FAROOQ OREAGBA
MEETING MR STEEZE

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ThisDay Style
SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

...NOT IN THISDAY STYLE? THEN YOU'RE NOT IN STYLE
To Buy or Not to Buy?

In 2024, sustainability is no longer a mere buzzword; it’s a necessity. An investment piece should reflect ethical practices and sustainable production. This means choosing brands that prioritise fair labour practices, use eco-friendly materials, and implement environmentally conscious manufacturing processes. Not only does this align with a growing global ethos, but it also often results in higher-quality products.

Quality Over Quantity

The focus is on building a wardrobe with versatile pieces that can be dressed up or down, mixed, and matched, providing endless outfit possibilities without the need for constant updates.

Versatility and Functionality

An investment piece should seamlessly transition from day to night, from work to weekend. Consider a high-quality jacket that is perfect for both a professional setting and a casual outing. Similarly, a pair of leather loafers can be just as suitable for a business meeting as a brunch date. Functionality also plays a crucial role. Pieces that offer multiple wearing options or come with thoughtful details—like detachable hoods, adjustable waists, or reversible designs—add extra value. The more ways you can wear an item, the more it justifies its place in your wardrobe.

Ethical and Sustainable Production

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Resale Value

A true investment piece holds its value over time and, in some cases, even appreciates. Items from well-established luxury brands, such as Chanel handbags or Rolex watches, often retain or increase in value due to their enduring demand and iconic status. When considering a high-end purchase, research its resale value and market demand.

Personal Style and Satisfaction

Ultimately, an investment piece should resonate with your personal style and bring you joy. While all the above factors are crucial, the emotional connection to an item can’t be overlooked. Does it make you feel confident and stylish? Will you love wearing it again and again? An investment piece should be something that makes you feel your best, ensuring that you will cherish it for years to come.
ARISE Originals

ARISEPLAY ORIGINALS PRESENTS

AWARDS CONTENDERS

An inside look at global movies creating the most buzz in the run-up to awards season

NYAD
SOCIETY OF THE SNOW
Saliburn
THE CROWN
THE FINAL SEASON
MAY DECEMBER
RUSTIN
LAWMEN BASS REEVES
OVERCONSUMPTION IN FASHION

The Desire for More Clothes Than We Can Wear

The Fast Fashion Frenzy

Fast fashion brands have revolutionised the way we shop. With the ability to quickly produce affordable and trendy clothing, these brands have made it easier than ever to update our wardrobes. The downside? An endless cycle of buying, wearing a few times, and discarding. Consumers are enticed by the low prices and the thrill of owning the latest styles, leading to impulsive purchases and an overflowing closet.

The Psychology Behind Overconsumption

Why do we feel the need to acquire more clothes than we can wear? It boils down to a few psychological factors:

- Instant Gratification: Buying new clothes provides a quick dopamine hit, temporarily boosting happiness.
- Social Media Influence: Platforms like Instagram and TikTok are flooded with influencers showcasing the latest trends. The constant exposure to new outfits creates a sense of urgency and a fear of missing out, prompting us to buy more.
- Status and Identity: Fashion is a powerful way we express ourselves and our sense of who we are. The latest styles can make us feel more confident and in tune with our desired image.

Moreover, the disposal of clothing has become a significant environmental issue. The fashion industry is one of the largest polluters in the world. The production of textiles continues to rise as the demand for cheap, disposable fashion habits and are seeking sustainable alternatives. Here are a few ways to curb overconsumption:

- Quality over Quantity: Invest in high-quality, timeless pieces that can be worn for years. These items may have a higher price tag, but they are often more durable and versatile.
- Capsule Wardrobes: A capsule wardrobe consists of a small collection of essential items that can be mixed and matched to create various outfits. This approach encourages thoughtful purchasing and reduces the need for constant updates.
- Thrifting and Upcycling: Second-hand Resale platforms, and DIY projects offer excellent ways to extend the life of garments. These items may have a higher price tag, but they are often more durable and versatile.
- Renting and Borrowing: For special occasions, consider renting or borrowing clothes instead of buying something new. Several companies now offer clothing rental services, allowing you to enjoy designer pieces without a long-term commitment.

The Environmental Toll

The fashion industry is one of the largest polluters in the world. The production of textiles requires vast amounts of water and energy, and the use of harmful chemicals is widespread. Overconsumption exacerbates these issues, as the demand for cheap, disposable fashion continues to rise. Moreover, the disposal of clothing has become a significant problem. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, 85% of textiles go to landfill yearly. Synthetic fibres, which make up a large portion of fast fashion, take hundreds of years to decompose, releasing harmful microplastics into the environment.

A Shift in Consumer Mindset

While the allure of fast fashion is strong, there is a growing movement towards mindful consumption. More people are becoming aware of the environmental impact of their shopping habits and are seeking sustainable alternatives. The result is a culture of overconsumption, where people buy more clothes than they could ever possibly wear. This phenomenon, driven by the allure of constantly updated styles and the desire to stay on trend, has far-reaching implications, not just for our wardrobes but for the environment and our well-being.

Step into any high street store, browse through countless online boutiques, or scroll through your social media feed, and you’ll quickly see an overwhelming selection of fashion choices. Every season, new collections drop, and trends rapidly change. The result is a culture of overconsumption, where people buy more clothes than they could ever possibly wear. This phenomenon, driven by the allure of constantly updated styles and the desire to stay on trend, has far-reaching implications, not just for our wardrobes but for the environment and our well-being.

MULTIUSE BEAUTY PRODUCTS

SIMPLIFYING YOUR ROUTINE WITH DUAL-PURPOSE ESSENTIALS

From an obsession with skincare to the explosion of foundation shades and the push for clean beauty products, the industry constantly adapts to our changing tastes. Versatility is the new frontier in beauty, and multiuse products are leading the charge. These innovative products save time, space, and money while delivering impressive results. Keep reading as we explore five must-have dual-purpose beauty products that are essential for any beauty routine, combining convenience with effectiveness.

1. Cream Blushes

Cream blushes have become a staple in any makeup bag, providing more than just a pop of colour to your cheeks. We’ve seen these evolve from the basic pink powder blush to cream blushes in varying shades from orange to red, pink, peach, berry, burgundy, etc. Cream blushes can triple as lip tints and eye shadows. Many brands are coming into this realisation and launching their cream blushes as dual products.

2. Blush Highlighter

Blush highlighters combine the best of both worlds, adding colour and glow in one stroke. They typically come as a two-in-one product, giving the effect of two distinct products for the price of one.

3. Tinted SPF

If you are a beauty enthusiast, you have to jump on this train right now! Tinted SPF products are a game-changer. They offer sheer coverage to even out skin tone and reduce the need for a separate foundation, especially on days when you want that no-makeup makeup look. On the other hand, they also double as sunscreen, protecting your skin from harmful UV rays. This dual-purpose product simplifies your morning routine, ensuring your skin stays protected and looks flawless.

4. Glow Serums

On one hand, they enhance your natural skin, giving you extra highlights and radiant-looking skin. On the other hand, they serve as the perfect base for your makeup. They are excellent primers and perfect if you’re going for a dewy makeup look.

5. Tinted Serums

Tinted serums blend the benefits of skincare and makeup, offering a lightweight solution for flawless skin. While you have a skincare product in the form of a hydrating or moisturising serum to address specific concerns like fine lines or dullness, you also have a lightweight foundation-like product that provides very light coverage to maintain your natural look. This dual-use product is perfect for those who prefer a minimal approach to makeup. It combines skin treat and coverage in one step. Another product in this line is a tinted moisturiser, but only skin girls may not like them.

DUAL-PURPOSE ESSENTIALS

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- 2. Blush Highlighter
- 3. Tinted SPF
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- 5. Tinted Serums

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BOLARINWA OLASUNKANMI

Sunday, July 28, 2024  Vol. 22, No. 10666

DUAL-PURPOSE ESSENTIALS

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BOLARINWA OLASUNKANMI

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If you’ve been scrolling through Instagram lately, you’ve probably noticed a wave of irresistible fashion brands taking over your feed. From elegantly customised fabrics to chic ready-to-wear pieces, these brands are the darlings of fashionistas everywhere. Here’s a look at some of the hottest names in fashion right now.

**These Fashion Brands Are Currently Having a Moment**

Hertunba

Derived from the word “Her” and the Yoruba title “Otunba,” Hertunba is a brand that exudes regal elegance with a modern twist. Have you seen their latest collection? Stunning! Hertunba’s stripped agbada styles, crafted from akwete fabric and adorned with playful tassels, are nothing short of a masterpiece. These pieces seamlessly blend traditional Nigerian aesthetics with contemporary fashion, making them a favourite among those who appreciate heritage and style.

Desirée Iyama

Loved by the chic and fashion-forward Gen Z and millennials, Desirée Iyama is a brand that embodies sophistication and playfulness. Founded in 2016 by the talented eponymous designer Desirée Iyama, the brand offers an effortless style for women who want to make a statement. Each piece from Desirée Iyama’s collection is designed to exude confidence and femininity.

Dye Lab

Everyone seems to own a Dye Lab piece these days and for a good reason. Founded in 2021 by Rukky Ladoja, Dye Lab has quickly become one of the most beloved Nigerian fashion labels. Despite being one of the most copied designs, Dye Lab continues to thrive and innovate. The brand celebrates the traditional dyeing methods indigenous to the Yoruba people, showcasing the beauty of Adire and Aso Oke materials and lively Batik prints.

Wanni Fuga

Wanni Fuga seems to have undergone a major revamp with its latest collection, and fashion lovers are here for it. Known for its clean-cut designs merged with detailed craftsmanship, the brand’s latest offerings include customised fabrics, standout headpieces, and sexy styles that cater to the quintessential lady’s body. Each piece is designed to make a statement, whether a bold evening gown or a stylish casual outfit. The brand’s ability to blend traditional aesthetics with modern trends has earned it a loyal following and a prominent place in every fashion girl’s wardrobe.
Restaurants with a rooftop view offer a far more unique experience than your regular restaurants, especially because of their blend of exquisite dining and breathtaking views. These kinds of settings provide a perfect escape for those seeking a memorable meal in a stunning environment. Whether you’re looking for a romantic dinner, a fun night out with friends, or a special place to celebrate an occasion, rooftop restaurants deliver an atmosphere that enhances the entire dining experience. Here are some rooftop restaurants in Lagos you should visit for a one-of-a-kind culinary experience:

1. The Terrace
Famed as the cosiest rooftop restaurant in Lagos, The Terrace, located in Lekki, offers a sophisticated dining experience. The menu features everything from tacos to burgers, amazing cocktails, classic Jollof, and much more. The elegant ambience is also great for small events with friends. You can also get artsy by taking advantage of their Henna Fridays.

2. Mood
Also situated in Lekki, Mood Lagos is an upscale, aesthetically pleasing restaurant filled with unique decor art pieces and comfy-looking furnishings. The restaurant boasts a diverse menu and caters to local dishes way more than you think, from Abula to Egusi Oha, Peppersoup to Gizzard wrap, Grilled fish, pasta, and much more. Their drinks menu offers an even wider variety of cocktails, cocktails, wines, cognacs, etc. Whatever drink you’re craving, they’ll most likely have it!

3. Kaly
Kaly is also an upscale restaurant and bar in VI with a stunning view of the Eko Atlantic. Everything about this restaurant screams high-end, from cutlery to setting, decor, menu, drinks, etc. This is the place to go if you’re craving a sophisticated and classy indulgence.

4. The View Rooftop Lounge
Nestled atop Twinwaters in Lekki, The View Rooftop Lounge offers an unparalleled dining experience. With its sleek modern design, a breathtaking view of the ocean, and an extensive menu that includes everything from gourmet burgers to Nigerian jollof rice, this rooftop gem is perfect for both casual hangouts, formal dinners and romantic dates.

5. Sora
A hidden gem in Oniru, Sora is a fine-dining rooftop restaurant with a gorgeous ambience perfect for intimate or romantic dates, hangouts, small dinners, etc. The menu features an array of scintillating Asian cuisines. The open-sky rooftop provides an intimate dining experience with breathtaking views of the Lagos skyline that would have you in a chokehold, especially if you go at night.

By Bukola Amoboye
Access Bank, in partnership with Fifth Chukker, Guards Polo Club (UK), and UNICEF, successfully hosted the 2024 Access UK Polo Day in Surrey, United Kingdom.

At the event, commitments were made to build 115 classrooms in Kaduna State, Nigeria. This initiative has significantly supported the UNICEF education intervention project, positively impacting the lives of disadvantaged children in Nigeria and across Africa.

We remain committed to contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) by providing quality education and impacting lives positively.
Farooq Oreagba, currently the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer Designate of NG Clearing Limited, boasts an impressive career in the financial services industry. With over two decades of experience in deal origination, capital markets, and investment banking, he has carved a niche for himself as a distinguished financial expert. His journey through the intricate world of finance has seen him excel in various roles, from heading the Eurostoxx 50 derivatives trading desk at AFS London to building a Pan-European Equity group at Cube Financial (Fortis).

Despite his professional accolades, Farooq's path has not been without challenges. His battle with cancer, a formidable adversary, has shaped his outlook on life and work. Emerging victorious from this struggle, Farooq has turned his focus towards raising awareness and supporting others facing similar battles.

He recently became unexpectedly famous when pictures of him adorned in regal attire at the Ojude Oba Festival went viral. Dubbed “Mr. Steeze” for his effortlessly stylish appearance, he has captured the hearts of many. In this interview, he shares with us his desire to ensure that the festival garners the global recognition it deserves, his achievements in finance, and his cancer story.

Your photos from the Ojude Oba Festival took the internet by storm! What was your first reaction when you realised you were trending?

I was first told that I was trending while still on horseback, but I didn't know the scale until about 8 p.m. Even then, it didn't sink in until the next day. I was initially surprised, as I have been doing this event for many years. Ultimately, I see it as an opportunity to showcase positivity.

For those unfamiliar, can you explain what the Ojude Oba festival is all about and its significance?

Ojude Oba has been going for about 130 years now. It began when the then-Awujale gifted land to the Muslims in Ijebuland. Two days after every Eid, they used to go pay homage and thank the Awujale. Ojude Oba means the King’s Forecourt. In modern times, it has evolved into an event that showcases the finest of everything.

I can imagine a lot of preparation goes into it. What's it really like for you personally? And how have you and your family been involved with it over the years?

As I mentioned while speaking to you earlier, we had one rider up until 1984, when another uncle started riding. Prior to riding, we ran alongside the horses or walked with the band of traditional drummers. Nowadays, we have traditional drummers, a brass band, and those in the procession alongside, say, 12-15 horses. It's huge, and we can be circa 80-100 people in our family procession, and this takes some planning. In all honesty, though, I play no role, and I collect my outfit close to the time and just work with the horses. On the other hand, though, my family have to cater for the band and drummers from about ten days prior. They move into a family house and practice daily whilst being fed and watered by the family.

In what ways has the festival evolved since you first started attending? And how do you feel about its sudden increasing popularity?

The festival has gotten bigger and bigger every year and no doubt, next year will no doubt be the biggest so far. The outfits of both participants and attendants have become more glamorous, and the numbers have increased exponentially. As for the popularity, I am so chuffed because this is my heritage. It’s an opportunity to showcase my town and my Ijebu culture. I also see it as an opportunity to build something, a global event that will have lasting relevance for the indigenes. However, to do this successfully, there has to be some input from both the federal and the state governments. The Sagamu-Jebu road is a federal road and needs to be fixed. The roads in Ijebu need to be fixed. Even the venue itself could do with a makeover. The increased turnout will have a commercial impact, too, and could boost the IGR for the state. There are so many opportunities, but we need to start planning now.

What was the highlight of this year’s festival for you?

Whenever we ride into the arena, EVERY rider gets a buzz. It's hard to explain, but there is this energy emanating from the crowd. This year was crazy, and little did I know that the best was yet to come.

Can we talk about your career? You have a pretty impressive CV. What initially drew you to
the world of financial services?
Growing up, my mother was a sugar derivatives trader. She worked for a multinational, first in the U.K., and later in Nigeria. I watched her buy and sell physical sugar cargoes and trade the derivatives to hedge their exposure. Growing up, I was specific about what I wanted to be, I wanted to be a derivatives trader like Mum. Unfortunately, I was made to study engineering, but as soon as I got my degree (sadly Mum), I then went after my dream of being a derivatives trader, which I did successfully in the U.K., and Europe up until 2012 where I returned to Nigeria in the early 2000s. Since then, I have been involved in creating new products for the capital markets, deals originating across Africa and now back to derivatives again. This is where I feel most at home.

With over two decades in finance, what would you say is your greatest achievement?
I have had many special moments, such as speaking at the World Economic Forum about development in Nigerian Capital Markets. One special moment was when I signed off with Bloomberg撒 boundwasinhow I would stay around him as long as possible, whatever it took. I had been detected early, so my chances of pulling through were greater, so I just went for it. It was tough mentally, but as each day went by, I accepted my fate and gave my best shot. In many cases of cancer, the real battle takes place in the mind. If one gets that right and under control, it becomes a lot easier. I try to be living proof of that.

What's one misconception about cancer that you wish people understood better?
Misconception: Simple...cancer can't be cured. It can be beaten. Not every diagnosis results in death, so be prepared to battle, and you might just live. Life is worth fighting for because it is a privilege not given to everyone.

Looking ahead, are there any goals or dreams you are working towards?
Family comes first for me, and I want to spend as much time with them as possible. I don’t do that presently. Also, if I can have a wider impact in terms of creating awareness and providing facilities for screening and treatment, then I’m happy. I will continue running my marathons to raise money and awareness.

What’s one thing most people don’t know about you that you wish they did?
Most people think I’m a hard-living O.G. with no cares in the world. In actual fact, I am a real Mummy boy who like to find a bullet for his girls if needed. Family and loyalty mean a lot to me.

Finally, Farrow, if you had to choose a soundtrack for your life right now, what song would it be and why?
My song... Before I let it go by Frankie Beverly and Maze. It’s a song about a woman. But in my case, I substitute the woman for my country. With the current state of the world, I feel we all need to have a moment’s reflection on how we can help.

Cancer has definitely changed my outlook on life. I realise that we are all here for a given period of time. There is no script or timetable for how long we will live, so we must seize the moment. I want my sons to get the best of their father. I want to make an impact, and I want to share some of my life lessons with others. That’s why I counsel cancer patients. I get so much satisfaction. Money is important, but it can’t be everything.

You have talked about advocating for others living with cancer. What motivated you to start this?
When I was diagnosed with cancer, my youngest child was two years old. I was determined that I would stay around him as long as possible, whatever it took. I had been detected early, so my chances of pulling through were greater, so I just went for it. It was tough mentally, but as each day went by, I accepted my fate and gave my best shot. In many cases of cancer, the real battle takes place in the mind. If one gets that right and under control, it becomes a lot easier. I try to be living proof of that.

What is your proudest achievement?
With over two decades in finance, what would I feel most at home.

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What is your proudest achievement?
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What is Fibre?
Fibre is a type of carbohydrate that our bodies can’t digest. While most carbohydrates are broken down into sugar molecules, fibre remains intact, travelling through the digestive system and helping regulate the body’s use of sugars. There are two types of dietary fibres: soluble and insoluble. Soluble fibre dissolves in water, forming a gel-like substance, which can help lower blood cholesterol and0

The Gut Health Connection
Your gut, or gastrointestinal tract, is home to trillions of bacteria, collectively known as the gut microbiome. These microorganisms play a crucial role in digestion, immune function, and even mood regulation. Fibre serves as food for these beneficial bacteria.

Fibre and Longevity Studies have shown that a diet high in fibre is linked to a reduced risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and certain types of cancer. These conditions are major contributors to reduced life expectancy. By maintaining a healthy gut microbiome, fibre helps keep inflammation in check, supports a robust immune system, and ensures better nutrient absorption—all of which are critical for a long and healthy life.

Top Fiber-Rich Foods to Include in Your Diet

1. Berries
- Berries like raspberries, strawberries, and blueberries are packed with nutrients and provide a fiber boost.

2. Legumes
- Beans, lentils, and chickpeas are fibre superstars. Just one cup of cooked lentils contains about 16 grams of fibre. These versatile legumes can be used in soups, stews, salads, and even as a base for veggie burgers.

3. Whole Grains
- Oats, quinoa, barley, and brown rice are excellent sources of fibre. Switching to refined grains for whole grains can significantly boost your fibre intake.

4. Vegetables
- Vegetables are fibre-rich, especially leafy greens like spinach, kale, and broccoli.

5. Nuts and Seeds
- Almonds, chia seeds, and flaxseeds are great for snacking and are high in fibre. Just an ounce of almonds has about 3.5 grams of fibre, while two tablespoons of chia seeds pack an impressive 10 grams. Sprinkle them into your mornings or as a topping on salads or as a spread for sandwiches.

6. Fruits
- Apples, pears, and avocados are fantastic sources of fibre. One medium apple with the skin on contains about 4.4 grams of fibre. For a delicious fibre-rich snack, pair an apple with a handful of nuts or spread some avocado on whole-grain toast.

Tips to Increase Fibre Intake
- Start Slow: Gradually increase your fibre intake to prevent digestive discomfort.
- Stay Hydrated: Fibre works best when it absorbs water, so drink plenty of fluids.
- Mix It Up: Incorporate a variety of fibre-rich foods to get a range of nutrients and keep meals interesting.

Read Labels: Look for whole grains and check fibre content on food labels when shopping.
NONYE UDEOGU

CHARACTER ENERGY

Have you ever watched a movie in which the protagonist’s energy was so magnetic, so undeniable, that you found yourself rooting for them despite their flaws and missteps? This magnetic pull is often referred to as “main character energy,” and it’s not just for fictional heroes. You can harness this energy in your own life, taking charge of your narrative and living your story with purpose and passion. Here’s how.

Embrace Your Uniqueness

The first step to cultivating the main character’s energy is embracing your uniqueness. Every great protagonist stands out because of their distinct qualities and quirks. Maybe you have a unique sense of humor, a passion for a niche hobby, or a distinctive fashion sense. Whatever it is, own it. Your individuality is what makes your story worth telling. Celebrate your quirks, lean into your passions, and let your true self shine without apology.

Set Bold Goals

Main characters don’t settle for the status quo. They have dreams and ambitions that push them beyond their comfort zones. To cultivate main character energy, set bold goals that excite and challenge you. These goals don’t have to be career-oriented; they can be about personal growth, relationships, or experiences. The key is to aim high and pursue these goals with determination and resilience.

Live with Purpose

A compelling main character is never passive; they take action. Whether it’s embarking on a new adventure, making a difficult decision, or standing up for what they believe in, their actions drive the narrative forward. To embody main character energy, you need to be proactive in your life. Don’t wait for opportunities to come to you; seek them out. Take risks, make bold moves, and don’t be afraid of failure.

Cultivate Confidence

Confidence is a hallmark of main character energy. It’s not about being the loudest person in the room but about having a quiet, unwavering belief in your abilities and worth. Cultivating confidence involves stepping out of your comfort zone, celebrating your successes, and learning from your failures. Practice self-compassion and remember that confidence is built over time through experience and self-reflection.

Surround Yourself with Positivity

Main characters often have a strong support system that encourages and uplifts them. Surround yourself with people who believe in you, support your goals, and inspire you to be your best self. Positive relationships can provide the encouragement and motivation needed to stay focused on your narrative. Additionally, seek out experiences and environments that energize and inspire you.

Live with Drama

Ultimately, main character energy is about living with purpose. Identify what truly matters to you and align your actions with your values. Purpose gives your narrative depth and direction, making your story not just about achievements but about meaningful experiences and contributions.

6 Things We Loved About Dimma Umeh’s Civil Wedding

Dimma Umeh, Nigeria’s beloved beauty and lifestyle guru, just tied the knot in a stunning civil ceremony that was a pure reflection of her dream vision. Known for her clever beauty tips and irresistible charm, Dimma truly brought her fantasy to life in a day that looked like it was lifted straight from a fairy tale. We’re still swooning over every detail! Here are six aspects of her magical day that completely captivated us:

1. The Dress

Dimma’s wedding dress was the epitome of elegance and simplicity. The ensemble featured a sleek, delicately bodiced gown with a voluminous ball skirt, exuding a timeless grace. Her choice of understated jewellery perfectly accented the gown, showcasing her chic, effortless style.

2. The Statement Veil

Often overlooked, the veil can be a stunning aesthetic appeal of every photograph taken.

3. An Intimate Affair

True to her minimalist ethos, Dimma’s makeup was a masterclass in subtlety. The clean, simple look accentuated her natural beauty and radiant smile, proving that sometimes, less truly is more.

4. Captured Moments

The photographs are dreamlike, highlighting the stunning outfits, the beautifully lit venue, and the overall ambiance, inviting us into a visual journey filled with creativity, vision, and love.

5. The Charming Venue

Set in the serene precincts of Ajoje Lagos in Ikoyi, the venue felt like a scene straight out of a fairy tale, exuding an enchanting, intimate atmosphere. The venue was a picturesque backdrop to Dimma’s special day. Its elegant minimalist design and unique time-washed walls provided a stunning canvas that enhanced the aesthetic appeal of every photograph taken.

6. The Makeup

The wedding setting was nothing short of magical. Guests were seated at a long, wooden table under soft, ambient lighting that cast a warm glow against the time-washed walls, creating an enchanting, intimate atmosphere. The venue felt like a scene straight out of a fairy tale, perfectly tailored for a memorable celebration.
DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF MOROCCO:
TOP 5 CITIES TO VISIT!

Morocco is a land of stunning contrasts, where ancient traditions blend seamlessly with modern influences, a dreamy mix of old-world charm and today’s vibe. Whether you’re wandering through bustling markets, relaxing by the sea, or soaking up the history of its storied cities, Morocco promises a unique and unforgettable experience. Here are the top five cities you absolutely must visit on your Moroccan adventure. You can take this list to the bank; tell them Ayo Lawal says so!

TOP 5 CITIES TO VISIT!

Exploring the Souks and Medina of Marrakech
Marrakech, the heartbeat of Morocco, is an intoxicating mix of sights, sounds, and scents. You have to begin your journey in the bustling Djemaa el-Fna square, where storytellers, musicians, and street performers create a lively atmosphere day and night. Get lost in the labyrinthine souks, where every corner reveals a beautiful array of spices, textiles, and handcrafted goods. Don’t miss the stunning Jardin Majorelle, an oasis of calm amidst the city’s vibrant energy. For a touch of luxury, stay in a riad, a traditional Moroccan house with a courtyard, many of which have been transformed into boutique hotels offering an authentic yet comfortable experience.

The Vibrant and European-like City of Tangier
Like Marrakech, Tangier is another bustling city in Morocco. Perched at the crossroads of Africa and Europe is a city of intriguing contrasts. Its blend of Moroccan, French, and Spanish influences gives it a unique cosmopolitan vibe. Explore the historic Kasbah, relax at one of the chic cafes along the seafront, or take a short ferry ride to Spain for a day trip. Tangier’s vibrant arts scene, beautiful beaches, and lively nightlife make it a must-visit destination for those seeking a taste of the Mediterranean in North Africa.

The Capital City of Rabat
Rabat, Morocco’s capital, often flies under the radar but is well worth a visit. This city offers a delightful mix of historical landmarks and modern attractions. Marvel at the Hassan Tower and explore the picturesque Kasbah of the Udayas, with its Andalusian gardens and stunning views of the Atlantic Ocean. Rabat also boasts a number of excellent museums, contemporary art galleries, and a growing culinary scene that showcases both traditional and modern Moroccan cuisine.

Relaxing in Essaouira and Chefchaouen
If you’re looking for a more laid-back vibe, head to Essaouira and Chefchaouen. Essaouira, with its windswept beaches and historic ramparts, is perfect for a relaxing seaside escape. Wander through its charming medina, enjoy fresh seafood at a local cafe, or try your hand at windsurfing. Chefchaouen, the “Blue Pearl” of Morocco, offers a different kind of tranquility. Nestled in the Rif Mountains, this small town is famous for its striking blue-washed buildings. Stroll through its serene streets, hike in the surrounding hills, or simply soak in the calming atmosphere. Both cities provide a perfect counterbalance to the bustling energy of Marrakech.

The Historic City of Casablanca
Casablanca, immortalized by the classic film, is Morocco’s largest city and its economic powerhouse. While it may not have the same romantic allure as other Moroccan cities, Casablanca is rich in history and culture. Visit the magnificent Hassan II Mosque, one of the largest mosques in the world, with its breathtaking architecture and location right on the Atlantic coast. The city’s vibrant nightlife, upscale restaurants, and shopping districts also make it a great spot for those who enjoy a more urban experience.
1. One of the First Female-Owned Fashion Houses
Unlike most of its competitors, the fashion giant Chanel was founded by a woman—Gabrielle Bonheur Chanel, better known as Coco Chanel. Established in 1909, Coco’s French fashion house broke the mould. While Dior, Prada, Louis Vuitton, and Fendi were established by men, Coco Chanel paved her way, making history as one of the first female-owned fashion houses. Her vision and daring designs revolutionized female fashion and continue to influence the industry today.

2. Coco Chanel Started Out Making Hats
Did you know Coco Chanel initially wanted to be a singer? She performed in cabarets and toyed with the idea of a professional singing career in Vichy. However, fate had different plans. In 1910, she opened a millinery shop at 21 Rue Cambon in Paris, focusing on making hats. Her boutique quickly gained popularity, and by 1915, she expanded her business to include clothing made from jersey fabric. Opening her Maison de Couture in front of the Casino in Biarritz’s Villa L’Amete marked the beginning of her incredible journey in the fashion world.

3. The Longest-Standing Haute Couture House
Chanel’s history spans over a century, making it the oldest active couture house in the world. Since establishing its iconic location at 31 Rue Cambon in 1910, Chanel has remained committed to haute couture. The address is more than just a boutique; it’s a historical site where the essence of Chanel’s luxurious craftsmanship is preserved. The ateliers on the upper floors of this iconic building continue to create masterpieces, just as they did during Coco Chanel’s lifetime (1883–1971).

4. A Suit for Women
The timeless tweed suit is a Chanel classic and a favourite among fashionistas. Coco Chanel revolutionized women’s fashion by introducing comfortable apparel like trousers, challenging the norms of her time. Unlike the restrictive mini-skirts that were popular back then, Chanel’s designs offered freedom and empowerment. Her introduction of trousers for women was a bold statement, symbolizing female emancipation and breaking away from traditional gender roles. Today, the Chanel suit remains a symbol of emancipation and breaking away from traditional gender roles. Today, the Chanel suit remains a symbol of emancipation and by new generations of fashion lovers.

5. Karl Lagerfeld Ushered in a New Era
The late fashion legend Karl Lagerfeld took over Chanel in 1983, breathing new life into the brand. Tasked with incorporating the famous Chanel CC logo into more merchandise and designs, Lagerfeld transformed Chanel’s ready-to-wear collection. Under his visionary leadership, Chanel regained its status as a revered fashion house. Lagerfeld’s dedication to Chanel continued until his passing in 2019, ensuring that Coco’s legacy lived on. His modern interpretations of Chanel’s classic designs kept the brand relevant and admired by new generations of fashion lovers.

6. Chanel’s Timeless Appeal
Chanel continues to honour Coco Chanel’s legacy through contemporary takes on her iconic designs. The brand’s commitment to elegance and comfort remains unwavering, captivating fashion enthusiasts worldwide. From the little black dress to the signature quilted handbag, Chanel’s creations are timeless pieces that transcend trends. The fashion house’s ability to blend classic elements with modern innovation keeps it at the forefront of the industry, proving that Chanel’s allure is as strong as ever.

Fun Facts about the Iconic House of Chanel

Chanel has been a leader in luxury fashion since its inception, solidifying its reputation as one of the world’s oldest and most prestigious haute couture brands. Despite opening its first official boutique over a century ago, the brand still holds a significant place in the hearts of style enthusiasts. Few boutiques have had such a lasting impact on fashion-conscious consumers. Here are six fun facts about Chanel that you probably didn’t know.

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**What They Don’t Tell You About Concealers**

Concealers aren’t just for hiding imperfections anymore—they’ve evolved into essential tools that can transform your makeup look. Whether you’re a makeup novice or a seasoned pro, mastering the art of concealer application can elevate your look, from basic to flawless.

By Funke Babs Kufeji

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**CONCEALER APPLICATION BASICS**

**Choosing the Perfect Shade: Lighter or Just Right?**

It’s an age-old debate: foundation first or concealer? We’re setting the record straight—start with concealer. This technique allows you to precisely cover dark circles, blemishes, or uneven spots with targeted application, laying the groundwork for a pristine foundation finish. However, this doesn’t rule out a touch-up post-foundation; just keep it subtle to maintain the natural allure of your skin.

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