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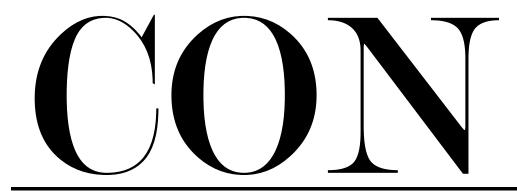


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## FOREWORD SAMIT GARG

he Indian wedding industry is nothing short of a grand spectacle—a vibrant amalgamation of tradition, emotion, and modernity that mirrors the country's diversity and its evolving aspirations. With its unparalleled scale, creativity, and cultural depth, the Indian wedding landscape has emerged as one of the most dynamic and lucrative sectors globally. It is a

canvas where dreams take flight, and every detail is curated with precision to create memories that last a lifetime.

At its core, the wedding business in India thrives on its inherent ability to blend ageold customs with contemporary trends. From opulent palaces in Rajasthan to pristine beaches in Goa, and from thematic celebrations to eco-conscious weddings, the industry has expanded its horizons far beyond conventional boundaries.

Technology has played a pivotal role in this transformation—virtual wedding planning, live streaming ceremonies, and the integration of artificial intelligence to curate

bespoke experiences are no longer distant concepts but a new reality.

The opportunities within this domain are as expansive as they are exciting. Destination weddings have carved a significant niche, with India's rich heritage and picturesque locales serving as a magnet for both domestic and international couples.

The rise of experiential weddings, where every element narrates a story, has further fueled demand for innovation in design, entertainment, and guest experiences. Moreover, the influence of social media has transformed weddings into moments of global sharing, amplifying the reach and appeal of uniquely Indian celebrations.

Sustainability, too, is reshaping the landscape. Conscious couples are driving demand for eco-friendly practices—be it through the use of biodegradable materials, mindful catering, or reducing the carbon footprint of destination celebrations. This growing trend underscores the need for the industry

to adapt while still delivering the grandeur synonymous with Indian weddings.

The participation of the Indian Government on the Prime Minister's initiative of "Wed in India" will help in the concretion of a roadmap and the overall development of the sector. The current size of the opportunity is almost 400,000 crores and is expected to grow at 18% year on year. This reflects the sector's immense potential to contribute significantly to the national economy.

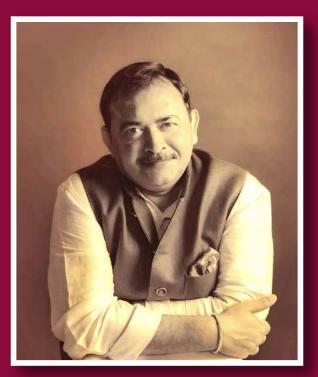
The future beckons with immense promise. The convergence of technology, creativity, and a deep cultural understanding will unlock

new frontiers. Collaboration across industries—fashion, hospitality, technology, and travel—will be instrumental in redefining the Indian wedding experience on a global scale.

As stakeholders in this remarkable journey, we must embrace the evolving demands of clients while staying true to the essence of Indian weddings.

By continuously innovating, nurturing talent, and fostering sustainable practices, the wedding industry in India is poised to reach greater heights, captivating hearts and minds across the world. The opportunities are endless; it's time to seize them.





SAMIT GARG

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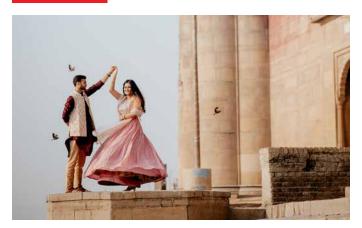
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#### ADVERTORIAL

## SAY 'I DO' IN DIVINE UP

A land of unmatched spiritual and cultural heritage, Uttar Pradesh offers a perfect blend of Vedic traditions and modern elegance for destination weddings

#### TT BUREAU



ttar Pradesh, steeped in spiritual and cultural heritage, is redefining destination weddings by seamlessly merging the sanctity of Vedic rituals with the grandeur of modern celebrations. Rooted in ancient Vedic scriptures, these ceremonies transcend a mere union of two individuals, invoking divine blessings for a harmonious married life. The state's rich history, iconic landmarks, and deep-rooted traditions make it an unparalleled destination for couples embarking on their marital journey.

#### SACRED RITUALS AND ETERNAL TRADITIONS

Vedic weddings are marked by rituals like Kanyadaan (giving away of the bride) and Saptapadi (seven sacred steps), each carrying profound symbolism. These ceremonies are performed around a sacred fire, with the chanting of mantras that imbue the event with spiritual significance. They emphasise virtues like commitment, mutual respect, and shared responsibilities, laying a strong foundation for a fulfilling married life.

#### UTTAR PRADESH: A DIVINE WEDDING DESTINATION

The state's spiritual allure is unparalleled, with cities like Ayodhya, Varanasi, Mathura, Vrindavan, and Agra offering serene and meaningful backdrops for weddings.

- Ayodhya: The birthplace of Lord Shri Rama, Ayodhya embodies ideals of dharma and devotion. Couples can host ceremonies amidst its ancient temples and the tranquil Sarayu River, drawing inspiration from the virtuous union of Shri Rama and Maa Sita.
- Mathura and Vrindavan: Known for the eternal love of Lord Krishna and Radha, these cities enchant couples with





their vibrant culture, picturesque temples, and melodious bhajans.

- **Varanasi:** With its ancient ghats and the sacred Ganges flowing serenely, Varanasi offers an atmosphere of sanctity and tranquillity. Couples exchange vows with the river symbolising purity and eternity.
- Agra: The iconic Taj Mahal, a symbol of eternal love, provides a majestic backdrop. Heritage properties in the city blend Vedic traditions with modern elegance for a truly regal experience.

#### **MODERN CONVENIENCES IN A CULTURAL SETTING**

Uttar Pradesh is well-equipped for destination weddings with excellent connectivity, luxury venues, and event planning expertise. Restored palaces and forts serve as breathtaking venues, offering state-of-the-art facilities while preserving their historical charm. Cities like Lucknow and Varanasi boast riverside resorts and luxury hotels that cater to elaborate celebrations, blending traditional and modern aesthetics seamlessly.

#### A UNIQUE JOURNEY OF LOVE

From the divine ghats of Varanasi to the regal splendour of Agra, Uttar Pradesh offers couples a soulful and magnificent wedding experience. As the heartland of India's spiritual and cultural identity, the state transforms weddings into unforgettable celebrations, rooted in tradition and brimming with romance.





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# TOP 5 WEDDING TRENDS IN 2025 BY SAMIT GARG

Weddings by E-Factor Experiences Ltd Founder and MD Samit Garg shares the wedding trends this season



he wedding industry is ever-evolving, reflecting the changing tastes and values of couples and society at large. As we approach 2025, a fresh wave of trends is shaping the way weddings are planned and celebrated. These new trends highlight the importance of personalisation, sustainability, and immersive experiences, making weddings not just ceremonies but memorable journeys for everyone involved. Here are the top five wedding trends set to dominate in 2025, offering inspiration and insight for couples planning their big day.

#### PERSONALISED AND INTIMATE CELEBRATIONS

In the post-pandemic era, the preference for smaller, more intimate weddings has gained traction. Couples are opting

Image Courtesy: Weddings by E-Factor Experiences Ltd.

for guest lists filled with close friends and family, prioritising quality over quantity. These smaller gatherings allow for personalized touches that create a deeper connection with attendees.

From custom menu items tailored to guests' preferences to handwritten thank-you notes at each place setting, intimate celebrations offer an unmatched level of warmth and thoughtfulness. Venues are also becoming more creative, with backyard weddings, secluded retreats, and boutique hotel settings allowing for a relaxed yet elegant ambience.

Micro-weddings and elopements are still popular, but in 2025, the focus is on curated experiences that leave a lasting impact on both the couple and their guests. With fewer people, budgets are often reallocated to creating



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Script your Timeless Wedding with Taj +91 22 66651316 | timelessweddings@ihcltata.com | www.tajhotels.com/en-in/wedding unforgettable moments, such as live performances, bespoke cocktail bars, or immersive decor that tells the couple's unique story.

#### **ENHANCED GUEST EXPERIENCES**

In 2025, weddings are no longer just about the couple; they are about creating memorable experiences for the guests as well. Immersive entertainment, interactive installations, and personalised mementos are redefining what it means to attend a wedding.

Live performances by musicians or dancers, photo booths with creative themes, and even wellness stations are just some of the ways couples are prioritising guest enjoyment. Food and drink experiences are being elevated, with interactive culinary stations, custom cocktails, and unique dessert presentations that double as entertainment.

Couples are also introducing surprise elements, such as firework displays, drone shows, flash mobs, or unexpected performances that keep the energy high throughout the celebration. Technology is playing a role too, with AR and VR experiences offering guests a glimpse into the couple's journey or allowing them to leave virtual messages and memories.

#### CULTURAL FUSION AND STORYTELLING

Couples are increasingly blending diverse cultural elements and storytelling into their weddings to create unique and meaningful celebrations. From incorporating rituals and traditions from different cultures to weaving their love story into the ceremony and decor, personalisation through cultural fusion is on the rise.

Storytelling elements, such as custom vows, unique decor pieces that symbolise milestones in the couple's journey, and interactive guest activities inspired by their heritage, are making weddings deeply personal. This trend is about creating a harmonious balance between honouring traditions and embracing individuality, resulting in celebrations that resonate with both the couple and their loved ones.

#### **VIBRANT COLOR PALETTES**

The days of exclusively pastel wedding palettes are fading as couples embrace bold and vibrant colours to bring energy



Image Courtesy: Weddings by E-Factor Experiences Ltd.



Image Courtesy: Weddings by E-Factor Experiences Ltd.



and life to their celebrations. The Wedding Color of the Year for 2025, "Verona Sunset," a punchy orange hue, perfectly captures this trend's essence.

Vibrant shades of teal, magenta, emerald green, and burnt orange are being incorporated into everything from bridesmaid dresses to floral arrangements.

These striking colours are paired with eclectic design elements that create a modern yet timeless aesthetic. For instance, tablespaces featuring mismatched yet complementary patterns and hues are becoming increasingly popular.

Colour blocking in decor, backdrops, and even wedding cakes brings an artistic flair to the day, setting a festive and joyous tone.

Couples are also experimenting with lighting to enhance their colour schemes. Creative use of LED and projection mapping transforms venues into dreamlike spaces where colours dance and interact dynamically with the overall decor.

#### SUSTAINABLE AND ECO-FRIENDLY WEDDINGS

With environmental consciousness at an all-time high, couples are prioritising sustainability in their wedding planning.

From eco-friendly invitations printed on seed paper to zero-waste catering and plastic-free decorations, every aspect of the wedding is being reimagined with the planet in mind. Venues powered by renewable energy and florals sourced from local farms are also gaining popularity.

Eco-friendly flavours like potted plants or locally made artisanal products are replacing traditional keepsakes, while sustainable bridal wear crafted from organic or recycled materials is making waves.





Image Courtesy: Weddings by E-Factor Experiences Ltd.

#### The wedding trends of 2025 reflect a shift towards deeper connections, creative expression, and responsible choices. For guests and couples alike, 2025 promises weddings that are more thoughtful, vibrant, and unforgettable than ever before.

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PRIZE

## 'I DO' 2025: WEDDING-READY

With his keen understanding of what captivates today's couples, Chetan Vohra, a renowned expert in luxury weddings, offers a glimpse into how 2025 weddings will set new standards for ambience and style

#### TT BUREAU

hetan Vohra, Co-Founder of Weddingline, is a veteran in event management with 24+ years of expertise. Known for innovation and precision, he leads ventures like Weddingland, champions Wedding Tourism, and advises globally on luxury celebrations and tourism strategies.

#### WHAT MOOD BOARDS WILL TREND

Pinterest is fading and creativity is dawning. Couples now want rarely seen before designs and the future is all about your own creations. So themes that are thought of and then translated into decor are what is trending.

#### YOUR LIST OF THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025

We have adopted sustainability as a mainstay going forward. So reusing materials and shunning away non eco friendly materials is our mantra for 2025. Destinations in India are trending and what better than having a beach wedding with the sand being used as decor or mountains that throw up natural photo booth backdrops.

We have also embarked on a new journey of offering our clients 10 distinct mood palettes to choose from. Each one is a deep dive into that theme, which allows them to see how it is translated into all aspects of the celebration.

#### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

Large buffets are out. Chef-based pop-ups are going to be the norm. If you want a dosa - who better than to have a Sagar Ratna pop-up. Similarly, more and more speciality restaurants are agreeing to counter-based pop-up experiences at weddings.



Image Courtesy: Weddingline







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#### WHICH COUNTRIES DO YOU SEE BEING TOP CHOICES IN 2025 AND WHY

India will remain a favourite with a new lens of inbound tourism for weddings that are on the rise. In the Middle East UAE remains the favourite with their value for money deals. Mexico is a new rising destination and we are all set to do our first destination wedding in Mexico City in 2025.

#### WHAT KIND OF LOCATIONS WILL COUPLES PREFER IN 2025

A location is a personal choice. But more and more couples are opting for quieter and more peaceful locations. Forest resorts are fast becoming a favourite for intimate weddings. In all any destination that gives a couple a relaxed vibe is what will trend.

#### COLOURS, LIGHTING, FLOWERS - AMBIENCE THAT WILL TREND

Sage green is clearly the colour for 2025. From suits to curtains, this restful shade is what is ruling the colour board. Reusing materials and flowers is another trend we are seeing. Another first at Weddingline where we have couples sharing decor and sets and saving money - but also being mindful of the waste.

#### WEDDING JEWELLERY

Less is more is the mantra here too. Brides are no longer decking up like they used to. But wearing family heirlooms that their mothers and grandmothers wore.



#### BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025

Clothes are still a personal style. There is no taking away from the designers.

#### WEDDING VOWS, GRAND ARRIVALS THAT COULD GO BIG IN 2025

Ironically the trend is not to have another mega wedding spectacle that was seen off late. Couples are getting more personal. Taking time to out to call guests and welcome them when they come in. It goes a long way to show the world that the guests are more important than the bride and groom and their families.

Vows are being written by the couple and read out. Guests are being made witnesses and while it still remains largely traditional - the pattern of modern society is definitely making a play.



Chetan Vohra, Founder, Weddingline





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#### PRERANA AGARWAL SAXENA

## TECH, TRENDS, AND TRADITION

Theme Weavers Designs Founder Prerana Agarwal Saxena reveals the season's top wedding trends

**TT BUREAU** 

rerana Agarwal Saxena, Founder of Theme Weavers Designs, pioneers immersive wedding experiences. Advocating wedding tourism, inclusivity, and food donations through 'Weaving Hope,' she launched Wedease.in, a tech-driven platform simplifying wedding planning with creativity and ease.

#### WHAT MOOD BOARDS WILL TREND

Sustainability will take center stage in 2025, with couples opting for eco-friendly decor, upcycled materials, and nature-inspired themes. Think minimalist floral arrangements and reusable installations paired with luxurious aesthetics.

#### **THEME WEDDINGS TO TREND IN 2025**

**\*\*\*** \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\*

Less is more in 2025. Minimalist wedding themes focusing on clean lines, neutral palettes, and modern aesthetics will appeal to couples seeking understated sophistication.

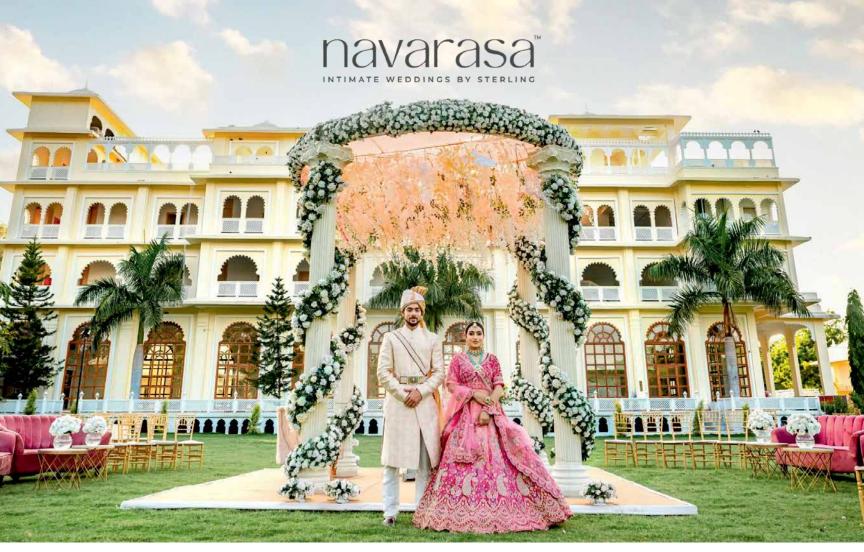
Image Courtesy: Theme Weavers Designs

#### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

Event-related (Rajasthani for myrah or bhaat) or décor related (Italian Mexican / underwater).

#### **TOP DESTINATION CHOICES IN 2025 AND WHY**

Destinations like the UAE, Turkey, Jordan, Oman, and Egypt are emerging as top choices, preferred for their unique charm



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and accessibility. Excellent flight connectivity, a variety of culinary offerings, and stunning luxurious venues make these locations ideal.

#### LOCATIONS COUPLES WILL PREFER IN 2025

Weddings are being segmented into pre-wedding, main wedding, and post-wedding celebrations. While the main wedding often takes place in the hometown or popular destinations like Goa and Rajasthan, pre-and post-wedding events usually happen at scenic locations like beaches, mountains, or picturesque settings abroad.

#### AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND

**Colours:** Earthy Tones like terracotta, sage green, and soft beige for a natural vibe.

**Lighting:** Candles, fairy lights, and lanterns for cosy, intimate settings.

**Flowers:** Dried flowers, potted plants, and reusable arrangements.

2025 will embrace nature, technology, and personalisation in wedding ambiences.

#### WEDDING JEWELLERY

Customised elements, heirlooms, and sustainable materials will dominate, with uncut diamonds, coloured gemstones, and minimalistic yet elegant pieces taking centre stage.





Prerana Agarwal Saxena, Founder, Theme Weavers Designs

#### **BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025**

Brides will embrace fusion ensembles combining traditional silhouettes with contemporary elements, like lehengas with capes or minimalistic sarees with structured blouses. Grooms will opt for tailored bandhgalas, pastel sherwanis, and modern kurta sets.

#### WEDDING VOWS, GRAND ARRIVALS THAT COULD GO BIG IN 2025

Personalised wedding vows will gain prominence, blending tradition with heartfelt, contemporary promises. Couples will go big with dramatic and dreamy entries like exotic cars, vintage carriages or floral cascades.





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Image Courtesy: Rising Events

# STYLE, SPARKLE & SWEET VOWS

Rising Events Founder Harshal Kothari reveals his trend picks that will be popular this wedding season

#### **TT BUREAU**

arshal Kothari, Founder of Rising Events, is a dynamic leader in event management. Known for crafting exceptional weddings and events, he combines creativity, strategic planning, and cultural finesse to create unforgettable, tailormade experiences that inspire and delight.

#### WHAT MOOD BOARDS WILL TREND

Mood boards will align colours, textures, and cultural elements with the couple's vision. Key factors include the venue and event scale. For a royal Rajasthani wedding, jewel tones, traditional motifs, and opulent fabrics will go big. For a beach wedding, soft pastels, seashell motifs, and breezy fabrics create a coastal vibe, influencing decor, attire, and menu.

#### **THEME WEDDINGS TO TREND IN 2025**

Trends in 2025 will include Bollywood-themed extravaganzas with vibrant decor, music, and glamorous attire, or a royal

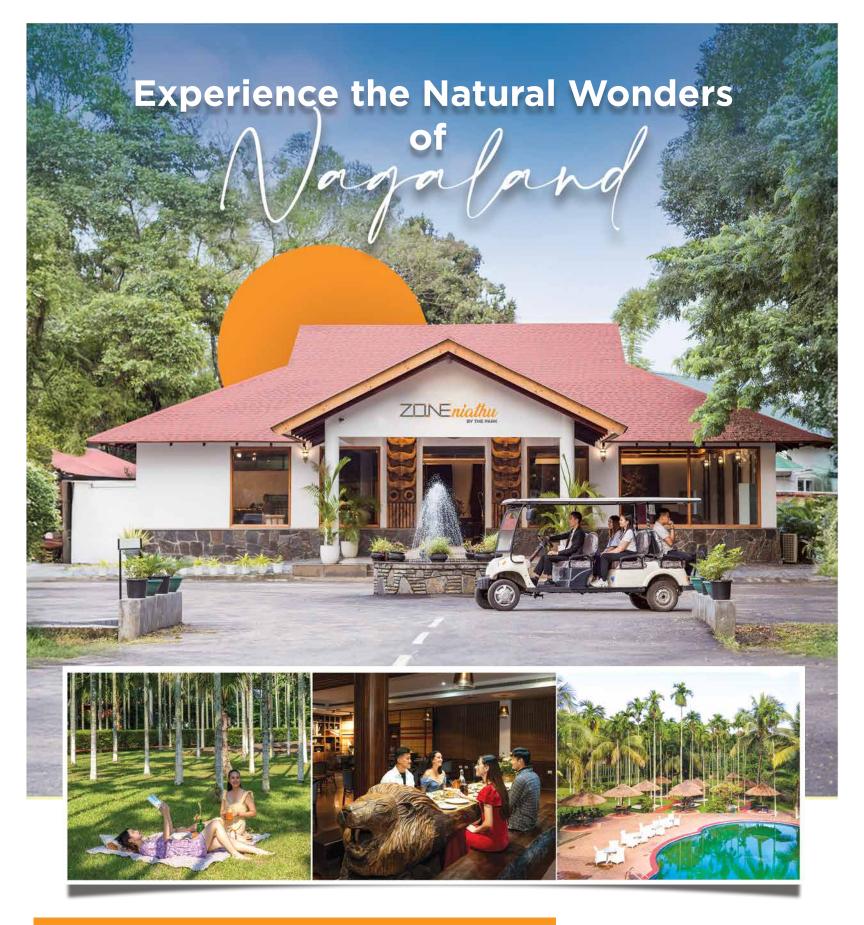


Harshal Kothari, Founder, Rising Events

vintage wedding with antique furniture, vintage cars, and sepia-toned decor.

#### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

We work closely with Chefs to design menus that meet the couple's preferences. For a wedding with a Maharashtrian



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Image Courtesy: Rising Events

theme, traditional dishes like Puran Poli and Ukadiche Modak (sweet dumplings) will be served with a modern twist. Global fusion menus will merge Indian street food with gourmet twists like pav bhaji bruschettas and butter chicken sliders.

#### **TOP DESTINATION CHOICES IN 2025 AND WHY**

We recommend picturesque locations that match the couple's vision. Our choices include Goa, Rajasthan, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Indonesia, Thailand, UAE, Mauritius and Vietnam.

#### AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND

Bringing a couple's vision to life requires creativity, project management, and cultural understanding. We blend vibrant South Indian traditions and rituals with minimalist decor by using subtle traditional elements, muted colours, and simple floral arrangements.

#### WEDDING JEWELLERY

**Key trends include:** Pearls in contemporary designs, and traditional settings to feature sleek, minimalist pieces; incorporating vibrant gemstones such as sapphires,

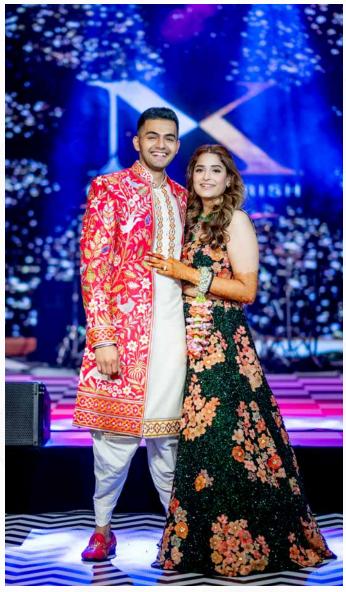


Image Courtesy: Rising Events

emeralds, and rubies into traditional bridal jewellery; combining different metal hues—like rose gold, white gold, and platinum— to create contrasts; and customised unique pieces with engraved messages or bespoke designs.

#### **BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025**

**For brides:** Fusion Lehengas with minimalist designs, sustainable choices, and traditional bridal silhouettes with contemporary cuts and styles.

For grooms: Regional embroidery like Kashmiri work, chikankari, and zardozi, textured fabrics such as velvet and tweed for winters, and linen for summers, and customised accessories like cufflinks, engraved watches, and layered bracelets.

#### WEDDING VOWS, GRAND ARRIVALS THAT COULD GO BIG IN 2025

In 2025, wedding vows will emphasise personalisation with cultural traditions. Grand arrivals are expected to go big with dramatic flair, including horse-drawn carriages, helicopter landings, or synchronised performances.

NO VO TEL



#### Padharo Sa,

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## WHERE DREAMS COME TRUE

Experience weddings that blend cultural traditions, bespoke services, and unforgettable moments with BWH's unique venues and expertise

TT BUREAU

t is remarkable how BWH Hotels creates weddings as unique as the couple, blending stunning venues with bespoke experiences. From starlit garden vows to chic receptions, the expert planners craft unforgettable moments with luxurious suites, tailored menus, live entertainment, and even live-streaming options. BWH doesn't just host weddings; it partners with you to turn your dream day into cherished memories that last a lifetime.

#### **CULTURAL OR TRADITIONAL WEDDING ELEMENTS**

BWH Hotels celebrates the richness of Indian weddings, blending cultural heritage with modern elegance. From grand baraat processions and vibrant sangeets to sacred mandap rituals, the venues honour regional traditions while providing the perfect setting for every ceremony. Whether it's the grandeur of a Punjabi wedding or the spiritual charm of a Vrindavan-inspired celebration, their dedicated team curates every detail—rituals, music, décor, and cuisine—making each event truly unforgettable.

#### **RECENT TRENDS IN WEDDING HOSPITALITY**

Recent wedding trends emphasise personalisation, intimacy, and unforgettable moments. Couples now prefer tailored

experiences with custom menus, décor, and themes. Micro weddings are rising, featuring smaller, exclusive venues for high-end celebrations. Fun additions like photo booths, live music, games, and cocktail stations enhance traditional elements.

BWH Hotels offers flexible packages, unique entertainment options like cocktail classes, and personalised coordination, delivering modern wedding experiences that exceed expectations.

#### THE SUCCESS STORY

Step into timeless romance at Best Western Resort Country Club, Manesar—where dreams meet grandeur. This iconic venue, featured in Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge, boasts 115 luxurious rooms, a grand 9,000-square-foot banquet hall, and lush lawns surrounded by Sarso ka Kheth.

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#### Bu Best Western. Kasauli Opening Soon





RUCHIKA ARORA BANSAL

## MOGRA & MARIGOLD MAGIC

Plush Events Founder, Ruchika Arora Bansal, shares her expert insights into the top wedding trends for 2025

TT BUREAU



Image Courtesy: Plush Weddings

R uchika Arora Bansal, Founder of Plush Events, has been crafting unforgettable, tailor-made weddings since 2014, blending creativity with seamless execution.

#### **MOOD BOARDS TRENDING IN 2025**

Mood boards will lean towards elevated minimalism, featuring soft, monochromatic palettes and curated details like custom illustrations or heirloom-inspired decor. Sustainable luxury will also trend, incorporating eco-friendly elements alongside timeless elegance.

#### THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025

• **Royal Indian:** Regal decor with grand drapery, rich fabrics, intricate patterns, and jewel tones like gold and red.

• Floral Extravaganza: Dominated by marigold and mogra, with grand floral arches and opulent mandaps.

• **Eco-Conscious Celebrations:** Earthy tones, organic materials, and sustainable decor.

• **Desi Bazaar:** A vibrant setup inspired by Indian markets, with stalls, colourful textiles, and cultural artifacts.





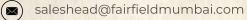
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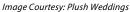
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• Fruity Accents: Vibrant themes featuring citrus, pomegranates, and tropical fruits in decor and centrepieces.

#### FOOD STYLES TRENDING IN 2025

• **Curated Regional Menus:** Local delicacies like Keralainspired seafood and Rajasthani thalis.

• Fusion Flavours: Dishes blending Indian spices with global ingredients, such as butter chicken tacos or chole sliders.

• **Personalised Cocktail Bars:** Custom cocktails reflecting the couple's personality, with unique edible garnishes.

#### **TOP WEDDING DESTINATIONS IN 2025**

Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bali, Italy, and Portugal. One of our couples is hosting a wedding in Dhaka in January.

#### **PREFERRED WEDDING LOCATIONS IN 2025**

Couples will choose scenic heritage sites like forts, palaces, and temples for traditional vibes. Luxury resorts surrounded by nature—beachfront, hillside, or lush gardens—will also trend for private and immersive experiences.

#### AMBIENCE TRENDS IN INDIAN WEDDINGS IN 2025

Eco-friendly decor with plants and natural materials will dominate. Gentle, romantic lighting will create a cosy atmosphere, while bold, exotic floral arrangements will add drama.

#### WEDDING JEWELLERY TRENDS IN 2025

A mix of traditional and modern styles will emerge, including intricate designs, oxidized silver, recycled gold, and layered necklaces. Bold earrings and simple, elegant pieces for minimalistic looks will also trend.

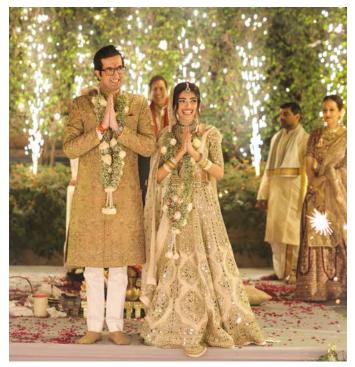


Image Courtesy: Plush Weddings



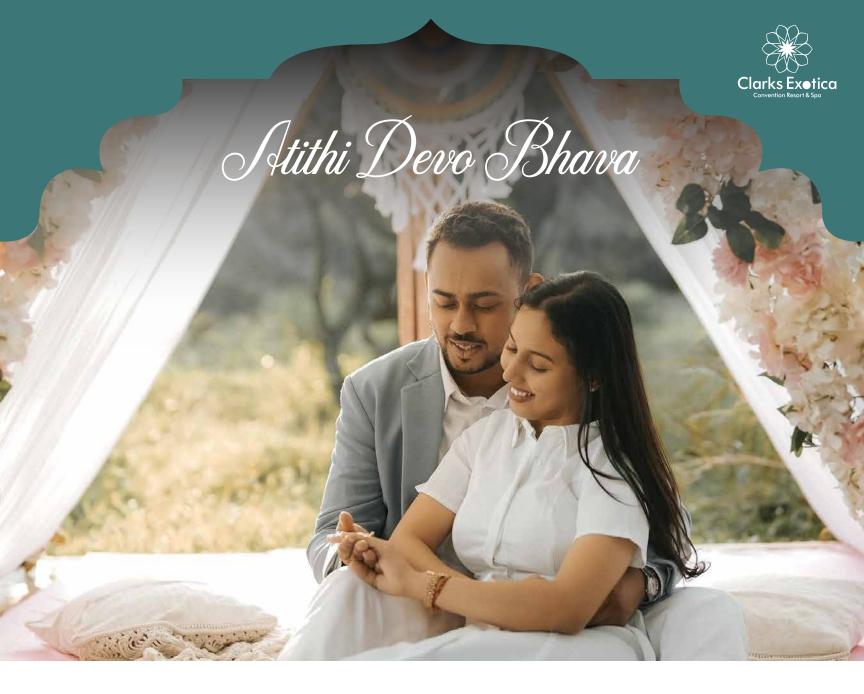
Ruchika Arora Bansal, Founder, Plush Events

#### BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025

Brides will embrace lehengas with detachable skirts, capes, and intricate embroidery. Grooms will opt for well-fitted suits and sherwanis with sophisticated designs. Sustainable fashion using eco-friendly fabrics and ethical practices will gain popularity.

#### WEDDING VOWS AND GRAND ARRIVALS IN 2025

Wedding vows will become deeply personal, reflecting the couple's unique story. Grand entrances will be dramatic, with options like horseback, vintage cars, or even hot air balloons. Exotic destination weddings will continue to dominate.



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#### **VIJAY ARORA**

## LUXE MINIMALISM TO BOLD

Vijay Arora, Founder of Touchwood Entertainment Limited, reveals top wedding trends set to define 2025

TT BUREAU



ijay Arora is the Founder and Director of Touchwood Entertainment Limited, India's first listed event management company. Known for his meticulous attention to detail and creative vision, Vijay excels in transforming dreams into reality with stunning décor, seamless execution, and personalised touches.

#### MOOD BOARDS TO TREND

This season's weddings feature personal setups with living room-style décor, earthy greens, jewel tones, rustic-futuristic blends, vintage-modern accents, and meaningful details, turning each celebration into a bespoke expression of love.

#### **THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025**

Luxe minimalism in 2025, featuring elegant décor, artistic florals, guest-focused hospitality, and gourmet dining experiences, crafting meaningful and unforgettable celebrations.

Image Courtesy: Touchwood Entertainment Ltd.

#### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

In 2025, fine dining will take centre stage at events with customised menus, global cuisine stations, and famous restaurants recreating their authentic setups. Live counters, teppanyaki stations, and innovative bars offering personalised drinks and unique serving styles will also be major highlights.

#### **TOP DESTINATION CHOICES IN 2025**

Italy, Greece, Japan, and Mexico remain romantic favourites. Affordable destinations like Portugal, Spain, and Thailand gain popularity, while Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Riyadh shine for luxury weddings.

#### LOCATIONS COUPLES WILL PREFER IN 2025

In 2025, couples will favour unique venues like vineyards, mountain resorts, castles, or offbeat spots like Iceland and Tuscany. Eco-friendly venues will rise with sustainability in focus. Weddings will reflect personal style, creating intimate, memorable experiences.





### CELEBRATE LIFE WITH INDIAN TEA AND YOGA

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We welcome you to connect with your inner self and discover the perfect harmony of mind, body and soul through the unique confluence of Yoga and Indian Tea.







Image Courtesy: Touchwood Entertainment Ltd.

### **AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND**

Weddings in 2025 will dazzle with LED lighting, projection mapping, and dramatic SFX like lasers and fog. Rich tones like terracotta and emerald pair with lush florals—dahlias, peonies, and greenery—for a romantic, warm, and immersive atmosphere.

### WEDDING JEWELLERY

Wedding jewellery in 2025 will feature custom designs with initials, dates, or symbols, bold statement pieces with vibrant gemstones, and vintage-inspired heirlooms. Sustainable options like lab-grown diamonds and recycled materials will reflect couples' unique stories and eco-conscious values.

### **BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025**

Wedding outfits will blend tradition and modernity with personal touches. Couples prefer big brands or emerging designer pieces, often incorporating heirlooms like vintage sarees or jewellery with a modern twist. Rich silks and embroidery remain classics, while trendy cuts and unique details add style.



Image Courtesy: Touchwood Entertainment Ltd.



Vijay Arora, Founder, Touchwood Entertainment Ltd.

### WEDDING VOWS, GRAND ARRIVALS THAT COULD GO BIG IN 2025

In 2025, personalised vows and grand arrivals will take centre stage. Heartfelt vows add a personal touch, while dramatic entries—vintage cars, boats, or dance performances—create unforgettable, social-media-worthy moments.



Image Courtesy: Touchwood Entertainment Ltd.

### REWRITE RULES, MARRY ME HERE!

Celebrate your love in a venue that feels like magic, where every moment becomes a masterpiece of memories.



Bride & Groom

hen it comes to saying "I do," celebrities are style setters and they go all out to make their wedding day as unique as their love story! From Milind Soman and Ankita Konwar's barefoot vows near a waterfall in Spain to Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas celebrating in the French countryside, these stars prove that the best weddings happen when you embrace the unconventional.

But guess what? You don't have to be a celebrity to have a wedding that's out of this world! Your big day can be just as unforgettable with the right venue and a touch of creativity. All it takes is a little imagination to turn your wedding into a one-of-a-kind experience that's as special as your love story!

Sogoahead! Exchange your vows in a venue as extraordinary as your love story—where tradition meets innovation, and every detail is tailored to create unforgettable moments.

### LOVE REBOOTED: HIGH-TECH WEDDINGS

Why settle for a standard wedding venue when you can get married in the Matrix? High-tech weddings are the new

cool, where you can exchange vows in a virtual world of your dreams—be it a beach on Mars or a castle made of pixels.

These platforms create immersive experiences where remote guests can attend in real time, making distance disappear. Augmented reality (AR) takes it further, adding interactive elements like virtual flowers or 3D decor, transforming even traditional spaces into futuristic celebrations.

As far back as May 25, 2017, the world witnessed a groundbreaking moment when Elisa Evans and Martin Shervington tied the knot in a virtual space designed specifically for their ceremony, surrounded by 150 guests who attended either in VR or online.

These virtual ceremonies often include interactive elements like virtual receptions with music, dancing, and games, creating a sense of community similar to traditional weddings. With limitless possibilities, high-tech weddings offer a fresh, personalised, and unforgettable way to say "I do," making your special day accessible to all, no matter where they are!

### **DESERT DREAMS**

Desert weddings are trending for good reason— exchanging vows surrounded by endless dunes, with the golden sands stretching as far as the eye can see are magical. Wedding couples Chloe Sonnenfeld and Merv Griffin Estate lit up the desert night in La Quinta, California, with their starstudded wedding. On the other side of the world, Henrietta Tiefenthaler and Oli Wennink's wedding in Morocco blended cultures seamlessly. A mix of Moroccan colours, traditions, and the exotic essence of the desert, makes it a truly epic experience for everyone involved.

And how could we forget Bianca Zaveri and Devkrsna Sagar, who turned their wedding into a grand spectacle in Jaisalmer's Thar Desert at Surya Garh? They went all out with a 20-foot installation for the violinist to welcome their guests, who were dressed in black tie gear.

Popular desert wedding spots include Joshua Tree National Park in California, where the landscapes are as breathtaking as the love stories they witness. The Grand Canyon in Arizona provides elopement spots that feel straight out of a movie scene, with the rim of the canyon offering a view like no other. In India, Suryagarh Jaisalmer is a stunning option for a desert wedding, combining royal heritage with the dramatic beauty of the Thar Desert. Camel rides, vibrant Rajasthani decor, and a majestic fort backdrop make it a one-of-a-kind wedding destination.

### **UNDERWATER VOWS: DIVE INTO LOVE**

If you're an adventurous couple looking for an unforgettable wedding, why not say "I do" beneath the waves? In India, V Chinnadurai and S Swetha from Chennai, Tamil Nadu, took the plunge—literally—by getting married 60 feet underwater off the coast of Neelankarai in February 2021. The couple exchanged garlands and tied the traditional thaali (mangal



Milind Soman & Ankita Konwar

sutra) as fish swam around them, with the ocean serving as both their venue and witness.

And then there's the story of an Indian groom and his Slovenian bride, who chose the picturesque beaches of Kovalam, Kerala for their wedding with the waves gently lapping at the shore, a soft sea breeze in the air, and two cultures coming together against a backdrop as beautiful as their love story.

Famous destinations like the Maldives offer couples the chance to tie the knot in an underwater chapel at Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas. Surrounded by breathtaking views of coral reefs and tropical fish, the setting is as extraordinary



Bianca Zaveri and Devkrsna Sagar Wedding



as the ocean. In India, you can experience an underwater wedding at The Havelock Islands in the Andamans, known for its crystal-clear waters and stunning marine biodiversity.

These unique weddings aren't just about saying "I do" in unconventional locations; they're about making a statement that resonates with something deeper. These submerged ceremonies create memories that will last a lifetime, allowing you to celebrate love in a way that's truly out of the ordinary.

### FAIRY TALES IN VINEYARDS

For couples who love the romance of nature and the elegance of fine wine, vineyard weddings offer the perfect blend of rustic charm and sophisticated beauty. Surrounded by rows of grapevines, these venues are perfect for couples looking for a peaceful and scenic backdrop. In India, Sula Vineyards in Nashik offers beautiful views of rolling hills, making it a magical place for a wedding. The natural surroundings, paired with the gentle breeze and aroma of grapes, make it an unforgettable experience.

In the U.S., Napa Valley in California is famous for its vineyard weddings. With its vast vineyards and stunning landscapes, places like Castello di Amorosa and Domaine Carneros provide a fairy-tale atmosphere. Whether outdoors or inside a wine cellar, Napa is a favourite for wine lovers and romantics.

In Europe, Château de Berne in Provence, France, offers vineyards alongside beautiful lavender fields, perfect for a romantic wedding. Stellenbosch Vineyards in South Africa also provide a breathtaking view of vineyards and mountains, creating a perfect setting for a vineyard wedding.

### **BY THE SEA: PERFECT BEACH WEDDINGS**

Beach weddings offer the ultimate romantic setting, combining the beauty of the ocean with the charm of a celebration under

the open sky. Couples say their vows with the sun setting over the horizon, waves gently lapping at the shore, and a soft ocean breeze to complete the magical scene.

These celebrity couples knew how to make waves! Kourtney Kardashian and Travis Barker went all out with not just one, but multiple celebrations! Their big day in Portofino, Italy, had all the luxe vibes, but they kept it cool with beach-themed elements sprinkled throughout. Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green added a coastal twist to their Hawaiian ceremony by having their rings delivered in a conch shell instead of the classic pillow.

Yuvraj Singh and Hazel Keech set a new standard for epic entrances! Yuvraj rolled up to his beach wedding on a quad bike, bringing all the adrenaline and adventurous vibes to their festivities. Kunal Kapoor and Naina Bachchan made it all about the sea breeze and stunning views with a beach wedding in the Seychelles. Just the two of them, the ocean, and their closest loved ones—talk about a picture-perfect moment!

Venues like Taj Exotica in Goa offer the perfect mix of luxury and natural beauty, with golden sands and tropical surroundings creating an idyllic atmosphere for a memorable wedding. Similarly, The Mulia in Bali is a popular international option, offering stunning beachfront views and impeccable service to ensure your day feels like a dream come true.

Leela Kovalam in Kerala, where the serene coastline and dramatic cliffs provide a breathtaking backdrop. Beach weddings truly offer an unforgettable experience, blending nature's beauty with timeless romance.

Each venue is way more than just a backdrop—it's where your unique love story unfolds in all its magic! Whether reboot rituals going online or embrace the romantic breeze of the beach, these unconventional spots are ready to turn your wedding into something seriously unforgettable. HOLIDAY INN, JAIPUR

### TIMELESS TRADITIONS, MODERN CELEBRATIONS



With the 2025 wedding season right around the corner, Holiday Inn Jaipur is offering new innovations to set new heights

**TT BUREAU** 

s one of India's premier wedding destinations, Jaipur is gearing up for an exciting and bustling 2025 wedding season. Known for its timeless charm, rich heritage, and unparalleled hospitality, the Pink City has become the dream setting for couples seeking grandeur and elegance on their special day.

Nestled in the vibrant heart of Jaipur, Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre is not just keeping pace with this growing demand—it is setting new benchmarks. For 2025, the hotel is unveiling a suite of innovative offerings designed to redefine the wedding and culinary experience, solidifying its reputation as a hub for celebrations and luxury.

### A DESTINATION WEDDING BOOM

Jaipur's regal charm, combined with its accessibility and worldclass hospitality, has long made it a favourite among destination wedding seekers. With 2025 around the corner, the city is preparing for an unprecedented surge in wedding celebrations, fueled by both domestic and international demand. The allure of its majestic palaces, historic forts, and vibrant culture ensures that Jaipur continues to captivate couples and families alike.

Amid this flourishing market, Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre stands out as a beacon of convenience, versatility, and luxury. Its strategic location in the heart of the city, coupled with a comprehensive range of services, makes it a preferred choice



for couples seeking a seamless and memorable wedding experience. Whether you envision an intimate celebration or a grand extravaganza, the hotel's personalized offerings cater to every style and preference.

### YOUR PERFECT WEDDING VENUE

Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre offers a variety of elegant and adaptable spaces designed to bring wedding dreams to life. From the serene rooftop pool area perfect for poolside cocktails to the designer lounge ideal for chic-themed parties, every space is thoughtfully crafted to create unforgettable memories. The hotel's banquet halls provide a versatile canvas for elaborate wedding ceremonies, receptions, and pre-wedding events.

### A FEAST FOR EVERY OCCASION

Food is at the heart of every celebration, and Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre is prepared to delight with its culinary expertise. The hotel's team of seasoned chefs has curated menus that blend traditional flavours with modern techniques, offering a gastronomic journey like no other. From the rich and authentic flavours of Rajasthani cuisine to innovative global dishes, every menuis tailored to satisfy diverse palates.

The culinary offerings extend beyond weddings. Guests can indulge in a fine dining experience at the Monarch Restaurant, known for its exceptional service and ambience, or enjoy a lavish buffet in the banquet halls. Whether hosting an intimate gathering or a grand celebration, the hotel ensures that every dining experience exceeds expectations.

### **RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE**

Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre has been consistently recognized for its commitment to excellence. Recently, the hotel earned the Best Family-Friendly Hotel award from Today's Traveller, a testament to its ability to cater to guests of all ages. The award highlights the hotel's dedication to creating a luxurious yet comfortable environment where every family member feels at home.

With thoughtfully designed services that address the needs of diverse guests, families staying at the hotel are guaranteed a seamless and enjoyable experience. From personalized amenities



for children to tranquil spaces for adults, Holiday Inn Jaipur strikes the perfect balance between luxury and accessibility.

### WHAT'S NEW IN 2025?

To stay ahead in Jaipur's booming wedding market, Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre is rolling out several exciting new initiatives for the coming year:

**Exclusive Wedding Packages:** These packages are tailored to reflect each couple's unique vision, offering bespoke décor, personalized menus, and curated entertainment options.

**Collaborations with Top Wedding Planners:** By partnering with leading wedding experts in Jaipur, the hotel ensures the flawless execution of every celebration.

**Outdoor Catering Services:** Expanding beyond its premises, the hotel now brings its culinary excellence to offsite locations, offering premium catering for events held anywhere in the city.

**Culinary Innovation:** With new chefs joining the team, expect fresh, creative menus that blend tradition and innovation, promising a delightful surprise for every guest.

These initiatives reflect the hotel's commitment to staying ahead of trends while ensuring every celebration is unique and memorable.

### A YEAR OF CELEBRATION

As Jaipur's wedding season blooms, Holiday Inn Jaipur City Centre is poised to make 2025 a landmark year by redefining the way we celebrate love and family. With its commitment to creating magical moments, this is more than just a hotel; it is where memories are made and cherished forever.

Whether you're planning the wedding of your dreams or seeking a luxurious retreat for your loved ones, Holiday Inn Jaipur promises experiences that are nothing short of extraordinary.

### VIKRAMJEET SHARMA

### EARTHY + BOHO CHIC

Image Courtesy: Le Florence Weddings

Le Florence Weddings Founder Vikramjeet Sharma reveals his top wedding trend picks for 2025

**TT BUREAU** 

ikramjeet Sharma is the visionary Founder of Le Florence Weddings, a premier wedding planning company renowned for its luxury celebrations. Combining creativity, attention to detail, and a deep understanding of cultural aesthetics, he crafts unforgettable, personalised weddings that reflect elegance, sophistication, and the unique stories of each couple.

### WHAT MOOD BOARDS WILL TREND

For 2025 wedding trends, mood boards are likely to blend elements of nostalgia, sustainability, and bold personalisation. Sustainable elegance and eco-consciousness will continue to be a major theme, with couples opting for sustainable decor, locally sourced flowers, and biodegradable or reusable materials. Mood boards shall also feature earthy tones, natural textures (think linen, wood, and clay), and minimalist designs. The main themes will include

- Earthy + Boho Chic Soft, earthy palettes mixed with bohemian flair will remain a favourite. Expect mood boards with muted tones—terracotta, sage, soft mustard, and rich browns—paired with macramé, handwoven textiles, and organic florals. This vibe will give off a laid-back, yet romantic feel, ideal for outdoor or barn weddings.
- **Retro Revival** The '70s-90s are making a comeback, influencing everything from fashion to decor. Mood boards for this trend will feature vintage-inspired elements like terrazzo patterns, geometric shapes, bold colour palettes (think mustard yellows, burnt oranges, and teal), and funky floral arrangements.
- Soft Romance + Vintage Glam Vintage glam will be big in 2025. Expect mood boards with soft pastels, luxurious velvets, and antique details. Think about lace, pearls, crystal chandeliers, and vintage china crockery, a refined take on nostalgia.



Image Courtesy: Le Florence Weddings

- Modern Minimalism Clean lines, simple colour schemes (black and white, or soft neutrals), and statement pieces will continue to dominate. Think architectural florals, minimalist table settings, and monochromatic or tonal palettes.
- Bold and Bright Color Schemes Expect mood boards to feature vibrant jewel tones like emerald, sapphire, and ruby red, paired with metallic accents, creating a rich and dramatic effect.

### **THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025**

We have done almost every theme possible, from under the stars, to a Bollywood ensemble, to a royal Rajasthan, to a boho Goan theme, we have some interesting fairyland and the markets of Marrakesh themes in the pipeline for upcoming weddings.

### **CULTURAL AND PERSONAL CUSTOMIZATION**

More couples are incorporating their own unique cultural backgrounds and personal stories into their weddings. Mood boards to reflect custom textiles, culturally inspired food stations, and personal touches like family heirlooms or unique rituals.

### **CHOOSING THE PERFECT LOCATION**

Location is everything. Whether it's the regal charm of Rajasthan, the serene beaches of Goa, or the spiritual depth of a temple in Uttarakhand, the venue plays a crucial role in setting the tone for the wedding. And let's not forget about international destinations like Thailand or Italy, which offer a perfect blend of stunning backdrops and rich cultural experiences.

### **BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER**

When everything finally comes together—the décor, the food, the entertainment, the laughter, the love—it's pure magic. Each wedding is a symphony, with every detail harmonising to create a day that's not just beautiful, but unforgettable.

### WEDDING JEWELLERY

Ah, wedding jewellery—the sparkle that completes the bride's look. In India, jewellery isn't just an accessory; it's a legacy passed down through generations. Whether it's the intricate kundan sets from Rajasthan, the goddess-inspired temple jewellery from the South, or the elegant diamond pieces, each type of jewellery adds a unique touch. And the best part? Every piece, from the mangalsutra to the nose



Image Courtesy: Le Florence Weddings

ring, carries a deep cultural significance, making the bride's ensemble even more special.

### **BRIDAL MAKEUP & HAIR**

When it comes to bridal makeup and hair, it's all about striking the perfect balance between tradition and personal flair. Some brides opt for the classic look with bold red lips and kohl-lined eyes, while others prefer a more modern, subtle approach with nude tones. Hairstyles range from traditional braided buns adorned with jasmine flowers to sleek, sophisticated updos. My job is to ensure that the bride feels like the most beautiful version of herself, whether she's channelling a timeless look or something a bit more contemporary.

### **GROOM WEAR**

Let's not forget the groom! Groomwear in India is just as detailed and diverse as the bride's attire. From the classic sherwani with a regal turban to the more contemporary bandhgalas and jodhpuri suits, there's something for every style. And for the modern groom who wants to blend tradition with a touch of Western influence, there's always the option of a tailored tuxedo with Indian embroidery.



Vikramjeet Sharma, Founder, Le Florence Weddings



Image Courtesy: 7Vachan Weddings

### FROM CAVES TO CONCERT LIGHTS

Minnat Lalpuria of 7Vachan Weddings offers a glimpse into the future of weddings in 2025, from dramatic themes to exotic destinations

### **TT BUREAU**

innatLalpuria, Founder of 7Vachan Weddings, is a visionary in India's wedding industry. Her expertise in luxury and destination weddings has made 7Vachan a trusted name for crafting unforgettable, seamless celebrations tailored to modern couples' requirements.

### WHAT MOOD BOARDS WILL TREND

Themes that have activities by default. For example, Greek has opa, Oktoberfest which imbibes beer games. A lot of LED walls will trend with themes like a winter wonderland or underwater sea world.

### LIST OF THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025

Offbeat events in caves/adventure parks/Warner brothers/ etc.

### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

Live food counters like Italian with tiramisu carts, pizza or Mexico with nachos, tacos, and enchiladas. So, anything with drama trends.

### **TOP DESTINATION CHOICES IN 2025 AND WHY**

By default, it's Middle East with Abu Dhabi, Doha, Bahrain and Oman being preferred over the others. Flight connectivity



Image Courtesy: 7Vachan Weddings

and food from hotels along with luxurious venues - total value for money.

### LOCATIONS WILL COUPLES PREFER IN 2025

Weddings are now being divided into pre-wedding / postwedding celebration and main wedding. For weddings, it's the home town or city of residence or generic Goa Rajasthan. Pre and post are majorly beach/mountain or scenic hence abroad.

### AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND

Darker shades are back. Wine, teal, deep blues and greens. Lighting is more concert-level, more sharpees, power cans, lasers, and technology-driven (MI bars, etc). Florals are exotic and modern with a high emphasis on styling. Traditional florals stick to wedding day only mainly now.



Minnat Lalpuria, Founder, 7Vachan Wedding

### WEDDING JEWELLERY

The heavy polki still trends. Multiple layers are being preferred with a mix of styles.

### **BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025**

Brides are still going to deep or pastels. Classics still look the best. Veil will continue. Grooms are experimenting with colours, styles - Indian wear is broadening up for men.

### WEDDING VOWS, GRAND ARRIVALS THAT COULD GO BIG IN 2025

Couple curating their vows. Swanky limo arrivals for the couple into the hotel / with elephants and loud entertainment. Event entries are light and special effects-driven mainly.



Image Courtesy: 7Vachan Weddings

## ECO-CHIC VIBES + REGAL GLAM

Platinum World Grroup Founder Sushil Wadhwa gives his insights on the big wedding trends this season

**TT BUREAU** 

ushil Wadhwa, Founder of Platinum World Grroup, is a luxury wedding planning pioneer. Renowned for crafting bespoke, opulent celebrations worldwide, he blends innovation, cultural heritage, and meticulous detail, delivering unforgettable experiences that reflect couples' unique stories.

### **MOOD BOARDS TO WATCH IN 2025**

Wadhwa predicts the rise of two distinctive mood board trends. The first is a sustainable and chic approach, featuring natural fabrics, local flowers, earthy colour palettes, and zero-waste décor.

These elements are paired with a modern minimalist aesthetic of neutral and elegant tones, perfect for couples seeking understated luxury.

The second trend marks a return to vibrancy, with bold, festive colour schemes and intricate traditional patterns.

These mood boards celebrate cultural heritage with a rich, opulent flair, catering to couples who want their weddings to reflect their roots while making a striking visual impact.

### **THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025**

In 2025, theme weddings will embrace cultural and spiritual elegance. Temple weddings will rise in popularity, featuring sacred ceremonies in historic temples with a focus on spirituality and minimalistic décor.



Image Courtesy: Platinum World Grroup



Image Courtesy: Platinum World Grroup

These events highlight tradition and serenity, offering couples an intimate and meaningful celebration. Similarly, Heritage Haveli Weddings will blend old-world charm with modern comforts, bringing a regal touch to festivities while immersing guests in the rich history and architecture of the venue.

### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

Gourmet Indian street food will take center stage, with elevated versions of beloved classics like chaat, golgappa, and kebabs. Desserts will see a creative twist, with innovative offerings such as mishti cheesecake and motichoor truffles gaining popularity.

Vegetarian and vegan menus inspired by ayurvedic principles and locally sourced, fresh ingredients will also become highly sought after, reflecting a growing preference for health-conscious and sustainable dining options.

### **TOP DESTINATION COUNTRIES FOR 2025**

For destination weddings, the spotlight will be on breathtaking locations such as Rajasthan, Goa, Bali, Tuscany, Lake Como, Santorini, Mykonos, Dubai, Oman, and Bahrain.

These destinations are favored for their luxurious hotels, opulent culinary experiences, and stunning settings, making them perfect for creating unforgettable celebrations.

### **PREFERRED LOCATIONS IN 2025**

Palaces and forts remain timeless for their historic opulence and grand ceremonies. Boutique resorts offering intimate venues, exclusivity, bespoke services, and stunning natural backdrops are emerging as ideal additions for personalised celebrations in the coming year.

### AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND

The 2025 wedding trend features terracotta, sage, mustard, deep maroons, and blues, complemented by warm lighting



Sushil Wadhwa, Founder, Platinum World Grroup

from fairy lights, vintage chandeliers, and lanterns. Décor blends native flowers like marigold, jasmine, and lotus with modern roses, peonies, and orchids.

### WEDDING JEWELLERY

Statement Heritage pieces like the traditional kundan, jadau and temple jewellery that are often passed down through generations will dominate along with a fusion of contemporary designs and minimalist aesthetics for the smaller functions.

### **BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025**

For bridal wear, lighter lehengas with intricate embroidery, soft pastels and muted golds with traditional motifs focusing on comfort and elegance. For grooms, sleek sherwanis in deep colours like emerald green, navy, and maroon with subtle embroidery.

### WEDDING VOWS AND GRAND ARRIVALS FOR 2025

Couples are personalising vows, mixing modern promises with tradition, while drone light shows replace fireworks for eco-friendly Grand Arrivals. These trends reflect how 2025 Indian weddings blend tradition with modern flair, honouring deep cultural roots.

### FROM ZODIAC THEMES TO FLYING BUFFETS

Iskra Events' Founder and CEO Birju C. Gariba on 2025's Must-Know Wedding Trends

**TT BUREAU** 

irju C Gariba is the driving force behind Iskra Events & Celebrations, a premier event management company famed for crafting bespoke and unforgettable experiences. With over a decade of expertise in the industry, Birju has built a reputation for seamlessly blending creativity, precision, and innovation to deliver events that leave lasting impressions.

### **MOOD BOARDS**

Wedding mood board presentations have evolved significantly. Once designed with elders in mind, the younger generation now takes the lead, driving trends toward modern and thematic designs. Gone are the days of overly grand, cluttered setups; today's mood boards embrace subtle sophistication.

Influenced by Pantone's Colors of the Year, trending themes include Noir Rouge, Shine Bright Like a Diamond, luxury brand-inspired concepts (think Gucci, Versace, Prada), and elegant Candlelight Designs. Movie-inspired themes are also making waves, offering cinematic flair. These contemporary trends emphasize refined aesthetics, making wedding mood boards as stylish and personalized as the celebrations they represent.

### **THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025**

- Some of the trending themes will be -
- Sky Full of Stars (A tech Enabled Theme for Sangeet)
- Zodiac Signs (Thematic Design based on couples Zodiac Signs)
- Designers Based Décor (Versace / Gucci / Prada)
- The MET Gala
- Signs / Constellations / Colour Pop / Met Gala / Festivals

### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

Live and interactive cuisine will take centre stage in wedding celebrations this season, offering guests an immersive gastronomical experience that goes beyond traditional



Image Courtesy: Iskra Events

catering. Alongside sit-down silver service dinners, there is a growing demand for culinary theatrics where chefs engage directly with guests through live cooking stations and curated demonstrations. Speciality restaurants and renowned chefs are increasingly being brought into the mix, elevating the dining experience with their expertise and artistry.

Thematic food presentations are also gaining popularity, with creative concepts tailored to match the event's decor and theme, making the culinary offerings as visually stunning as they are delicious. Wider cuisine spreads, featuring speciality counters with regional and international flavours, add a dynamic and diverse touch to the menu.

A key highlight for 2025 is the emergence of the Flying Buffet, where innovative serving styles ensure food reaches guests effortlessly, allowing them to mingle freely while indulging in gourmet delights. Together, these trends are reshaping wedding dining into an interactive, luxurious, and



Image Courtesy: Weddingline

unforgettable experience, making food not just a necessity but a star attraction of the celebration.

### **TOP WEDDING DESTINATIONS**

Destinations beyond India's borders are making a strong comeback, driven largely by the limited availability of 5-star hotels and venues capable of accommodating the grandeur and scale of the quintessential big fat Indian wedding. The surge in demand, particularly on auspicious dates, has led to astronomical pricing by domestic venues, prompting many to explore international frontiers for more value and exclusivity.

Additionally, with couples and families often spread across different cities and countries, shorter travel routes and seamless connectivity have become crucial factors in selecting the perfect destination. International destinations are increasingly catering to these needs, offering world-class infrastructure and breathtaking settings that align perfectly with the splendour of Indian weddings.

The top destination choices will continue to be Middle Eastern countries like Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman along with destinations in South East Asia like Thailand, Vietnam and Bali. The European segment will see a rise in the premium destination wedding segment with Italy, France and Switzerland dominating the scene.

### LOCATIONS COUPLES PREFER IN 2025

Beach destinations remain the ruling the roost as far as the type of location is concerned.

### **AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND**

The Pantone colours of the year—Mocha Mousse and Peach Fuzz Dumpling—are set to dominate wedding aesthetics,



Image Courtesy: Weddingline



Birju C Gariba, Founder, Weddingline

influencing everything from decor to attire. These versatile shades, favoured for their warmth and elegance, are expected to feature prominently in brand offerings and design palettes. Complementing these tones are a range of exotic colours such as Emerald, Amaranth, and Wenge, adding depth and sophistication to the visual narrative.

Old favourites like Reds, Mauve, and Fuchsia continue to hold their ground, bringing vibrancy and richness to celebrations. Together, this eclectic mix of hues is shaping the colour trends for weddings in 2025, offering a blend of contemporary elegance and classic charm.

### WEDDING VOWS AND GRAND ARRIVALS

Grand arrivals have become one of the most important elements for couples within India, however, modern Western couples prefer more subtlety in that department.

Having said that, the big arrivals will continue to trend on social media and will see the use of SFX (Special Effects) to the next level blended with dancers in exotic costumes as well as props that are inspired by Bollywood. Baarats which are the traditional domain of grooms have seen a parallel in bridal Baraats as well and these may become the next big thing. **KAVERI VIJ** 

# **BEYOND THE AISLE**

Designer Events Inc. Co-Founder Kaveri Vij shares her insights on the biggest wedding trends this season

### **TT BUREAU**



averi Vij is the Co-Founder of Designer Events Inc. She is a leading name in luxury wedding planning due to her meticulous attention to detail, innovative designs, and eco-conscious approach while blending traditional elegance with contemporary trends.

### WHAT MOOD BOARDS WILL TREND

For 2025, mood boards will lean towards bold, maximalist designs, vibrant colours, eclectic patterns and luxurious textures. Sustainable themes with a focus on natural materials and earthy tones. Expect to see a fusion of old and new with vintage elements paired with modern aesthetics.

### **THEME WEDDINGS TRENDING IN 2025**

Sustainability will lead wedding trends with eco-friendly materials, local sourcing, and minimal waste.

### FOOD STYLES TO TREND IN 2025

Food will blend artistry with innovation this wedding season, featuring interactive stations, themed buffets, and personalised dining. At Indian weddings, where food holds cultural significance, expect traditional flavours paired with a modern presentation.

### **TOP DESTINATION CHOICES IN 2025 AND WHY**

India's rich heritage and diverse landscapes make it a top choice for weddings, while international destinations like Italy, France, and the UAE (Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha) offer luxurious settings, cultural charm, and stunning backdrops.

### WHAT KIND OF LOCATIONS WILL COUPLES PREFER IN 2025

In 2025, couples will favour personalised, intimate weddings at unique venues like private estates, castles, or luxury villas.



Image Courtesy: Designer Events Inc.

Destinations like Abu Dhabi, with relaxed regulations, offer flexibility for bespoke celebrations.

### AMBIENCES THAT WILL TREND

Weddings in 2025 will feature soft lighting, earthy tones, and lush, locally sourced floral arrangements. Dramatic touches like floral arches and hanging installations will enhance elegance.

### WEDDING JEWELLERY

Brides in 2025 will embrace heritage jewellery, wearing heirloom pieces alongside a rise in minimalist, sustainable designs. Delicate creations featuring pearls and gemstones will be favoured.



Image Courtesy: Designer Events Inc.



Image Courtesy: Designer Events Inc.

### **BRIDE AND GROOM WEAR IN 2025**

This year, there will be a shift towards pastel shades like soft pinks, purples, and greens, adorned with delicate embroidery for bridal wear. Grooms will blend tradition with modernity, pairing classic sherwanis or lightweight kurtas and dhotis with Nehru jackets.

### WEDDING VOWS, GRAND ARRIVALS THAT COULD GO BIG IN 2025

Wedding vows will become deeply personal, with couples favouring handwritten vows that tell their unique love story. Grand entrances will feature horse-drawn carriages, choreographed dances, and even hot air balloons.



Kaveri Vij, Founder, Designer Events Inc.

## **VOWS AND VIPS: A-LIST CELEB WEDDINGS**

Indian weddings are where tradition meets flair, and celeb showstoppers bring in the dazzle

**TT BUREAU** 



t's no secret that celebrities are rewriting the playbook on grand entrances with every drumbeat. It's no longer just about walking down the aisle; it's about arriving like royalty or, in some cases, like a full-blown action star. From grooms galloping in on decked-out horses that would make a Rajput warrior proud, to chopper landings that seem straight out of a Karan Johar film, the entrances are as much a spectacle as the wedding itself.

And let's not forget the Baraat—it's not a procession, it's a party on steroids, with dhol beats, twirling dancers, and enough glitter to rival a film premiere. In Rajasthan, grooms don't just show up-they arrive in style, often riding on a beautifully adorned elephant or a majestic white horse, leading a vibrant

Baraat procession. With the beats of the Shehnai and Dhol filling the air, and friends and family dancing with abandon, it's a royal parade that truly captures the regal spirit of Rajasthan, turning the moment into a lively tribute to its rich heritage.

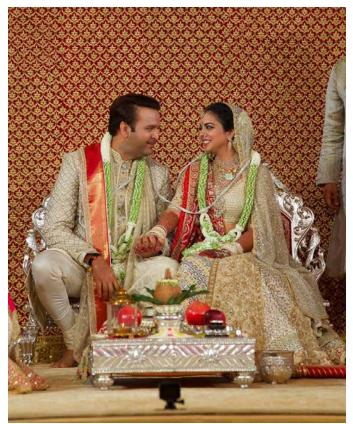
However, modern weddings have seen couples embracing unique modes of transportation. For instance, a couple made a stunning entrance by landing in a helicopter, adding a modern twist to the traditional Baraat. Tuk-tuks (auto-rickshaws) have also become a popular choice, with couples opting for these fun and quirky rides, injecting local flavor and playful energy into the event. Some grooms even make their entrance with a dance troupe, amplifying the festive atmosphere as they groove their way to the mandap.

In today's world of lavish weddings, grand entrances have become a must-have trend, turning the couple's arrival into a jaw-dropping moment that sets the tone for the entire celebration. Remember Isha Ambani's wedding? Her groom, Anand Piramal, took things to the next level by arriving in a vintage Rolls-Royce, leading a larger-than-life procession complete with traditional Indian drummers and dancers. It wasn't just an entrance—it was a full-blown spectacle that combined pure opulence with cultural flair, redefining what it means to make a royal statement.

At the wedding of Parineeti Chopra and Raghav Chadha at the stunning Leela Palace in Udaipur, Raghav made his entrance in a vintage car decked out with marigold garlands—a perfect nod to Rajasthani grandeur with a modern twist. As he led his Baraat, the air buzzed with excitement, traditional folk tunes, and the pulsating beats of dhol players, turning the whole scene into a blend of royalty and contemporary elegance that left everyone spellbound.

In Eastern India, wedding entrances feature several traditional elements that reflect local customs. The Gaye Holud ceremony, for instance, involves applying turmeric paste to the bride and groom before the wedding, symbolizing blessings and purification. This event is often accompanied by vibrant music and festivities. The groom's arrival, known as Soborjayon, is celebrated with prayers and rituals, making it a significant moment in the wedding.

The bride's entrance, or Kanya Aagaman, is equally grand, where she is often escorted under a phoolon ki chadar (floral canopy) or carried in a doli (ornate palanquin), symbolizing her transition into married life. This practice is not only a



Isha Ambani And Anand Piramal's Wedding



Parineeti Chopra And Raghav Chadha's Wedding

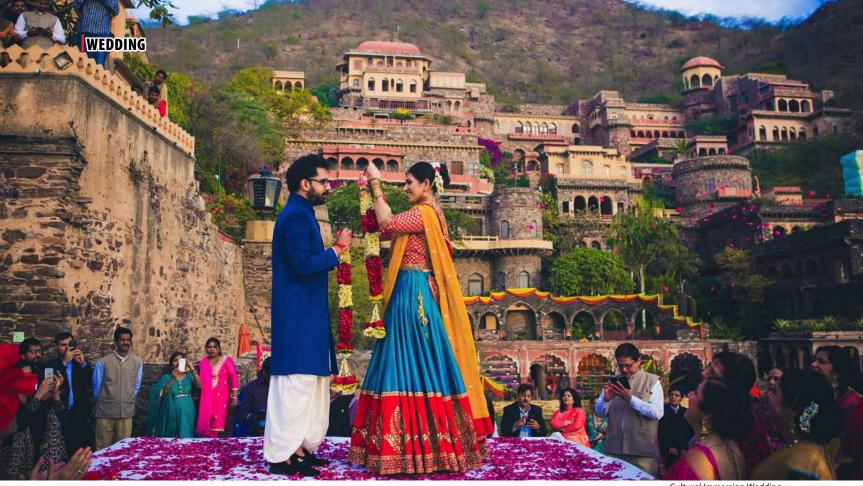
beautiful spectacle but also holds deep cultural significance in the region.

In Bengali weddings, the bride's grand entrance is steeped in tradition yet often infused with modern flair. The Doli Entry is a long-standing practice, where the bride is carried in a beautifully decorated palanquin, symbolizing family support as she transitions into her new life. Sometimes, brides opt for a more dramatic entrance, like arriving on a shikara (traditional boat) over a water body, enhancing the romantic and ethereal ambience of the occasion.

Celebrity weddings in Bengal have seen similar grand entrances. Sourav Ganguly, the former cricket captain, made a lavish entrance with a decorated horse and a vibrant musical procession, reflecting the grandeur of Bengali culture. Iconic actress Sharmila Tagore embraced tradition by arriving in a doli while dressed in a stunning red and gold saree, exuding elegance and showcasing Bengali bridal customs. Rani Mukerji, too, made a beautiful entrance under a phoolon ki chadar, highlighting the significance of family and tradition in Bengali weddings.

The groom's entrance, known as the Bor Jatri procession, is another important feature of Bengali weddings. The groom arrives with his entourage, celebrated with music, dance, and communal joy, which sets the tone for the festive spirit of the wedding. Additionally, the Mala Bodol ceremony, where the bride and groom exchange floral garlands, signifies their acceptance and commitment to each other, a deeply rooted Bengali custom.

These entrances, from grand palanquins to quirky modern transportation and celebrity-style spectacles, highlight the evolving yet deeply cultural nature of Indian weddings.



Cultural Immersion Wedding

### CULTURE + LOVE =WEDDING MAGIC

Culturally immersive wedding styles are becoming the trend of choice for couples who want their big day to be more than just an event

### **TT BUREAU**

ulturally immersive weddings in India go beyond vows and decorations, turning every moment into a vibrant celebration of traditions that have shaped their identities. Whether it's a majestic Rajasthani fort or the serene backwaters of Kerala, the venue itself is chosen to reflect the couple's roots, setting the stage for a cultural spectacle that speaks volumes.

As the air fills with the rhythmic beats of folk musicfrom the spirited energy of Bhangra drums to the soulful tunes of Manganiyar singers—it creates a festive atmosphere that draws everyone into the celebration. Guests indulge in regional delicacies like Dal Baati Churma or a traditional South Indian Sadhya, served on banana leaves, each bite a taste of the authentic flavours of the land.

Traditional dances like Ghoomar and Kathakali grace the event with their elegance, turning the wedding into the ultimate cultural immersion showcase. From the bride's intricate Kanjeevaram saree to the groom's regal sherwani, every detail is thoughtfully curated to honour their legacy.

### LOCATIONS: WHERE TRADITION MEETS SPLENDOUR

When it comes to cultural immersion weddings, choosing the right location is everything. Imagine tying the knot in the grandeur of Udaipur's City Palace or Jaipur's Rambagh Palace. These Rajasthani palaces speak of centuries of royal heritage, with their intricate carvings, towering domes, and courtyards that once hosted kings and queens. If you're drawn to the tranquil vibes of Kerala, the backwaters of Alleppey and

Kumarakom offer a completely different kind of magic. This setting becomes the perfect stage for a traditional Malayali wedding, where earthy décor made from coconut leaves and jasmine flowers adds a touch of authenticity and grace.

For couples looking to blend their love story with the spirit of ancient India, Tamil Nadu's Mahabalipuram is a stunning choice. Couples exchange vows as the waves gently crash in the background, under the timeless gaze of ancient stonecarved deities.

But let's not stop there! If you're enchanted by the mystique of the Himalayas, how about a wedding in Himachal Pradesh's Palampur or Manali? Palampur's tea gardens and pine forests provide a dreamy backdrop, while traditional Himachali rituals add a touch of mountain magic to your big day.

For a touch of spiritual ambience, Varanasi, the city of temples on the banks of the Ganges, offers a deeply sacred setting for a wedding. There's something profoundly moving about performing wedding rituals under the evening sky, with the holy river as your witness.

And if you're seeking a destination that brings both coastal and cultural vibes, Goa offers traditional Goan temples, Portuguese-style chapels, and old heritage homes that can transform your wedding into a celebration infused with both local Goan traditions and a hint of colonial charm.

### **MUSIC AND FOLK DANCES: RHYTHM OF TRADITION**

In modern Indian weddings, music and dance are the heartbeat of the celebration. A Punjabi wedding is never complete without the electrifying beats of Bhangra and Gidda, driven by the rhythm of the Dhol, Chimta, and Tumbi. During Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma's post-wedding celebrations, renowned Punjabi folk singer Gurdas Maan took the stage, amplifying the energy as everyone danced to Bhangra beats.

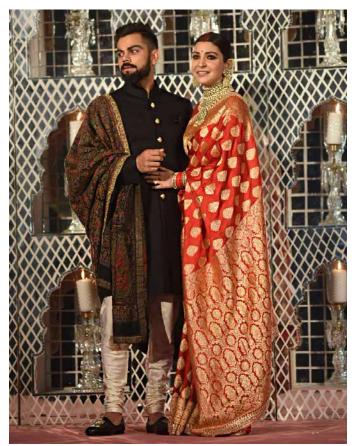
In Rajasthani weddings, the festivities come alive with the enchanting sounds of the Shehnai and Dholak, creating the perfect stage for the iconic Ghoomar dance. When Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal tied the knot, their wedding brought Ghoomar to life, blending Rajasthani elegance with modern-day magic.

Moving to Gujarat, Garba and Dandiya Raas are essential parts of wedding celebrations. Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas, in their lavish multicultural wedding, embraced these traditions by incorporating elements of Garba into their prewedding festivities, bridging their cultural roots with the festive spirit of Gujarat.

Similarly, Shilpa Shetty and Raj Kundra honoured their Mangalorean and Punjabi heritage by incorporating both Garba and Bhangra into their celebrations. They also included an energetic dance from Kumaon, Uttarakhand, called Chholiya which involves male dancers armed with swords and shields.

In Maharashtra, the fast-paced Lavani dance, accompanied by rhythmic beats, often marks joyous occasions. Genelia D'Souza and Riteish Deshmukh, who celebrated their wedding with both Maharashtrian and Christian rituals, included Lavani as part of their Maharashtrian wedding festivities.

Down in Kerala, the powerful beats of Chenda Melam signal something sacred and grand. The traditional drums echo through the air, creating a spiritual atmosphere, while Kudamattam, a rhythmic dance involving changing colourful



Virat Kohli & Anushka Sharma's Wedding Celebrations



Priyanka Chopra & Nick Jonas on their wedding day



Kiara Advani in Manish Malhotra Pink Lehenga

parasols, adds a touch of elegance. This blessed Asin Thottumkal's wedding with Kerala's vibrant cultural energy, turning the event into a sacred yet celebratory experience. Similarly, Mouni Roy and Suraj Nambiar's wedding incorporated elements from various cultures, including Bengali and Kerala traditions.

In Bengali weddings, the soulful melodies of Baul music, played on the Ektara and Dotara, fill the air, carrying songs of love and divine connection. At Rani Mukerji's ceremony, these melodies brought a sense of peace and spirituality, grounding the celebrations in the deep-rooted cultural traditions of Bengal.

### **ATTIRE: DRAPING TRADITION IN ELEGANCE**

When we talk about cultural weddings, the attire transcends fashion. Take Rajasthan, for example, where brides often dazzle in Lehengas adorned with Bandhani or Leheriya patterns. Designers like Sabyasachi Mukherjee and Manish Malhotra craft these stunning pieces, which can range from INR 5 lakhs to over INR 50 lakhs, using intricate embroidery and luxurious fabrics that echo the legacy of Rajasthan's royal heritage.

Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani took the traditional Rajasthani look to new heights at their wedding at the regal Suryagarh Palace in Jaisalmer. Kiara's blush pink Manish Malhotra lehenga, worth around INR 25 lakhs, was a vision of elegance with its intricate embroidery, perfectly paired with Polki jewellery made from uncut diamonds. Sidharth complemented her look in a regal gold-toned Sherwani by the same designer.

In Kerala, brides keep it elegant and understated with the classic Kasavu saree—a white saree with gold borders



Rich Red Saree By Jade By Monica & Karishma

that symbolizes purity. Paired with traditional gold temple jewellery, this look stays true to Kerala's rich cultural roots.

Tamil Nadu weddings shine with the luxurious Kanjeevaram sarees. These sarees, ranging from INR 1 lakh to INR 15 lakhs, are as much a work of art as they are a bridal outfit. Celebrity brides like Nayanthara have embraced this look, stunning in a rich red saree by Jade by Monica and Karishma, priced at around INR 25 lakhs.

### TRADITIONAL CUISINE: A CULINARY JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURES

Food is the soul of the celebration, where each dish is a nod to the couple's roots. At celebrity weddings like that of Shahid Kapoor and Mira Rajput, the fusion of tradition and creativity stood out with a spread that included inventive sushi chaat served on props resembling stacks of books.

Weddings like that of Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant featured over 2,500 vegetarian dishes, including creations by world-renowned chefs like Virgilio Martínez, known for his innovative Peruvian dishes. When Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas celebrated their wedding at Jodhpur's Umaid Bhawan Palace, they treated their guests to the grand Rajasthani spread.

Down south, it's a feast for the senses with the classic Sadhya served on banana leaves. When Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh tied the knot in Lake Como, they honoured their roots with a mix of Konkani-Mangalorean and Sindhi-Punjabi cuisines.

Their wedding feast included traditional delicacies like Dal Pakwan, Sev Barfi, and Puliogare, all served on banana leaves, blending the essence of both cultures.



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