



WELCOME TO
THE WEDDING OF

Shivani and Jayant

Sunday, June 8 2025

A Guide to Jayant and Shivani's Hindu Ceremony

- RITKashi Yatra

A playful tradition where the Bride's brother convinces the Groom to marry his sister instead of going on a pilgrimage. The Groom is then led to the Mandapam (wedding altar) by the Bride's family.

- Ganesha Pooja & Punyahavachanam

The priest starts the ceremony by invoking Lord Ganesha's blessings for a smooth ceremony. Holy water from the "Ganges River" is sprinkled to cleanse and sanctify all the items used for the rituals.

- Rakshabandanam

A yellow thread is tied around the Groom's right wrist by his Thai Mama (maternal uncle) to protect him from any negative energies during the ceremony.

- Bride's Enterance

The Bride is led to the Mandapam by her bridesmaids. She then takes her place beside the Groom.

- Kanyadhanam

A prayer is recited to honor the family lineages of the Bride and Groom. The Bride's father then places her hand in the Groom's hand, symbolizing his support and blessings for their marriage.

- Exchange of Plates

The families exchange plates containing clothes, sweets, and other gifts as a gesture of mutual respect and to officially unite the two families. The Bride and Groom then change into the outfits they have received for the next part of the ceremony.

- Second Enterances

The Groom is led to the mandapam for the second time by his groomsmen. The Bride is led to the mandapam for the second time by her family members.

- Mangalya Dharanam

The Groom ties a sacred thread known as the Thali around the Bride's neck, securing it with three knots. This act signifies their union and marks the couple as married, representing their lifelong commitment to each other.

- Exchange of Garlands

The couple exchange their garlands, at which point they are pronounced husband and wife.

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- *Parivettum*

Family members participate by tying the thallapaku, a ceremonial cloth, on the groom as a symbol of support and strength for him to care for his new family.

- *Saptapadi*

The couple holds hands and walks around the sacred fire, taking seven symbolic steps together. With each step, they make vows:

- We will nourish each other
- We will be each other's strength
- We will prosper and stay faithful
- We will love and respect our families
- We will care for our children
- We will live healthy and peaceful lives
- We will remain lifelong friends

- *Arundhati Nakshatra Dharanam*

The priest shows the couple the Arundhati star, representing marital harmony, loyalty, and equality as partners.

- *Games*

Fun traditional games, such as finding rings in a pot of water and smashing appalam (crispy lentil wafers) over the couple's heads, add joy and laughter.

- *Aseervadam*

The priest, family and friends, shower the newlyweds with rice and flowers, offering blessings and best wishes for a joyful and prosperous life together.



*Thank
You*

