

Marriott understands values, appreciates the cultural nuances

Wedding at Marriott Hotels: experience the difference

The bride, resplendent in her beaded silk sari, looks down at her hands. The Mehndi applied to her palms is magnificent — an intricate floral design applied from a deep hue of henna. The groom takes her hands, these works of art, as family and friends join them under an elaborately decorated mandap. Guests gather around, except for a few children who are mesmerized by the glistening elephant ice sculpture.



mandap (they even knew the correct terminology!). In fact, the staff was so wonderful that we did not even have to hire a separate wedding planner," said Anura Shah.

Marriott's catering teams, too, appreciate the intricacies of the customary Indian wedding meal. From freshly made lassi, to expertly prepared tandoori, home-baked naan and an assortment of sweet desserts, the hotels' executive chefs can custom design a menu with selec-



The ceremony begins.

If this sounds like a typical New Delhi nuptial, you might be surprised to discover that it's an actual event that plays out quite regularly at any of 11 Chicago area Marriott or Renaissance hotels.

While it's the dream of many couples to begin their married lives with a traditional celebration such as this in

India, the reality is that busy lives, professional responsibilities, a widely spread network of family and friends and economic uncertainty make planning a wedding a local endeavor. Yet that doesn't mean that the important traditions and customs that define an Indian wedding, some which have been in place for almost 5,000 years,

should be sacrificed. Even weddings destined to be influenced by modern western mores, can maintain a distinctly Indian feel. The trick is finding a wedding venue that understands these values, appreciates the cultural nuances, and can bring them to life in a way that is both authentic and memorable.

Marriott's Chicagoland hotels have long understood the importance of celebrating multicultural traditions and are adept at personalizing weddings and other social events by incorporating appropriate customs and cuisine. Each hotel has a Certified Wedding Planner on its event staff who is instrumental in helping the bride and groom and their families plan the event from start to finish. Each Certified Wedding Planner has completed specially designed course work that covers a variety of wedding protocols and etiquette, as well as culinary and decorating trends. From scheduling the ceremonial events to recommending the perfect décor for the mandap, the Certified Wedding Planners are instrumental in making sure every aspect of the wedding is perfect.

When Neil and Anura Cheryan Shah began planning their nuptials in 2007, they were thoroughly impressed with how prepared the Lincolnshire Marriott

Resort was to accommodate all of their special needs and requests, and the hotel's ability to accommodate a large contingent of out-of-town guests. "We met with the sales department at the Lincolnshire Marriott Resort and knew instantly that it was the ideal location. The staff was very knowledgeable about the cultural and religious requirements of hosting an Indian wedding such as managing the logistics of the barat and setting up the

tions that are freshly prepared, elegantly presented and meet every religious or dietary need. To ensure culinary authenticity, all of the hotels have preferred vendors that are experts in South Asian cuisine and can be called upon to provide additional catering. Once the couple has chosen a hotel and signed a contract, the chef will offer a menu tasting to ensure that the catering choices make a lasting impression. With 11 hotels spread across the Chicago metro area, Marriott also offers a wide variety of facilities to accommodate wedding receptions both indoor and outside on beautifully landscaped grounds. Each hotel offers discounted room rates for out-of-town wedding guests with blocks of 10 or more guest rooms booked, and a complimentary room for the bride and groom on their wedding night. Members of Marriott Rewards®, Marriott's renowned loyalty program, can also earn points toward free vacations for their weddings held at Marriott. For more information about Marriott weddings and Chicago Marriott hotels, visit Marriott.com.

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AN OUT OF TOWN WEDDING CAN STILL HAVE ALL THE COMFORTS OF HOME.

When every detail must be perfect, count on us to deliver! We are the perfect choice for your wedding guests coming in from out of town, whether in for 1 or 100 nights, we will make them feel like they are at home. With oversized rooms, fully equipped kitchens, free breakfast and complimentary grocery shopping service, we offer the best amenities and of course renowned Marriott service!

Please call 847.940.4644 to inquire about rates or to set up a tour.



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