# Cannes Film Festival bans nudity on red carpet amid evolving fashion trends



The Cannes Film Festival, renowned for its glamour and spotlight on cinematic excellence, has introduced a significant dress code amendment banning nudity on the red carpet and throughout the festival grounds. The organisers updated their guidelines shortly before the commencement of its 78th annual event, stating, “For decency reasons, nudity is prohibited on the red carpet, as well as any other area of the festival.” The announcement aims to align festival standards with both its long-standing charter and French law, thereby ensuring an environment of decorum amid the public and media attention surrounding this prestigious occasion.

Alongside this prohibition on full nudity, the festival has also reiterated its longstanding restrictions on voluminous outfits that may impede movement or complicate seating arrangements, indicating a desire to maintain an efficient flow of activity during the event. This new regulation has raised questions regarding the ambiguity of what constitutes "nudity" in the context of the increasingly popular trend of sheer or revealing attire that has gained traction in high fashion circles.

In recent years, the red carpet has witnessed numerous daring outfits, blurring the lines of traditional garment expectations. High-profile moments of this fashion evolution were showcased last year when Bella Hadid appeared in a revealing Saint Laurent gown, while photographer Nadia Lee Cohen and actress Vicky Krieps chose similarly bold ensembles. The festival's recent dress code outline does not detail how these sheer looks will be categorised in light of the new rules, casting a shadow of uncertainty over the possibilities for attendees this year.

This shift in policy notably coincides with a growing trend of provocative fashion choices at award ceremonies and public appearances. An example that made waves recently was Bianca Censori’s nude mini dress, designed by her husband Kanye West, which she wore at the Grammys. The outfit sparked controversy, igniting social media discussions about the implications of such revealing attire. Meghan McCain, for instance, voiced her critical perspective via social media, describing Censori's look as one of a “hostage,” before later deleting her post.

Recent celebrity appearances at other high-profile events have further solidified the prevalence of this trend. Notable figures including Julia Fox, Olivia Wilde, and Megan Thee Stallion opted for sheer gowns at the Vanity Fair Oscars after-party, maintaining public discourse on the boundaries of taste and exposure in modern fashion. The embrace of "naked dresses" has also been mirrored in high-fashion runways, where labels such as Saint Laurent and Chloé have showcased similar concepts, thereby influencing mainstream fashion choices.

Despite the newly enforced restrictions, the Cannes Film Festival continues to be a microcosm of the broader shifts occurring in the fashion industry. While the festival traditionally demands a formal dress code, its evolution in response to societal trends invites ongoing dialogue about artistic expression, comfort, and decency on the international stage. As the 2024 event unfolds, attendees will undoubtedly navigate these new rules while pushing the boundaries of what can be deemed acceptable in high fashion—a reflection of a rapidly changing cultural landscape.

The latest developments in festival etiquette are not without their historical context, as Cannes has always maintained strict guidelines surrounding attire. Gala screenings, for instance, require men to don tuxedos and women to wear evening dresses, showcasing the festival's emphasis on sophisticated presentation. However, alongside this formality, innovative trends such as the recent popularity of ‘fancy jeans’ worn by celebrities at the event indicate a subtle push towards merging comfort with elegance.

As fashion continues to evolve, thus too will the dialogue surrounding red carpet expectations, particularly in spaces as culturally significant as Cannes. This year's festival promises to be not just about cinematic brilliance, but also a reflection of the complex interplay between fashion, personal expression, and institutional standards.

### Reference Map

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Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/cannes-film-festival-nudity-red-carpet-fashion-b2749526.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://apnews.com/article/2655d4d76dab30f5bba075b63221cf5c> - The Associated Press reports that the Cannes Film Festival has officially prohibited nudity on the red carpet and throughout the festival grounds. This policy update aligns with the festival's institutional standards and French law, aiming to maintain decency. The move comes amid a trend of revealing outfits, such as Bianca Censori's appearance at the Grammys. Additionally, the festival has reiterated restrictions on large, voluminous outfits that impede movement and seating. The 2025 Cannes Film Festival is set to begin soon.
3. <https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/faq/> - The official Cannes Film Festival FAQ outlines the dress code for gala screenings, requiring attendees to wear a dinner jacket (tuxedo) with a bow tie or an evening dress. Alternatives include a cocktail dress, a dark trouser suit, a dressy top with black trousers, a black dress, or a black or midnight blue suit with a bow tie. Elegant shoes, with or without heels, are mandatory, and trainers are forbidden. The FAQ also advises attendees to avoid bringing backpacks, tote bags, or large bags.
4. <https://www.glamour.com/gallery/cannes-film-festival-2024-see-the-best-red-carpet-looks> - Glamour magazine showcases the best red carpet looks from the 2024 Cannes Film Festival. The gallery features a variety of celebrities in elegant attire, adhering to the festival's strict dress code. The images highlight the glamour and sophistication of the event, with attendees donning couture gowns and tuxedos. The gallery provides a visual representation of the fashion trends and styles that dominated the red carpet during the festival.
5. <https://www.ikonlondonmagazine.com/cannes-film-festival-red-carpet-etiquette/> - Ikon London Magazine discusses the strict red carpet etiquette at the Cannes Film Festival, emphasizing the importance of adhering to the dress code. The article highlights rules such as no handbags on the red carpet and mandatory heels for women. It also notes that attendees are expected to dress to impress, with the event being a significant occasion for showcasing high fashion. The magazine underscores the importance of following these guidelines to maintain the event's glamour and prestige.
6. <https://www.vogue.com/slideshow/fancy-jeans-trend-cannes-film-festival> - Vogue magazine reports on the unexpected trend of 'fancy jeans' at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival. Celebrities like Sienna Miller and Yseult were spotted wearing elevated denim outfits, challenging traditional formal attire norms. The article discusses how these stylish denim ensembles are redefining red carpet fashion, offering comfort without sacrificing style. The trend reflects a shift towards more relaxed yet fashionable choices at high-profile events.
7. <https://www.harpersbazaar.com/fashion/models/g60898382/best-dressed-red-carpet-cannes-film-festival-2024/> - Harper's Bazaar highlights the best-dressed celebrities at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival. The article features standout looks from attendees who adhered to the festival's strict dress code, showcasing a blend of classic elegance and modern fashion trends. The piece provides insights into the styles and designers that made an impact on the red carpet, celebrating the fashion moments that defined the event.