Dressing for Cultural Diplomacy

An Illustrated Guide to 30 Countries

Professional meetings community visits and respectful cultural engagement



Korede Olafimihan

How to use this illustrated guide

This guide helps visitors choose clothing for professional meetings, community engagement and cultural visits across thirty countries. Each country has an outfit plate followed by practical guidance. The central principle is simple: use the invitation, the actual venue's requirements and the host's advice before relying on a broad country recommendation. Clothing can support respectful participation, but it does not prove cultural competence or determine a person's worth.

Read the pictures as options

Each plate shows four adult visitor examples from left to right. A and B illustrate formal meeting outfits; C and D illustrate less formal community or site-visit options as explained in the key. These are not national costumes, a census of local dress or permission to enter a venue. Men's and women's examples are practical silhouettes, not a restriction on personal identity. Adapt them to your gender expression, religious practice, disability, access requirements and comfort.

Scope and evidence

Prepared on 22 October 2026. Outfit selections, colours and packing suggestions are editorial recommendations. Country business sources provide background and sometimes explicit dress guidance; they do not substantiate every illustrated detail. Named-site requirements are identified separately and must be rechecked before visiting. Some sources are older or archived and are labelled accordingly. This is not legal, security or immigration advice and does not confer diplomatic status.

Illustrations and cultural diversity

The watercolor and ink artwork was generated for this book. It depicts fictional people and suggested outfits, not real delegates or events. A country contains varied regions, beliefs, institutions and personal styles. Do not judge local people against the visitor recommendations or treat contemporary professional dress as belonging to one ethnicity. Traditional and ceremonial clothing should be considered in its specific context.

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Choose for the setting first

Read the invitation

Identify the event, venue, role, date and stated dress code. A working meeting, field visit, sacred-site tour and evening reception can require different clothes within the same day. Confirm whether there is time and a private place to change.

Ask a practical question

Write: Thank you for the invitation. Could you confirm the expected dress for the meeting and any religious or ceremonial visits? Please let me know about sleeves, hemlines, head coverings, footwear, outdoor conditions and opportunities to change. A specific question is more useful than asking what people in the whole country wear.

Keep identity and access in view

Professional clothing does not require heels, makeup, a particular hair texture or expensive brands. Choose clothes that let you sit, move and participate. Discuss necessary adjustments discreetly with the organiser, including religious headwear, mobility needs, temperature sensitivity or a required alternative to shoe removal.

Use coverage deliberately

Opaque fabric, sleeves and longer hemlines can offer flexibility, but extra fabric alone does not guarantee compliance. A site may require ankle coverage, particular head covering or a different garment shape. A scarf is a useful item when appropriate, not a universal fix.

Distinguish clothing from entitlement

A suit does not create official status. A ceremonial robe, medal, uniform, sacred item or role-specific headpiece can imply an identity or authority you do not hold. Wear your own appropriate formal or cultural clothing and seek informed advice when invited to use something unfamiliar.

Respect the occasion without ranking people

Avoid language that equates modest clothing with moral superiority or casual dress with disrespect in every situation. These are visitor planning choices for particular roles. If you arrive uncertain, ask privately and adjust without criticising anyone else’s appearance.

Understanding common dress terms

Invitation term	Practical interpretation to confirm
Business formal or lounge suit	A tailored business suit or comparably formal professional outfit. Lounge suit does not mean loungewear. Confirm tie, skirt, trouser or cultural-dress options with the organiser.
Business casual	Coordinated neat separates rather than a full suit in many settings. The meaning varies; ask about jackets, jeans and footwear rather than guessing.
Smart casual	Purposeful, well-finished clothing suitable for the venue. It is not a universal licence for sportswear, shorts or beach clothing.
Black tie	A formal evening category, often a dinner jacket or tuxedo and an appropriately formal evening outfit. A dark business suit is not automatically interchangeable; confirm acceptable alternatives.
White tie	A more formal ceremonial evening category. Obtain the organiser's precise instructions and appropriate alternatives before buying or hiring clothing.
National or cultural dress	Usually an invitation to wear appropriate formal clothing connected to your own identity or an explained event. It is not blanket permission to borrow ceremonial regalia.
Site visit or field clothing	Dress for the activity, route and organiser's safety requirements. Required protective equipment takes priority over the fashion examples in this guide.

Use the organiser as the final reference

These are general working interpretations, not universal definitions. The archived State Department protocol guide is background reading on diplomatic dress concepts [C16]. The Royal Household's published garden-party guidance offers an example of occasion-specific instructions [V10]. Neither source overrides a current invitation from another organiser.

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Nigeria

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A navy long-sleeved tailored kaftan with matching trousers and dark loafers, no ceremonial hat. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A modest long-sleeved ankle-length patterned dress and flat closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Nigeria dress guidance

Professional meetings

For an introductory ministry, embassy or senior organisational meeting, a tailored suit or an equally polished outfit from your own professional wardrobe is a practical starting point. ITA guidance recognises both Western-style and Nigerian traditional business attire [C01]. The illustrated kaftan is an optional example, not a requirement to dress as a Nigerian visitor or claim a particular identity.

Community and cultural visits

Ask whether the programme involves an office, an outdoor courtyard, a religious gathering or a celebration. An opaque sleeved dress, tunic or collared shirt with full-length trousers can provide useful flexibility. Let the host explain local expectations rather than applying one northern, southern, urban or rural convention to the whole country.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Confirm coverage, headwear and shoe arrangements with the actual church, mosque, palace or other venue. Do not infer access rights from clothing. A cap, beadwork, staff or ceremonial robe may communicate a role you do not hold; ask before adopting special ceremonial items.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose breathable, well-finished fabric and a layer for indoor cooling. Use shoes suitable for the route, then change if a formal room requires it. A quiet patterned accessory can accompany a plain suit. Expensive jewellery and prominent branding are unnecessary for showing respect.

Avoid and ask

Avoid treating a wedding outfit, beach clothing or an ordinary work outfit as interchangeable. Ask: Is this formal business dress, locally appropriate formal attire or a community visit with specific requirements?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Ghana

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A neat muted-pattern collared short-sleeved shirt, charcoal trousers and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A tasteful patterned midi dress with sleeves and flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Ghana dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or structured dress is a useful choice for an initial formal appointment. ITA describes formal business clothing and notes that Ghanaian clothing may also be worn during the business day, particularly on Fridays [C02]. That observation is not an instruction that every visitor must wear a print shirt or traditional outfit.

Community and cultural visits

The plate's patterned shirt and sleeved dress illustrate a less formal, still purposeful visit. Confirm the host's programme before choosing them. A community consultation, a chief's reception and a celebratory cultural event may require different levels of formality. Ask who can advise on the specific occasion.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Check the venue's own requirements for coverage, hats and footwear. If invited to wear locally made cloth, ask how it is intended to be worn and whether any particular pattern or accessory has a role-specific meaning. Do not treat ceremonial dress as an everyday uniform.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Lightweight opaque fabric and comfortable closed shoes can support movement between meetings and outdoor spaces. A jacket can be carried for the formal part of a day. Keep bags manageable and jewellery quiet enough for close conversation and microphones. Select colours for the event, not from an unsupported list of national taboos.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that relaxed clothing among familiar colleagues sets the standard for a first official visit. Ask: Would you prefer business formal or a neat locally made outfit for this event?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Kenya

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A pale long-sleeved cotton shirt, beige chinos and sturdy closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A long-sleeved sage blouse, wide-leg navy trousers and practical flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Kenya dress guidance

Professional meetings

For a first official or institutional appointment, consider a suit, trouser suit or blazer with tailored separates. These are editorial starting points rather than a national dress rule. The ITA business guide provides professional context, but expectations should be checked with the host organisation [C03]. A development partner's field dress may differ from its boardroom dress.

Community and cultural visits

Match the practical outfit to the activity: a collared shirt or opaque blouse, full-length trousers and reliable closed shoes can work for many scheduled visits. Confirm whether the route includes unpaved ground, seated discussion or a formal reception. Do not use safari clothing as a default for every Kenyan professional setting.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the actual venue about coverage, headwear and shoe removal. Kenya contains varied religious and cultural communities; one visitor outfit cannot represent them all. If a cultural item is offered or suggested, ask about its use and whether wearing it is appropriate for your role.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Pack layers around the destination and season rather than assuming constant heat. A light jacket can support a cooler morning or indoor meeting. Low-profile bags and secure, comfortable footwear help on a mixed itinerary. Keep sun or rain protection separate from the outfit needed in the meeting room.

Avoid and ask

Avoid changing into highly casual field clothing merely because the appointment is outside a capital city. Ask: Is this an office meeting, community discussion or operational site visit, and is protective equipment needed?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

South Africa

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	An open-neck shirt with a light blazer, chinos and closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse and cardigan with a midi skirt and practical flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

South Africa dress guidance

Professional meetings

Choose formal tailoring for an initial official meeting unless told otherwise. ITA notes variation between conservative professional settings and smart-casual practice in other sectors [C04]. A suit or trouser suit is therefore a starting option, not proof that every South African workplace requires one. Clarify the invitation's dress term with the organiser.

Community and cultural visits

The lighter blazer, cardigan and practical shoes in the plate suit a hypothetical daytime discussion. Adapt to the actual organisation and purpose. A field programme may require sturdy footwear or protective equipment; a community reception may still be formal. Do not assume that outreach work removes the need for a considered appearance.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask religious venues and cultural hosts directly about their requirements. Treat traditional clothing and ceremonial accessories as specific to people, communities and occasions rather than a single national costume. A visitor may wear their own dignified formal clothing unless the event specifies something else.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Plan for the city, season, indoor conditions and transport. A removable jacket makes it easier to change settings. Prefer comfortable flats or low heels for extended standing; no heel height is necessary to be professional. Carry weather protection and avoid turning a cultural visit into a display of luxury accessories.

Avoid and ask

Avoid interpreting black tie as merely a dark business suit without confirmation. Ask: What does the organiser mean by business, smart casual or evening formal for this specific invitation?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Egypt

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	An opaque long-sleeved cotton shirt and full-length loose trousers with closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A loose long-sleeved tunic over full-length wide trousers with flat shoes; hair uncovered. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Egypt dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA describes business-formal dress as typical for meetings [C05]. A lightweight suit or structured trouser suit is a practical visitor option. An opaque blouse, comfortable closed shoes and polished grooming can provide formality without excessive ornament. A tourist itinerary and a professional delegation itinerary should not be dressed identically.

Community and cultural visits

Loose full-length trousers, a sleeved shirt or a long tunic can provide flexible coverage. The illustrated woman's uncovered hair is intentional: the plate is not declaring a universal public head-covering requirement. Ask the host about the particular neighbourhood, institution and activity rather than extrapolating from resort dress.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Before a mosque, church or other sacred visit, confirm entry arrangements, sleeves, hemlines, head coverings and shoe rules. Carry a suitable scarf when the programme may require it, but do not assume it substitutes for an otherwise unsuitable outfit. Requirements belong to the specific site and visit.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Opaque, breathable fabrics can help with outdoor walking, while a light jacket is useful for formal indoor rooms. Choose footwear that manages the route and can be removed if instructed. A secure simple bag leaves hands free for greetings and documents. Sunglasses are practical outdoors; put them away for an indoor conversation where feasible.

Avoid and ask

Avoid transparent layers, very short clothing or assuming that an international hotel event sets the standard everywhere. Ask: Which sites are included, and what clothing or access instructions has each venue provided?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Morocco

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A long-sleeved linen shirt and full-length trousers, closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A loose opaque ankle-length dress with full sleeves and flat shoes; hair uncovered. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Morocco dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or structured dress with a jacket is a practical option for an initial official appointment. Treat this as a suggested starting point and confirm the host's formality. The ITA country guide provides business context, not a single dress code for every Moroccan institution [C06].

Community and cultural visits

Consider an opaque long dress or a sleeved shirt with loose full-length trousers. The illustrated options are visitor clothing rather than claims about what every Moroccan wears. A locally made garment may be welcome when appropriately chosen, but it is not necessary to imitate a local identity to engage respectfully.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Check whether visitors may enter the specific site before planning an outfit. The Hassan II Mosque Foundation instructs visitors to cover shoulders and torso, wear clothing below the knees and remove shoes before entering [V01]. Those published conditions are a site example, not a complete rule for every mosque or venue in Morocco.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Adapt layers to the destination, time of day and season. Loose breathable clothing can also protect from sun. Comfortable closed shoes suit a walking programme; plan for removal where required. Keep scarves securely arranged and avoid dragging hems on uneven surfaces. Muted or brighter colours can both work when suited to the invitation.

Avoid and ask

Avoid treating a scarf as automatic permission to enter a religious building. Ask: Is this visit open to our group, and what are the venue's precise coverage and footwear instructions?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

United Kingdom

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A neat shirt and jumper with trousers and waterproof walking shoes; raincoat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A long-sleeved midi dress, simple cardigan, flats and light raincoat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

United Kingdom dress guidance

Professional meetings

For an initial embassy, government or formal institutional meeting, a suit, trouser suit or comparably tailored outfit is a useful option. Offices and sectors vary, so the invitation and organiser are better guides than a claim that British business always requires a tie [C07]. Keep a tie available if the programme is uncertain.

Community and cultural visits

Smart separates, a neat jumper or cardigan and practical shoes can suit an agreed daytime visit. Check whether the schedule moves directly to a reception. A coat worn for travel should be easy to remove, and a wet-weather layer should not become the outfit you rely on for an indoor photograph.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask about dress for the particular service, memorial, royal or civic event. Hats, academic dress, decorations and ceremonial clothing depend on the invitation and your entitlement to wear them. Do not infer a wedding or royal-event hat requirement for ordinary professional meetings.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Layer for the forecast and journey. A neat umbrella, weather-resistant coat and comfortable shoes may be more useful than a second elaborate outfit. Keep indoor footwear presentable after walking. Understated accessories are a practical default; no expensive label is necessary. Personal religious clothing can form part of an appropriate professional outfit.

Avoid and ask

Avoid confusing black tie, morning dress and business formal. Ask: Is the evening event a business reception, black tie or another stated dress code, and are there venue-specific instructions?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Ireland

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, wool jumper, trousers and waterproof closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse, tailored trousers, cardigan, flat shoes and light raincoat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Ireland dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA recommends conservative business attire for meetings while recognising more casual technology and start-up settings [C08]. A suit or trouser suit works as an initial formal option. Adjust only after understanding the organisation and appointment; an approachable conversational style does not necessarily mean casual dress.

Community and cultural visits

The illustrated jumper, cardigan and tailored trousers offer a practical daytime alternative. Check whether the visit is indoors, outdoors or followed by an official function. A rural organisation can still expect polished professional clothing; choose the outfit for the task and host, not a simplified urban-rural stereotype.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the church, memorial organiser or cultural host about the occasion. Formal commemorations can carry expectations beyond ordinary office dress. Do not add insignia, academic robes or historical dress merely because the event is described as cultural. Wear an item only when it is yours to wear or the host has appropriately invited it.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

A weather-resistant outer layer and shoes suitable for wet paths can help a mixed programme. Keep a smart indoor layer underneath. Choose a bag that protects documents and lets you carry an umbrella. Simple colour coordination and clean fabric make a stronger practical foundation than heavy jewellery or conspicuous branding.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that a short outdoor transfer will leave formal shoes and clothes unaffected. Ask: How much walking is planned, and will there be time to change before the reception?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

France

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	An open-collar shirt and unstructured blazer, chinos and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A sleeved midi dress, plain cardigan and low flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

France dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA states that professional attire is expected in business settings [C09]. A well-fitting suit, trouser suit or structured dress is a practical choice for a formal first meeting. Professional does not mean expensive or fashion-led. Prioritise fit, clean shoes and an outfit that lets you sit and move comfortably.

Community and cultural visits

A simple blazer, collared shirt, sleeved dress or tailored separates can suit an agreed daytime programme. Confirm whether the institution is hosting a working visit or a ceremonial reception. A cultural venue's fashionable audience does not define the dress expected of a visiting delegation or facilitator.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Check the venue and event rather than assuming one rule for all churches, civic buildings or religious communities. Public institutions and individual sites may have specific requirements; obtain current instructions if your planned clothing or role raises a question. This guide does not summarise French clothing law.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose layers for the season and comfortable shoes for walking and standing. A compact scarf or cardigan can change the warmth and finish of an outfit without becoming a presumed religious requirement. Avoid overpowering fragrance in close meeting rooms. Use colour purposefully; unsupported claims that a colour is nationally forbidden are not helpful.

Avoid and ask

Avoid mistaking beachwear or evening nightlife clothing for daytime professional attire. Ask: Is there a written dress instruction for the institution, reception or site on this itinerary?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Germany

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, simple jumper and neat trousers with practical closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse, straight trousers, simple jacket and practical flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Germany dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA describes business attire as generally formal and conservative, with ties not always necessary [C10]. A suit or tailored trouser suit is a useful initial option. An open collar may fit some meetings, but confirm rather than treating it as universal. Keep the overall outfit neat and functional.

Community and cultural visits

The plate's shirt, knitwear and tailored trousers illustrate a practical daytime visit. A project workshop may be less formal than a senior official meeting. For an operational site, ask about the required protective equipment and footwear before travelling. A business shoe is not automatically suitable for every field activity.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Follow the requirements of the particular service, memorial or cultural event. Distinguish everyday formal clothing from ceremonial uniform, insignia and historic costume. If national or cultural dress is welcomed, ask what the invitation means for visitors and wear clothing that accurately reflects your identity or an appropriately explained invitation.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Removable layers help when moving between transport, outdoor walking and indoor rooms. Keep coats and wet-weather equipment separate from the indoor outfit. Comfortable closed shoes, a simple belt and quiet jewellery support a working programme. Pack fabrics that remain presentable after sitting rather than relying on delicate pieces that need constant adjustment.

Avoid and ask

Avoid copying the dress of staff doing a different job or attending a different event. Ask: Is the meeting business formal, ordinary office dress or a practical site visit with additional requirements?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Italy

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A linen collared shirt with lightweight trousers and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	An opaque sleeved midi dress, light cardigan and comfortable flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Italy dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA recommends conservative business attire for business appointments [C11]. A suit, trouser suit or polished dress-and-jacket combination is a practical start. Focus on fit and clean finishing rather than assuming that respect requires designer clothing. Confirm whether a reception has a separate evening dress code.

Community and cultural visits

Lightweight tailored separates or a sleeved midi dress can suit a daytime programme when the host agrees. Carry an extra layer if the schedule includes a sacred building. Historic streets and lengthy standing may call for comfortable footwear even when the programme is formal. Plan the route before choosing delicate shoes.

Religious and ceremonial settings

If an Italy itinerary includes Vatican City, remember it is a separate state with its own venue instructions. The Vatican Museums publish exclusions including sleeveless or low-cut garments, shorts above the knee and miniskirts [V02]. Check the current site guidance; do not apply it as a universal clothing rule for Italy.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Adapt fabric weight to the season and destination. Opaque breathable layers can be useful for warm outdoor visits, while a jacket can maintain formality indoors. A small scarf can provide warmth or additional coverage but may not satisfy every venue's requirements. Keep jewellery manageable and bags compact for crowded entrances.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that summer heat suspends a sacred site's entry rules. Ask: Which venues have clothing requirements, and will our group have time to adjust before entering?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Spain

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, lightweight chinos and closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A sleeved blouse and opaque midi skirt with flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Spain dress guidance

Professional meetings

A tailored suit, trouser suit or structured dress is a useful starting choice for an initial official appointment. Treat the outfit as an editorial recommendation, then check the host's invitation. The ITA guide provides business context, not a uniform for every Spanish organisation [C12]. A creative workshop and a ministry meeting may differ substantially.

Community and cultural visits

The lighter collared shirt, blouse and long skirt in the plate illustrate a purposeful daytime visit. Consider whether there will be walking, seated discussion, a meal or an evening function. Do not assume that clothing seen in a resort or festival sets the standard for professional cultural engagement.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Check the actual church, sanctuary, civic ceremony or festival organiser. Coverage, headwear and formal accessories may depend on the site and role. Regional ceremonial clothing should not be treated as a generic Spanish costume. If invited to wear something specific, ask what is intended and whether assistance is available.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose fabric and layers for the destination and season rather than assuming all visits are hot. Comfortable closed shoes are useful for standing and uneven surfaces. Carry sun protection for outdoor periods and remove or store it appropriately indoors. A coordinated scarf, bag or tie can finish a simple outfit without overwhelming it.

Avoid and ask

Avoid guessing whether an evening invitation means business clothing or formal evening wear. Ask: What is the dress code for the event, and are there separate instructions for the cultural venue?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Netherlands

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, fine-knit jumper and neat trousers with waterproof shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse, wide-leg trousers, light rain jacket carried and flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Netherlands dress guidance

Professional meetings

For an initial official meeting, a suit, trouser suit or simple blazer-and-trouser combination is a practical starting point. Confirm the expected level of formality rather than assuming that a direct or informal workplace culture means casual clothing. The ITA guide is a source of business context [C13]; the appointment still needs its own dress decision.

Community and cultural visits

A neat shirt, jumper, blouse and tailored trousers can suit an agreed daytime discussion. Consider the actual journey: walking, public transport or cycling can affect outerwear and footwear choices. Do not plan to cycle in an outfit that restricts movement merely to imitate a local routine.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the specific religious community, memorial organiser or cultural host about dress and shoe requirements. Museums, civic receptions and worship spaces do not share one rule. Cultural diplomacy does not require wooden clogs, folk dress or other tourist symbols; wear contemporary clothing appropriate to your role.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

An easy-to-remove weather layer, a secure bag and shoes with practical grip can support a varied itinerary. Keep an indoor outfit ready beneath the coat. Choose clothing that remains neat after travel and does not catch in equipment. Personal religious clothing and access needs should be discussed with organisers where an activity creates practical requirements.

Avoid and ask

Avoid equating neat casual office dress with the standard for an official reception. Ask: What is the expected indoor dress, and how much outdoor travel is built into the programme?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Sweden

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A shirt and knit jumper, neat trousers and weatherproof shoes, coat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse and trousers, knitted cardigan and weatherproof shoes, coat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Sweden dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA identifies conservative dress as appropriate for business appointments [C14]. A suit or tailored trouser suit is a useful initial choice, while the actual organisation may prefer less formal separates. Let the host clarify. Avoid presenting one country's work culture as proof that every professional dresses identically.

Community and cultural visits

The illustrated knitwear and neat trousers provide a practical alternative for an agreed daytime visit. Check whether the programme includes an official ceremony or restaurant event requiring a different finish. A comfortable outfit can still be deliberate and professional; expensive clothing is not a condition of respectful engagement.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the actual venue or cultural host about requirements. A national day, religious event, memorial or local celebration may have its own conventions. Traditional clothing and community-specific accessories belong to particular people and occasions; do not adopt them solely because the event is described as Swedish.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose outer layers for the destination, season and forecast. A warm coat and weatherproof travel shoes can be removed or changed before an indoor appointment. The plate does not show a complete winter kit. Keep bags and accessories convenient for coats, gloves and documents, and avoid fragrances that dominate a small room.

Avoid and ask

Avoid sacrificing warmth or secure footing to preserve a formal appearance outdoors. Ask: Will there be outdoor ceremonial time, and is there a place to store coats or change footwear?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Finland

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A shirt and knit jumper, neat trousers and weatherproof shoes, warm coat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse and trousers, knitted cardigan and weatherproof shoes, warm coat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Finland dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or coordinated tailored separates can be a practical starting option for a first official visit. Confirm the host's preference rather than assuming that every meeting requires a tie. ITA provides business context [C15]; the illustrated outfits are this guide's suggestions, not a national uniform.

Community and cultural visits

A neat jumper or cardigan over a shirt or blouse can work for an agreed daytime programme. Check whether there is an outdoor component and whether the venue expects shoe changes. Any social activity should have its own instructions; do not assume participation in an unfamiliar activity is required to be courteous.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the specific venue about coverage, hats, footwear and ceremonial formality. Do not confuse folk clothing, a personal religious garment or an official uniform with a visitor requirement. Wear your own dignified clothing unless a specific, appropriate invitation calls for something else.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Cold-weather planning is essential for a winter itinerary. InfoFinland recommends warm outer clothing and layered dressing [V03]. The outfit plate shows indoor and transitional looks, not sufficient protection for severe conditions. Check the forecast, time outdoors and route. Use suitable winter footwear and carry an indoor pair if useful; safety and access needs take priority over a particular shoe style.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that an indoor business suit is a complete winter outfit. Ask: How long will we be outside, and what clothing or footwear does the organiser recommend for the actual conditions?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

United States

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	An open-collar shirt, simple blazer, chinos and comfortable closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A long-sleeved blouse, tailored trousers and practical flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

United States dress guidance

Professional meetings

For a first embassy, government or formal institutional appointment, a suit, trouser suit or comparably tailored outfit is a useful starting choice. Expectations vary by organisation, sector and event. The State Department's archived protocol guide discusses dress-code concepts [C16]; it is background reading rather than a current universal rule for American workplaces.

Community and cultural visits

The plate's blazer, collared shirt and practical tailored separates can suit an agreed daytime programme. Ask whether the visit is an office discussion, community workshop or operational site. Informal clothing worn by local staff may reflect different duties. An official reception later that day may require a separate outfit.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the actual religious venue or cultural community about head coverings, shoes and any ceremonial instructions. Indigenous regalia, military uniforms, decorations and identity-specific ceremonial items are not general visitor accessories. A cultural invitation does not automatically authorise borrowing them.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Plan for the city, season, forecast and indoor conditions. Geographic variation makes one national climate prescription unhelpful. Comfortable closed shoes and a simple bag suit many working visits. Keep slogans and prominent affiliation symbols out of an outfit when they could distract from a neutral facilitation role, unless the event requires them.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that business casual, cocktail or formal means the same thing to every organiser. Ask: Could you describe the expected outfit or share the event's written dress instruction?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Canada

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, knit cardigan, trousers and weatherproof shoes, winter coat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse and trousers, cardigan and practical shoes, winter coat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Canada dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or structured separates are useful choices for a formal first appointment. ITA notes regional variation in Canadian business culture [C17]. Use that as a reason to check the particular organisation rather than impose one national wardrobe rule. A community programme and a formal institutional reception can require different choices.

Community and cultural visits

The illustrated knitwear and tailored trousers provide practical alternatives for an agreed daytime visit. Plan any transitions between outdoor activity and indoor discussion. Carrying a coat does not lower the formality of the clothing beneath it; choose both layers deliberately.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the specific religious community, Indigenous host or event organiser about the visit. Coverage and headwear arrangements may vary. Do not treat Indigenous regalia as a national dress option for visitors or assume that a purchased imitation is appropriate. Your own professional clothing is a valid starting point unless the host provides different instructions.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

For a cold-weather itinerary, plan layers, a suitable coat and secure weatherproof footwear around the actual forecast and time outdoors. The plate is not a complete severe-weather outfit. Pack an indoor shoe option if wet or snowy travel could affect the meeting. Keep accessories functional and make room for gloves, a scarf and documents where needed.

Avoid and ask

Avoid trading safe footing for dress shoes on an unsuitable route. Ask: Will we be outside, is indoor shoe storage available, and does the ceremony have any additional clothing requirements?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Mexico

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A pale long-sleeved collared shirt, lightweight tailored trousers and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	An opaque sleeved midi dress with cardigan carried and flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Mexico dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or structured dress-and-jacket combination is a practical starting point for a formal appointment. Confirm with the host rather than assuming that every organisation follows the same business style. The country commercial guide is a business-context reference [C18]; the outfit recommendations here are editorial examples, not a quoted national dress rule.

Community and cultural visits

An opaque collared shirt, tailored trousers or sleeved midi dress can suit an agreed daytime discussion. Check whether the programme includes rural travel, a civic office or a formal meal. A guayabera or other locally associated garment may fit a particular event, but do not assume it replaces formal tailoring everywhere.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Check the actual church, community event or cultural host. A regional celebration may have special clothing expectations that differ from an ordinary visit. Traditional and Indigenous clothing should be approached as specific to communities and occasions, rather than as a costume to make a visitor appear more authentic.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Pack for the destination and season, not a single image of tropical weather. A removable cardigan or jacket gives flexibility. Comfortable shoes help with standing and uneven routes; protect delicate formal shoes during travel. Keep jewellery and bags purposeful, and choose colours for the event instead of relying on unsupported national symbolism claims.

Avoid and ask

Avoid dressing for a beach holiday when the activity is professional community engagement. Ask: What do guests normally wear for this exact venue and part of the programme?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Brazil

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A neat open-neck shirt, lightweight trousers and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse, wide-leg trousers and practical flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Brazil dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA notes that business dress can be formal and conservative even when business interaction feels informal [C19]. A suit, trouser suit or structured dress is therefore a useful initial option. Confirm whether a tie or jacket is expected. Do not infer the dress code from a friendly greeting or a relaxed conversation.

Community and cultural visits

The plate's lighter shirt and tailored separates show a practical daytime alternative when agreed with the host. A community workshop, cultural organisation visit and formal reception may have different needs. Festival or beach clothing does not establish the standard for professional cultural diplomacy.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the specific religious venue, cultural group or event organiser about clothing and access. Brazil includes varied communities and traditions; there is no one ceremonial outfit a visitor should automatically copy. If offered a special garment, ask what it means, how to wear it and whether the invitation applies to you.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose fabric weight for the city and season. Breathable opaque clothing and a light indoor layer can be useful, but not every destination or month is hot. Use comfortable closed shoes for a mixed programme and keep an alternative for a more formal evening. Simple accessories allow the purpose of the visit to remain central.

Avoid and ask

Avoid treating a warm-weather destination as permission for highly casual clothing at an official meeting. Ask: Is a jacket expected, and will the evening event have a separate dress code?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

China

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A simple collared shirt, dark trousers and neat closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	An opaque sleeved blouse and loose full-length separates with flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

China dress guidance

Professional meetings

For a first official or formal organisational appointment, a dark or neutral suit, trouser suit or coordinated tailored outfit is a practical starting option. Confirm the host institution's preference. ITA supplies business context [C20]; the outfit plate is a suggested visitor wardrobe, not a claim that all Chinese workplaces use the same dress code.

Community and cultural visits

A collared shirt or sleeved blouse with neat full-length trousers can suit an agreed daytime programme. Check whether the visit is to a community centre, company, school or operational site. A more relaxed working session does not determine the clothing expected at an official banquet or reception later.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the actual temple, religious community or ceremonial host about coverage, headwear and footwear. Do not assume all sacred buildings require shoe removal or all cultural events require traditional garments. A qipao, changshan or ceremonial accessory is an optional culturally specific choice that needs context, not a required diplomatic costume.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Plan for the destination, season and amount of outdoor travel. Use layers that can be removed neatly. Comfortable closed shoes and a manageable document bag support a professional programme. Choose simple colours and patterns unless an event gives more specific guidance; avoid unsupported claims that a colour is forbidden throughout the country.

Avoid and ask

Avoid adopting military-style insignia or ceremonial dress without a genuine role or invitation. Ask: Is the appointment ordinary business formal, a reception or a ceremony with written clothing instructions?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Japan

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, neat trousers and clean slip-on shoes with visible socks. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A sleeved blouse, long pleated skirt and clean slip-on flats with socks. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Japan dress guidance

Professional meetings

A dark or neutral suit, trouser suit or comparably tailored outfit is a useful starting choice for an initial formal appointment. Confirm whether the host uses a seasonal or less formal office code rather than assuming that a tie and jacket are always required. ITA provides business context [C21]; the illustration is an adaptable visitor option.

Community and cultural visits

A neat shirt or sleeved blouse with tailored trousers or a long skirt can suit an agreed daytime visit. Keep socks clean and footwear easy to remove if the programme requires it. Do not assume that every indoor place has the same shoe practice or remove shoes without observing the entrance instructions.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Japan Airlines' visitor guidance notes that some temple buildings require shoe removal and recommends observing signs or asking staff [V04]. The rule is about the particular building, not every outdoor shrine or temple path. A kimono is not required for a professional visit; if wearing one by invitation, seek knowledgeable help with the occasion and fit.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Plan layers for the destination and season. Use shoes that allow stable walking and respectful removal without elaborate adjustment. Carry a tidy bag for documents and small personal items. A restrained pattern or accessory can accompany plain tailoring; the guide does not prescribe one colour for every occasion.

Avoid and ask

Avoid confusing a hired costume experience with the clothing expected for an official appointment. Ask: Will any part of the visit involve removing shoes, floor seating or a specific seasonal dress code?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

South Korea

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, neat trousers and simple closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A blouse, straight trousers, light cardigan and practical flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

South Korea dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or coordinated tailored outfit is a practical starting point for a first formal meeting. Check the particular institution's expectations before relaxing the outfit. ITA's business guide provides background [C22]; it does not make the illustrated clothing a compulsory national standard. Senior meetings and working workshops can differ.

Community and cultural visits

For an agreed daytime programme, consider a collared shirt, cardigan or sleeved blouse with neat trousers. Ask whether the itinerary includes floor seating or a building with a shoe-removal arrangement. Choose clothing that permits comfortable movement and sitting rather than an outfit that needs repeated adjustment.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Confirm the actual temple, church or cultural host's instructions for coverage, headwear and footwear. A temple programme may give clothing instructions beyond a short visit. Hanbok is not required for ordinary cultural diplomacy meetings. If the organiser specifically invites it, ask what form and level of formality are appropriate.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Use the season and forecast to choose layers. A smart indoor outfit may need substantial outdoor protection at some times of year. Comfortable closed shoes and presentable socks provide flexibility. Keep jewellery quiet and a bag small enough for a close meeting room. Personal religious clothing can be integrated with a professional outfit rather than erased for uniformity.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that the dress of performers or palace visitors determines the dress of a professional delegation. Ask: Is traditional clothing an optional cultural activity or an actual instruction for this event?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

India

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A simple light cotton long-sleeved kurta with plain trousers and closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A long-sleeved modest tunic over loose trousers with a light scarf and flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

India dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or similarly polished professional outfit is a useful starting choice for a formal first appointment. Confirm expectations with the host because regions, sectors and institutions vary [C23]. A neat kurta or tunic-and-trouser ensemble may fit an agreed programme, but it is an option rather than a requirement to adopt Indian clothing.

Community and cultural visits

Opaque sleeves, loose full-length trousers and comfortable footwear provide flexibility for many scheduled visits. A scarf carried in the bag can be useful for a specific site. Plan hems and mobility around walking or seated discussion; do not assume that every meeting includes floor seating or the same coverage expectations.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Rules differ among gurdwaras, temples, mosques, churches and individual sites. The Sikh Coalition's visitor guide asks all gurdwara attendees to cover the head with a suitable cloth and remove shoes before the prayer hall [V05]. That guidance does not create a head-covering rule for every place in India. Ask each venue before the visit.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose layers for the destination, season and indoor environment. Breathable opaque fabric can help in warm conditions. Easy-to-remove shoes and clean socks are useful where removal is confirmed. Keep accessories manageable and do not add sacred marks, ceremonial headwear or religious symbols merely as decoration.

Avoid and ask

Avoid treating one region's clothing as the uniform for the whole country. Ask: Which religious or ceremonial sites are included, and what specific head-covering, footwear and garment instructions apply?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Indonesia

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A dignified long-sleeved batik shirt with full-length dark trousers and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A modest long-sleeved blouse and loose full-length separates with flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Indonesia dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA describes modest, relatively formal business clothing and notes that long-sleeved batik is widely accepted in government and corporate settings [C24]. A suit or trouser suit remains a useful visitor option. The illustrated batik shirt is an alternative to discuss with the host, not a requirement or a guarantee of suitability for every high-level appointment.

Community and cultural visits

An opaque sleeved blouse or shirt and full-length loose trousers can provide flexibility. Ask about the particular institution and locality rather than applying one island's or community's expectations to the whole country. The intended activity matters as much as a broad national label.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Check the specific mosque, temple, church or cultural host for entry, coverage and footwear instructions. A site may ask for additional garments or head covering; verify in advance rather than assuming that loans will be available. A sarong or ceremonial item should be worn as instructed by the venue, not treated as a universal visitor costume.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Lightweight opaque fabric and a layer for indoor cooling can be practical for a warm-weather itinerary. Use secure comfortable shoes and a manageable bag. If batik is chosen, ask about sleeve length and the event's level of formality. Keep patterns coordinated with plain garments so the outfit remains easy to wear and move in.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming that holiday clothing is appropriate for government or community engagement. Ask: Would a suit or long-sleeved batik be preferred, and are there additional requirements for the sites we will enter?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Malaysia

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	An opaque long-sleeved collared shirt and full-length trousers, loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A loose long-sleeved tunic over full-length trousers, flats, light scarf carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Malaysia dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or opaque blouse-and-jacket combination is a useful starting option for an initial formal meeting. Confirm the host organisation's requirements rather than inferring dress from one part of Malaysia's diverse population. ITA provides multicultural business context [C25]; the illustrated clothing is an editorial suggestion.

Community and cultural visits

Sleeved shirts, loose tunics and full-length trousers can provide flexible coverage for an agreed programme. A scarf can be carried for a site that requires it. The plate does not claim that all women in Malaysia cover their hair or that a visitor must adopt religious clothing for ordinary professional meetings.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask each mosque, temple, church or other venue about entry, sleeves, hemlines, head coverings and footwear. Do not assume that requirements are identical across religions or that loan garments will always be available. If formal local attire is invited, seek advice on the specific occasion instead of copying an image without context.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

For a warm-weather itinerary, choose breathable opaque fabric and a light layer for indoor cooling. Use comfortable shoes that can be removed when required and do not complicate an already tight schedule. Keep bags, jewellery and scarves secure. Avoid prominent slogans or affiliation symbols that could distract from the purpose of a neutral working visit.

Avoid and ask

Avoid assuming a shopping or resort outfit fits every office or sacred site. Ask: Which venues have written dress rules, and should we bring any additional covering or indoor footwear?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Singapore

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A light long-sleeved collared shirt, tailored trousers and loafers. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A light opaque sleeved blouse with a long skirt and flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Singapore dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA describes lightweight business clothing and notes that some formal appointments call for a jacket and tie [C26]. A lightweight suit or trouser suit is a useful initial option when the programme is uncertain. Confirm whether a long-sleeved shirt without a tie is appropriate for the actual meeting rather than applying it to every occasion.

Community and cultural visits

Opaque sleeves, tailored full-length trousers and comfortable shoes can support a mixed urban programme. Carry a light layer for indoor rooms and an umbrella when relevant to the forecast. A community organisation, temple visit and official reception may all have different expectations within one day.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Use the exact venue's instructions. Sultan Mosque's visitor guidance specifies sleeved tops and long trousers for men, long sleeves and ankle-length bottoms for women, and non-transparent clothing [V06]. This is a named site example, not the rule for every Singaporean religious venue. Ask about head covering and footwear separately if the information is unclear.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Choose breathable fabric that stays opaque in strong light and allows comfortable sitting. Practical flats or low heels can support walking between venues. Keep an extra layer compact and avoid heavy accessories in close meeting spaces. National or cultural dress should be interpreted through the invitation, not assumed from the country's diversity.

Avoid and ask

Avoid treating the relaxed clothing of a leisure district as professional guidance. Ask: Is a jacket needed for the meeting, and what requirements apply at each religious stop?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Thailand

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	An opaque long-sleeved shirt with full-length loose trousers and removable closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	An opaque loose ankle-length skirt and full-sleeved high-neck blouse with removable flat shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Thailand dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or structured professional outfit is a useful starting point for a formal first appointment. Check the institution and event rather than assuming that an informal tourism setting defines business dress. ITA provides business context [C27]; the visitor examples here are adaptable suggestions.

Community and cultural visits

Opaque sleeves and loose full-length trousers or a long skirt provide flexibility for a programme that includes a sacred or royal site. Choose comfortable shoes and allow time for any required shoe removal. Community visits do not automatically call for traditional Thai clothing; confirm if a host has invited it for a particular occasion.

Religious and ceremonial settings

The Grand Palace publishes restrictions including sleeveless or transparent tops, shorts, torn or tight trousers and miniskirts [V07]. Check the complete current list before visiting. The plate's right-hand outfits are conservative options for planning, not an entry guarantee. Do not assume that a scarf over an unsuitable top will satisfy a site's rules.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Breathable opaque fabric can support warm outdoor visits. Avoid clothing so thin that it becomes transparent or so close-fitting that it conflicts with venue instructions. Carry sun or rain protection as the forecast requires. Keep accessories simple, and obtain guidance on mourning, royal or ceremonial colours when an actual event makes them relevant.

Avoid and ask

Avoid using a beach or nightlife wardrobe for a royal, sacred or professional visit. Ask: Does the itinerary include the Grand Palace or another site with a published dress code, and have we checked it directly?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

United Arab Emirates

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A loose opaque long-sleeved shirt with ankle-length trousers and removable closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A loose opaque ankle-length dress with wrist-length sleeves and a plain headscarf fully covering hair, removable flats; specifically mosque-visit clothing. Mosque-visit example; check the named venue's requirements.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

United Arab Emirates dress guidance

Professional meetings

A suit, trouser suit or comparably tailored professional outfit is a useful visitor option. ITA recognises Emirati national dress and advises modest professional choices for visiting women [C28]. A visitor does not need to adopt Emirati national clothing for ordinary business. Choose an opaque outfit that fits the specific meeting and personal identity.

Community and cultural visits

For an agreed daytime visit, loose sleeves and full-length trousers or a long dress provide flexibility. The plate deliberately distinguishes the formal woman's business outfit from the right-hand woman's mosque-visit outfit. The latter is not presented as compulsory clothing for every woman throughout the UAE.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque's published guidance calls for loose ankle-length clothing and a headscarf for women; its manners guidance specifies full hair coverage and sleeves to the wrists [V08]. Confirm the full current requirements before entry. Dress alone does not replace booking or other access arrangements, and each site must be checked separately.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Use lightweight opaque fabric, with a removable layer for indoor cooling. Long hems should remain practical for walking. Choose footwear that can be removed when the venue requires it. Carry an adequate plain scarf for a confirmed mosque visit rather than relying on a small fashion accessory to provide full coverage.

Avoid and ask

Avoid confusing a hotel leisure setting with an official or religious visit. Ask: Is this an office appointment, community event or mosque visit, and what exact garments does the venue require?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Australia

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt, lightweight chinos and practical closed shoes, sunhat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A long-sleeved blouse, long loose skirt and practical flats, sunhat carried. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

Australia dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA notes business attire in cities and somewhat less formal practice in rural contexts [C29]. Use this as broad context, not a rule about every location. A suit, trouser suit or tailored separates can suit an initial formal meeting. Confirm expectations before moving to an open-collar outfit.

Community and cultural visits

A collared shirt or sleeved blouse, practical trousers and closed shoes can support a scheduled daytime programme. Ask about outdoor walking and operational site requirements. A rural organisation may still host a formal reception, while an urban workshop may be less formal. Dress for the task and invitation rather than the postcode.

Religious and ceremonial settings

Ask the religious venue or cultural host about requirements. For Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural engagement, seek the relevant host's guidance rather than treating community-specific ceremonial items as general visitor accessories. Your own dignified professional clothing is a valid starting point. Special clothing or participation should follow a clear, appropriate invitation.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Plan for the destination, season and forecast. Sun protection can matter on an outdoor itinerary; a hat carried outside can be put away where an indoor event calls for it. Use comfortable secure shoes and any required protective equipment. Personal religious clothing and disability access needs should be integrated into planning rather than ignored for visual uniformity.

Avoid and ask

Avoid treating beachwear as an acceptable default for professional cultural engagement. Ask: What time will be spent outside, what protection is needed, and does the host have ceremony-specific instructions?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

New Zealand

Four visitor examples, read from left to right. Adapt to the invitation, venue and host; these are suggestions rather than a national uniform.



Figure	Outfit and intended setting
A Left	Formal meeting example: tailored business suit, pale collared shirt, understated tie and formal shoes.
B Second	Formal meeting example: tailored trouser suit, opaque blouse and comfortable closed professional shoes.
C Third	A collared shirt and jumper, neat trousers and easily removable closed shoes. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.
D Right	A sleeved blouse, opaque calf-length skirt and easily removable flats. Community or daytime visit option; check the setting.

Suggested options only. Read the practical guidance on the following page.

New Zealand dress guidance

Professional meetings

ITA describes business attire as less formal in general comparison with the United States [C30]. That does not establish the dress for every official appointment. A suit, trouser suit or coordinated tailored outfit is still a practical option for a first formal meeting; ask whether a simpler combination is preferred.

Community and cultural visits

The illustrated shirt, knitwear and longer skirt are possible daytime options, not a complete marae dress instruction. Ask the particular host about the programme and your role. Some visits may involve outdoor welcome time, sitting and movement between different spaces. Plan clothing that supports the actual activities comfortably.

Religious and ceremonial settings

For a marae visit, obtain guidance from the host on appropriate clothing and local kawa. Te Ara explains that shoes are generally removed before entering a wharenui, while noting exceptions [V09]. Do not extend that to every outdoor part of a marae. A visitor need not adopt ceremonial garments or assume entitlement to wear culturally specific items.

Fabrics footwear and accessories

Use layers and weather protection for the destination and forecast. Easily removable shoes and presentable socks can be useful when removal is confirmed. A longer opaque skirt is one possible option if the host recommends it; it is not asserted here as compulsory for every woman or every occasion. Keep bags manageable for the welcome and indoor programme.

Avoid and ask

Avoid relying on a generic national rule for a particular marae. Ask: What clothing does this host recommend for our visit, where should shoes be removed, and will there be time outdoors?

Before this visit

Host or venue instruction checked: _____

Change or extra item needed: _____

Date checked and contact: _____

Packing for a mixed programme

Build a small interchangeable wardrobe around the actual itinerary. The list below is a planning aid, not a requirement to buy new clothes. Repeat clean outfits, use pieces you already own and prioritise comfort, fit and appropriate condition.

Purpose	Items to consider
Formal appointments	One appropriate formal outfit or suit, two compatible opaque tops, an optional tie and a jacket or equivalent layer.
Daytime community visits	One or two neat practical combinations that permit movement, appropriate sleeves and hems, and comfortable footwear.
Confirmed sacred sites	Only the additional items required by the actual sites: for example an adequate scarf, suitable full-length clothing or socks for confirmed shoe removal.
Weather and travel	Outerwear, sun or rain protection and safe footwear chosen for the forecast, route and time outdoors. Indoor outfit plates are not winter survival kits.
Evening or ceremonial event	An outfit matching the specific dress code. Confirm whether appropriate cultural dress is an option before hiring or purchasing anything.
Maintenance and access	A small repair kit, appropriate garment storage and any personal access or health-related clothing items. Confirm laundering and changing arrangements.

Run a movement and opacity check

Try sitting, reaching, walking and carrying your bag. Check fabric in strong light and confirm that hems and sleeves remain suitable during movement. Test shoes before travelling. A calm, comfortable outfit supports participation better than clothing that requires constant adjustment.

Use colour with context

Navy, grey, muted earth tones or other coordinated colours can make a flexible base, but none is universally required. Patterned or brighter clothing can also be appropriate. Ask about mourning, royal or ceremonial colours only when the actual event makes them relevant; avoid national lists of supposed taboos without reliable local guidance.

Visit planning worksheet

Complete this for each event rather than once for the whole country. Expand the response spaces in Word. Use a confirmed host contact or the venue's official visitor page, and keep the date of the information.

The event

Country city and date: _____

Venue and purpose: _____

My role and expected level of formality: _____

Written dress instruction and official source: _____

My outfit

Chosen outfit and comfortable footwear: _____

Coverage or headwear instructions if any: _____

Weather layer or protective equipment: _____

Religious personal identity or access needs to discuss: _____

Practical arrangements

Walking standing or floor-seating expectations: _____

Confirmed shoe-removal arrangements or needed alternative:

_____

Time and place to change or store outerwear: _____

Host contact date checked and unanswered question: _____

Final check

Does the outfit fit the actual event, permit comfortable movement and meet the confirmed venue instructions? If not, resolve the specific issue with the organiser. Do not assume that an illustration guarantees admission.

Country sources

Country business references provide context and, in some cases, explicit attire guidance. Suggested garments, colours and accessories are editorial examples rather than quotations or mandatory national rules. Consulted on 22 October 2026.

[C01] ITA — Nigeria Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/nigeria-business-travel

[C02] ITA — Ghana Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/ghana-business-travel

[C03] ITA — Kenya Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/kenya-business-travel

[C04] ITA — South Africa Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/south-africa-business-travel

[C05] ITA — Egypt Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/egypt-business-travel

[C06] ITA — Morocco Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/morocco-business-travel

[C07] ITA — United Kingdom Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/united-kingdom-business-travel

[C08] ITA — Ireland Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/ireland-business-travel

[C09] ITA — France Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/france-business-travel

[C10] ITA — Germany Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/germany-business-travel

Country sources continued

Country business references provide context and, in some cases, explicit attire guidance. Suggested garments, colours and accessories are editorial examples rather than quotations or mandatory national rules. Consulted on 22 October 2026.

[C11] ITA — Italy Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/italy-business-travel

[C12] ITA — Spain Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/spain-business-travel

[C13] ITA — Netherlands Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/netherlands-business-travel

[C14] ITA — Sweden Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/sweden-business-travel

[C15] ITA — Finland Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/finland-business-travel

[C16] U.S. Department of State — Protocol for the Modern Diplomat, archived edition
https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/176174.pdf

[C17] ITA — Canada Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/canada-business-travel

[C18] ITA — Mexico Country Commercial Guide, business context
https://www.trade.gov/mexico-country-commercial-guide

[C19] ITA — Brazil Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/brazil-business-travel

[C20] ITA — China Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/china-business-travel

Country sources continued

Country business references provide context and, in some cases, explicit attire guidance. Suggested garments, colours and accessories are editorial examples rather than quotations or mandatory national rules. Consulted on 22 October 2026.

[C21] ITA — Japan Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/japan-business-travel

[C22] ITA — South Korea Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/south-korea-business-travel

[C23] ITA — India Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/india-business-travel

[C24] ITA — Indonesia Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/indonesia-business-travel

[C25] ITA — Malaysia Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/malaysia-business-travel-and-etiquette

[C26] ITA — Singapore Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/singapore-business-travel

[C27] ITA — Thailand Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/thailand-business-travel

[C28] ITA — United Arab Emirates Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/united-arab-emirates-business-travel

[C29] ITA — Australia Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/australia-business-travel

[C30] ITA — New Zealand Business Travel
https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/new-zealand-business-travel

Venue and planning sources

These sources apply to the named venue, community or planning topic. They do not create a universal rule for the country. Recheck current instructions before a visit; a page may change or restrict automated access.

[V01] Hassan II Mosque Foundation

Official visitor instructions for this named mosque in Casablanca. Coverage and footwear guidance applies to that visit; verify current access arrangements.

https://www.fmh2.ma/

[V02] Vatican Museums visitor information

Official entry and clothing information for the Vatican Museums. Vatican City is a separate state; this is not a national dress code for Italy.

https://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/organizza-visita/consigli-utili.html

[V03] InfoFinland — Finnish climate

Practical seasonal clothing guidance. Check the forecast and time outdoors; the outfit plates do not constitute complete cold-weather protection.

https://infofinland.fi/information-about-finland/finnish-climate

[V04] Japan Airlines — temple and shrine visits

The operator’s own visitor guide explains that shoe removal can apply in some temple interiors and recommends checking signs or staff.

https://www.jal.co.jp/in/en/guide-to-japan/plan-your-trip/tips/what-to-know-temple-and-shrine-visit-in-japan.html

[V05] Sikh Coalition — Guide to Visiting a Gurdwara, 2025

Community visitor guidance on head covering and shoe removal. It concerns gurdwara visits rather than every sacred site in India or elsewhere.

https://www.sikhcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Guide-to-Visiting-a-Gurdwara-2025.pdf

Venue and planning sources continued

These sources apply to the named venue, community or planning topic. They do not create a universal rule for the country. Recheck current instructions before a visit; a page may change or restrict automated access.

[V06] Sultan Mosque — Visitors Info

Official visitor clothing guidance for the named mosque in Singapore. Check current requirements and any additional instructions for your group.

https://www.sultanmosque.sg/visitors-info/

[V07] The Grand Palace — Practical Information

Official Bangkok venue page with its dress restrictions. Check the complete current list; an illustration is not an admission guarantee.

https://www.royalgrandpalace.th/en/visit/practical-information

[V08] Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre — Mosque Manners and FAQs

Official site guidance on clothing and head covering for this mosque. Follow the latest complete requirements rather than a general UAE wardrobe suggestion.

https://www.szgmc.gov.ae/en/worshippers/en-v-mosque-manners-details

[V09] Te Ara — Shoes at the door of the wharenui

New Zealand reference explaining the general shoe-removal practice and noting exceptions. Local host guidance remains essential for a particular marae.

https://teara.govt.nz/en/photograph/41374/shoes-at-the-door-of-the-wharenui

[V10] The Royal Household — Garden Parties

An example of an organiser publishing occasion-specific dress guidance. It is not an instruction for every UK event; read your own invitation.

https://www.royal.uk/garden-parties

Dress with awareness and confidence

Explore practical outfit ideas for professional meetings, community visits and cultural occasions across thirty countries. This illustrated guide explains how to read dress codes, prepare for religious sites and adapt to the setting while respecting personal identity and local diversity.

Includes country outfit plates, footwear and accessory guidance, packing tools and a visit planning worksheet. The invitation, venue requirements and host guidance always take priority.

About the Author

Korede Olafimihan

Korede Olafimihan has worked with several non-governmental organisations. His interest in community engagement and cooperation informs this practical learning resource for cultural diplomacy and global development.



Observe carefully. Ask respectfully. Dress thoughtfully.