

Kartik Yatra 2015

ISKCON Chowpatty

Dear Devotees,

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

The Yatra Committee is glad to inform you that the Annual Yatra of Sri Sri Radha Gopinath Congregation for the year 2015 will be to Sri Vrindavan Dham. During this Yatra we will visit holy places in and around Sri Vrindavan Dham and Sri Govardhan Dham.

Devotees have the option to attend the full Yatra i.e visit both Vrindavan and Govardhan OR attend part Yatra i.e visit either Vrindavan or Govardhan as per their choice.

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

Important Dates (All timings are as per Indian Standard Time)

	Starts on	Ends on
Registration for all categories	21 st April 2015, 10:00 am	21 th May 2015, 6:00 pm
Details of accommodation available on website from	1 st June 2015	
Last date for cancellation of Registration with full refund (less handling charge Rs. 300)		30 th May 2015
Late Registration (with a late fee of Rs. 500) (depending on availability of accommodation)	25 th June 2015	25 th August 2015
Substitution	29 th June 2015	25 th Sept 2015
Last date for settling all accounts related matters	16 th December 2015	

Yatra Accommodation [10th June to 24th June]

Exclusive accommodation for Varishtha Vaishnavas	10 th June 2015, 10:00 am	13 th June 2015, 11:59 pm
Exclusive accommodation for Matajis with children	15 th June 2015, 10:00 am	16 th June 2015, 11:59 pm
Exclusive accommodation for Families with children	18 th June 2015, 10:00 am	19 th June 2015, 11:59 pm
Exclusive accommodation for Single Matajis	21 st June 2015, 10:00 am	22 nd June 2015, 11:59 pm
Exclusive Accommodation for Single Prabhujis	23 rd June 2015, 10:00am	24 th June 2015, 11:59 pm

Yatra Itinerary

Arrival of devotees at Sri Vrindavan Dham	Saturday, 7 th November 2015	
Yatra starts at Sri Vrindavan Dham	Sunday 8 th Nov 2015	
Vrindavan part of Yatra ends on		Thursday 12 th Nov, 9:00 pm
Arrival of devotees at Sri Govardhan Dham	Friday 13 th Nov	
Yatra ends at Sri Govardhan Dham		Tuesday 17 th Nov, 9:00pm
Departure of devotees from Sri Govardhan Dham		18 th Nov, Wednesday

Important Contact E-mail IDs

Registration of Indian Devotees	reg.india@rgYatra.com
Registration Overseas Devotees	reg.os@rgYatra.com
Accommodation	acco@rgYatra.com
Payment related	pay@rgYatra.com
General info	info@rgYatra.com
Cancellations	cancel@rgYatra.com
Travel arrangements	travel@rgYatra.com
Complaints / feedback / suggestion	suggestions@rgYatra.com

Eligibility

The minimum qualification for applying for the Yatra is as follows:

1. Chanting minimum 16 rounds of the Hare Krishna Mahamantra daily and following the four regulative principles including restraint from tea and coffee from date of Registration.
2. Applicant should also be attending weekly ISKCON satsang programs on a regular basis for at least one year.
3. Applicant should follow the prescribed dress code of Dhoti-kurta for men and Sari for women.
4. Additionally, devotees applying for the Yatra have to obtain prior recommendation from their respective Counselor/ Yatra Sevak.

Yatra Sevak

The Yatra sevak is an individual who can propose the eligible devotees for attending the Yatra & means:

1. The Counselor body (including Mentors) of ISKCON Chowpatty and ISKCON Pune (YS-1).
2. Authorized devotees from other centers (India and abroad) (YS-2) and,
3. Yatra Committee members (YS-3).

The final decision in all matters will be at the sole discretion of the Yatra Committee.

Yatra Itinerary

- The devotees are requested to report at **Sri Vrindavan Dham on 7th November, 2015 from 12 noon onwards.**
- The Yatra starts at Sri Vrindavan Dham on 8th November, 2015, 05:00 am.
- We will be staying in Sri Vrindavan Dham till the morning of 13th November 2015.
- The devotees attending full Yatra will depart for Sri Govardhan Dham on 13th November, 2015 at 05:00 am (checkout).
- The devotees attending part Yatra at Vrindavan only will have to vacate their rooms by 8 am on 13th November, 2015
- The devotees attending part Yatra at Govardhan only have to reach Govardhan **after 12:00 noon** on 13th November 2015.

- The Yatra ends on 17th November, 9:00 pm at Sri Govardhan Dham.
- The devotees will have to check out of their rooms by 8 am on 18th November 2015

Yatra Charges

The Yatra charges for Full Yatra will be **Rs.3200/-**. This includes registration, prasadam (**Breakfast and Lunch only**), and internal travel arrangements during the Yatra and donations to various temples in the holy Dham. Limited accommodation is available in Vrindavan and Govardhan. They will be available on first come first served basis.

The sooner devotees register for the Yatra, the earlier Yatra committee can book more accommodation if required / available.

The Yatra charges for Part Yatra (Either Vrindavan or Govardhan) will be **Rs.2000/-**. This includes registration, prasadam (**Break Fast and Lunch only**), and internal travel arrangements during the Yatra and donations to various temples in the holy Dham.

Children under 5 years of age (**as on 1st November 2015**) are waived of registration charges. However, they need to be registered separately.

Please note that they will not be eligible for a separate seat during internal bus travel etc. In case a separate seat is required, they have to pay for the full Yatra charges.

Accommodation charges WILL be charged for children less than 5 years of age too.

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

Dinner Prasadam

Those Devotees desiring Dinner Prasadam will have to make their own arrangement.

However Govinda's will have a stall at the Pandal site at extra cost **for registered devotees only**.

Online registration

From 21st April to 21st May registration should be done online.

Devotees who doesn't have user id / password to login www.rgmdatabase.com should get the same from their respective Yatra sevaks and register as single / family / group. Payment has to be made online immediately with a Credit / Debit card or Net Banking. Registration will be confirmed only after the payment process is complete.

Registration is **COMPULSORY** for all devotees attending the Yatra including brahmacharis, children less than 5 years of age etc.

Details of banks that allow net banking facility are available at www.rgmdatabase.com

Devotees should note that only Debit / Credit cards issued in India are acceptable for payment.

Limited accommodation is available in Vrindavan and Govardhan. In case accommodation is exhausted, the registration will start on Waiting List. If Yatra Committee is able to arrange for additional accommodation, waiting list will get confirmed. Otherwise these devotees will have to try for Substitution.

Online Accommodation booking

Please read the following very carefully.

In brief:

Devotees will be asked to choose the room where they would like to stay and with which other devotees. Once one of the available rooms is selected, payment has to be made online immediately for the room. For online payment credit cards / debit cards or net banking have to be used.

In detail:

The complete detailed procedure for accommodation booking and payment methods will be updated on our website by the last week of May 2015.

Step 1: All devotees should update their details on the database by 20th April 2015.

Step 2: By 1st June 2015, the accommodation details of all rooms at Vrindavan and Govardhan will be available on the website.

Step 3: On 10th June 2015 at 10:00 am IST, the accommodation allotment will start exclusively for Varishtha Vaishnavas (VV) (FULL YATRA ONLY)

Varishtha Vaishnavas are those:

Prabhujis who are 60 years or more on 1st November 2015 and Matajis who are 55 years or more on 1st November 2015.

Between 10th June and 13th June 2015, only Varishtha Vaishnavas will be allowed to choose accommodation.

From 13th June onwards there will be no preference given to Varishtha Vaishnavas. But they can continue to book any available room.

On behalf of a group of devotees wanting to stay together, one devotee will use his Login ID and password (which can be obtained at any time from the counselor) and login into the website on www.rgYatra.com or www.rgmdatabase.com.

He can then choose a room in Vrindavan corresponding exactly to the number of devotees in his group.

Once the selection is made, immediately, the room charges (in full) has to be paid online using a credit / Debit card or net banking.

In case of any inordinate delay in payment, the room will be de-reserved and the whole process will have to be repeated with currently available rooms.

Step 5:

From 15th June to 16th June 2015, Matajis with children (MC) (FULL YATRA ONLY) can book accommodation as above. Varishtha Vaishnavas who want to form a group with Matajis with Children can also book accommodation during this time.

Children are those:

Boys up to the age of 12 years as on 1st November 2015 and Girls up to the age of 15 years as on 1st November 2015.

Step 6:

From 18th June to 19th June 2015, Family with children (FC) (FULL YATRA ONLY) can book accommodation as above.

Children are those:

Boys up to the age of 12 years as on 1st November 2015 and Girls up to the age of 15 years as on 1st November 2015.

Higher categories (VV and MC) can continue to register and choose available rooms with Families with Children.

Step 7:

From 21st June to 22nd June 2015, single Matajis (SM) (FULL YATRA ONLY) can book accommodation as above.

Step 8:

From 23rd June to 24th June 2015 any devotee can apply for accommodation (FULL YATRA ONLY) and choose available rooms.

Late registration

Registration with late fee payment of Rs. 500/- will start from 22nd may and will be allowed till 25th August, subject to availability of accommodation.

Substitution will be allowed till 25th September.

Those registering late have two options for accommodation:

Option 1: If accommodation is available, they can form a new group and select a room.

Or

Option 2: He / She can substitute a devotee who has registered and paid for his / her accommodation but is unable to come for the Yatra.

In case of Option 1 – a late fee of Rs 500 extra will be charged.

In case of Option 2 – a fee of Rs 500 from the devotee who is coming and a fee of Rs 300 from the devotee who is cancelling will be charged by the Yatra committee.

In case any devotee who has paid for the registration and accommodation cannot come for the Yatra, he or she has to find a substitute. Once paid the registration / accommodation cost will not be refunded. The onus of finding a substitute lies with the devotee who is cancelling, but Yatra committee can provide help. However wait listed devotees will get full refund excluding the bank transaction charges.

- All the devotees coming for the Yatra **HAVE** to book accommodation with the Yatra committee.
- Those who are not well versed with computers can approach their Counselor/ Yatra Sevaks to register them for the Yatra.
- Also, for those devotees who are not net savvy, a counter will be available at the Sri Sri Radha Gopinath Mandir where a volunteer will register and book accommodation on the devotees' behalf (using the respective devotees' Login Id and Password). **Only cash will be accepted at this counter.**
- All brahmacharis should also compulsorily register through their respective centers / Counselors / Yatra Sevaks.
- Please make sure that your personal information is up-to-date in the database by 12th April 2015, in particular, your
 - Photograph (mandatory for security reasons),
 - Mobile number if any (to receive Yatra updates),
 - Email address if any.
 - Age and sex

For updating this information please approach your counselor / Yatra Sevak.

➤ As far as possible, 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.

- Registration shall be strictly non-transferable, i.e. once registered you cannot interchange it with anyone else except with prior approval of the Yatra Committee

Traveling

1. Traveling arrangements from one's place of residence to Vrindavan / Govardhan and back have to be made by the concerned devotees / participants on their own.
2. The Yatra committee will arrange internal bus travel 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.
4. All communications regarding travel arrangements should be mailed to travel@rgYatra.com

Corrective Action

1. Norms regarding conduct of the devotees pertaining to visiting the places, security, dress code, shopping, 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 misbehaviour 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.

Correspondence/Clarifications

All correspondence / clarifications must be referred to the Yatra committee through the **counselor / Yatra Sevak**.

Disclaimer

Devotees attending this Yatra are doing so entirely on their own risk. Under no circumstances shall the members of the Yatra 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
(Yatra Co-coordinators)