# Simone Ashley champions sustainable style at Monaco Grand Prix amid Cannes dress code shake-up



Simone Ashley made a striking appearance at the Monaco Grand Prix, captivating onlookers in a stylish ensemble that featured a pink and brown jacket along with a mini skirt, accentuating her long legs. The 30-year-old actress, best known for her roles in *Bridgerton* and *Sex Education*, complemented her outfit with a sleek ponytail, gold earrings, a brown handbag, and fashionable cat-eye glasses. This display of fashion not only showcased Ashley's keen sense of style but also supported her commitment to sustainable fashion, as some elements of her ensemble were crafted by up-and-coming designer Conner Ives, who is known for upcycling vintage materials.

The Monaco Grand Prix, held on Sunday, was a high-octane affair that saw Lando Norris take the title after a commanding performance during the race. This event is emblematic of Monaco's reputation for glamour and speed, providing a glamorous backdrop for celebrities like Ashley to shine. Her appearance came just a day after she graced the closing ceremony of the 78th Cannes Film Festival, reinforcing her status as a notable figure in the entertainment and fashion worlds.

During the Cannes Film Festival, a new dress code was introduced, prohibiting nudity and banning overly voluminous outfits, a move aimed at maintaining decorum and addressing logistical challenges. Organisers stated that such adjustments were necessary to refocus attention on the films showcased rather than merely the fashion statements made on the red carpet. As articulated in a recent festival document, “For decency reasons, nudity is prohibited on the red carpet, as well as any other area of the festival,” strategically steering the event towards more modest and sophisticated attire.

This policy sparked a wave of debate among attendees and fashion enthusiasts, with many critics suggesting that the rules might inhibit creative expression. The new guidelines favour classic options, allowing cocktail dresses, pantsuits, or glamorous gowns, which reflect a departure from the recent trend of provocative, bare-all outfits. This shift comes against a backdrop of growing concerns regarding the nature of celebrity culture at significant events, where the emphasis has seemingly tilted towards shock value rather than artistry.

Despite the stringent dress code, many celebrities at Cannes found ways to push the boundaries, opting for daring yet compliant ensembles that balanced innovation and elegance. High-profile attendees managed to captivate onlookers, demonstrating that even within a more conservative framework, fashion can continue to make powerful statements. The festival's new guidelines have not only altered the dynamics of red carpet presentations but have also reignited discussions about the intersection of art, fashion, and socially driven rules at film festivals.

In an era that sees the blending of fashion and activism, Ashley's dual appearances in Monaco and Cannes illustrate the delicate balance between personal style, public expectations, and emerging trends in the fashion landscape.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14747929/Simone-Ashley-puts-leggy-display-enjoys-Monaco-Grand-Prix-stunning-Cannes-closing-ceremony.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.vogue.co.uk/news/article/simone-ashley-conner-ives-monaco-grand-prix)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14747929/Simone-Ashley-puts-leggy-display-enjoys-Monaco-Grand-Prix-stunning-Cannes-closing-ceremony.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/40c17df2-2f6f-4ceb-8561-6742eb79089a), [[4]](https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/cannes-red-carpet-dress-code-naked-dress-ban/), [[5]](https://apnews.com/article/2655d4d76dab30f5bba075b63221cf5c)
* Paragraph 4 – [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/40c17df2-2f6f-4ceb-8561-6742eb79089a), [[6]](https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/2025-cannes-film-festival-best-dressed/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[4]](https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/cannes-red-carpet-dress-code-naked-dress-ban/), [[7]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/films/0/cannes-etiqutte-guide-film-festivals-snobbiest-rules/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14747929/Simone-Ashley-puts-leggy-display-enjoys-Monaco-Grand-Prix-stunning-Cannes-closing-ceremony.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.vogue.co.uk/news/article/simone-ashley-conner-ives-monaco-grand-prix> - Actress Simone Ashley showcased a stylish ensemble at the Monaco Grand Prix, donning a patchwork halter-neck top and matching bandana by Conner Ives, paired with split-hem trousers from the designer’s autumn/winter 2022 collection. She accessorized with a woven top-handle bag by Aspinal of London, studded sandals by Ancient Greek Sandals, and a Tag Heuer Carrera watch. This appearance highlights Ashley's support for the London-based designer, known for upcycling vintage and deadstock pieces, and her commitment to sustainable fashion choices.
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/40c17df2-2f6f-4ceb-8561-6742eb79089a> - The 2025 Cannes Film Festival introduced a new dress code banning 'nudity' and 'voluminous outfits' at gala screenings, aiming to promote decency and improve logistical efficiency. This move disrupted the event's reputation for bold and extravagant red carpet fashion, leaving designers, stylists, and attendees scrambling to adjust outfits. The changes sparked debate about creative freedom and expression, with some celebrities opting for vintage or streamlined looks, while others tested the boundaries with sheer or voluminous gowns.
4. <https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/cannes-red-carpet-dress-code-naked-dress-ban/> - The 2025 Cannes Film Festival updated its red carpet dress code, prohibiting nudity and banning sheer 'naked dresses' and voluminous gowns. Organizers cited 'decency' and the need to prevent disruption in guest flow as reasons behind the change. This policy directly affects celebrities known for bold, skin-baring fashion choices, sparking backlash from stylists who criticized the rules as patriarchal and regressive. The updated guidelines list modest attire such as cocktail dresses, pantsuits, or a dressy top with black pants as acceptable alternatives.
5. <https://apnews.com/article/2655d4d76dab30f5bba075b63221cf5c> - Ahead of its 78th edition, the Cannes Film Festival reinforced its red carpet dress code by officially prohibiting nudity. This update clarifies previously unwritten norms, stating that full nudity is banned both on the red carpet and within the festival grounds. The policy aligns with the festival’s institutional standards and French law, aiming to maintain decorum. Additionally, the festival reiterated restrictions on large, voluminous outfits that impede movement and seating, addressing concerns over recent revealing attire trends.
6. <https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/2025-cannes-film-festival-best-dressed/> - Despite the Cannes Film Festival's new dress code banning nudity and voluminous outfits, many celebrities responded with daring and creative ensembles. Stars like Bella Hadid, Angelina Jolie, Natalie Portman, and Jennifer Lawrence elevated the style bar with custom pieces from high-fashion labels. This trend highlights the attendees' ability to balance elegance and drama within the new rules, showcasing a dazzling array of best-dressed moments that challenge the boundaries of the dress code.
7. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/films/0/cannes-etiqutte-guide-film-festivals-snobbiest-rules/> - The Cannes Film Festival has a history of strict dress codes, including the controversial 'Heelgate' incident in 2015, where women were turned away from screenings for wearing flat shoes instead of heels. This incident sparked widespread criticism and led to discussions about gender equality and the festival's dress code policies. The controversy highlighted the challenges and expectations placed on female attendees regarding footwear and attire at the prestigious event.