# Cannes Film Festival introduces stricter dress code amid star-studded Bono premiere



At the Cannes Film Festival, the glamour of Hollywood was on full display as Amal Clooney, Kristen Stewart, and Helena Christensen graced the red carpet for the premiere of Bono's film, *Bono: Stories of Surrender*. Amal Clooney captured the essence of old Hollywood style in a stunning black gown characterised by a sweetheart neckline and a billowing train. The celebrated human rights lawyer and wife of George Clooney, aged 47, elegantly styled her hair in loose waves and complemented her look with striking silver drop earrings, making her presence a highlight of the evening.

Kristen Stewart opted for a modern twist on classic attire, donning a chic white blazer paired with a matching mini skirt. The actress, known for her role in *Twilight*, accessorised her outfit with a white shirt and a short black tie, enhancing her ensemble with black heels and a playful touch of pink socks. This combination of sophistication and casual flair reflected her unique style, contributing to the high-profile atmosphere of the event.

Helena Christensen, the Danish supermodel, showcased her own interpretation of elegance in an off-white dress, accentuated by a pale pink feathered jacket and a coordinating clutch. The 56-year-old model wore her hair in a sleek updo, highlighted her features with a bold gold necklace, and exuded confidence and poise on the carpet.

Alongside these fashion icons, Bono, real name Paul Hewson, made a sophisticated appearance in a classic black suit, joined by his U2 bandmate The Edge. Their camaraderie was evident as they engaged with photographers, embodying the celebratory spirit of the night. Actor Sean Penn also added to the star-studded lineup, cutting a suave figure in his tailored ensemble. The film presented a candid look into Bono's life, delving into the influences that shaped him as a son, father, husband, activist, and rock star.

The festival this year not only spotlighted the creativity of its attendees but also instituted new regulations regarding dress code to uphold a certain decorum on the red carpet. In a bold move, organisers announced that nudity and outfits with large trains would be prohibited. This decision aims to retain a sense of decency in line with the festival's traditional values, indicating a shift in how high-profile events approach fashion norms. The guidelines outlined in the festival-goers charter highlight expectations for formal attire—requiring suits, evening gowns, and dressy outfits while discouraging the provocative garments that have increasingly dominated past red carpets.

While Cannes has historically been a platform for extravagant fashion statements, the introduction of this more conservative dress code reflects growing awareness and an intent to foster an environment that prioritises sophistication and respect. Although the decision has stirred discussions within the fashion community, it marks a significant pivot for a festival often scrutinised for its sartorial choices.

As attendees converged for exclusive screenings across the festival's busy two-week programme, the conversation surrounding fashion and its implications remained a touchstone of the event, echoing the intricate relationship between cinema, culture, and celebrity.

The night was yet another testament to the festival's capacity to blend cinematic art with glitz and glamour, while the new rules signal a desire for a respectful and poised atmosphere at one of the world's most talked-about film gatherings.

**Reference Map**1: Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6  
2: Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6  
3: Paragraph 4  
4: Paragraph 4  
5: Paragraph 6  
6: Paragraphs 4, 5, 6  
7: Paragraphs 5, 6

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14721091/Amal-Clooney-exudes-old-Hollywood-glamour-black-gown-joins-Kristen-Stewart-Helena-Christensen-star-studded-premiere-Bono-Stories-Surrender-Cannes-Film-Festival.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14721091/Amal-Clooney-exudes-old-Hollywood-glamour-black-gown-joins-Kristen-Stewart-Helena-Christensen-star-studded-premiere-Bono-Stories-Surrender-Cannes-Film-Festival.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - The article reports on the attendance of Amal Clooney, Kristen Stewart, and Helena Christensen at the premiere of Bono's new film, 'Bono: Stories of Surrender,' at the Cannes Film Festival. Amal Clooney is described as exuding old Hollywood glamour in a flowing black dress with a sweetheart neckline and a flowing train. Kristen Stewart is noted for her white blazer and matching mini skirt ensemble, accessorized with a short black tie and black heels. Helena Christensen is highlighted for her elegant off-white dress paired with a pale pink feathered jacket and matching clutch. The article also mentions the attendance of Bono, The Edge, and actor Sean Penn at the event. Additionally, it discusses the new dress code at the Cannes Film Festival, which prohibits nudity and large train outfits on the red carpet, aiming to maintain decency and ensure a smooth flow of attendees during the event.
3. <https://www.marieclaire.co.uk/fashion/bella-hadid-cannes-audrey-hepburn> - This article highlights Bella Hadid's homage to Audrey Hepburn at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival. Hadid channels Hepburn's iconic Holly Golightly look from 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' by wearing a refined, retro-inspired ensemble. Styled by Jacquemus, her outfit includes the designer's Agave drop-waist pleated poplin dress, Le Turismo bag, pointed ballet flats, oversized sunglasses, and shimmering jewelry. The piece emphasizes Hadid's contemporary yet faithful rendition of Hepburn's timeless charm, tapping into the enduring appeal of Hepburn's minimalist Givenchy wardrobe.
4. <https://www.apnews.com/article/eb7a019eba6e1fd2b323f65599aa880a> - The article provides an overview of the events at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival, including notable film debuts and premieres. It mentions the festival's opening with a tribute to Robert De Niro, coinciding with the 49th anniversary of 'Taxi Driver' winning the Palme d'Or. De Niro used the occasion to criticize U.S. President Donald Trump. Other highlights include Tom Cruise presenting the latest 'Mission: Impossible' film and a 4K restoration premiere of Charlie Chaplin's 'The Gold Rush' for its 100th anniversary. The piece also notes the introduction of new red carpet rules at the festival, banning nudity and large train outfits, prompting stars like Halle Berry to adjust their attire.
5. <https://www.huffingtonpost.es/life/cultura/cannes-levanta-telon-claro-acento-politicosomos-amenaza-autocratas-fascistas-mundo.html> - This article discusses the 78th edition of the Cannes Film Festival, highlighting its marked political tone. It features Robert De Niro's emotive and combative speech denouncing attacks on culture and rights in the U.S. under President Donald Trump. Juliette Binoche, president of the jury, also addresses issues of sexual abuse in French cinema, supports the Me Too movement, and remembers victims of the Gaza conflict, emphasizing the role of art as testimony. The piece also mentions a letter signed by filmmakers like Almodóvar and Bardem denouncing the 'genocide' in Gaza and the inaction of the cultural sector.
6. <https://www.elpais.com/cultura/2025-05-13/la-desnudez-y-los-vestidos-voluminosos-prohibidos-en-la-alfombra-roja-del-festival-de-cannes.html> - The article reports on the Cannes Film Festival's updated regulations for its 78th edition, explicitly prohibiting nudity and large train outfits on the red carpet. This measure aims to maintain decency and ensure a smooth flow of attendees during the event. The festival's organizers have also reminded attendees of other existing rules, such as the prohibition of 'selfies.' The piece notes that while Cannes has historically been a showcase for haute couture and provocative gestures, recent controversies have led the festival to reinforce its dress code, requiring formal attire like tuxedos, evening dresses, or cocktail dresses, and banning large bags.
7. <https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/faq/> - The official FAQ page of the Cannes Film Festival provides detailed information on various aspects of the event, including access to screenings, ticket reservations, and dress codes. For gala screenings, the dress code requires a dinner jacket (tuxedo) with a bow tie or 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 required, and trainers are forbidden. The page also advises attendees to avoid bringing backpacks, tote bags, or large bags.