Wedding Dress:

While you're welcome to wear western formal evening-wear, we'd love for you to join us in traditional South Asian attire for our wedding celebration on Monday. There are many websites where you can find South Asian formal-wear online, as well as stores in major cities where many of you live. We have also included rental options.

For the henna, most women like to wear bright colors or florals, as it is an opportunity for the women to get together and get a chance to apply henna on their hands. South Asian attire is completely optional, as this is a much more informal event.

For the boat trip, we hope it will be a lovely evening on the Bosphorus, but for those who may get chilly in the evening, please feel free to bring a thin layer for when the sun goes down.

Istanbul should still be mild and lovely weather during our wedding weekend. If you plan to do sight seeing around Istanbul, please bring comfortable walking shoes as the streets in the old town can be narrow and hilly in places. Istanbul is a very modern city and you can dress as you would at home without any issues. There are many many beautiful Ottoman mosques (Sulemaniye Mosque is our favorite spiritual place!) which are open to the public outside of prayer times, but do require men to wear pants or shorts below their knees and for women to dress modestly with attire down to their ankles and a scarf to cover their arms/head. Nilofer finds it very easy to just carry a shawl or scarf and dress in a long skirt or pants so she can cover when walking into these sites.

Rental:

https://aaykafashion.com/ (NYC only)
https://preserve.rent/
https://www.allborrow.com/
https://glamourental.com/

Purchase:

US-based online stores: https://shopkynah.com/

https://www.perniaspopupshop.com/

https://www.lashkaraa.com/

If you like shopping IRL:

In the NYC area: There are many shops on Oaktree Road in Iselin, NJ or on South Broadway in Hicksville, Long Island. Here are a couple that we'd recommend checking out:

Khajanaboutique.com (Iselin, NJ) @Moughalboutique (Hicksville, NY)

In SF: These stores have both online presence as well as stores you can visit. There are also several stores in Fremont, CA if you are adventurous and want to check out Little India there!

akarshandesigns.com (San Bruno) https://www.dhoomindiafashion.com/

In the UK: You all have so shortage of lovely shops in South Asian neighborhoods in London (Green Street) and Birmingham (Alum Rock, Sheffield/Ladypool Rd), but also check out these sites we found:

https://filhaal.co.uk/ https://www.houseoffaiza.co.uk/