



**Arrays of violets were witnessed on the spring/summer 2015 catwalks,** and have now descended onto the high street as the go-to hue that will no doubt be seen in all of our wardrobes, says Katie Farley



*Oakley Frogskins Crystal Black Violet Iridium Sunglasses | Debenhams £100*

Over the years the spring/summer months seem to lovingly attract pastel palettes, enhancing the start of the season with soft, dreamy shades that soon prevail as must-have trends. This year sees the stylish turn of violet as it parades its pretty persona, along with its sister shades surrounding the spectrum: lilac, lavender, mauve, plum and grape.

This ice queen pastel is reigning supreme this season, showcasing its versatility in all manner of clothing, whether you choose to wear it day or evening. Not only is violet a fabulously feminine colour that stimulates spirituality and projects a sense of purity, it also complements most skin tones.

Dresses were decorated in violets with metres of purple tulle used on waterfall skirts and stylishly knotted into waist belts. Roberto Cavalli showcased intricate, detailed handiworks on full-length lace embroidered dresses that showcased utter femininity. John Lewis offers a stunning alternative to Cavalli's creation, with a lilac lace infused cocktail number that is delicately textured and sophisticatedly sculpted. Other stores showcasing lust-worthy light purple dresses include French Connection and Ghost. Purple also screams glamour and fantasy this season with ball gowns and party dresses infused with sequins, beadwork and diamante embellishments, all in the new must-have shade.

Separates were also splashed in violet variations and purple skirts also prevailed with the prettiest of pastels on textured elegant styles. Hunter Original's lilac anorak proved that you can still look super ladylike even on April's rainy days and on the high street, Joe Browns at Debenhams offer the most charming alternative; a beautiful lilac mac with off-centre buttons, and half way down features an abstract vibrant floral design. Perfect when needing a little pick me up!

The trend also witnesses a continuation into the world of beauty, where make-up in all shades of purple painted many fashion designers collections. We saw all shades from lilac to violet applied around the eye areas in a light, dreamy wash, further enhancing the outfits.

# VIOLET

THE HIGHER END OF THE SPECTRUM



*Gina Bacconi Bouquet Guipure Dress, Violet | John Lewis £260*

*Adriana Dress | Ghost £195*

*Flight of Fancy Cap Sleeve Dress | French Connection £110*

*Clare Clutch | Ghost £50*



*Lilac beautiful border mac | Debenhams £78.95*



*Ariella London | Debenhams £49*