



## **Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019**

**February 1-15, 2019**

### **Tour Participant Agreement**

#### **Meet in Varanasi – Land Only**

The Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019 (the “Excursion”) with Pandit Rajmani Tigunait, PhD., includes the opportunity for continuing spiritual practice at the Himalayan Institute India at Allahabad (“HII Allahabad”) including an 11-day Rudra Yaga group practice, group meditation, mantra recitation practice and day trips to significant locations nearby including the Kumbha Mela. The Excursion is focused on spiritual practice and the 11-day Rudra Yaga. There will be time for study, yoga, meditation, reading, journaling, walks, and day trips. The Excursion may be suitable for minor children accompanied by a parent or legal travel guardian. Inquire for details.

The Terms and Conditions outlined below are made part of this Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019 Tour Participant Agreement (“Agreement”). Each person registering must complete an Agreement. A deposit of \$850 is required with the Agreement. Your Excursion is by advance application and prior approval by Himalayan Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy of the USA (“Excursion Organizer”). Upon approval, the balance is due by the specified deadlines in order to receive the stated rate. Land only rates expire on the dates indicated below. If any balance is not paid by the date indicated, the rate increases to the next higher rate. If Agreement is made within the late registration period, full payment is required with the Agreement upon confirmation of space.

**Please read the Agreement Terms and Conditions section in its entirety, paying specific attention to sections regarding Off-Campus Activities, Dress and Conduct, Emotional Relationships, and Quiet Times.**

#### **Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019 Terms and Condition**

**RESERVATIONS: Full payment in U.S. Dollars** for the Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019 Excursion to the Himalayan Institute India at Allahabad must be postmarked by the dates indicated.

Reservations requested and postmarked after December 15, 2018 will be processed on a space available basis.

An \$850 deposit per person will secure space on a first come basis. For the early registration rate, pay the balance due by July 31, 2017. For the regular registration rate pay the balance due by July 31, 2018. After July 31, 2018 the late registration rate must be paid in full when registering. All requests for private accommodations are on a space availability basis and the additional payment is due in full at time of reservation.

**RATES:** Land only rates do not include international airfare or domestic air or train. Participants are responsible for getting to the starting point of the Excursion (Varanasi Airport) on the date the Excursion begins (February 1, 2019). The rate for the Excursion is per person and includes shared accommodations, vegetarian meals, and scheduled group activities as outlines in the itinerary. Single/private accommodations cannot be guaranteed and if available, will incur additional fees. Also see “Accommodations”.

**Rates indicated are land-only and per person on shared accommodations basis (up to 2 people in twin deluxe tents or up to 4 people in swiss cottage tents):**

Early registration (closes July 31, 2017): \$2,500  
Regular registration (August 1-July 31, 2018): \$2,700  
Late registration (August 1-December 15, 2018) \$2,950

**EXCURSION RATE INCLUDES: Transfers:** Pick-up and drop-off at the Varanasi Airport by the HII Allahabad at designated timings. **Porterage:** Porterage for one (1) duffel bag or suitcase within India for the duration of the Excursion. **Accommodations:** Double occupancy or dormitory style rooms, or eco-cottages or tents (two to four persons) and shared bathrooms. Excursion Organizer reserves the right to substitute accommodations as it deems necessary. Sheets, pillow and case, one thin wool blanket, one Indian style towel, and mosquito net will be provided (seasonally). **Sleeping bags will not be provided-plan on bringing one with you.** **Snorers:** Accommodations options for snorers are a private room, if available and at additional cost, or a shared room/eco-cottage/tent with other snorers (unless you are coming with a roommate of your choice who also registers separately for the Excursion). Please let us know if you are a snorer when you register, so that we can help you make the best arrangements.

**Solo Travellers:** If you are traveling alone, we will assign a roommate(s) of the same gender. **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, and dinner during the Excursion in India. All meals are vegetarian.

**EXCURSION RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE:** International airfare; domestic airfare or train; passports; visas; inoculations; meals or other expenses while in transit between departure airport and arrival in Varanasi; pick-up or drop-off at the Varanasi train station, transfers not otherwise noted here within, additional expenses for late arrivals or early departures; laundry; bottled water or beverages; cover charges; baggage or other airline fees or service charges; excess baggage charges; accident, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; medical treatment/emergency rescue expenses or insurance; expenses for guides, transportation, or deviations not included in the itinerary; gratuities and taxes for personal services and purchases; any other items of a personal nature; private non-group transfers; and any other item not heretofore specifically listed as included.

**CHANGES:** The Excursion rate is based on rates of exchange, tariffs, and fares in effect at the time of publication and is subject to adjustment prior to departure. Changes to the printed itinerary are not anticipated, however, the Excursion Organizer reserves the right to make any changes that it determines are necessary, with or without advance notice. Changes of itinerary will not result in a refund of any portion of the Excursion price. In the event of any change in rates of exchange, tariffs, fares, or itinerary that result in additional costs, these additional costs must be paid by the participant before departure or as soon as the change becomes known.

**CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS: All requests for cancellation must be submitted to the Excursion Organizer in writing.** Allow 30-days for refunds to be processed. Regardless of the reason, cancellations result in additional costs and processing time for the Excursion Organizer.

**A \$95 administrative fee plus the following charges will be assessed for cancellation of your reservation:**

Before December 31, 2017	\$500 per person
January 1-March 31, 2018	\$850 per person
April 1-July 31, 2018	50% of Excursion rate per person
August 1-December 31, 2018	75% of Excursion rate per person
January 1-start of excursion and no shows	100% of Excursion rate per person

If the participant arrives late or leaves the Excursion prior to its conclusion, refunds will not be made for the unused portion of the Excursion. No refunds will be made for any excursion, sightseeing, meal, or other activity that the participant misses or decides not to take for any reason. The Excursion Organizer reserves the right to cancel any Excursion prior to departure. If such cancellation is not due to circumstances beyond the Excursion Organizer's control, such as war, etc. as set forth below, the Excursion Organizer will refund all payments participant made to Excursion Organizer, constituting full settlement with the participant. No compensation or refund will be made when cancellation arises before or during the Excursion from circumstances beyond our and/or our suppliers' control (force majeure) such as war, strife, civil disobedience, terrorist activity, adverse weather conditions, fire, natural disasters, etc., unless or until the Excursion Organizer is able to recover any Excursion related sums. In the event of cancellation arising from circumstances beyond our control as set forth above,

Excursion related sums recovered by the Excursion Organizer will be disbursed equitably to the participants after the Excursion Organizer deducts all out-of-pocket costs and related expenses. **It is highly recommended that participants purchase their own trip cancellation insurance.** The Excursion Organizer is not responsible for expenses, including but not limited to lodging, meals, and transportation, incurred for delays and/or detainments beyond the Excursion itinerary as a result of circumstances beyond our and/or our suppliers' control such as war, etc. as set forth above.

**REVISION FEES:** If changes are requested by participant after deposit is received, revision fees and/or cancellation fees will apply. A fee of \$95 per transaction will be charged by the Excursion Organizer for any alteration or revision made to a registration. Any revision to a registration may result in the loss of confirmed reservations or increased costs **which will be payable by the participant.** A change in traveler name will be treated as a cancellation and new reservation; cancellation fees apply.

**NATURE OF THE EXCURSION:** The Excursion is a spiritual pilgrimage. Participants are strongly discouraged from joining the Excursion in progress or leaving the Excursion prior to its conclusion. Portions of the Excursion could be considered rustic and rigorous and are best approached with a spirit of openness and adventure. Portions of the Excursion may be at higher elevations or in remote locations, at which there may be no telephones or means of rapid evacuation in the event of emergency. **Each participant is advised to consult with his or her medical specialist prior to departure and must advise the Excursion Organizer in advance in writing of any condition that may require attention during the Excursion, so the participant, with the assistance of the Excursion Organizer, can make the necessary arrangements.** Virtually all Excursion participants are non-smokers. Smoking is not permitted in buses or other vehicles, at meals, in hotel rooms, Institute buildings, eco-cottages or tents, or during lectures, workshops, or practicums, whether held indoors or outside. The nature of the Excursion may be suitable for minor children accompanied by a parent or legal travel guardian. Please inquire for details.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Prepare for pleasant, sometimes hot, sunny days and cool, sometimes cold nights. Temperatures range from the 40s to the high 80s. Few accommodations in India have air-conditioning or heat so plan accordingly. The Excursion Organizer recommends that each participant bring a sleeping bag, writing paper and pens, a flashlight, a hat, sunscreen, gloves, a sweater, a warm jacket or coat, socks, and sturdy, comfortable shoes for walking/hiking. A day pack and a duffel bag which can accommodate a sleeping bag are suggested. **The Excursion Organizer limits luggage to one duffel bag or suitcase per person and one carry-on size bag per person.** Please note that luggage may be carried within India on tarpaulin-covered roof racks or open trucks. Weather and loading and unloading can cause more than usual wear and tear to luggage. Accordingly, all luggage should be capable of withstanding rain and rugged treatment.

**DRESS AND CONDUCT:** Conservative, modest, loose-fitting attire is appropriate for your stay in India and at HII Allahabad. Due to cultural customs in India, the Excursion Organizer asks women to refrain from wearing shorts of any length, capris shorter than calf length, tops with spaghetti straps, halter tops, tank tops, plunging necklines or backs; form-fitting clothing; and short skirts or miniskirts. Men are asked to refrain from wearing muscle shirts. Shirts and footwear must be worn outside. **Use of alcohol and illicit drugs is strictly prohibited.** HII Allahabad is a smoke-free campus. Smoking is only permitted in a designated outside area. **Violation of these policies is subject to immediate dismissal from campus and the Excursion.** Earphones must be used with all electronic or other devices with audio capability.

**QUIET HOURS:** Quiet hours are observed daily between 9:30 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. During those hours, kindly observe silence or speak briefly in a whisper so that other's practice is not disturbed.

**EMOTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS:** In an effort to help you avoid distraction and to concentrate your energy fully on your quest for self-discovery, we strongly recommend that you refrain from forming intense emotional relationships during your Excursion. Such relationships divert energy from your inner focus, change your Excursion, and change someone else's Excursion as well.

**OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** To enhance your experience, minimize distractions, and help maintain inner focus, it is suggested that except for scheduled off-campus Excursion activities, participants remain on campus for the first seven days of the Excursion. Thereafter, it is helpful to limit off-campus trips for necessities. This gives you the opportunity to participate more fully in the Excursion so you will gain the maximum benefit. Departures from campus for non-scheduled activities require signing out at the front gate.

**CURFEW:** It is not advisable to be off campus before sunrise or after dusk given the remote location of the HII Allahabad campus. For your safety when going off campus for non-scheduled activities, those on Excursion are asked to return to campus no later than dusk. This curfew is in effect whether walking locally or going to town by taxi in a registered, licensed vehicle. When leaving campus for non-scheduled activities, it is advisable that 3-4 individuals make the journey together with at least one man per group of women, if possible. Excursion Organizer and Excursion Organizer's local staff or representatives shall not be held liable for any assistance provided for non-scheduled activities.

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE:** U.S. dollar = approximately 62 Indian rupees (subject to fluctuation).

**PASSPORT AND VISA:** Each participant is responsible for determining specific passport and visa requirements in the participant's country of origin and for obtaining the necessary documents prior to departure. Passport and India tourist visa must be obtained in advance before booking and purchasing airline tickets. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the Excursion return date. It is advisable to have a minimum of 3 blank pages in the back of your passport. Excursion Organizer is not responsible if you are refused entry to a country due to incorrect passport, visa, or other required documentation. **Passport/visa/emergency contact information must be provided in advance of the Excursion.**

**LANGUAGE:** All lectures, workshops, and other presentations will be in English.

**PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEO:** Representatives of the Excursion Organizer will be photographing and video recording the Excursion. The Excursion Organizer reserves the right to use any such photographs and video recording in its advertising, displays, publicity materials, and publications without obtaining further consent from any participant. Each participant releases the Excursion Organizer and its representatives from any liability in connection with any such use of such photographs and video recording. Photography and video/audio recording by Excursion participants is not permitted during the seminar lectures, workshops, practicums, or special events.

**RELEASE/RESPONSIBILITY:** The participant, by signing this Tour Participant Agreement (TPA), agrees that the Excursion Organizer and its representatives, except for their gross negligence or willful misconduct, shall not be held liable for any injury, damage, loss, delay or irregularity that may be occasioned for any reason, including, but not limited to, any defect in a vehicle, the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying a participant, acts of God, terrorism, acts of war, or detention; delays or expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, thefts, pilferage, force majeure, civil disturbances, government restrictions or regulations; accidents by aircraft, boat, bicycle or motor vehicle, or in any hotel, inn, restaurant, accommodation or camp; failure of any means of transportation to arrive or depart as scheduled or changes in transit, hotel, inn, guest house or camping services; missed airline or other transport connections; or for additional expenses resulting from changes in exchange rates, tariffs, or itinerary. The participant agrees to assume all risks associated with the Excursion and agrees that no liability will attach to the Excursion Organizer, its employees or agents, or to any member of the Excursion in respect of death, personal injury, illness or delay of the passenger, or for any loss of or damage to the property (including luggage) of the participant during the course of the trip, howsoever caused.

**By signing this Tour Participant Agreement, the participant releases the Excursion Organizer and its representatives from any such responsibility or liability, except as hereinabove set forth. The liability of common carriers is generally limited and, therefore, it is suggested that participants purchase their own cancellation, property damage (including luggage), accident, and medical treatment/emergency rescue insurance.**

Because of the nature of the Excursion and accommodations, the Excursion Organizer reserves the right to accept or reject any Excursion participant at any time, without liability, and in the event it determines, in its sole and exclusive discretion, that a participant is disruptive to the harmony of the Excursion it may, without any obligation to pay a refund or any other amount whatsoever, expel such participant from the Excursion. The Excursion Organizer will have no responsibility or liability for any participant who leaves the Excursion prior to its conclusion or for any activity undertaken by any participant which is not included on the Excursion itinerary.

*I have read and understand the foregoing Tour Participant Agreement for the Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019 --Meet in Varanasi (Land Only), and, by making my advance payment as set forth below, agree to the terms thereof.*

*Please reserve my space:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature** (required)

**(PLEASE PRINT)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Male Female  
(full name as it appears on passport) (circle one)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Telephone: Days \_\_\_\_\_ Evenings \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ initial giving permission to email

**Payment is due in U.S. dollars and may be made by check, money order, or credit card. Payment by check or money order helps to support Himalayan Institute global humanitarian projects. If Agreement is made within the late registration period, full payment is required with Agreement upon confirmation of space.**

Enclosed is my  check # \_\_\_\_\_  money order (U.S. funds only) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as  
 deposit  payment in full for my Rudra Yaga: Ardha Kumbha Mela 2019 Excursion in Allahabad, India. **Make check or money order payable to HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE.**

**OR**

Charge my  MasterCard  VISA  American Express  Discover card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as  
 deposit  payment in full for my Excursion.

**(PLEASE PRINT)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 or 4 digit CV # (from front or back of credit card) \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on credit card)

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (required on credit card orders)

✓ **Check one:**  One recent passport-size photo of me is enclosed.  My high resolution passport photo will be emailed to Excursions@HimalayanInstitute.org  
✓ **Check one:**  Copies of the photo/signature pages of my passport, and India visa will be provided.  Copies of my valid passport and visa have been provided since January 1, 2016.

**Complete, sign, and return all pages of the Agreement for the Excursion with your payment to: Himalayan Institute Excursions, Attn: Spiritual Excursions, 952 Bethany Turnpike, Honesdale, PA 18431. A confirmation will be sent to you upon acceptance, acknowledging receipt of your payment. RETAIN A COPY OF YOUR COMPLETED AGREEMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS.**