

It's going to be a long, hot summer...so check out this look

TAKE IT TO THE MAXI



SHEER GLAM: Silk printed dress, £45, from ASOS; hat, £12, from Dorothy Perkins



GET ready for a long, hot summer in these sizzling numbers that are perfect for those balmy days - and nights.

Just a few months ago, it was all about the mini. But now there's a new hemline in town, the maxi.

Over the past week, we've been bombarded with this sensational look that's long on style. It was first a hit back in the glitzy 60s. Now the maxi is making a welcome return for the 2007 version of the Summer of Love and can be found in all the coolest wardrobes.

Paris Hilton, 26, pictured right, Kate Moss, 33, and Nicole Richie, 25, are all

By CLARE TAYLOR

big fans. Even Coleen McLoughlin, 21, pictured left, can't get enough, hailing them as "feminine, cool and easy to wear".

And she's not wrong. The maxi dress is simple, stylish and utterly versatile. Try teaming it with strappy flats and oversized sunnies for lounging around, or dress it up with a snazzy belt and chunky wedges.

Coleen admits hitting Miss Selfridge and Mango for her sassy summer maxis. But, quite frankly, they are everywhere. Here, we showcase some of the stunning selection on offer.

Prints are the biggest trend. From pretty florals,

to bold Pucci-style swirls, the more retro-looking the better.

The catwalks foretold the trend months ago, with the likes of Roberto Cavalli, Christian Dior and Julien MacDonald all parading versions of this fabulous frock.

But the High Street is definitely where it's at for bargain-hunting fashion fans. And seeing as we are already well into the spring/summer season, there is no point paying more than you need to for what could turn out to be a relatively short-lived look.

So shop savvy and enjoy this trend to the max.



STOCKIST DETAILS

Lipsy: 0845 680 0088
Bhs: 020 7262 3288
Tom Wolfe at Envy: 01895 818 828
Marks & Spencer: 0845 302 1234
Dorothy Perkins: 0845 121 4515
www.asos.com
Wallis: 0870 830 0462
Buffalo David
Bitton: 020
7436 3377

HOLIDAY MOOD: Black and white printed dress, £40, by Lipsy; sunglasses, £10, from Bhs



RETRO CHIC: Printed dress in green and blue tones, £40, from Dorothy Perkins; bag, £16, from Wallis

EXOTIC LOOK: Printed dress, £36.99, by Tom Wolfe at Envy; beads, £15, from Marks & Spencer



FLOWER POWER: White floral print dress, £62, by Buffalo David Bitton; bangle, £9.50, from Marks & Spencer



Pictures: JAMES BERNASCONI
Hair & make-up: JO HICKS
Styling: CLARE TAYLOR