



**What's hot**

Discover all your Christmas night out beauty essentials

# 'The Agenda

In association with **Westfield**



# Don't stop the party

Night rider: Christmas party wear options from Mango

**The main event**

Fed up of wearing the same little black dress to every do? Here are some options that will keep you looking fab this Christmas season. By **Bibby Sowray**

**G**ird your loins: party season is upon us. The annual flurry of invitations has likely already landed in your inbox and with them the predictable panic about what to wear. While your trusty little black dress may seem like the easiest option, now is the perfect time to be a bit more adventurous. There's an array of fabulous alternatives out there – all you need to do is decide which one works for you.

**The trouser suit**

With 2017 having been the year of the trouser suit, what better way to see it out than in a killer one? You needn't worry about this purchase dating either; a great trouser suit is a true classic, just make sure you opt for the right cut. Take your cue from Yves Saint Laurent's iconic Le Smoking and Seventies-era Bianca Jagger, by trying for a streamlined, wide-leg flared silhouette. The bold red version from Hobbs takes AW17's hottest colour and filters it into a refined design – add a simple camisole, minimal heels and a sculptural clutch for surefire wow-factor.

**The drouser**

Meet the drouser, fashion's latest sartorial portmanteau. Put simply, it's a dress that works perfectly over

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**Pulse points: Gourmet chocolates**

Up your gift-giving game with a luxurious box of sweet treats this Christmas. Of course, with presents this irresistibly delicious, you may even want to treat yourself too. By **Klaudia Balogh**

**1. Carluccio's**

This Italian selection has all the flavour basics with a little nutty twist. Think almond, hazelnuts and pistachios – a perfect combo of sweet and savoury. **Gianduiotti grande selezione, £19.95**



**2. Hotel Chocolat**

This heavenly collection will keep any sweet tooth satisfied, bringing together 25 different tastes and textures. With fruity, nutty and alcohol flavours, there's certainly something to suit everyone. **Chocolate cabinet, £50**



**3. Godiva**

Whoever receives this delicious selection can savour the satisfying moment the crispy outer shells of these truffles melt into a delicious chocolate mousse filling. **Truffle delights, £22, John Lewis**



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trousers. Ideal for the woman who likes a more laidback party look, it's an outfit that will take you from desk to dance floor with minimum fuss. The key is to look for a dress with a statement split so that your trousers (denim works best) can peek through – check out the purple floral number from H&M which does the job perfectly. Add slick heels and statement earrings and you've got a low-key look made of components that can be mixed and matched to create countless other outfits throughout the rest of the year.



**The little sequined dress**  
Sequins are always big news during party season but what makes them particularly appealing this time round is the fact that they're also big news for SS18, meaning if you invest in them now you can be sure they'll see



1. Party jacket, £60, River Island; 2. Sequin dress, £95.99, Zara; 3. Velvet sandals, £209, Sandro; 4. Embroidered bag, £495, Mulberry; 5. Velvet jumpsuit, £135, Cos; 6. Bead tulle skirt, £59.99, Mango; 7. Patterned dress, £39.99, H&M; 8. Trousers suit jacket £179, trousers, £119, both Hobbs; 9. Velvet mules, £29.50, M&S; 10. Disk earrings, £12, Warehouse; 11. Pyjama shirt, £39.99, trousers, £39.99, both Zara; 12. One sleeve dress, £49, Topshop

you through next summer's events too. Zara's rainbow (also a huge trend for SS18) design may just be the perfect party dress; short but not too revealing, super colourful and sparkly, it takes its inspiration from It-label Attico, whose rainbow sequin wrap dress has been a sell-out hit despite its eye-watering £2,000 price tag. Pair with on-trend velvet kitten heel mules and a fun bag and you're all set to get the party started in style.

**The jumpsuit**

Every wardrobe deserves to have a failsafe jumpsuit in its arsenal, and a packed schedule of parties is the perfect excuse to invest. The simplicity of the velvet version from Cos makes it timeless and super-easy to dress up or down depending on the occasion, and inky black velvet is the most festive of fabrics. Sparkling statement earrings, heeled satin mules and a delicately embroidered mini-bag amp up its luxe factor for a more formal event, but it would look equally as good under a leather biker jacket and worn with bejewelled flats and a simple clutch. The best part? You can pull it out come party season for years to come.

**The tulle skirt**

Tulle has been enjoying a renaissance for a few seasons thanks to designers such as Molly Goddard and Simone Rocha, who've both made the frothy fabric a focal point of their design aesthetic. It doesn't always translate as daywear but it really comes into its own at night, making for princessy party pieces. Make a jewel-toned tulle midi skirt

**The party jacket**

Sometimes all it takes is one trusty piece to elevate any look to party-ready status, and that's where the party jacket comes in. Consider it the statement earring of the clothes world – a quick and easy way to transform even the simplest of outfits; the ultimate throw-on-and-go. River Island's

fringed jacket is a little bit Twenties, a little bit rock'n'roll. Whether you layer it over a head-to-toe black ensemble or pair with your scruffiest jeans, it's sure to liven up your look. It's so good that a pair of Converse will suffice on the shoe front if you so wish – which means even more hours on the dance floor.

**The luxe pyjamas**

We have Prada and Miu Miu to thank for elevating pyjamas to an opulent option for more than just bedtime. Zara has a two-piece that's the perfect hybrid between luxe loungewear and eveningwear, with a rich floral print adding an air of sophistication and a loose cut that offers comfort and style. Accessories are essential to ensure you don't swerve into off-to-bed territory; opt for maximum sparkle in the jewellery department, a structured bag and some serious heels – then dance the night away safe in the knowledge you can roll into bed when you're home.

**The one-sleeve wonder**

The Eighties have been quietly plotting a return to the fashion mainstream for the past few seasons – and you can't get much more Eighties than a one-sleeve dress (just look at Saint Laurent's AW17 collection for proof). A fresh twist sees it combined with the more contemporary mid-length hemline and a vintage-style print in a mishmash of eras. Tip: avoid necklaces so the asymmetric neckline remains the focus.



# Make an impression

**The trend**

Whether you prefer sparkling glamour or a more classic style, **Caroline Brien** shows how this festive season's hottest party looks offer updated options with a modern twist

For most of us, when it comes to Christmas party make-up, we have a tried and tested formula: the sophisticated combination of red lips and black cat's eye liner or the full-on glittery eye finish teamed with toned-down lips.

But now is the perfect time to hit refresh and give your chosen look an update. The best news? Both black liner and glitter were big news on the SS18 catwalks, so investing in some key cosmetic pieces now will carry you through to next season.

Glitter has grown up – in no small part thanks to legendary make-up artist Pat McGrath, who has been championing it for eyes on catwalks and with her own range for the past few seasons.

"For eyes, the more finely milled the formula is, the more expensive, refined and decadent glitter looks," advises fêted British make-up artist Caroline Barnes. "Sophisticated glitter needs a base, so layer it over an eyeshadow to help get a lustrous texture and shine that really kicks back the light. Focus glitter on the highest point of the eyelid or dab a touch into the tear duct to really accentuate the shape of the eyes."

Barnes also suggests using matching rather than contrasting colours. "A rose gold base with gold glitter is especially flattering," she says. Try a sweep of **Max Factor Wild Shadow Pots in Savage Rose**,

£4.99 (1), followed by **Stila Magnificent Metals Glitter & Glow Liquid Eye Shadow in Rose Gold Retro**, £23 (2) for an illuminating look. For a hint of sparkle on lashes or through fine strands of hair, try adding **Guerlain Gold Light Top Coat Mascara**, £20.50 (3) and let the gold catch the light. Or rev up your nail look with **Lancôme Olympia Le Tan Le Vernis Top Coat in Amour**, £13.50 (4), which paints on pretty gold hearts in a clear formula.

From Jason Wu to Preen respectively, winged eyeliner in updated shapes and strong lips with a smudged, "kissed off" look are set to be huge trends next season.

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"For liner, start with a fine line and at the middle of the lash line, extend it outwards stopping where the lashes go down," explains Barnes. "Then follow upwards from your lower lashes and connect at the upper point and fill in."

A liquid liner such as **Mac Brushstroke Liner in Brushblack**, £18.50 (5) is ideal. "Don't be afraid of

trying coloured liner too," says Barnes. "It looks fresh and modern." **Bobbi Brown Long-Wear Liquid Liner in Violet Sparkle**, £24.50 (6) gives an intense hit of shimmering plum.

For lips, Barnes advises opting for two textures. "Use a matte version as a base as it will last longer, then add a more satin, hydrating formula in a matching tone down the centre of the mouth for an enhancing, fuller effect," she says. Try teaming matte liquid lipstick in true classic red – say



An eye on the trends: black liner was big on the Giorgio Armani SS18 catwalk at Milan Fashion Week

GETTY IMAGES

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## FOR HER



If diamonds are a girl's best friend then no woman will be able to resist this 18ct yellow gold ring from the new Lovestrike collection inspired by the shape of lightning.

**Lovestrike channel-set diamond ring, £690, Vashi (Westfield London only)**

Inspired by the runway collection, this floral bag in the popular Fleming shape, comes with an adjustable chain strap and removable tassel, and is sure to liven up any party look.



**Fleming floral convertible shoulder bag, £525, Tory Burch (Westfield London only)**

Charlotte Tilbury is the make-up artist to the A-list, so she knows her stuff. This palette has all the shades you need to turn you into a smoky eyed goddess.

**Luxury palette, £39, Charlotte Tilbury**



The best kept secret of cult Scandi brand & Other Stories is its really strong beauty offering. This hand care kit — hand wash, lotion and cream — is a great introduction.

**Seventh Avenue hand care kit, £17, & Other Stories (Westfield Stratford City only)**



Help banish winter skin with Kiehl's. This body oil, from the best-selling Crème de Corps range, will encourage silky skin through to the summer.

**Crème de Corps nourishing dry body oil, £35, Kiehl's**



What you wear under your clothes is the foundation for every outfit and Victoria's Secret understands that. Get festive with a star pattern matching bra and knicker set.

**Dream Angels star set, bra £67.45, knickers £16.25, Victoria's Secret**

A candle makes a great gift. This Cire Trudon one has notes of Bergamot, grapefruit and rum, which make it truly festive and at 3kg you get 350 hours of burn time.

**Ernesto Christmas candle, £495, Cire Trudon at John Lewis (Westfield Stratford City only)**



What do you get the woman who has everything? A Stegosaurus coin purse of course. From the popular Dino collection, the steggy is 100 per cent leather and a cute addition to any bag.

**Steggy coin case, £75, Coach**

## FOR HIM

Aftershave is always a safe gift. The latest fragrance from Yves Saint Laurent is sharp and crisp with notes of geranium absolute, white aldehydes, incense and ambergis accord.

**Yves Saint Laurent Y Eau de Toilette 100ml, £72, Boots**



The Burberry check is back. Get in on the trend, and stay warm, with this 100 per cent cashmere scarf made at its 200-year-old mill in Scotland. Stylish and sustainable.

**Vintage check scarf, £350, Burberry (Westfield London only)**



You can never have too many cufflinks, especially not when they are as elegant as these

**Georg Jensen sterling silver and black onyx ones. Classic cufflinks, £350, Georg Jensen (Westfield London only)**

A chic but practical weekend bag is hard to find, but this Aston Martin by Hackett one ticks all the boxes. Made from 100 per cent leather it embraces the British craftsmanship behind the two brands.

**Leather holdall, £550, Hackett (Westfield London only)**



There's no escaping it, winter has arrived, but that doesn't mean sacrificing style. This wool and cashmere beanie will keep you cosy without



making you look ridiculous. Win, win. **Wool and cashmere blend beanie, £45, Tommy Hilfiger**



The sun might not be shining right now but be optimistic — and prepared — for when it does make a return with these Wayfarer-inspired Hugo Boss sunnies. **Black frame sunglasses, £140, Hugo Boss (Westfield London only)**

Atelier Cologne is one for the true fragrance connoisseur — all the scents are made in the traditional Cologne Absolué style. This Gold Leather uses sandalwood, oud and iris to create a rich scent.

**Gold Leather 100ml, £145, Atelier Cologne (Westfield Stratford City only)**



For a luxurious gift, it's hard to beat a watch. This chronograph, made and tested in the Montblanc factory in Switzerland, takes its inspiration from race car instruments.

**TimeWalker Chronograph Automatic, £3,420, Montblanc (Westfield London only)**



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