

## ATTENTION, PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET!!!

Here we are with the plan for this year's Swapathgami Cycle Yatra after much talks and discussions.

This time, we are going to conduct our Yatra in GOA. Whoohoo....

The dates are - March 6th to 11th.

\*What is Swapathgami Cycle Yatra?

This cycle trip is to remind ourselves to rely on our skills/relationships and not that of our purchasing power.

For once lets enjoy a very egalitarian method of working!

Our past trips have chosen to do without any money, electronic gadgets or first aid medicines

and have stopped at villages along the route to find work in exchange to earn board and lodge.\*

While each Yatra(Trip) comes with unique learning opportunities and experiences,

the general thinking behind Swapathgami Cycle Yatra is -

- We go manual for transportation and basically love our bodies and make use of it.
- We go slow to appreciating nature and life around the route .
- We interact with the local people (rather than just buy stuff off them with money power) in the course of creatively managing our board and lodge.
- We get a peek into the local life and in the process learn skills that the communities offer. We can also share some skills that we have.
- We develop an appreciation for local knowledge and skills and the ability to thrive in what nature has provided.
- We develop some trust in the ability of nature to take care of us and in the goodness of human beings rather than having to constantly struggle for one's existence as if it is one long battle against nature and other human beings.
- We get some time to reflect on our own lives
- We loosen a little the tight stranglehold that money has over our minds and learn that alternative ways to live might exist.

And let us not forget that most important is to enjoy nature, creating music, dance, theatre, games and have a fun filled adventure! This is a real chance to re-connect to the gift culture.

Check out the film from the first yatra --

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t\\_YQsaFLOvM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_YQsaFLOvM) to get an idea of the adventure...

\*Where is the 2012 Yatra?

We will cycle in Goa area. We are still in the process of refining the route, right now the loop is about 140 km.

Here is the link to check out the loop <http://g.co/maps/te93d> and it may happen to be that we reverse the order so that distances aren't unnecessarily long.

It cut across Goa beautifully and gives us a good mix and match of the beach and the inland.

Details:

- Meet in Art Escape, South Goa on March 5th by 2 :00 pm for orientation and preparation.
- March 6 - 10 on the road
- March 11 - return to Art Escape and reflect on trip, feedback etc.

\* What you need to bring along (and remember that everything you bring along has to be carried by you on your bike)-

- Personal clothing.
- Some bedding (sleeping bag, blanket etc)
- Water bottle (if you have a non-plastic one)
- Bicycle: We are trying to get people to lend cycles, let's see how that goes.

The remaining bikes will have to be rented. The rents are at about 50rs a day.

\*How to get here :-

We all are meeting at "ART ESCAPE" (an eco resort...) <http://artescape.in/>

- Art Escape is situated in South Goa 100m from Vaddi Beach, in the area called South Benaulim.

- Reaching here:

By Train: Get off at Madgaon Railway Station and take a cab/bike/ rickshaw to Vaddi Beach.

By Bus: Get off at Kadamba Bus Stand at Madgaon

From Madgaon (Bus/Rail Station) head towards Maria Hall, go straight - on your left a new architectural church, The Holy Trinity Church is situated, take the immediate right at this

junction and head straight down that road to the beach. Pass through fields, football ground and Jack's Corner (restaurant) to reach ART ESCAPE on your right! (the only property before the beach)

Landmarks: Maria Hall, Holy Trinity Church, Jack's Corner(Restaurant)

\*Join us!

We are excited about the trip and hope you join in the experience. We can accommodate up to 15 people and 7 yatries have already confirmed. So please send in your confirmation latest by 17th Feb to reserve your spot.

Remember to include your phone no. and e-mail address.

For any questions please contact -

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PS : Please feel free to forward this invite to anyone you think might be interested.

YouTube - Videos from this email