

Greetings Voyagers!

Please find below a few details concerning transportation, accommodations and restaurants for easy reference and information to facilitate your journey to Pune, India for the Kathara Event.

Kathara level 1

Days: Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Dates: 4, 5 & 6 November, 2011
Location: Lane 6, North Main Rd, Koregaon Park
Pune, Maharashtra India

As reference, when seeking hotels as well as for transportation, the Kathara 1 event will be offered in the area of Pune known as **Koregaon Park**. This is the 'tourist' area of Pune and therefore well known by locals. Exact Venue details will be provided once the number of participants is known as this will impact the size of the hall required.

If further information is required than what is provided below, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. I look forward to greeting fellow Voyagers in November!

In good spirits,
daphnée-angélique

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Transportation

Duration of journey from Mumbai to Pune:

Pune is 200km from Mumbai. Although there is a new express highway that connects the 2 cities, the journey in a private car can still take approximately 4 hours depending on weather and traffic conditions. Otherwise, the journey may extend to 6 hours.

There are many variable that effect the duration of the Journey from Mumbai to Pune:

- point of origin in Mumbai (traffic)
- weather (if during monsoon season)
- time of journey (traffic in Mumbai and Pune)
- mode of transport employed (bus or taxi)
- who will transport (private or public transport)

Overnight travelling

Overnight travelling is NOT RECOMMENDED other than with **KK TRAVEL FROM MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT to PUNE.**

Unless you are well travelled in India or with a group, it is not recommended to travel late at night. If your flight arrives in Mumbai during this period and you are not planning a stay in Mumbai but direct travel to Pune, KK TRAVEL is reputable for safe transport.

If you are arriving late in night at the Pune Airport, it is suggested to make arrangement with the Hotels where you made booking for them to pick you up. This service is usually offered to guests.

FROM: anywhere in MUMBAI to PUNE

Private cabs

Point of origin: anywhere in Mumbai

Destination: your destination of choice in Pune

<http://www.mumbaipunecoolcab.com/>

<http://www.ecabs.in/>

Cost: approx Rs. 2000/. Per person

India Public transportation

Point of origin: Mumbai, Dadar bus terminal.

Destination: Pune Station (which is closest to Koreagon Park where the event will take place)

<http://www.indiatransit.com/withinstate.aspx?qWhichState=20&qFromCity=64&qToCity=42&qServiceType=0>

Cost: Rs. 500

Timings: Buses run from 5:30am to 23:00pm

Where to embark: Mumbai, Dadar bus terminal.

Where to disembark: Pune Station, which is closest to Koreagon Park where the event will take place.

Neeta/Volvo buses

Point of origin: Mumbai

Destination: Pune Station

<http://www.neetabus.in/>

Cost: Rs. 350

Timings: leaves every hour

Where to embark: there are multiple places to take this bus as there are multiples pick-up points throughout the city.

Where to disembark: Pune Station, which is closest to Koreagon Park where the event will take place.

FROM MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Shared transport

From: Sahar Airport (International airport) Mumbai

To: Your destination in Pune

<http://www.kktravels.com/airporttransfer1.php>

Cost: Rs. 750/. Per person

- There is a shuttle that leaves from the airport every hour, 24/7
- The shuttle is either a bus or a jeep, depending on the number of reservations. It is the mode of transport I personally recommend.
- The only inconvenience is that there is sometimes a 'waiting' period as the driver must wait for the passengers to check in and they all arrive on different flights. Usually there is no more than 1 hour wait. Furthermore, be advised that once arriving in Pune, there will be many stop points as all passengers will be dropped at a specific destination.
- Advance booking is advised, yet not required. If previous booking is set, a KK travel representative will be waiting for you with a 'board' in hand with your name at the exit gate.

Private cabs

From: Airport Mumbai (International airport)

To: Your destination in Pune

<http://www.mumbaiairportcab.com/>

Cost: Rs. 2000/seat

This is a private cab/taxi.

Personal pick up

Some Hotels in Pune may provide Mumbai Airport pick-up for their guests if there is pre-booking. Please make these arrangements (if available) directly with the Hotel where you will be staying.

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FROM PUNE AIRPORT

All major domestic airlines fly to Pune Domestic airport in Lohegaon which is situated 10 kms from the city center.

Rickshaw

If you are arriving between 10am to 8pm; during this time period there are rickshaws readily available for transportation to the destination of your choice.

Cost: from Pune Airport to Koregaon Park is approximately Rs. 75 /. (3\$US)

Taxi/cabs

There are pre-paid cabs available when arriving at the airport. There is a counter where the arrangements for booking a private taxi can be made.

Cost: from Pune Airport to Koregaon Park is approximately Rs.150 /. (6\$US)

Personal pick up

Most Hotels in Pune may provide Pune Airport pick-up for their guests if there is pre-booking. Please make these arrangements (if available) directly with the Hotel where you will be staying.

Accommodations

When booking your Hotel, it is highly recommended to choose one in the following area of Pune: **Koregaon Park** or **Boat Club road**. These areas are easily accessible as well as very close to the venue where the Event will be offered. They are also well known for being convenient for 'tourists'.

Prices range between \$40 USD to \$100 USD per night.

Some hotels offer packages.

Note that the Event (Kathara1) will take place during the 'high season'. Hence, advance booking is suggested.

Hotel Surya Villa

Hotel Lotus

<http://www.hotelsuryavilla.com/>

Hotel Vivanta by Taj Blue Diamond

<http://www.vivantabytaj.com/Blue-Diamond-Pune/Promotions.html>

Hotel Westin

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=3218>

Hotel Park Central

<http://www.parkcentral.biz/>

O Hotel

<http://www.h-rzn.com/a274181/index.htm?lbl=ggl>

St-Laurn Hotels

<http://stlaurnhotels.com/stlaurnhotels/>

Restaurants

As **Koregaon Park** is a tourist area, there are many restaurants available for all tastes as well as for a wide range of budgets.

Breakfast:

Many hotels conveniently offer an all inclusive breakfast.

Lunch & Diner:

Typical Indian 'thali' plates are available in local canteens for \$3USD.

Mainstream restaurants are also available (such as Hard Rock café) where a meal can range between \$15 to \$50 USD.

A map with main restaurants in the Koregaon Park area will be provided upon your arrival for those who request it.