

SPICE IT UP

When heading out after sunset, reach for an olfactory delight that boasts notes of oud, rose, sandalwood and amber, says renowned scent expert Michael Edwards, author of Fragrances of the World 2014 (30th Edition). Musks, spicy orientals and mouth-watering gourmand scents are better paired with a glass of champagne than your morning cup of coffee not just because of their aroma but also because of their formulation. "Oil formats hold on to your skin better than an alcohol-based fragrance," says Edwards.

WARM FRONT

Not all evening scents are created equal though. Parisian perfumer Stephane Humbert Lucas 777, who often looks to the Middle East for inspiration, recently created Une Nuit à Doha (translation: one night in Doha), a warm vanilla, tobacco and mandarin-based fragrance that is not as rich as most gourmand fragrances but still smells best come twilight.

LAYER AWAY

To ensure your signature scent lasts as long as your Louboutins can carry you, regardless of the formulation, try layering it with a matching body lotion, says perfume expert Nick Gilbert. "If it's available, I'd also suggest that you use a matching bath product such as a shower gel, bath oil or soap as this will help the fragrance last. These layers of scent evaporate more slowly when they are built up." Or spritz your perfume directly on to your party dress (spot test first to make sure it doesn't cause any damage) or even your blowout. "Hair is more porous than skin and [scent] will evaporate slower," says Gilbert. ▶

