

KARTIK YATRA 2011

ISKCON Chowpatty

Dear devotees,

Please accept our humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

The Yatra Committee is glad to inform that the 2011 Annual Yatra of Sri Sri Radha Gopinath congregation will be to **Sri Vrindavan Dham & Sri Govardhan Dham. During the yatra we will be visiting holy places in and around Sri Vrindavan and Sri Govardhan.**

Please read the following details carefully before applying for the Yatra.

Important Dates

Registration starts on	: Sunday, 10th April 2011
Last date for Registration	: Sunday, 8th May 2011
Last date for payment of Registration fee	: Sunday, 8th May 2011
Last date for Registration with Late fee of Rs. 1,000/-.	: Thursday, 30th June 2011
Last date for cancellation with processing fee of Rs. 200/-	: Thursday, 30th June 2011
No refunds on yatra cancellations after	: Thursday, 30th June 2011
Accommodation announcement	: Sunday, 3rd July 2011
Application for accommodation begins on	: Sunday, 10th July 2011
Last date for application for accommodation	: Sunday, 24th July 2011
Payment for Accommodation starts	: Sunday, 14th August 2011
Last date for accommodation payments	: Sunday, 28th August 2011
Last date for substitution with late fee of Rs. 1,500/-	: Sunday, 11th September 2011
Yatra starts at Sri Vrindavan dham on	: Saturday, 22nd October 2011
Yatra ends at Sri Govardhan dham on	: Friday, 4th November 2011
Last date for settling all accounts related matters	: Wednesday 30 th November 2011

Eligibility

The minimum criteria to qualify for applying for the Yatra is

1. Chanting 16 rounds daily and following the 4 regulative principles including restraint from tea and coffee since **Gaur Purnima, 19th March 2011.**
2. Applicant should be part of the RGM Database with updated personal details atleast before 31st March 2011.
3. The applicant should also be attending weekly ISKCON satsang programs on a regular basis for last one year.

4. Should follow the prescribed dress code of dhoti-kurta for men & sari for women.
5. Additionally, devotees applying for the Yatra have to obtain prior recommendation from their respective **Recommending Authority**.

Recommending Authority

The authorities who may recommend eligible devotees for attending the Yatra include:

1. The Counselor Body of Sri Sri Radha Gopinath Mandir, Mumbai and Sri Sri Radha Kunja Vihari Mandir, Pune (RA1).
2. Authorized devotees from other centers (India & Abroad) & Brahmacharis travelling abroad (RA2) (contact rgyatra@gmail.com for the list) and,
3. Yatra Committee (RA3)

Yatra Itinerary

The devotees are requested to report at Vrindavan on 22nd October 2011. The Yatra starts at Vrindavan on 22nd October 2011 at 4.00 pm with the inaugural address by H.H Radhanath Swami Maharaj. We will be staying in Vrindavan till 28th October 2011. On 29th October 2011 all the devotees will travel from Vrindavan to Govardhan where the yatra will complete on 4th November 2011.

Yatra Charges

The Yatra charges will be **Rs. 3,500/-**. This includes registration, prasadam, internal travel arrangements during the Yatra and donations to various temples in the Holy Dham.

The Yatra Committee shall, at its discretion arrange for sponsoring prasadam (**a waiver of Rs 600/-**) for a limited number of participants who are financially constrained. These participants will be **eligible for dormitory type accommodation only**.

Children under 5 years of age (as on **1st October 2011**) are waived of all charges, however they need to be registered separately. Please note that they will not be eligible for separate accommodation / seat during bus travel / prasadam plate, etc. In case separate facility is required they have to pay for the full yatra charges.

Yatra Charges shall not be reduced in proportion to the number of days you wish to attend the Yatra.

Online Registration

This year the Yatra Committee encourages the net-savvy participants to exercise an option to personally apply for registration online on www.rgyatra.com or www.rgmdatabase.com. In this case, the applicant shall have to contact his/her counselor/recommending authority to obtain a login id with password. Only those whose updated details are available in the RGM database shall be eligible to obtain the login id.

Only those eligible applicants who have been **approved by their respective Recommending Authorities** for the yatra shall be finally registered as yatra participants.

Those who cannot apply online should approach their recommending authority to register them for the yatra.

All Brahmacharis should also compulsorily register through their respective centers/ recommending authorities.

Please make sure that your personal information is up-to-date in the database, in particular, your

- photograph (mandatory for security reasons),
- mobile number (if any) and
- email address (if any)

For updating this information, please approach your counselor / recommending authority.

Group communication regarding the yatra will be through email and SMS during the yatra.

You are entitled for this facility on registering for the Yatra and providing correct contact information.

While applying for registration for the yatra kindly specify the following,

a. Choice of Group: There will be three Yatra groups i.e. Red, Blue and Yellow for visiting various holy places. Red group will be for Hindi speaking devotees. Blue and Yellow groups will be for English speaking devotees. During registration, you have to choose either one of the groups based on your preference for either English or Hindi. The Yatra Committee shall try to assign devotees to groups as per their choice, subject to constraints on group size. No requests for change of groups will be entertained after last date of registration.

b. Accommodation Category: Please select applicable category for making appropriate accommodation arrangements:

1. Varista Vaisnava (*above 50 years of age as on 1st October 2011*)
2. Mataji with Child (*Children upto 5 years of age as on 1st October 2011*)
3. Mataji (*coming alone for yatra*)
4. Prabhuji

Preference for accommodation shall be in the above-mentioned order.

c. Accommodation Type: In order to enable the yatra committee to arrange sufficient accommodations you are required to select one of the following options available*:

1. Dormitory costing about Rs.75/- and above per person per day.
2. Rooms with attached Toilet/Bathroom costing about Rs.125/- and above per person per day.
3. Air-conditioned rooms costing about Rs.175/- and above per person per day.

*Accommodation booking as per selection is subject to actual availability.

Registration Payment

Registration shall be considered complete only on payment of appropriate Yatra charges by the applicant before the respective due dates.

This year the payments of yatra charges have to be made by any of the following modes ONLY.

- a. Cash deposit in the nearest branch of Axis Bank Ltd. ONLY. The deposit has to be made in the name of "ISKCON".
- b. At Par crossed Cheque drawn in favour of "ISKCON" deposited in any Axis Bank Ltd. Branch or drop it in the drop-in box kept in accounts office
- c. Payment by NEFT/RTGS in favour of "ISKCON"
- d. Online Transfer through website: www.rgyatra.com through your registration login id.

Further details regarding the bank account number and the NEFT/RTGS code will be made available at the earliest.

Please quote your name and registration no. in all the above payment modes. For Cash deposit, please retain the cash deposit slip for producing at the time of collecting your Registration Confirmation Slips (RCS).

After the last date of registration i.e. 8th May 2011, the Yatra Committee shall issue a Registration Confirmation Slip (RCS) along with a donation receipt. **The RCS should be preserved and produced in Vrindavan at the time of registration and wristbands should be obtained against it.** A fine of **Rs 250/-** shall be levied in case the participant is unable to produce the acknowledgement slip.

If the registration charges are not paid before 8th May 2011, the application shall stand deleted without any recourse.

Late Registrations: Applications received after 8th May 2011 shall be considered as late registrations and shall be eligible for registration on payment of registration charges plus non-refundable late fee of **Rs 1,000/-**. Late registration applications shall be allowed only up-to **30th June 2011**.

Cancellation & Refund:

1. The last date for cancellations is **Thursday, 30th June 2011**. The cancellations should be done online.
2. Cancellations received on or before **Thursday, 30th June 2011** shall alone be eligible for a refund of Yatra Charges after **deducting processing fees of Rs. 200/-**.
3. Cancellation requests after 30th June 2011 are eligible for substitution, if available.
4. All applications for late registration shall stand cancelled due to failure of payment of registration charges or late charges or both by Thursday, 30th June 2011.
5. Failure to participate in the yatra would not entitle for refund.

Substitutions & Payments:

1. If due to some reason, you did not apply before the due date but later on wish to join the Yatra, and if you are eligible, you may apply online on www.rgyatra.com or www.rgmdatabase.com.
2. Finding a substitute is not the responsibility of Yatra Committee. The list of those who wish to cancel and those who wish to register as substitute shall be displayed on the website. Substitution will be allowed only in the same accommodation category.
3. If the substitution is successful, the applicant has to pay a non-refundable amount of Rs.1,700/- (substitution fee of **Rs.1,500/-** + **Rs.200/-** processing fee). The amount of yatra charges and

deduction of Rs.200/- processing fee on cancellation has to be settled between both the parties to the exclusion of the Yatra Committee.

4. No refund of any payment on substitution shall be allowed if the substitute does not participate in the yatra.
5. The Yatra Committee shall try on a best effort basis to provide for such substitution against any cancellations. In this case accommodation will be provided only if there is availability against a cancellation. Else such devotees will have to arrange for their own accommodation.

Registration shall be strictly non-transferable, i.e. once registered you cannot interchange it with anyone else.

Accommodation

Details regarding accommodation will be announced on **3rd July 2011**. The following information should be carefully noted:

1. The Yatra Committee has made arrangements for the accommodation of the participants and therefore encourages applying for the same online.
2. The accommodation allotment within a category will be as per the Yatra Registration Number i.e. the sooner you register for the yatra the higher will be the chance for getting your preferred choice of accommodation. The preferential selection for yatra accommodation will be dependent on the yatra registration number of all the members of a group applying for accommodation.
3. If any participant wishes to make own accommodation arrangement (like own house, relatives house, etc.) which is not a rented accommodation, the arrangement has to be mentioned clearly at the time of online registration.
4. On failure to apply for accommodation or to notify own accommodation arrangement as mentioned above, the registration shall remain cancelled after the last date of accommodation payments. Such cancellations shall not qualify to get substitution facility.
5. Accommodation charges, once paid, shall not be refunded whether the accommodation is taken or not.

Traveling

1. Traveling arrangements from one's place of residence to Vrindavan and back have to be made by the concerned devotees / participants on their own.
2. The Yatra Committee will arrange internal bus arrangements for visiting various holy places during the yatra wherever required.
3. Internal travel by private vehicles, rickshaw etc. or any separate travel arrangements during the Yatra have to be arranged by the participants on their own risk and cost and the Yatra Committee shall not be responsible for the same.

Corrective Action

1. Norms regarding conduct of the devotees pertaining to visiting the places, security, dress code, purchasing, regulative principles, etc. would be intimated by the Yatra Committee through a separate information booklet
2. All the participants are expected to strictly follow the instructions of the Yatra Committee and other sub-committees like security, prasadam, etc.
3. Any discrepancy will be viewed seriously and the concerned devotee may be penalized monetarily or debarred from future participation in yatras or both.
4. Counselors of such erring devotees would also be considered responsible for any behavior of their counselees violating the norms of the yatra.
5. Observations of the vigilance committee will be taken into account for executing the disciplinary action and decision of the Yatra Committee would be irrevocable in this regard.

Force Majeure

If, in the event of a natural catastrophe or due to any unavoidable reasons, the yatra needs to be cancelled, the Yatra committee will refund the appropriate charges after deducting the expenses already incurred. Such a refund shall be made only upon producing the Acknowledgement Slip in original.

Correspondence/Clarifications

All correspondence / clarifications must be referred to the Yatra Committee through the **counselor / recommending authority**.

Disclaimer

Devotees attending this yatra are doing so entirely on their own risk. Under no circumstances shall the members of the Yatra Organizing Committee in particular or ISKCON Chowpatty in general, individually or collectively, be liable for any loss or damage in any way due to any cause beyond your / our control.

Thanking you,

Your Servants,

Sanatkumar Das, Shyamananda Das & Sitanath Das

(Yatra Coordinators)

19th March 2011

Mumbai

Appendix A

Sr No	Center	Recommending Authority	Contact Devotee	Email ID
1	Amritsar	Raghunath Das	Raghunath Das	rajesh@talwars.net
2	Aurangabad	Sacisuta Charan Das	Nilesh K Rathi	nilukrathi@yahoo.co.in
3	Baramati	Prahlad Priya Das	Prahlad Priya Das	prahladpriya@gmail.com
4	Belgaum	Nagendra Das	Nagendra Das	ISKCON.Belgaum@pamho.net
5	Chennai	Paramesvar Das	Paramesvar Das	pmdasa@gmail.com
6				
7	Goa	Achyut Gopal Das	Achyut Gopal Das	ISKCON-goa@pamho.net
8	Hyderabad I	Mahashringa Das	Mahashringa Das	piyaladha@gmail.com
9	Hyderabad II	Batugopal Das	Batugopal Das	battugopal_rns@yahoo.com
10	Kolhapur	Jayananda Das	Jayananda Das	jayanand_rns@rediffmail.com
11	Kolkata	Acharyaratna Das	Acharyaratna Das	Acaryaratna.RNS@pamho.net
12	Koregaon	Nitya Krishna Das	Nitya Krishna Das	nityakrishnadas@rediffmail.com
13	Latur	Akrur Das	Sameer Shah	sameershah21@rediffmail.com
14	Nasik	Vivek Mishal	Vivek Mishal	mishal.vivek@gmail.com
15	Nigadi	Rohini Kumar Das	Haridham Das	hemant.kulkarni@renfroindia.com
16	Parbani	Dinanath Das	Dinanath Das	dinanathdas_rns@yahoo.com
17	Pune	Pune Counslers	Dinavatsal Das	dlgore108@gmail.com
18	Satara	Nitya Krishna Das	Nitya Krishna Das	nityakrishnadas@rediffmail.com
19	Surat	Hanuman Das	Hanuman Das	hanuman.bvks@gmail.com