



# Marbella, Spain

Jesal Pathak weds Samit Parikh on September 24, 2012

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BINITA PATEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Rather than holding a traditional 500-person Indian wedding at home, this New York City-based couple decided a smaller, destination celebration for 85 was more their speed. Scenic southern Spain easily won: Jesal and Samit felt they spoke enough of the language to be comfortable, and the location was a middle ground for family traveling from both the United States and India. “There is so much I love about Spain, especially Andalusia — the music, the food, the laid-back culture and the stunning backdrop,” Jesal says.

The couple and their close family checked in to the private Villa Perla Rosa for three days of events. Other attendees stayed at the nearby Hotel Guadalmina Spa & Golf Resort to explore Old Town Marbella or hit the beach. A welcome pool party at the villa kicked things off; then belly dancers, hookahs and a flame thrower put an exciting Moroccan spin on a combined customary *sangeet* (musical evening) and *mehndi* (henna night).

The next day, a late-afternoon outdoor wedding on Puro Beach Marbella featured an abridged version of a traditional Hindu ceremony. For a modern twist, an electric violinist played a mix of cultural and contemporary music, ranging from Bollywood to Coldplay.

Afterward at the villa, a Spanish-Indian-fusion fete included a flamenco band, sangria, tapas and paella. Jesal and Samit performed an Indian-merengue first dance — followed by a round of shots. All told, the party lasted until 6 a.m. “Our guests felt like they were on a three-day holiday,” says Jesal, “relaxing on the beach during the day and staying out until sunrise almost every night.” — Brooke Showell

## the details

- BRIDE'S DRESS** Shyamal & Bhumika
- GROOM'S ATTIRE** Shyamal & Bhumika; Hugo Boss
- HAIR** Barbara Rosandic
- MAKEUP** Lyndsey Cavanagh
- VENUE** Villa Perla Rosa
- CAKE** Sweet Things by Fi
- FLOWERS** In Bloom Flowers
- MUSIC** Pino Palma Productions; Boston Light & Sound
- COORDINATORS** Lisa Franco of Bella Weddings; Pink Lotus Events

- 1 The bride and groom exchanged flower garlands.
- 2 Metallic vases, bowls, candelabras and plate chargers felt modernly Mediterranean.
- 3 Floating flower candles prettified the pool.
- 4 The bride's scalloped head cloth and long train were inspired by traditional Spanish clothing, but "Indian-ized" in color and fabric.
- 5 Orange couches with multicolored throw pillows encouraged a festive Andalusian vibe.
- 6 The *mandap* (wedding altar) on Puro Beach Marbella.



1



2



3



4



5



6

### best surprise

“At one point the power went out because our party overloaded the circuits. But our guests just kept singing ‘Glad You Came’ by The Wanted and danced so much the floor shook!”

### inspiration color board



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