

December 22, 2024

Suggestions for Visiting H.E. Choeje Ayang Rinpoche's monastery,
Thupten Shedrub Jangchub Ling, in South India.

Monastery Contact Information:

Drikung Charitable Society

Kagyudpa Monastic Institute

T.D.L. Bylakuppe-571104

Karnataka, India

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Email: drikungcharitablesociety@yahoo.com, amitabhafoundation@yahoo.co.in

Visa for India can be obtained online here: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>. The approval takes around 2 days. You will receive confirmation by email; print the confirmation and present it when checking in at the airport and upon arrival at Customs in India.

Protected Area Permit (PAP) is necessary to stay overnight at the monastery or in the Tibetan Settlement. This can take quite a while to get approved, so it is best to apply as soon as you intend to travel. Apply online here: <https://papvt.mha.gov.in/> or at the same time as applying online for your India visa. The Tibetan Settlement to enter is Dickyi Larsoe. Bring a copy of your application with you.

Flights to India: The closest international airport to the monastery is Bangalore (Bangaluru / BLR). Connections through Delhi can be difficult this time of the year due to frequent fog.

Ground Transportation: It is easy to take the FlyBus from Bangalore Airport to Mysore (Mysuru). It costs about USD\$10 one way and takes about 3.5 hours. The bus terminal is located on the ground floor of the international terminal. You can book online here: <https://www.ksrtc.in/>.

If your flight lands before 11 pm, then there is a direct FlyBus at 1:00 am from the airport to Bylakuppe and Kushalnagar. If the flight lands after midnight then there is a FlyBus every hour from the airport to Mysore. From there, you will either have to hire a taxi (contact Truelha or the monastery in advance so that they can help book) or take the local bus from Mysore (see link above) to Bylakuppe (about 2-3 hours) or Kushalnagar.

You can also take a taxi directly from Bangalore airport to the monastery for about USD\$68.

Accommodations: Rooms at the monastery's Guest House are very limited, and not available to Westerners without prior PAP approval.

Please call the monastery numbers above for suggested hotels in Bylakuppe and Kushalnagar.