elaborate affair, has the best thematic decor, personalised wedding hampers, flower setup, menus, and bridal packages. Be it Indian *chaat* or European fare, the culinary team shows its prowess at this hotel, which specialises in residential weddings. The largest space, Sovereign, can host up to 600 people while the smallest event venue, 2000, can house gatherings of up to 20 people. marriott.com





The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur

The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra



Oberoi Hotels & Resorts India

OBEROI HOTELS & RESORTS has for long been a beacon of bespoke luxury, and their properties across the world offer an array of unique Oberoi experiences.

At The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra, located just 600 metres from the Taj Mahal, honeymooners can indulge in a romantic private dinner on the balcony of their room beside cascading water bodies while enjoying the view of the Mughal-inspired resort. Couples can re-tie their wedding knot with the Hindu renewal of vows ceremony at the Jodha Mahal temple located in the premises, followed by a rejuvenating spa experience—Taj Romance—curated specifically for couples.

At The Oberoi Rajvilas Jaipur, couples can renew their vows and experience fine dining with poolside dinners. Apart from these, couples can also enjoy the beauty of the setting sun at Naila Fort, and indulge in a holistic spa experience—'Rajput Romance of Rajvilas'. The boat rides on Lake Pichola at sunset, private dinners under the lakeside dome that offer picturesque views

of Lake Pichola, City Palace, and Jagmandir, along with the romantic rituals at The Oberoi spa, spoil you and your spouse silly at The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur.

Explore the joys of a beachside haven with your loved one at Oberoi Hotels & Resorts in Mauritius, Bali, Lombok, and Sahl Hasheesh. The

candle-light dinners, sunset cruises, and renewal of vows ceremony that these beach resorts offer will let romance blossom between you and your loved one. To create memories for a lifetime, take part in the full moon celebration, in true Balinese fashion, with flowers and blessings in the garden, and follow it up with a romantic dinner for two at The Oberoi Beach Resort, Bali, which overlooks Seminyak Beach. Experience unbridled luxury at The Oberoi Beach Resort, Mauritius, set in 20 acres of lush gardens; The Oberoi Beach Resort, Lombok, that offers clear waters and coral reefs of Medana Bay; and The Oberoi Beach Resort, Sahl Hasheesh, an all-suite property sprawled across the shores of the Red Sea. oberoihotels.com



The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur

Fairmont Monte Carlo

SITUATED BETWEEN THE Mediterranean Sea and Monte-Carlo Casino, the Fairmont Monte Carlo is a symbol for prestige and legendary luxury. One of the largest hotels in Europe, flaunting 596 guest rooms, residences, and suites, four restaurants and bars, 18 meeting rooms, a shopping arcade, an in-house casino, the soothing Carol Joy Spa, it is perfect for festivities typical of a large Indian wedding. What's more: you have the stunning Côte d'Azur sprawled out in front of you! Choose from its rooftop deck, the new Salle de la Mer with seaside views, and the Private Dining by Fairmont Monte Carlo, supervised by Head Chef and MOF (Best French Artisan) Didier Aniès and his team for an unforgettable banquet for two to 2,000 guests! fairmont.com



Four Seasons Hotel Bengaluru At Embassy ONE

AN ELEGANT WEDDING ceremony is what you will get at this plush new hotel in Bengaluru. The city's most experienced wedding service providers have come together to make this venue a one-stop shop for all your nuptial needs. A butterfly garden, lush ribbon lawn, and grandeur-filled ballrooms ensure you're spoiled for choice when it comes to the venue. The 230 guest rooms and suites, along with tailor-made menus, wedding packages, and a dedicated couples room at the Infuse Spa are the other reasons to choose this hotel for your ceremony. fourseasons.com



Intercontinental Fujairah Resort UAE

FUJAIRAH, THE ONLY ARAB EMIRATE located on the glimmering Indian Ocean coast, offers you blue skies and balmy weather at this gorgeous property. End-to-end services and a deep understanding of Indian culture are the key points that the team here takes care of while planning your wedding, curating menus, and organising functions like mehendis and *sangeets*. Three ballrooms, three meeting rooms, a presidential suite, two expansive lawns, and a private beach are the venue options, and the resort also offers the option of a full buyout. Room decorations, magical private dinners, tranquil spa experiences, and exciting watersports are some of the honeymoon highlights. ihg.com



Hyatt Regency Chandigarh

WITH 211 ROOMS, Hyatt Regency Chandigarh is a premier spot for weddings in the city. The 40,000 square feet of event space, including an 8,761-square-foot pillarless ballroom, ensure the property is filled with

wide open spaces that are capable of being thematically designed for functions. If you choose to get married here, you will be rewarded with points that will enable you to enjoy a free honeymoon at any of the Hyatt hotels and resorts in India or abroad. So, along with bespoke decoration, menus, and functions, you get a honeymoon in tow too! Now, that's a win-win situation. hyatt.com





Taj Exotica Resort & Spa Maldives

SITUATED ON EMBODHU Finolhu Island, in the centre of one of the largest natural lagoons in the world, this hotel boasts not just verdant beauty but also the comfort of 58 luxurious villas and six awesome suites with personalised butler services. It is apt for a mid-sized Indian wedding. Honeymooners can take advantage of romantic dinners at the secluded Ocean Pavilion, couple's treatments at JIVA Spa, and the two-bedroom Beach Villa Suites with spa and pool services. If you're a couple that loves adventure, head on to its five-star PADI-certified diving centre for an underwater tryst together. tajhotels.com

Zone Palace By The Park Jaipur Rajasthan



CLOSE TO JAIPUR AIRPORT, this hotel offers spectacular indoor and outdoor venues for a grand wedding. Choose from the 32,250-square-foot Jaigarh Garden or 20,000-square-foot Lotus Court outdoors, and the 4,200-square-foot Sapphire-1 Ballroom indoors for various functions like *sangeets*, mehendis, cocktails, and receptions. Contemporary and classic elements fuse here to create a memorable marriage ceremony. This is reflected in the food, decor, and services offered to the bridal couple. With 90 rooms, the hotel is apt for a mid-sized destination wedding. As if this weren't enough, right from setting the date to trousseau collection, the hotel has arrangements to cater to every need! zonebythepark.com





The Leela Palace Chennai



The Leela Palace Delhi

Leela Palaces Hotels & Resorts India

WITH AWE-INSPIRING properties in New Delhi, Chennai, and Udaipur, the Leela Palaces Hotels & Resorts group is set to create enchanting settings for your wedding in these cities.



The Leela Palace Udaipur

The Leela Palace New Delhi

Located in the heart of the capital's diplomatic enclave, this hotel offers ostentatious luxury. Its larger-than-life decor is perfect for a grand Indian wedding. With 194 guest rooms, 42 Royal Club rooms, and 18 suites, this hotel is fully equipped to deal with a large guest list. Additionally, its banquet facilities spread across 21,000 square feet ensure every kind of wedding—from intimate to elaborate—are accommodated. A team of well-experienced staff, some of the best chefs in the city, and the touch of the group's excellence make your wedding stand apart.

The Leela Palace Chennai

This sea-facing property is Chennai's only modern palace hotel. Do we need to say any more to tell you why your wedding here will be unique from elsewhere? The 286 rooms, 30 suites, 28,000 square feet of banqueting space, award-winning ESPA, a team

of well-trained experts to coordinate the nitty-gritties of your wedding, bespoke menus, and a gorgeously designed hotel that will be the backdrop for your wedding memories are some of the highlights of hosting your wedding here.

The Leela Palace Udaipur

A modern-day palace located by the banks of Lake Pichola, this property oozes romance at every corner. With the majestic Aravallis as a backdrop, this property is home to 72 well-appointed rooms and eight sprawling suites inspired by the cultural richness of Rajasthan. Experienced at managing wedding festivities with amazing decor, curated menus, and a team of experts, the property ensures that a wedding here is nothing short of magical. For marriages in the epic Mewar fashion, this hotel is the last word. Honeymooners can enjoy the ESPA therapies, various romantic dining options, and a stay at its suites that brim with regalia. theleela.com



The Park Hyderabad

THIS HOTEL'S PIECE DE RESISTANCE is the Trillion Ballroom, offering 7,000 square feet of banqueting space, which can host up to 1,000 guests in a cocktail event. The 2,500 square feet of pre-function area leads into it. Aqua, the infinity poolside overlooking Hussain Sagar Lake, is a unique function venue in Hyderabad, and Kismet, the hotel's

bar is great for a bachelor party. Wedding packages, music, decoration services, and menus are bespoke from the word go. Additionally, with 260 rooms and suites, the hotel is apt for a city-based destination wedding. A design element in every nook of the hotel makes it the perfect backdrop for pre- and post-wedding shoots! theparkhotels.com



W GOA

THE CHIC W GOA, perched over Vagator Beach, takes their registered trademark 'Whatever/Whenever' policy very seriously. A team of dedicated professionals ensures every minute marriage detail is accounted for, leaving the bridal couple to enjoy their wedding stress-free! The 109 distinct rooms and villas capable of catering to a large wedding guest list, a 5000-square-foot Great Room, four dining venues, multiple venues for cocktails and bachelor parties will make sure your marriage ceremony is made in heaven. To top it all, you get to say 'I do' with the Arabian Sea as your witness. marriott.com



Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty Kerala

THIS GORGEOUS WATERFRONT hotel is attached to the Lulu International Bolgatty Convention Centre that's apt for large wedding parties. With beautiful vistas of Lake Vembanad, 264 well-appointed guest rooms—including 38 expansive suites and four extravagant villas with private plunge pool access—this is the place for your big fat Indian wedding. The team of experts will ensure choicest cuisine and floral decor, and flexible indoor and outdoor venues work together to make your fairy-tale romance into a fantastical wedding! From weddings to romantic dinners by the bank of the lake, the hotel has a bunch of offers for bridal and honeymooning couples. hyatt.com



Park Hyatt Chennai Tamil Nadu

LOCATED JUST 15 MINUTES away from Chennai airport, this hotel is a convenient spot for wedding guests to congregate. It also overlooks the Guindy Forest Reserve, making its ambience tranquil: an aide to its layered and luxurious decor. Large-scale weddings are the hotel's forte as much as small, intimate gathering—the ones you can host at The Apartment with handcrafted furniture and tasteful art set amid a Colonial ambience. Customisable menus, live stations, larger-than-life decor, and weddings that will be remembered for days to come are some of the highlights of hosting your wedding at the luxurious Park Hyatt Chennai. hyatt.com



Conrad Pune Maharashtra

ITS 310 GUESTROOMS AND 20 SUITES are the first signs that this hotel is the venue for large wedding parties. When your guest list is huge, you automatically have marriage ceremonies and events with much pomp and show. For all the glitz, rely on the in-house team of experts at this hotel! As India's first-ever Conrad brand, it features Art Deco style architecture, which makes for great photoshoots for the couple. An 8,000-square-foot Grand Ballroom is perfect for your wedding functions, and everything from traditional to world and vegan cuisines can be whipped up by star chefs. The hotel staff offers pool time and salon services to the bridal couple and family to ensure they remain stress-free during the planning. conradhotels3.hilton.com



Fairmont Jaipur Hotel Rajasthan

WITH A PROMISE OF 'Turning Moments Into Memories', this newly built palace hotel blends Rajputana regalia with the fine-tunings of modernity. With 90,000 square feet of event space, manicured lawns capable of hosting 1,000 people, an able team of wedding experts and chefs, and thematic wedding preparation prowess, this venue is dream come true. Complimentary stays at any Fairmont Hotel in the world and vouchers to celebrate upcoming anniversaries and children's birthdays are what the hotel gifts the happy couple! fairmont.com

Hyatt Pune Maharashtra

ADORNED WITH WARM RAJASTHANI STONE, this hotel in plush Viman Nagar is a premier spot to host weddings in Pune. The 20,000-square feet of banquet facilities, including sprawling outdoor lawns, ensure ceremonies here are a grand affair. All this space, coupled with sparkling

chandeliers, ensure functions are a good mix of royalty and contemporary chic. Bespoke menus, thematic weddings, a host of dining options to choose from, 222 rooms and suites, and a free honeymoon at Hyatt hotels worldwide are some of the privileges couples receive at this hotel. hyatt.com





Radisson Chandigarh Zirakpur

THE PERFECT COMBINATION of opulence and pleasure, Radisson Chandigarh Zirakpur is a gorgeous and elegant property for your nuptial ceremonies. The state-of-the-art banquet facilities, filled with regal grandeur, curated menus, decoration services, and an in-house expert team, all work together to create a marriage filled with wonderful memories. Honeymooners can take advantage of the Superior Rooms and Presidential Suites for ultimate luxury. Careful consideration has been taken into account to provide 'cream of the crop' amenities at this hotel. radissonhotels.com



Hyatt Regency Kolkata

ALMOST 7,000 SQUARE FEET OF banqueting space welcomes you to this property, which is perfect for a regal mehendi, *sangeet*, wedding ceremony, and cocktail.

These include the Regency Ballroom, Guchhi Terrace, and the Topaz, Emerald, and Sapphire banquet rooms. Sift through the Hyatt Wedding Packages or curate your own personalised event with the in-house team of experts here. The complimentary Hyatt Wedding Hampers include in-room decorations, Club Prana therapy vouchers, and romantic dinners for an unforgettable honeymoon. The 234 guest rooms and suites make it the perfect place for a large wedding party. hyatt.com





Grand Hyatt Mumbai Maharashtra

IF YOU HOST YOUR wedding before December 2022 at this property, you are eligible for Hyatt points that let you enjoy your honeymoon at any Hyatt property around the world: city hotel or luxurious resort. Located in a bustling neighbourhood of Mumbai that's well-connected to the airport, Grand Hyatt Mumbai

is one of the premier spots for wedding ceremonies in the city. Choose from the Grand Ballroom, Grand Lawns, Grand Salon, or a host of smaller and intimate indoor venues for various functions and rest assured, the hotel staff will do everything to make your celebrations a 'grand' affair! hyatt.com



Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre

IN THE CITY OF PEARLS is this shimmering hotel that is the perfect backdrop for a grand wedding. Think big here as the main hall is spread across 65,000 square feet of banqueting space that's perfect for larger-than-life setups. Gardens and poolside lawns add to its rich list of venues. The glass façade makes for a huge entrance for the bridal couple and their families, world-class chefs create mouth-watering menus, and smaller event rooms are perfect for intimate functions. The hotel houses 288 guest rooms, which is ideal for a long wedding guest list. novotelhyderabad.com

Where Love Stories Begin

Be it a grand wedding or a romantic honeymoon, expressions of love become more poetic against picturesque backdrops. Imagine tying the knot in the middle of gorgeous rust-coloured peaks at the Red Rock Canyon, just outside Las Vegas or bundling up by the fire with your partner with a cup of hot cocoa near the snowcapped Sierra peaks in California. Since choosing that ideal location can be a daunting task, we have rounded up over 25 of the dreamiest destinations around the world where you can not only host the perfect wedding, but also take off on that fairy tale honeymoon that you have always dreamed of. We have also compiled a list of the top 10 bridal spas in India where you can get pampered before you embark on your beautiful journey. **By Shikha Shah**



A happy couple in Santorini, Greece.

SOUTH ASIA

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS.



INDIA

There's so much that goes into planning the perfect destination wedding followed by an unforgettable honeymoon. After all, it's about entering a new phase of life on a high note. Being a land of diverse landscapes, India leaves you spoilt for choice. From culturally rich Rajasthan to calm Puducherry, we shortlist some of the best destinations that can bring your romantic dreams to life! Take your pick.

Goa

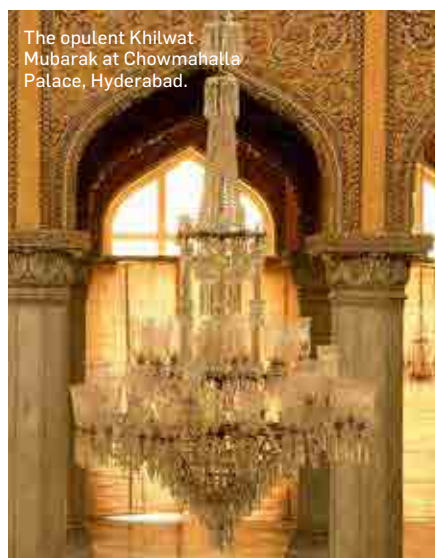
Whether you've imagined an intimate beach wedding typified by romance and elegance or a colourful bohemian celebration with your loved ones, Goa can give your once-in-a-lifetime moment that exotic vibe without busting your budget. For a wedding venue far from the buzz, pick one of the picturesque islands like Sao Jacinto Island or Butterfly Island. Exchange rings in a bamboo canopy dressed in white flowers and sheer curtains, shake a leg to the tunes of Goan musicians and performers, and savour gourmet cuisine with a European twist. And if the sand and sea sound predictable, up the game by taking your vows at a historic Portuguese church or a *mandap* surrounded by paddy fields and silhouetted with palm trees.

#TNLPICKS With its unique castle-like architectural design, pristine white walls, and gilded interior ornamentation, the Neo-Gothic Mae De Deus Church makes for a wonderful wedding venue.

Telangana

Your romantic odyssey in Telangana is certainly incomplete without a tour of the royal city of the Nizams. Among the must-sees in Hyderabad are Golconda Fort, Charminar, and Chowmahalla Palace, and don't forget to take a stroll around the vibrant Laad Bazaar and relish Hyderabadi Biryani. For some peace and privacy, take a calming walk among Hussain Sagar Lake or revel in the captivating view of the sunset from Tank Bund.

#TNLPICKS Indulge in a fancy high tea at the opulent Falaknuma Palace, the former residence of the sixth Nizam. The pristine white palace features elegant pastel furnishings, an oak-panelled library, and the world's largest dining table.



The opulent Khilwat Mubarak at Chowmahalla Palace, Hyderabad.



A colourful Goan beach.



ITC GRAND GOA RESORT & SPA

Every bride deserves to be pampered with the best. And *Kaya Kalp*—The Royal Spa's signature ritual, *Samudra*—a marine experience that tones the body and mind—is perfect for brides-to-be. It starts with a body scrub using seaweed and mineral-based products, and moves on to a nourishing facial that uses focus collagen that gives your face the bridal glow. itchohels.in

Spot the big cats at Ranthambore National Park.



Rajasthan

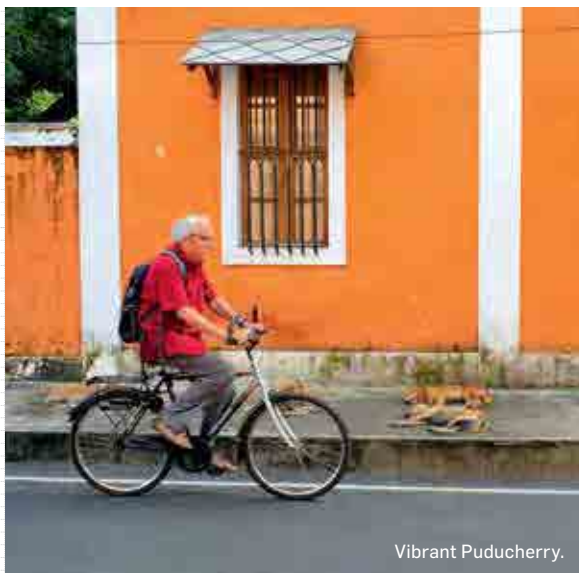
With a vibrant mix of culture, adventure, history, heritage, and grandeur, Rajasthan is a honeymooner's dream that can double up as a fantastic wedding destination. Ditch Udaipur, Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Jaisalmer for the relatively-unexplored Bikaner. With spacious, uncrowded forts, havelis, and palaces, and delicious regional fare, Bikaner promises a beautiful trip down the regal past of Rajasthan. For romance in the lap of luxury, spend a few nights at one of the tastefully designed royal homes that have been converted into hotels. Alternatively, have a fascinating encounter with the big cats at Ranthambore National Park and Sariska Tiger Reserve, or go birdwatching at Keoladeo National Park, a former duck-hunting reserve of the Maharajas.

#TNLPICKS When in the city of Bikaner, experience the enchanting White Night of Rajputs at Narendra Bhawan. Enjoy a glass of wine and traditional game meat in a scintillating ambience of white shamianas, lanterns, and candles.

Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh has a lot to offer apart from the delectable Andhra cuisine. Chittoor, located on the banks of the Ponnai River offers a good mix of scenic beauty, history, and culture. Top attractions here include Horsley Hills and Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary. For an offbeat, scenic experience, wander around votive stupas and monk dwellings, and consider a trip to Guntupalli, a former monastic compound on a hilltop overlooking forest cover and paddy fields.

#TNLPICKS A remote countryside hideaway, Araku Valley is a stunner. While Araku's high mountains, forests and foggy, cool weather soothe the soul, Chaparai or Dumbbriguda waterfalls and Borra caves leave you intrigued.



Vibrant Puducherry.

Puducherry

This is where you'll want to sit back and relax after the grand affair. Walk hand in hand around Puducherry's Tamil and French quarters that are separated by the Grand Canal or grab a table at one of the cafes where you can sip on refreshing hibiscus soda while gazing at the crashing waves. For a different perspective on life, spend a day at the small town of Auroville that believes in self-sufficiency and togetherness.

#TNLPICKS Take a boat ride through the mangrove forests in the village of Pichavaram that is home to more than 200 species of unique birds.

A typical houseboat experience in Kerala.



Kerala

Think Kerala and you can picture yourself staying in a houseboat in the middle of Vembanad Lake, fringed by long lines of plantain and coconut trees. While Kerala isn't new on the block for honeymooners, the charming state has its own share of hidden gems that are sure to keep you away from the tourist trap and offer ample seclusion. A beach-loving couple can spend a few nights at one of the heritage properties overlooking the tranquil Kovalam Beach. Silent Valley, located within the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Northern Kerala, is another enchanting gem. Bond over an adventurous trek to the quaint village of Bommiyampadi or experience the mystery of a jungle with a guided safari in the Silent Valley National Park.

#TNLPICKS Many properties in the town of Kovalam come with a dramatic cliff-top location and a private beach—an ideal setting to sip a glass of bubbly and watch the sky turn orange at sunset.

Andaman Islands

For an unconventional escape for two, the far-flung Andaman Islands have everything from spotless white beaches and shimmering turquoise waters to tropical rainforests and vibrant marine life. Experience the sweet thrill of a glass-bottom boat ride at Jolly Buoy Island, test your coordination and balancing skills as a couple by kayaking through the mangroves at Havelock Island or try underwater sea walking at North Bay Island. Kalipur and Ramanagar beaches in Diglipur are world-famous turtle-nesting sites and certainly worth a visit. For a playful time with baby turtles, visit anytime between December and March.

#TNLPICKS For a slow travel experience, cycle along the quiet roads of rustic Neil Island while soaking in the verdant green landscape defined by fruit plantations and rice paddy fields.

Gujarat

Picture an endless stretch of shimmering white saline desert under a moonlit sky! A flawless winter escape, Kutch is a celebration of culture, history, and centuries-old crafts. While here, make sure you witness the sublime sunset at Mandvi Beach, the grandeur of Aina Mahal at Bhuj, the panoramic view from Kalo Dungar, and the migratory birds at Narayan Sarovar. At the Wild Ass Sanctuary, spot the Indian wild ass (*khur*),

wolves, blackbuck, and chinkara, apart from flamingos. Alternatively, put up at one of the luxury lodges in Sasan Gir and venture into the wild for a chance to witness the Asiatic lions.

#TNLPICKS Plan a visit during Rann Utsav, a cultural festival that takes place from October to March. Spend a night or two in traditional *bhunga* huts, learn Kutchi art and craft, sample authentic local specialities, and feel romance mid air, in a hot-air balloon.

The salt desert of Rann of Kutch at sunset.



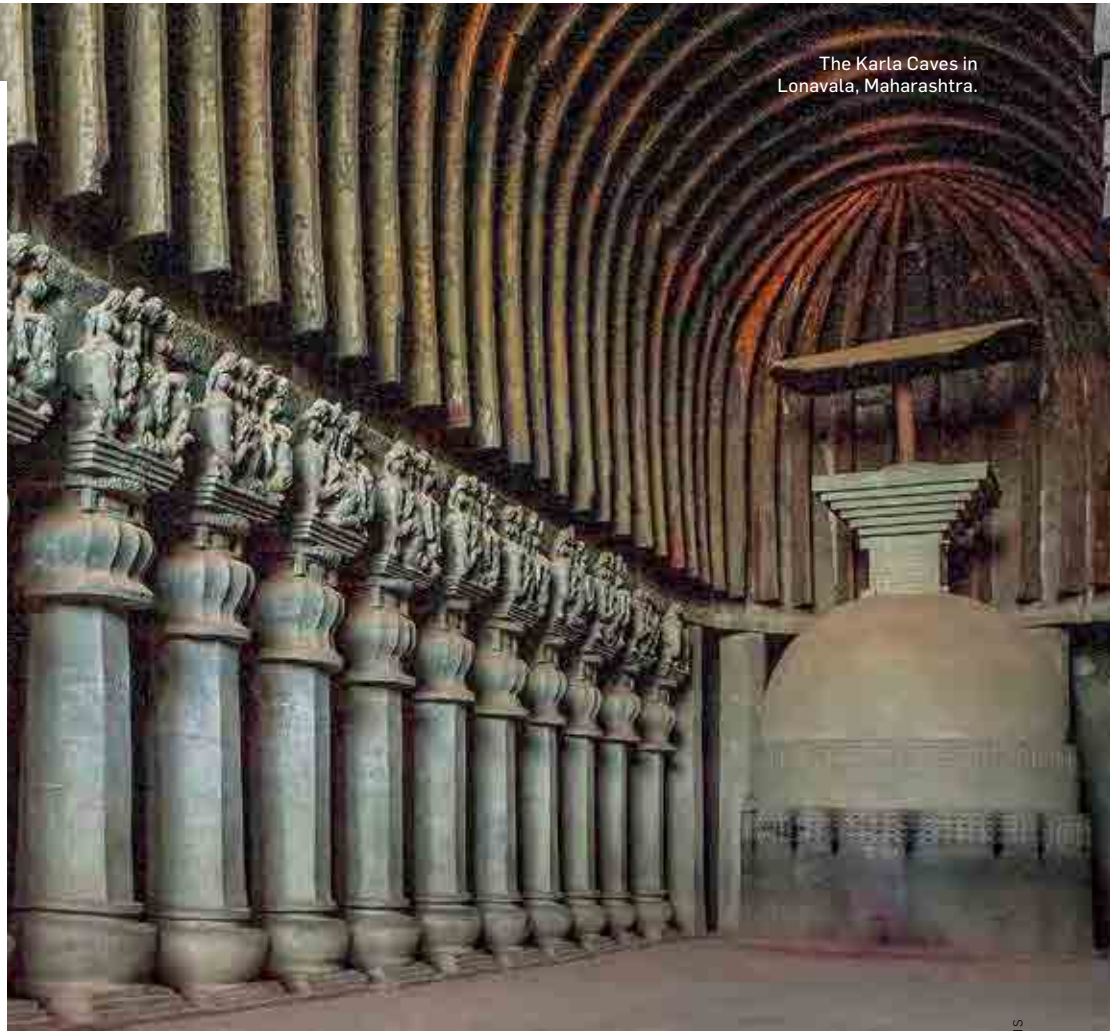


Maharashtra

While the idea of lavish meals and luxurious stays may seem alluring, it may not appeal to every couple, especially the health-conscious kind. With several wellness retreats around Pune and Lonavala, Maharashtra is a haven for honeymooners who wish to return feeling rejuvenated. Picture uplifting yoga sessions amid nature, a series of intimate couple massages, and light, healthy meals. Tucked away from the city, most health resorts discourage the use of electronic devices, which means you're spending quality time with each other. If wellness retreats aren't your thing, head to Tarkarli for thrilling adventures and underwater activities. **#TNLPICKS** While in Tarkarli, visit Sindhudurg fort for its antiquity and splendid views of the Arabian Sea.

Sikkim

While Sikkim is a paradise for newlyweds, the state has a lot to offer apart from Gangtok and Tsomgo Lake. A culture and nature-loving duo seeking tranquility can explore south Sikkim, which has opportunities for camping, trekking, and wildlife spotting. Located in the Dzongu Valley, Mangan is a protected Lepcha community settlement and a striking example of how traditional lifestyle perfectly blends with nature. Ralang Monastery, Ravangla Monastery, and the holy cave of Shar Chok Bephu are a few must visits in Ravangla. **#TNLPICKS** For some solitude, spend a night at a homestay instead of a hotel.



The Karla Caves in Lonavala, Maharashtra.



THE ST. REGIS MUMBAI

Iridium Spa here offers The Signature Massage, which can be tailored as per the level of pressure you prefer. This massage uses a luxurious blend of rose and immortelle, and you come out feeling relaxed and ready for your big day. st-regis.marriott.com

Himachal Pradesh

Chilly Himachal gives you that much-needed reason to get cosy with a view of gorgeous valleys and snowy peaks. Apart from its well-known wonders, the state boasts of places like Chail and Chamba that woo you with their quaint charm. When in Chail, start your day with a birdwatching trip in the dense pine and deodar forests, and end the day with a bonfire

under the starry sky with your better half. Or drive through lush tea plantations in Palampur, popular for its gurgling brooks and views of the majestic Dhauladhar range. **#TNLPICK** Spending some time in the quiet hill station of Narkanda. Put on a pair of skis and hurtle down the slopes together or enjoy a little picnic in the middle of lush apple orchards



Khajjiar, a quaint little town in Chamba district, Himachal Pradesh.

MALDIVES

If you wish to spend fewer hours on the flight and more time at the destination, Maldives is the answer to all your research on quintessential, short-haul honeymoon destinations. A real-life desert-island fantasy, Maldives guarantees romance, exclusivity, and absolute privacy. Located on top of a vast underwater mountain range and home to around 1,190 palm-fringed islands and sandbanks, the tropical nation is home to splendid luxury properties with over-water villas, open-to-the-stars bathrooms, private plunge pools, and beach spa experiences. If you and your partner are water babies, think beyond exploring the resort and go swimming, snorkelling, diving, surfing, and night fishing or book an encounter with whale sharks. Alternatively, give a special start to your married life with a sunset champagne cruise or a picnic for two on a private sandbank. To help preserve the island's fragile eco systems, you could join in a coral-planting session or plant a commemorative coconut palm tree.

If you're one of those couples seduced by the picture-perfect beauty of Maldives, head to Maafushi on the South Male Atoll, that can be reached in half an hour by speedboat from the international airport, and has a wide range of accommodations and food options. Fulidhoo on the Vaavu Atoll is great for scuba diving and viewing underwater marine life. Sparsely populated, laid-back, and quiet, Fulidhoo is a haven for relaxation. At South Ari Atoll and Hanifaru Bay in Baa Atoll, you can see manta rays during their annual migration.

#TNLPICKS Plan an underwater wedding ceremony in the clean and clear turquoise waters of Maldives. The nation's proximity to India, ambience, scenery, and tranquillity, all come together to make it a fabulous location for destination weddings. Your most important event can be held at the sandbank of a resort, sailboat, jetty, or in a special pavillion erected on the beach. In fact, you and your guests can even dress up in Maldivian costumes and shake a leg to the music played by local bodu beru drummers.



Idyllic Maldives is perfect for any celebration.



The underwater wonders in Maldives are fascinating.



SHANGRI-LA'S - EROS HOTEL, NEW DELHI

Serving as the ideal break from a bride's busy schedule, the five-hour Sheer Harmony experience at Chi, – The Spa starts with an organic shea butter polish and exfoliation. This is followed by a 60-minute body massage, a snug ultra-hydrating body wrap, facial, hair spa, manicure, and pedicure. shangri-la.com

At Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage in Sri Lanka.



SRI LANKA

Whether you're an animal lover, a fan of beachside lazing, or a nature buff, Sri Lanka is probably one of the best destinations for a budget-friendly honeymoon. It boasts of myriad charms apart from captivating history, culture, and natural beauty. During your winter honeymoon, put up in one of the tree-top resorts or luxury jungle chalets and embark on a jeep safari at Yala National Park in search of leopards, spotted deer, jackals, elephants, sloth bears, crocodiles, and birds. Or pick Habarana as your base and explore the cultural triangle that includes the cave monastery of Dambulla, the Buddhist centre of Mihintale, and magnificent Sigiriya Rock Fortress. Wilpattu National Park and Minneriya National Park, home to the iconic elephant gathering, are other unique sights. If you're keen to enjoy a mix of watersports and fun in the sun, spend a few days in the seaside town of Hikkaduwa and go around some of the iconic places on the southern coast in a tuk-tuk. Highlights include Turtle Hatchery, Bewis Bawa Gardens in Bentota, and Galle Fort. While most honeymooners only pass through the city of Trincomalee on their way to the nearby beaches of Uppuveli and Nilaveli, the historic town—with a certain charisma and an interesting mix of people—is certainly worth a few days of stay. Savour a delicious seafood spread including freshly-prepared lobsters and crabs or head to Pigeon Island for a day of snorkelling. The island is home to hundreds of marine fish, reef sharks, and corals. Among other activities you can do here are scuba diving, tours of the town and fish markets, visits to traditional and historical sites, boat rides, and marine mammal safaris. Trincomalee is definitely one of the world's finest natural harbours!

#TNLPICKS Prefer mountains over beaches? Kandy is a scenic escape with tea plantations, misty mountains, and rolling hills. Enjoy quiet walks amid nature, take a boat ride on Mahaweli River, visit the nearby Udawattakele Forest Reserve, or climb Adam's Peak to witness an unforgettable sunrise in the company of your partner.



Discover a diverse range of attractions in the island nation.

DAVID TROOD/GETTY IMAGES; (TOP) JAN WLODARCZYK/ALAMY

FAR EAST

THE ORIENT WILL CHARM YOU WITH ITS BEAUTY AND DIVERSITY.



Pura Ulun Danu Bratan in Bali, Indonesia.

INDONESIA

With surreal natural wonders, this archipelago of more than 17,000 islands promises a romantic getaway full of dreamy moments and spellbinding vistas. To kickstart your holiday, soak up Bali's spirit by kayaking, snorkelling, and paddleboarding at a private beach before spending your evening at the 10th-century Uluwatu temple perched on top of a steep cliff. Hang around to witness the traditional Kecak dance at sunset. In Ubud, spend some time sipping on sweet coconut water while observing the neatly-layered terraces of the Tegallalang rice fields or get lost in the relic-filled courtyard of Goa Gajah or 'Elephant Cave'. For some hedonistic fun, head to the party capitals Kuta and Seminyak. With world-class beaches, tropical rainforests, and high-end resorts, Bintan Island is a relatively unexplored gem in Indonesia, and thus a great getaway for couples who wish to stay away from crowds. Top attractions include a man-made water sports playground—Southeast Asia's first and largest recreational seawater body—and Doulos Phos, the world's oldest active ocean-faring passenger ship that's now converted into a hotel complete with swimming pool, spa and museum. Looking for a more laid-back honeymoon? Once a quaint fishing village, Labuan Bajo is made of dream-like sunsets and wooden cottages overlooking the idyllic harbour. When here, go snorkelling or explore natural wonders such as caves and mangrove forests. If Balinese temples have been on your list for a long time, make sure to appreciate ancient architecture at Borobudur temple, which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. To fully grasp its transcendent beauty, visit the temple at dawn.

#TNLPICKS Don't miss a visit to Lake Toba, formed around 77,000 years ago in a super-volcanic explosion. Immerse yourself in its pristine beauty by taking a ferry ride like the locals or jump on a canoe for an adventurous date. You can also rent a bike and explore Tomok Village, famous for its emerald-green paddy fields that stretch as far as the eye can see, with the majestic Barisan hills as its backdrop. At Sianjur Mula-Mula Village, admire the intricate and finely-crafted traditional houses of Sumatra.



Catch a traditional temple dance in Bali.



Ao Phra Nang Beach, Thailand.

THAILAND

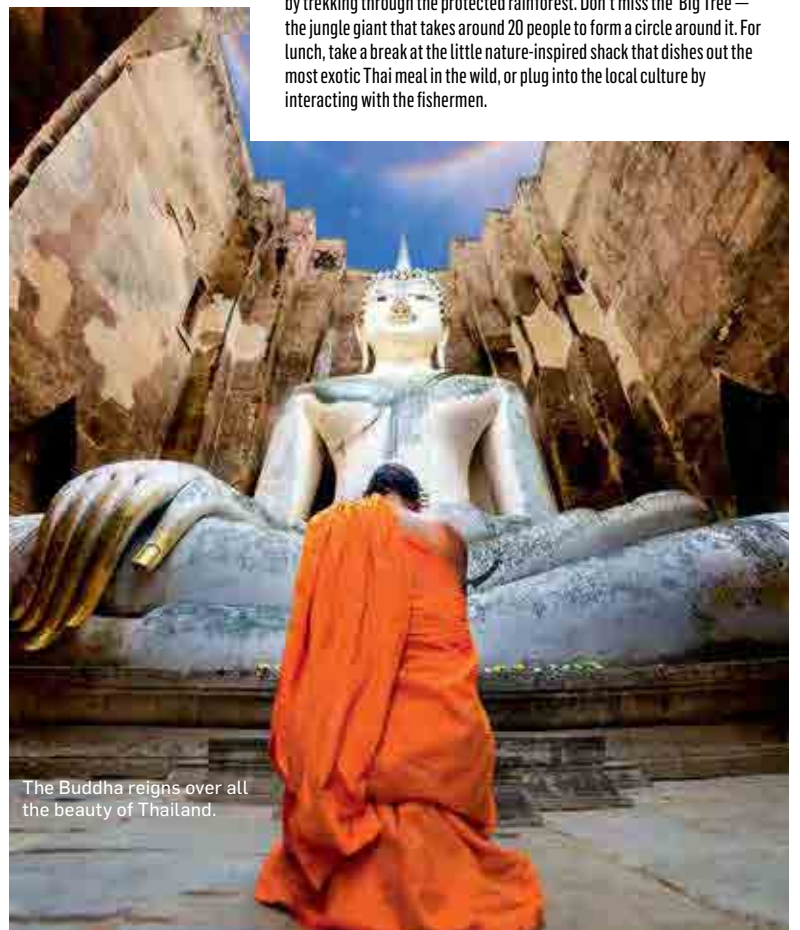
The land of sun and sea still boasts ample beaches for those yearning for some tranquillity. One such beach is Kamala Beach in Phuket. Only a 15-minute drive away, yet far removed from the liveliness of Patong, Kamala is an ideal haven. Kamala village houses a couple of resorts that are shaded by an enchanted canopy of rainforest and overlooks the jade-blue Andaman Sea. Appreciate the flavour and aroma of Thai cuisine by registering for a Thai cooking class at the beach along the island of Koh Sirey in Phuket. Bond over a shared task as you prepare a feast of local delights like *tom kha kai* (chicken in coconut milk soup), *som tam* (Papaya salad), *pad thai* (Thai fried noodles with prawns), and *kanom kluay* (steamed banana cakes). Finding an unspoiled Thai island isn't as difficult as it seems. Phang Nga has Phuket in the west, Krabi to the east, and the magical sister islands of Koh Yao Noi and Koh Yao Yai at its heart. When here, discover everything about island life by setting off on a bike ride on its circular, countryside roads, touring traditional rubber farms and paddy fields, and watching buffaloes bathing. If you're heading to Koh Samui, a day trip to Ang Thong can be the highlight of your stay. The 41 islands that inspired Alex Garland's cult classic novel *The Beach* are home to sea otters, monitor lizards, mynah birds, macaques, and dolphins. Climb to the top of the largest island, a perfect spot to express your love! Home to an award-winning elephant conservation camp, the mysterious Golden Triangle is where Thailand, Laos, and Burma meet. Get up close with elephants by bathing, feeding, and steering them, or try a novel activity called elephant yoga (yoga atop an elephant!).

#TNLPICKS Consider a catamaran trip to Ao Kian Bay on the northern tip of Koh Yao Noi. Kayak while soaking in the exotic scenery surrounded by towering limestone cliffs and Toh Buad Cave, or converse with nature by trekking through the protected rainforest. Don't miss the 'Big Tree'—the jungle giant that takes around 20 people to form a circle around it. For lunch, take a break at the little nature-inspired shack that dishes out the most exotic Thai meal in the wild, or plug into the local culture by interacting with the fishermen.



PARK HYATT HYDERABAD

Aptly named Musakin, this Nizami styled spa treatment offered at the Spa at Park Hyatt Hyderabad is a highly recommended bridal ritual. A traditional ceremony to initiate serenity and restore peace of mind, the ritual involves exfoliating your skin with a pearl dust scrub followed by a holistic massage and red sandalwood wrap. The ritual ends with an anti-ageing rose facial. hyatt.com



The Buddha reigns over all the beauty of Thailand.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MATTED COLOMBO/GETTYIMAGES; ANUPONG SAKOOLCHA/GETTYIMAGES; COURTESY OF PARK HYATT HYDERABAD

The glamorous Marina Bay in Singapore.



SINGAPORE

What makes Singapore special is the way it blends the old and the new. Touring Singapore with your sweetheart? Make sure you take in the awe-inspiring waterfront views at The Gardens Bay and discover the timeless charm of the 156-year-old Botanic Garden. Seek the blessings of Yue Lao at Yueh Hai Ching temple built in 1826, and known for its ornamented roof, wood carvings, and painted walls. Spend an evening at Clarke Quay, a historical riverside hub where you can go on a romantic river cruise or try adventures like reverse bungee jumping and extreme swing. Explore the narrow lanes of the historically-rich Chinatown and sample a bowl of *char kway teow* (stir-fried noodles) and satay (barbecued meat skewers) from one of the street stalls. To unwind with your favourite drinks by the beach, take a ferry to Bintan Island.

#TNLPICKS Get lost in each other's conversations at Fort Canning National Park or Bukit Batok Town Park, locally known as Little Guilin.

MALAYSIA

Culturally diverse Malaysia has its fair share of geographical variations that never fail to impress and inspire. In the lit city of Kuala Lumpur, gear up for rock climbing at Batu caves followed by a foot massage in Chinatown. For some beach romance, spend a few days in Langkawi island that boasts paddy fields and picturesque villages. In Langkawi, witness the beauty of the setting sun with a cocktail in hand, take a boat tour to mystifying caves like Gua Langsir and Gua Cerita,

and bathe in the gushing Telaga Tujuh waterfalls. To simply laze on a white-sand beach with your loved one, look no further than Batu Ferringhi Beach, where you can pamper yourself with massages, go for a jungle trek, and buy some curios at an open-air night bazaar.

#TNLPICKS Georgetown, the capital of Penang is a sleepy, colonial town that you can explore at your own pace. Vroom through the city on a motorbike or enjoy the city's nightlife on Upper Penang Road.



Nature and celebration come together in a paddy field; (left) a colourful Chinese Temple in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





Sakura in Japan.

JAPAN

For your unconventional trip to Japan, go beyond skyscrapers, *sakura*, and war stories, and get ready to be dazzled by snow sculptures, ski adventures, stark scenery, and exceptional food. Modern, laid-back, and underrated, Sapporo is nothing short of a paradise. Held every year in February, the Sapporo Snow Festival features about 250 snow and ice sculptures depicting everything from temples to cartoon characters, spread across three major sites—Odori Park, Tsudome, and Susukino. Ski enthusiasts can explore some gorgeous tree runs at Rusutsu ski resort. Non-skiers can try dog sledding, horseback riding, snow rafting, and snow mobiling. Another must-visit is the historical fishing port of Otaru that boasts old red-brick warehouses, magnificent stone mansions, and a 200-metre-long street of sushi shops founded in the 1980s. **#TNLPICKS** Soothe your nerves with a warm dip in an *onsen*—mineral-rich natural hot spring—in Hokkaido, also known as the Hot Spring Kingdom.

Macau

Honeymooners travelling to Macau must go beyond its casinos and nightlife to uncover the region's mixed heritage, Sino-European architecture, rich local culture, and unique natural surroundings. Walk around Senado Square, paved with beautiful Portuguese cobblestones, and feel the vintage charm at the sleepy village of

Coloane. Visit the romantic Lou Lim Lok Park, the only Suzhou-style garden and the 500-year-old A-Ma Temple. Take the 233-metre plunge at the world's highest bungee jump from Macau Tower—a modern architectural marvel. **#TNLPICK** Sip on a cup of tea in the Lung Wah Tea House or visit the Macau Wine Museum.

The picturesque terraced fields in Vietnam.



VIETNAM

Vietnam's beautiful beaches, lush green mountains, majestic national parks, Buddhist pagodas, and a vast wealth of cultural experiences make it a honeymooner's delight. Apart from visiting the tourist spots in Hanoi, plan a visit to Dalat, a beautiful valley known for its eternal spring! Sa Pa in Lao Cai Province in Northwest Vietnam offers romance and seclusion amid terraced rice fields. Cycle around the rice fields or explore Chieu Cave. Or walk hand in hand in Hoi An, a well-preserved ancient town with canals, Chinese temples, Japanese-style bridges, and French colonial houses. **#TNLPICKS** Surprise your partner with a private dinner in the limestone caves of Halong Bay.

The Middle East

THERE'S MORE THAN DREAMY DUNES AND LUXURIOUS EXPERIENCES TO DISCOVER IN THESE EXOTIC LOCATIONS.



Looking down from Burj Khalifa, Dubai.

UAE

Dubai

With oodles of glitz, glamour, and luxury clubbed with Arabian lifestyle and culture, Dubai is the perfect place to celebrate your new life together. Among special experiences for two is the two-hour dhow cruise dinner on Dubai Creek that gives you an opportunity to indulge in delicious international specialities while admiring the skyline. With the endless ocean of sand dunes that surround it, Dubai gives you an opportunity to bring all the scenes from *Arabian Nights* to life! Apart from the usual safaris and camel rides, think hopping on to a hot air balloon at dawn for a stunning bird's-eye view of the oases and freely wandering oryx, gazelles, and camels. To feel the silence of the sands and indulge in a barbecue by the campfire, spend the night in one of the luxury camps around the Al Qudra stretch of low-lying sand dunes. Stroll along the labyrinthine lanes of the tiny Bastakiya quarter, a well-preserved historic site, reflecting Dubai's cultural past. Lined with art galleries, boutique hotels, cafés, and merchant houses, Dubai offers several pit stops on the way. **#TNLPICKS** Coffee lovers can discover romance over a cup of coffee in the Al Fahidi District, home to the country's first ever dedicated coffee museum.

Abu Dhabi

If you're planning a quick honeymoon between October and April, Abu Dhabi, with its pleasant weather, is sure to offer a delightful adventure for couples. Start with a seaplane ride for brilliant views of Abu Dhabi, gorgeous stretches of mangrove forests, and the stunning beaches of Yas Island. While UAE's capital is known for its ultra-modern architecture and shopping centres, it offers lovely ways to connect with nature. One of them is kayaking through its winding mangroves. At Sir Bani Yas Stables, opt for a horse-riding experience through a protected wildlife reserve. Culture enthusiasts can explore Saadiyat Island, which has fantastic museums and art displays, or say a silent prayer at the imposing white marble Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. Louvre Abu Dhabi is where you two can admire world-class art and spend some artsy time together. On one of the evenings, plan a movie date at the luxurious Theatre by Rhodes, complete with reclining seats, pillows, blankets, and a Michelin-starred meal. **#TNLPICKS** A sunset stroll or a bike ride along the Abu Dhabi Corniche is an inexpensive way of celebrating love in Abu Dhabi. From manicured beaches and chic cafes to pretty parks and separate cycle paths, the eight-kilometre stretch has something for everyone.



TAJ FALAKNUMA PALACE, HYDERABAD

Traditions are an integral aspect of Indian weddings, a philosophy that also finds a place at JIVA Spa. The Soundarya treatment here imbibes this philosophy. With a nourishing scrub, wrap, massage, and facial the spa takes you through an authentic Indian experience. tajhotels.in



The Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BAERBEL SCHMIDT; XAVIERARNAU/GETTYIMAGES; COURTESY OF TAJ FALAKNUMA



The majestic Zayed Mosque in Ras Al Khaimah.

Ras Al Khaimah

Located less than one hour from the bustling city of Dubai, Ras Al Khaimah offers a more intimate, authentic retreat in the heart of Arabia. Beach lovers can put up in one of the swanky resorts at the man-made Al Marjan Island or the nearby Al Hamra Village. For adventure lovers, there are ample places to go fishing, kayaking with sea turtles and sting rays, snorkelling, scuba diving, parasailing, and jet skiing. On dry land, try surfing on the sand dunes at Bassata Desert Village. Wander the lanes of the traditional Nakheel Old Souq to get a taste of tradition, and purchase authentic handmade textiles and pots. **#TNLPICKS** Plan a picnic for two at Al Hajar Mountains, highlighted by bold canyons and impressive views around every corner. You can also trek up to the summit of UAE's tallest peak, Jebel Jais. As the Arabian sun fades into the horizon, prepare to be wowed by the sparkling night sky, which offers a jaw-dropping stargazing experience.



Fujairah

Located along the Gulf of Oman and against the backdrop of mountains rather than the desert, Fujairah is different from the rest of the UAE in several ways. The best way to explore this emirate is by hiking up the many craggy mountains and wadis that offer amazing scenery. Wadi Wurayah is known as the 'Grand Canyon of the UAE', Wadi Siji, Wadi Saham, and Wadi Ham are among other spectacular sites. Culture and heritage enthusiasts can spend a day exploring Al Badiyah Mosque, which is the oldest mosque in the UAE, Fujairah Fort that was built in the 16th century for the ruling family, Bithnah Fort, and Al-Hayl Castle. For a deeper insight into emirati traditions, visit the Fujairah Heritage Village and Fujairah Museum, where you can see traditional homes, ancient artefacts, and farming tools. **#TNLPICKS** Step into the past at the ancient village of Masafi. Learn about life during the Bronze Age and visit the restored Masafi Fort that features an underground waterway system. Just west of town, at the daily Friday Market, splurge on carpets, ceramics, and souvenirs.

Sail Monument in Manama, Bahrain.



BAHRAIN

Peaceful and slightly more rustic as compared to its neighbours, Abu Dhabi and Dubai, Bahrain impresses honeymooners with its choice of luxury stay options, happening food scene, and vibrant lifestyle. Take a tour of the Bahrain International Circuit, which hosts the annual Bahrain Grand Prix, and have a high-speed chase with your partner on the tracks. You can also go on a safari in the Al Areen Green Wildlife Park and Reserve and meet the Arabian gazelle, oryx, leopard, and ostrich. Couples with an interest in history can visit the National Museum, Riffa Fort, and Khasim Mosque. Whatever you choose to do in Bahrain, make sure to travel between October and April to avoid the scorching heat. **#TNLPICKS** Spend a night at ART Rotana located on the man-made Amwaj Islands. With its artistic architecture, installations, and artworks, it gives the impression of a gallery. Unwind at the private beach with azure waters or book a couples spa treatment.



Bait Al Zubair Museum in Muscat, Oman.

OMAN

A short flight from India, Oman is one of the trendiest wedding destinations. Sandy beaches with mountains in the background, gigantic rock formations, verdant oases, and Instagram-worthy locations with Middle-Eastern aura and hospitality—the jewel of Arabia offers so many locales where you can pop the question. With magical desert landscape, the Sharqiya Sands region, referred to locally as Wahiba Sands, makes for a spectacular location for a sand dune wedding under the starry sky. Host your once-in-a-lifetime affair at one of the flamboyant five-star properties that offer Bedouin-style tented suites that reflect traditional Omani designs and culture. Among other idyllic locations for ceremonies is Turtle Beach. **#TNLPICKS** Choose one of the heritage properties resembling an Omani fort or set sail on a luxury yacht to celebrate your special moments against a backdrop of dramatic coastlines, secluded coves, and private islands.



CONRAD BENGALURU

Designed as a couple's treatment, the ninety minutes long Together ritual at the Conrad Spa oozes romance. The Marma massage brings subtle sensuality to the room, while the Light Technique helps calm the nervous system. Additionally, the treatment helps you reconnect with your inner self, on an emotional and spiritual level. conradhotels3.hilton.com

TURKEY

An unparalleled combination of European and Asian cultures, Turkey is the perfect place to raise a toast to new beginnings. In the capital city of Istanbul, take a romantic stroll down the cobbled streets to discover its old-world charm before feeling rejuvenated with a Turkish hammam treatment at the 450-year-old Suleymaniye Bath, one of the oldest baths in the city and the only one to cater to couples. Spend your evening aboard the Bosphorus cruise and watch the city light up the evening sky, while

gorging on delicious local food and watching traditional belly-dancing performances. Party animals can opt for a crazy night out at one of the chic clubs at Taksim Square. Witnessing Cappadocia's surreal sunrise and other-worldly landscape from a hot-air balloon is sure to brew romance between you and your partner. **#TNLPICKS** Don't just visit Cappadocia's natural underground caves and tunnels. Spend a night in one of the lavishly-furnished, exotic cave hotels there for a one-of-a-kind honeymoon experience.



Istanbul and the Bosphorus.



Awe-inspiring Cappadocia.

THERE'S MORE TO THIS DIVERSE CONTINENT THAN THE WILD.



Time for a drink in Kenya.

KENYA

With stirring natural landscapes, abundance of wildlife, and striking landscapes of the Great Rift Valley, Kenya gives you an opportunity to take your romantic getaway to the next level. Immerse yourself in the local culture and wildlife adventures at the Masai Mara National Reserve. Spot animals like lions, rhinos, cheetahs, elephants, zebras, and hippos roaming in their natural habitat, go for a bush walk with a naturalist and spend the night in one of the luxury tented camps. Among other must-visit spots are Mount Kenya, Hell's Gate National Park, Tsavo National Park, and Lake Nakuru.

#TNLPICKS After a refreshing safari experience, relax on Kenyan white-sand beaches in Mombasa, Malindi, or Lamu that are also fit for outdoor recreational activities like water sports and deep-sea fishing.



MAYFAIR HIMALAYAN SPA RESORT, KALIMPONG

Spend some quality time with your partner getting pampered with sea salts enriched with refreshing eucalyptus and pine essential oils. The Indulgence Couple Package at MAYFAIR Spa starts with body exfoliation followed by a massage of your choice. Follow this up with a head massage and a face clean-up. End your experience with a relaxing dip in a tub filled with aromatic and hydrating milk. mayfairhotels.com

MAURITIUS

With inviting turquoise waters, palm-fringed beaches, tropical climate, and delectable cuisine, wedding in Mauritius can truly be an out-of-this-world experience. However, there is more to the country than islands and coconuts. With a rich history, vibrant culture, and buzzing nightlife, Mauritius offers multiple venue options for ring ceremonies and cocktails as well. Think rolling green lawns surrounded by lush tropical gardens, a beachfront ballroom in Port Louis, or a dreamlike ceremony at Notre Dame Auriliatrice

Chapel, a Roman catholic church standing tall against the azure sky with the bright blue sea in the background. To indulge in some pre-wedding pampering, there is certainly no dearth of incredible spas to choose from on this paradisiacal island.

#TNLPICKS Extend your stay for a flamboyant honeymoon. Explore the highlights: visit Port Louis, the island's capital; the traditional Mahebourg market; and the Chamarel Waterfall that plunges 85 metres down against the backdrop of forest and mountains.



An idyllic Mauritian beach.

Kruger National Park
in South Africa.



SOUTH AFRICA

If you're an adventurous duo with a love for wilderness, take your passion a step further by hosting an African-style wedding at one of the artistically elegant and super luxurious locations here. Walk down the aisle at award-winning vineyards along the Garden Route, tie the knot while floating above the clouds in a hot-air balloon, or say your vows against the stunning backdrop of Cape Town's Table Mountain. For intimate affairs, opt for game lodges in thriving wildlife destinations like the Eastern Cape or Kruger National Park. Whether it is a sunset ceremony near a watering hole, or a romantic spot under the trees on the banks of a river, you're definitely in for a magical, out-of-the-ordinary experience. **#TNLPICKS** Plan an at fresco luncheon, a sit-down dinner or a cocktail in the large courtyard of one of the picturesque wine estates like Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, Somerset West, and the Klein Karoo in the Cape Winelands region.

SEYCHELLES

Known for its quixotic beauty, exceptional luxury, and carnivalesque spirit, Seychelles sits on the top of the list of the world's most romantic destinations. Home to 115 islands, that include populated ports as well as never-inhabited coralline islets, this is where you and your partner can hike along rugged granite cliffs or travel to a pristine beach in a private yacht.

#TNLPICKS Take a walk through the 'Garden of Eden' at Praslin Island, or mount a rented bike and discover the secrets of Victoria Island.



The underwater wonders
at Seychelles.

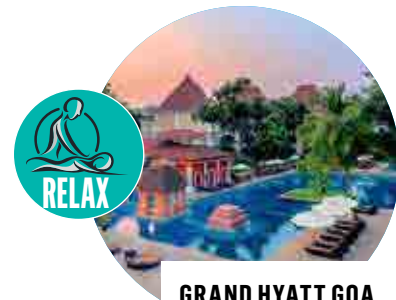
HISTORY, WINE, CHEESE, NATURE, ARCHITECTURE, AND MUCH MORE WILL BE YOUR COMPANIONS ON THIS CONTINENT.



Love is in the air in Paris.

FRANCE

Paris may well be the City of Love, but France is full of dreamy towns and experiences that are ideal for a honeymoon. Skip the touristy spots of Paris and instead, sit under the trees and enjoy a little picnic at the Place des Vosges or Luxembourg Garden, which is home to beautiful statues, fountains, and the flower beds. Celebrate love at the Temple Of Love in Versailles or try a few passionate dance moves at Seine. For some downtime after a big fat Indian wedding, go where the Hollywood stars chill. A glamorous French Riviera resort town, Cannes is a city with palm-lined promenades, perfect for a walk with your partner. The coast off the Riviera is filled with yachts, water activities, and party boats of all kinds. If you're visiting the principality of Monaco, explore the old town by wandering the colourful streets on Top of the Rock and Monaco-Ville. Pop into one of the quaint cafes for *barbajuan*, a Monegasque specialty of spinach-and-cheese stuffed pastries and a glass of wine. Adventurous couples can trek 300 steps down to the Observatory Cave at Cathedrale de Monaco to see the jaw-dropping 250,000-year-old stalactites and stalagmites. Reunion Island has absolutely no competition in the Indian Ocean when it comes to scenic landscapes. When here, you're sure to be overwhelmed by the beautiful views; especially from the top of the volcanoes. Outdoorsy types can plan a canyoning trip of Bras Rouge that offers a 45-minute walk through canyons, cliff jumping, and abseiling down waterfalls. **#TNLPICKS** Foodies can fall in love with each other over a food tour in Montmartre, Paris. A perfect introduction to Parisian dining culture with a good measure of French culinary history, the tour gives you a chance to sample some delicious local treats. Think baguettes, cheese, French wine, luscious meat, and an array of French desserts.



GRAND HYATT GOA

Why restrict the pampering to the bride? Shamana Spa lets you to turn your session into a jovial affair with your bridesmaids with its Beautous Bridal Shower Day. You and your friends wear customised bathrobes, flip-flops, and face masks while experts ensure you look radiant with massages, facials, scrubs, wraps, haircare, styling, draping, and mehendi. hyatt.com

Channel your love in Venice, Italy.



ITALY

A wedding or honeymoon in Italy can be as magical as you want it to be! How about hosting your intimate affair in Verona, the city of Romeo and Juliet or one of the centuries-old seaside villages of Cinque Terre. Extend your wedding break to enjoy an Italian honeymoon! Cruise through the canals of Venice and discover the haunting ruins in Rome. Best known for its Renaissance art and architecture, Florence is the place to get intoxicated with Italian Prosecco and spellbinding beauty. Watch the setting sun from the Piazzale Michelangelo, visit Ponte Vecchio Bridge, where couples still follow the age-old tradition of throwing keys over the bridge, or go on a bike ride from Florence to the countryside of Tuscany. To take in the idyllic views, silently fly over the undulating hills and geometric vineyards in a hot air balloon.

#TNLPICKS Take a road trip to Pienza, situated in the magical Val d'Orcia, swear eternal love to each other at the Tree of Love in the Medieval town of Lucignano and pamper yourself with a thermal bath at the natural hot-springs at Saturnia.

GREECE

Greece instantly brings to mind the silhouette of a couple basking in a Santorini sunset. However, on your getaway to Greece, stay away from the crowds and enjoy the beautiful views of Santorini from the Akrotiri side of the island. Add to your itinerary the island of Rhodes, which is surrounded by fortified walls and dripping with history. Wander around to appreciate splendid architecture and drop into some charming boutiques. If you prefer adventure, Zagori village in the Pindus

mountains has it all. Besides exploring Perama Cave, go hiking on one of the trails at Aoös National Park, try canyoning and river rafting in Vikos Gorge, and spend a night camping at Pindus National Park. For your fill of local culture, spend a few days in Nea Makri, a quaint town outside Athens.

#TNLPICKS One of the largest Greek islands, Crete offers incredible scenery, affordable lodging, amazing food, and a lot of history. When here, a romantic waterfront dinner is a must do.

Stunning Athens, Greece.





London's vibrant nightlife.

THE UK

With a plethora of picture-perfect landscapes and delicious British food and drink staples, the UK makes for a memorable post-wedding retreat. When in London, fall in love over an elegant English afternoon tea, impress your partner with a fine-dining experience at Michelin-starred restaurants with Baroque interiors, or head to Hyde Park for a laid-back picnic or a session of pedal boating. An easy day-trip from London, Cotswold, with its charming honey-coloured limestone buildings, rolling green hills, and fragrant meadows, makes for a perfect setting for two. The Shetland Islands is a group of more than 100 islands, about 100 miles off mainland Scotland and close to Norway. With fascinating Viking history and a lovely mix of Scandinavian and Scottish culture, it is a great addition to a European honeymoon.

#TNLPICKS Get on board the Belmond Grand Hibernian and take a four-day train journey through the rustic country of Ireland. Take in Ireland's 50 shades of green, explore pretty towns like Westport and Galway, and witness the Cliffs of Moher.



ANDAZ DELHI

To ensure that those knots in your muscles are loosened before you usher in the most important day of your life, opt for the Clay Ginger body treatment at Andaz Spa. This therapeutic body wrap is formulated to restore and replenish your body's natural balance and vitality. The natural clay will tighten the skin while ginger soothes your tired muscles. hyatt.com

SPAIN

Being a big country, Spain has a varied landscape. But flamenco and sangrias are constant throughout. Sun-seeking honeymooners must consider a trip to Torremolinos, a Mediterranean resort on Southern Spain's Costa del Sol, for clean sandy beaches and lively nightlife. In nearby Málaga, drive through charming fishing villages, visit Alcazaba, a well-preserved Moorish fortress, and marvel at the ancient Roman amphitheatre. While Mallorca and Menorca are

well known for their natural beauty and culture, Ibiza is a legendary party destination with a bohemian vibe. Put up in one of the beach-front resorts and celebrate your wedding with a champagne toast at a white-sand beach or enjoy snorkelling, diving, and boating.

#TNLPICKS If old-world charm is what you're looking for, the romantic city of Seville is where you can take a horse carriage ride, and walk down narrow alleys and fountain-filled plazas with your partner.

Delicious food galore in Spain.



The stunning Swiss landscape.



SWITZERLAND

A wedding in a country like Switzerland is a dream for most couples. After all, it has the majestic Alps, silk-smooth chocolate, sublime scenery, and the best wines and mountain cheeses in the world. If you enjoy sipping and sampling wine as a couple, why not get hitched in a winery owned by one of the passionate wine makers, or a garden in the middle of a vineyard overlooking Lake Geneva? A hidden gem in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, Lavaux is a stretch of vineyards boasting more than 10,000 terraces interwoven with viticulture paths and dotted with charming wine-producing villages that have retained their authenticity and architectural heritage. Listed as a UNESCO cultural heritage site since 2007, the region produces a wide variety of fine Swiss wines, meaning you have the nectar flowing freely throughout the event. For a fairytale wedding, consider Schloss Lenzburg, a castle located on a small hill just above the town of Lenzburg near Zurich. Bellinzona in Ticino, an Italian-speaking region in Southern Switzerland boasts of Medieval castles that make for excellent wedding venues. One of them is Castello di Sasso Corbaro, a UNESCO heritage site that is perched on a mountain. Oberhofen Castle is an architectural gem, preserved from the 18th century, and its interiors display Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque designs. Take your wedding vows inside its garden room, chapel, or on the terrace. Alternatively, consider a lavish wedding at one of the luxury spa resorts in St Moritz or Gstaad. Popular among celebrities, the latter offers glitz and glamour along with rustic village scenes. **#TNLPICKS** For epic wedding pictures and memories, plan an igloo wedding high up in the mountain, on the way up to famous Mt Titlis. A short walk from Trübsee cable car station are three igloos. One is used for intimate wedding ceremonies in the middle of ice sculptures and a magical ambience of roses and candles.

Alpenhorn jamming in Switzerland.



The Americas & Oceania

A DIVERSE LANDSCAPE, ENTERTAINING CULTURE, AND RICH HERITAGE FLAVOUR YOUR EXPERIENCES HERE.



The Bellagio fountains, Vegas.

USA

Whether it's a bachelor party, an intimate wedding, or an adventurous honeymoon, USA has an endless array of experiences to offer. Consider hosting a stylish affair in Vegas or heading to the quaint state of South Carolina for mountain trails and water sports with your gang. At Myrtle Beach, take a riverboat cruise on the Intracoastal Waterway and rock well into the night at the House of Blues. Or head for a night of cosy camping at one of the many incredible national parks.

Las Vegas

With a buzzing nightlife and casinos galore, Vegas is certainly one of the best destinations to bid goodbye to single life. Moreover, the gorgeous area around the Las Vegas valley is ideal for off-site weddings. Fly in a helicopter over the iconic lights of the Las Vegas Strip as you say your vows, or get married in the middle of gorgeous rust-coloured peaks at the Red Rock Canyon, just outside Las Vegas. Among other unconventional wedding venues is Neon Museum. With more than 150 vintage neon signs, it adds a dash of retro glam to your wedding photography.

#TNLPICKS Shooting over 400 feet in the air, the mesmerising dancing fountains of Bellagio resort add to the charm of wedding ceremonies on the Terrazza di Sogno.

Beverly Hills

If you're planning a larger California adventure post the nuptials, make sure you visit the city where the red carpet is always rolled out. From museum exhibits and art shows to concerts and film festivals, the city has a calendar full of events. If you wish to skip the glamorous gatherings, wander through the manicured gardens at Greystone Mansion—the backdrop for countless Hollywood films—or take in a screening at The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

#TNLPICKS Head to South Beverly Drive and stop at one of the joints for coffee and croissants, or unwind with pre-dinner cocktails at a cosy bar.

New York

For city-loving couples, nothing can beat the energy of New York. Expect incredible art galleries, museums, artisanal shops, and the world's best restaurants alongside sexy speakeasies. To share a romantic moment with your partner, walk down the iconic Brooklyn Bridge, or take a stroll on the High Line that is home to some great food and coffee shops. Catching a jazz show is a lovely opportunity to dress up and enjoy an evening out. Harlem has countless clubs to enjoy a live jazz show along with soul food.

#TNLPICKS To take a break from NYC for a day and enjoy each other's company, take the ferry out to Ellis Island, which is part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

California

With layers of fresh snow and delightfully sunny weather, Lake Tahoe makes for a quintessential winter wonderland, ideal for skiing or snowboarding. Up for your first chair lift as an adventurous duo? The Heavenly Mountain Resort on the California-Nevada border offers the most incredible views of the turquoise lake surrounded by snow-capped Sierra peaks. Post sunset, get ready to bundle up by the fire with s'mores and hot cocoa. Summers are perfect for sleeping in a tent, hiking from Emerald Bay to Lester Beach on the Rubicon Trail, kayaking, mountain biking, paddleboarding, parasailing, and jet skiing or simply grabbing a beer at a popular bar.

#TNLPICKS Towering evergreens, thundering waterfalls, and secluded mountain trails make Yosemite National Park an ideal place for a romantic adventure in the mountains. Put up in one of the private cabins and snuggle while gazing at the peaks and pines.



All fun and games at Venice Beach Boardwalk, Los Angeles.



Hiking in the Canadian Rockies.

CANADA

With urban centres like Montreal and Calgary, state-of-the-art museums, a vibrant food scene, top-notch boutique hotels, and spectacular national parks, Canada makes for a fantastic all-encompassing romantic escapade. Get sprayed by the mighty Niagara Falls as you pass by it in a boat, or spend a few days in Quebec, with cafes, cobblestoned streets, architecture, and an enchanting old town steeped in European history. When here, travel back in time with a ride in a horse-drawn carriage! For your fill of island romance, head to Vancouver and be seduced by its beautiful beaches, wineries, harbours, and orchards. Put up in a hotel with a magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean, and indulge in activities like hiking, swimming, spotting orca whales, and tasting locally made wine and craft beer.

#TNLPICKS With ample green space, a lakeside waterfront, and global eateries, Toronto is a treasure trove of experiences. A unique cultural mosaic, it boasts Greektown, Little Italy, Koreatown, and a Little Portugal apart from a few Chinatowns.

MEXICO

With popular honeymoon destinations in Southeast Asia, Australia, and Europe, you're likely to turn a blind eye to a gem like Mexico. But there's so much to discover here. Walk through the historic centre of Mexico City and enjoy delicious local treats. Water enthusiasts and history lovers can spend a few days in Cancún to explore the Mayan archaeological ruins at Tulum, Chichen Itza, and Uxmal-Merida with their partners. Off Cancun's powdery beaches, try jet-skiing, scuba diving, snorkelling, sailing,

and windsurfing. Arguably one of the best places in Mexico for a honeymoon, Sayulita allures nature-loving couples with its jungle retreats and ecotourism. Enjoy romantic meals at the beachfront, go whale-watching and explore colourful markets while staying at one of the tree houses equipped with all the luxurious amenities. **#TNLPICKS** Dive into the crystal-clear waters of Cenote Taj Maha. Located in the Yucatan Peninsula, this limestone bedrock features many freshwater sinkholes and underwater caverns.



HILTON SHILLIM ESTATE RETREAT & SPA

What better way to start a new life than with a holistic detox? The Art of Detox ritual at Dharana Wellness expels oxidants that suffocate your system through a detoxification process. The Dharana-Ega: Age Reversal Process employs Ayurveda to give you radiant and glowing skin. The ritual readies you for your big day by enhancing your beauty through carefully chosen beauty treatments while cleansing the mind and spirit through *pranayam* and meditation. hilton.com

An underwater feeding frenzy in Mexican waters.



AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND

Looking at a long, twin country holiday in Australia and New Zealand? While each country is captivating in its own rights, they pack quite a punch together. From island hopping across Whitsundays in Queensland, to taking in the idyllic settings of Hobbiton, there's an endless list of things to do and places to visit. Go beach bumming at Byron Bay in New South Wales and gaze at the stunning mountain vistas from the coastline. Sip on margaritas while lazing on white sandy beaches or enrol for a fun, surfing lesson. When in Queenstown, the adventure capital of New Zealand, go bungee jumping and river rafting at the Kawarau Bridge, and reserve a day to admire the natural landscape and the many moods of Lake Wakatipu, with the Southern Alps in the background. Art enthusiasts can head to Melbourne, home to the National Gallery of Victoria and appreciate Australia's finest international art collection.

#TNLPICKS: Take a chopper to the top of Fox Glacier and roam around the sparse yet scintillating environs.



A quintessential Australian experience.

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

Laid-back vibes, pink-sand beaches, lush mountain landscapes, swanky beach resorts, and no dearth of beauty and romance! A Caribbean honeymoon guarantees priceless memories. With 700 islands to explore, the Caribbean has something for every traveller. Visit St Bart's for its unique charm and the ultimate culinary experience, or prepare for a sailing vacation to the British Virgin Islands, an archipelago of 60 islands. Situated slightly east of the Atlantic hurricane belt, Barbados is a melting pot of English, African, and West Indian heritages. When here, gorge on wood-fired pizzas and enjoy a private walk around St Nicholas Abbey, a 350-year-old plantation house in the middle of a Mahogany forest. The sleepy and slow-paced Turks and Caicos Islands are perfect for some downtime post the wedding.

#TNLPICKS If you're looking for pristine beaches, look no further than Anguilla. At the nearby Cap Juluca, feast your eyes on Moorish architecture and Maundays Bay's startlingly blue waters.

The mesmerising Caribbean.



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