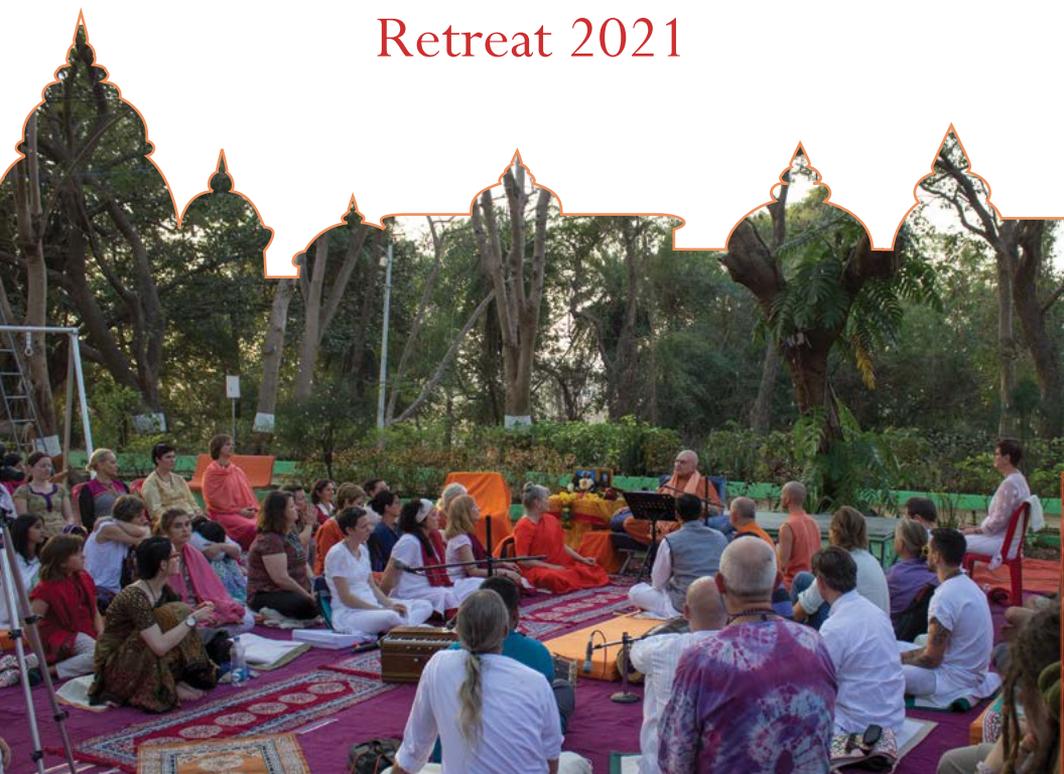


GANESHPURI DAYS

Retreat 2021



Golden Jubilee

CELEBRATE SWAMIJI'S

50 years

with BABA MUKTANANDA

COME AND BE NOURISHED BY THE

Guru's Shakti

Celebrate Guruji's Golden Jubilee, 50 years of discipleship with Baba.

Join us on this momentous occasion in the holy village of Ganeshpuri, India, where Guruji did his sadhana with Baba.

As part of the 14-day retreat there will be a 3-day long celebration. This celebration will include a yagna (fire ceremony with Brahmin priests), have talks, a special feast, darshan with Guruji and Devi Ma and lots of fun.

In his recently published memoirs, *Ganeshpuri Days*, Guruji writes near the end of the book about finding a Guru:

So, who is the Guru? He or she is a person like you and me. He walks and talks. You can watch basketball games in airports with him. But then, when you don't expect it, he can show you a deeper reality behind this reality, an electric joy behind the mundane round of life.

My dear friend, if you have found your Guru, cherish him or her, obey him, think about him. He will turn you into the real you, the person you want to be. He will show you the true Self and he will show you God.

If you haven't found him yet, I wish you luck and send my blessings. May you be as lucky as I have been ... and I don't doubt that you will. He may not be easy for you to find, but your Guru already knows where you are. He will come looking for you.

About Ganeshpuri

Ganeshpuri is blessed with the grace of Nityananda.

It is paradise on earth. It is the abode of yogashakti.

Muktananda, it is the Siddhaloka of the earth.

BABA MUKTANANDA, Mukteshwari

Ganeshpuri is a small village about 80km north of Mumbai, and it's difficult to visit there without experiencing the Shakti, or spiritual energy, which seems to permeate everything. It's a powerful place to do sadhana, spiritual practice, and to meditate.

Ganeshpuri was the home of the powerful and mysterious sage Bhagavan Nityananda, who lived there from 1936 until he left his body in 1961. His samadhi shrine is now the focal point of the village and draws many pilgrims each year. Among Bhagavan's foremost disciples was Baba Muktananda (Guruji's teacher). Baba also made Ganeshpuri his home and established the Gurudev Siddha Peeth Ashram where Guruji studied with Baba and did sadhana.

For such a small village, Ganeshpuri holds many spiritual riches and there is always plenty to experience.

Trip Highlights

- ✿ 3-day Golden Jubilee celebration.
- ✿ Satsangs with Guruji in the magical setting of Ganeshpuri.
- ✿ Visiting Bhagavan Nityananda's samadhi shrine and the daily aratis.
- ✿ Meditating in Kailas Nivas (Nityananda's ashram) and Bangalore Walla.
- ✿ Darshan at Baba Muktananda's samadhi shrine, Gurudev Siddha Peeth ashram.
- ✿ Visiting the Devi temple in neighbouring Vajeshwari
- ✿ Bathing in the natural hot springs.
- ✿ Lots of free time to explore Ganeshpuri and assimilate the Shakti.
- ✿ Doing seva (spiritual service).
- ✿ Having darshan and hanging out with Guruji and Devi Ma on the Kothavala veranda.
- ✿ Self-Inquiry groups.
- ✿ Performances from the Ganeshpuri Kirtan Group and Qawwalis.
- ✿ A yagna, or traditional Vedic fire ceremony with Brahmin priests.

For more information about Bhagavan's lineage and Ganeshpuri see www.nityanandatradition.org

How The Retreat Works

As Ganeshpuri is a small village, we endeavour to create an ashram setup with the available resources.

Base Camp

100 metres from Bhagavan's samadhi shrine, Kothavala resort with its lovely gardens and mineral hot-spring baths, becomes base camp. It serves as a meeting place for retreat activities, such as satsang with Guruji, daily activities, meals and also a quiet place to relax.

Accommodation

Retreatants stay in various bed and breakfasts around the village. The accommodation is simple but comfortable and all is within a short walking distance to Kothavala. Most bedrooms have ensuite bathrooms and Western-style toilets and showers. All new bedding is provided, including a brand new mattress. Rooms are double or twin share and you are welcome to request a particular roommate.

Meals

Delicious vegetarian Indian meals are served at Kothavala for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Logistics

The logistics of the retreat, including transport, food and accommodation is lovingly organised by our friend Iqbal Memon and his family.

Details

Location: Ganeshpuri, India.

Retreat Dates: The retreat begins in Ganeshpuri on Thursday 7 January and finishes on Wednesday 20 January 2021.

Duration: 14 days and 13 nights.

Retreat Cost: AUD \$4,195 (not including airfare, visa, travel insurance and spending money), subject to exchange rate disclaimer on page 7.

What the cost includes:

- ❁ All daily retreat activities and special events.
- ❁ Accommodation (double or twin share).
- ❁ All meals and bottled water.
- ❁ New bedding (including mattress, sheets, pillow, blanket, mosquito net).
- ❁ Transport to and from Mumbai airport for the recommended flights.
- ❁ Use of Kothavala hotel grounds and hot spring baths.

Details

Exchange Rate Disclaimer

Please note that the retreat cost is subject to fluctuations in the exchange rate. Unfortunately, we are unable to ensure the balance of your retreat payment (payable in India upon arrival) against currency depreciation (i.e. a fall in the value of the Australian dollar). Hopefully, this will not be the case, but we will let you know before the departure if there has been an increase in the balance due to the Australian dollar / Rupee currency conversion.

Flights

Airfares are additional to the retreat cost.

Please make your own flight booking on the official flight itinerary (see next page). You can do so online at Singapore Airlines or through your own travel agent.

*** Please note the official flight itinerary may not be available for booking until closer to the travel date.**

We also recommend that you buy a ticket that is refundable and transferable.

Official Flight Itinerary

Check-in Melbourne Airport
Wednesday 6 January 10:00pm (22:00)

THURSDAY 7 JANUARY

Melbourne - Singapore

Singapore Airlines SQ218

Departs Melbourne 1:05am and arrives
Singapore 5:45am

Singapore - Mumbai

Singapore Airlines SQ422

Departs Singapore 7:45am and arrives Mumbai
10:35am

Check-in Mumbai Airport
Wednesday 20 January 9:00pm (21:00)

WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY

Mumbai - Singapore

Singapore Airlines SQ423

Departs Mumbai 11.35pm (23:35) and arrives
Singapore 7:30am (next day)

Singapore - Melbourne

Singapore Airlines SQ217

Departs Singapore 11am and arrives Melbourne
9:25pm (21:25) Thursday 21 January

Airport Transport

Transit to and from Mumbai airport

Transport from Mumbai airport to Ganeshpuri, and the return trip, will be provided for everyone on the official flight (see previous page). This bus transport is included in the price.

Not on the Official Flight

If you are on a different flight from Australia, or arriving from overseas, you can still arrange to meet the official flight at Mumbai airport at the appointed time to receive transport to Ganeshpuri. The same applies for the return trip, where you can travel back to Mumbai with the group. Please let us know if you would like to make this arrangement on your registration form.

Bus departs Mumbai airport: Thursday 7 January, 10:35am (please meet outside at airport arrivals door, not departures).

Bus departs Ganeshpuri: Wednesday 20 January, 6:00pm.

Airport Transport

Transport bookings if unable to meet the Official Transfer in Mumbai

If you are unable to meet the official flight at Mumbai airport, or need to depart Ganeshpuri at a different time to the main group, you will need to make your own transport arrangements.

If you require assistance with this Iqbal is able to provide transport to/from Ganeshpuri outside of the official flight itinerary.

Bookings

Please contact Iqbal on:

Mobile: +91 9821 052 248

Email: ganeshpuritour2021@gmail.com

Cost: \$75 (AUD) one-way

Payable directly to Iqbal after your arrival in Ganeshpuri.

Booking Details

Registration Form

In order to register for the retreat, please complete the online registration form with your deposit.

To complete the form go to this link:

bit.ly/GP2021_Registration

or scan this QR code with your mobile phone's camera:



Deposit

A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 is payable upon registration and the deadline for bookings is **30th June 2020**.

Final Payment

The balance is payable in cash directly to Iqbal upon arrival in Ganeshpuri on 7 January 2021.

The retreat package is not subject to variation

Please note that registration will only be accepted for the entire package and dates outlined above. We are unable to give discounts or concession prices.

It will not be possible to:

- a) Participate in only part of the retreat
- b) Arrive in Ganeshpuri early

Booking Details

Please understand that we are unable to make special arrangements for people who arrive in India earlier than the retreat start date. This includes accommodation and transport for both arrival and return. If you wish to stay on in India after the retreat you are welcome to make your own arrangements.

Information Pack

On registration you will receive an information package with further retreat details. We will also hold an orientation meeting where you will receive more information about the trip and have a chance to ask questions.

Optional Extras

Indian mobile phone SIM Card and WIFI

Iqbal's team is able to organise an Indian SIM card for you for the cost of \$30 (local calls only) or \$50 (with international call feature). This includes the card and some credit.

Please note that SIM cards MUST be returned at the end of the retreat.

Alternatively, travel packages are available from mobile service providers (Optus, Telstra etc.) with a daily rate for local and international calls and data.

This option is preferable if you plan on using your mobile phone a lot while in Ganeshpuri. Contact your local mobile service provider for more information.

Complimentary WiFi will be available in the retreat dining marquee, however, please note that WiFi connections in India can be more erratic. If WiFi use is important to you, please consider purchasing your own mobile WiFi (wireless hotspot) for improved service during the retreat.

Mumbai Trip

For those of you who wish to take a shopping trip to Mumbai there will be a day allocated during the retreat. A bus will depart at 8am and arrive back in Ganeshpuri in time for dinner. Cost is \$60 with lunch at Status restaurant or \$50 no lunch.

Ganeshpuri Retreat GOLDEN JUBILEE *January 2021*

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Check in Melbourne Airport 10pm	Flight departs Melbourne 1:05am Arrive Mumbai 10:35am ARRIVE GANESHPURI 1:30pm	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI
			(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
GANESHPURI	GANESHPURI	Depart Ganeshpuri 6pm Check-in 9pm Flight departs Mumbai 11:35pm	Arrive Melbourne 9:25pm			
(12)	(13)	(14)				

Important Information

Passports

You will need to travel with a valid passport. This means that your passport must have a validity of at least 6 months from date of arrival in India - so at least until July 2021 (or later if you are continuing to travel in India after the retreat). You should apply immediately for a new passport if you don't already have one. If you need to renew, they can take some time to process.

Travel Insurance

We require that everyone takes out travel insurance, particularly health insurance. Please provide us with a copy of your policy at the time of final payment.

Visa

Australians require a visa to enter India. Further information will be provided in the Travel Package once you register.

Further Information

If you have any questions, you can contact Swami Paramananda at swami.paramaji@gmail.com or phone her at the ashram on (03) 9775 2568