

Institute Of Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage

3rd Asia Pacific International Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage Conference (APIRTP 2025)

Goa, India
15-18 January 2025



About the APIRTP 2025

The Asia Pacific International Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage Conference (APIRTP) Organized By The Institute Of Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage (IRTP) In Conjunction With The International Journal Of Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage (IJRTP), And V. M. Salgaocar Institute Of International Hospitality Education (VMSIHE), Goa, India, Invites Abstract For Their **3rd International Conference APIRTP 2025** To Be Held From **15-18 January 2025** At **V. M. Salgaocar Institute Of International Hospitality Education, Goa, India.**

The Aim Of The Conference Is To Provide Both Empirical And Personal Insights Into The Changing Nature Of Religion In Society And To Further The Debate For Both Policy-Makers And Academics To Consider These Evolving Challenges Within The Future Development Of Faith Tourism And Pilgrimage. The Main Emphasis For Acceptance At This Event Is Based On Participants Presenting Papers, Which Apply To The Main Themes Of The Conference.

As The Name Suggests, The Focus Of **APIRTP 2025** Is On Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage In (But Not Limited To) Asia Pacific Regions To See The Changing Scenario And Dynamics Of Religion In Society.

Key Themes

The Key Themes Of The IRTP-AP Conference 2025 Include (But Are Not Limited To) The Following:

- ✓ Crowd Control And Crowd Dynamics For Religious Sites • Critical
- ✓ Perspectives On Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage • Emerging
- ✓ Motivations Of Pilgrimage And Religious Tourism • Globalization
- ✓ / Impact At Religious Sites • Impact Of COVID-19 On Religious
- ✓ Tourism And Pilgrimage • Implication Of COVID-19 For Religious
- ✓ And Spiritual Sites • Legal, Security And Safety Of Pilgrims •
- ✓ Motivation And Pilgrimage And Religious Tourism • Managing
- ✓ And Promoting Religious Sites • Media And Cultural Challenges
- ✓ For Pilgrimage • Mobilities, Pilgrimage, And Tourism • Nexus Of
- ✓ Pilgrimage, Spirituality, Religion And Tourism

Key Themes

The Key Themes Of The IRTP-AP Conference 2025 Include (But Are Not Limited To) The Following:

- ✓ Pilgrimage Routes: Modern And Ancient • Post-Pandemic
- ✓ Religious Tourism • Promoting And Experiencing Religious
- ✓ Tourism And Pilgrimage • Religious And Spiritual Tourism And
- ✓ Pilgrimage And Poverty Alleviation • Religious And Spiritual
- ✓ Tourism And Pilgrimage In Popular / Social Media • Role Of
- ✓ Ritual In Sacred Journeys • Social Media And Information
- ✓ Technology For Pilgrimage • Terrorism, Migration And Religious
- ✓ Tourism • Theory And Theology Of Religious Tourism •
- ✓ Theoretical Perspectives On Religious Tourism • Wellness And
- ✓ Spiritual Tourism • Wellness Tourism And Heritage Revitalization

Keynote Speakers

- ✓ Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage Is Gaining Prominence Around The World As A Catalyst For Socio-Economic Transformation
- ✓ Globally More Than 350 Million People Travel For Religious And Pilgrimage Purposes Every Year, Making This As A Major Segment Of Tourism Industry
- ✓ Eminent Members In The Field Of Religious And Pilgrimage Tourism Will Be Sharing Their Experiences, Which Will Provide Valuable Insights To Explore Future Research Potential In This Field
- ✓ **Carlos Fernandes / Rana P.B. Singh / Ahmad Albattat**

Keynote Speakers



Carlos Fernandes, Ph.D., Is Associate Professor With Aggregation In Tourism At The Instituto Politécnico De Viana Do Castelo, Portugal.

Lectures In The Bachelor's In Tourism, The Master's In Tourism And Innovation And Is Course Leader Of The Bachelor's Degree In Gastronomy Ad Culinary Arts. He Obtained His B.A. Degree At Syracuse University (USA), M.A. Degree At Rutgers University (USA) And Ph.D. At Bournemouth University (UK).

His Interests Include Tourism Innovation, Tourism As A Development Strategy, Gastronomy, Religious And Diaspora Tourism. A Member Of The Editorial Board Of Various Tourism Related Scientific Journals And Book Review Editor Of The International Journal Of Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage. Researcher At The Centre For Research, Development And Innovation In Tourism (CiTUR), Portugal.

Keynote Speakers



Rana P.B. Singh (B. 1950–) Has Been A Professor Of Cultural Landscapes And Heritage Studies At Banaras Hindu University, India (1998–2016).

Since His PhD On 'Sacred Sites And Religious Landscapes' (1974), He Has Continued To Study The Theme, With Case Studies From North India, And Has Conducted Field Studies In Japan, Sweden, Italy, Korea, And China. His Publications On These Themes Include 16 Books (2 In Press) And 154 Papers In Reputed National And International Journals. He Has Presented His Studies At Various International Conferences.

He Is A Visiting Professor At The Gifu Women's University In Japan. He Is Also A Member Of The Editorial Board Of The Journal Of Cultural Geography, And The International Journal Of Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage. Presently, He Is Working On The Interfaces Between Pilgrimages And Heritage. He Lives In The Holy City Of Varanasi, India.

Keynote Speakers

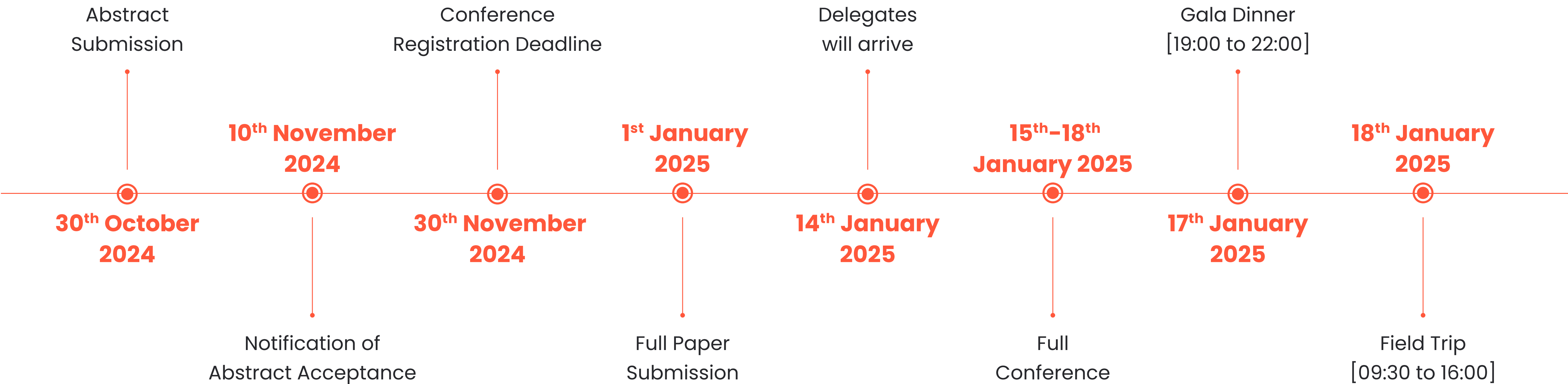


Ahmad Albattat Is An Associate Professor In Graduate School Of Management, Management And Science University, Malaysia.

Visiting Professor And External Examiner In Medan Academy Of Tourism. He Received PhD In Hospitality Management From University Sains Malaysia (USM), Malaysia. His Teaching And Consultancy Fields Include Hospitality Management, Events Management, Research Methodology, Strategic Management And Final Research Projects.

His Research Areas Include Hospitality Management, Hotel, Tourism, Events, Emergency Planning, Disaster Management, Sustainable Development Goals And Human Resource. He Is An Active Member Of Several Scientific And Editorial Board Of International Journals, Reviewer, Author And Editor For Book Projects.

Important Dates



Author Guidelines

Formatting Of Abstracts

- ✓ Maximum Limit Of Abstract Is Of 300 Words, Excluding The Title, Keywords And References.
- ✓ Abstract Submission MUST Include Minimum 3 Bibliographic References.
- ✓ Please Include A List Of Five Keywords That Describe The Research Just Under The Title Of The Paper – To Assist The Reviewing Process.
- ✓ Abstracts Will Be Subjected To Blind Review By A Minimum Of Two Referees From The Scientific Committee
- ✓ Full Paper Can Also Be Submitted Which Will Undergo Review Process For Submission To IJRTP For The Final Review.

Author Guidelines

Submission Process

- ✓ Authors must include the following information in the abstract:
 - ⦿ Name(s) of all author(s); clearly indicating citizen of which COUNTRY and originally from which COUNTRY
 - ⦿ Affiliation(s) of all author(s);
 - ⦿ Email address of all author(s);
- ✓ Submit your paper via the link on the conference website at: www.irtp.co.uk

Publication Opportunity

The Conference Organisers Have An Impressive Track Record Of Successfully Publishing Papers From Their Events. Following Review, Suitable Papers That Are Submitted According To The Deadline, Will Be Published In The **International Journal Of Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage (IJRTP)** [Scopus Q1] And/Or Selected For Inclusion As Chapters In Forthcoming Books In The Organisers **Religious Tourism And Pilgrimage** Book Series With **CABI Publishers**.



- ✓ Conference Abstracts (extended abstracts) will be available online at:
<https://arrow.tudublin.ie/ijrtp/>

Scientific Committee

- ✓ **Carlos Fernandes**, Polytechnic Institute Of Viana Do Castelo , Portugal .
- ✓ **Kevin Griffin**, Dublin Institute Of Technology, Ireland.
- ✓ **Razaq Raj**, Leeds Beckett University, UK.
- ✓ **Darius Liutikas**, Lithuanian Centre For Social Sciences, Lithuania.
- ✓ **Goretti Silva**, Polytechnic Institute Of Viana Do Castelo, Portugal.
- ✓ **Silvia Aulet**, University De Girona, Spain.
- ✓ **Shin Yasuda**, Tokyo University, Japan.
- ✓ **Irfan Syed Mirza**, V.M Salgaocar Institute Of Institute Of International Hospitality Education, India .
- ✓ **Subhash K. B**, Goa University, India.
- ✓ **Sankaranarayanan K. G**, Goa University, India.

Scientific Committee

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- ✓ **Rana Singh**, Banaras Hindu University, India.
- ✓ **Indrawati**, Universitas Telkom, Bandung, Indonesia.
- ✓ **Thiago Duarte Pimentel**, Federal University Of Juiz De Fora, Brazil.
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- ✓ **Lysette Dsouza**, V.M Salgaocar Institute Of Institute Of International Hospitality Education, India.
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Registration

- ✓ Conference Registration fee is **Rs. 6,000** for domestic presenters and is **\$ 200** for overseas presenters (which includes conference materials, tea and coffee, lunches and dinners including Gala Dinner). Additional charge of **\$ 25** for the field trip going to be arranged on the last day of the conference.
- ✓ There are two options for accommodation.
- ⦿ Accommodation is available at the conference venue, VMSIIHE, air conditioned rooms with all basic facilities and wash room. Each room is having three separate beds in different rooms with a common washroom, but given on single occupancy basis.

Those wish to come along with family and friends may use the additional two beds provided, by making the required additional fee per person (excluding children below 10 years).

[VMSIIHE - <https://youtu.be/EArpJ7fSFks>]

- ⦿ Accommodation outside the conference venue: Details are provided at the end and **participants may make own arrangements directly**. Pickup and drop facility from airport will be provided. The period of January being a tourist peak season in Goa, participants are requested to make travel and accommodation arrangements well in advance to avoid price escalation.

The API RTP Conference 2025 registration details

✓ Registration Fee	200 USD
✓ Field Trip	25 USD
✓ Accommodation at VMSIIHE	125 USD [for the conference period]
✓ Accommodation outside	60 – 120 USD Per Night

The API RTP Conference 2025 registration details

Participants may select any one of the following two options. [Please do **confirm by 30 November 2024**]

Option 1. Accommodation at VMSIHE

Registration Fee	200 USD
Field Trip	25 USD
Accommodation	125 USD
Total	350 USD including GST

Option 2. Accommodation at OUTSIDE

Registration Fee	200 USD
Field Trip	25 USD
Total	225 USD including GST

Any questions related to the fee, accommodation and transport, you can contact **[by email and / or sending a message on WhatsApp]** to **Irfan Syed Mirza** [V. M. Salgaocar Institute of International Hospitality Education – VMSIHE irfan.mirza@vmsiie.edu.in / **+91 77200 23201**] and **mark a copy to Subhash K. B** [subhash@unigoa.ac.in / **+91 82757 07906**].

Conference Venue and Location

- ✓ **APIRTP 2025** is hosted by **V. M. Salgaocar Institute of International Hospitality Education** (VMSIHE – <https://www.vmsiie.edu.in>), Goa, India, and emphasizes and strictly practices the ancient Indian philosophy “**Atithi Devo Bhava**” (Consider Guest equal to God), ensuring the most memorable and everlasting experience while the guests (students, parents, faculty members, and visitors) remain at VMSIHE, and cherishes the experience forever.
- ✓ Set up to high international standards, VMSIHE is a premier hospitality institute in Goa that offers quality hospitality education with world-class infrastructure (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EArpJ7fSFks>). VMSIHE have state-of-the-art Wi-Fi campus with world class infrastructure & in-house training equipment, indoor and outdoor sports facilities, Gymnasium, Recreational facilities and a swimming pool. VMSIHE received The Cleanest Academic Institutions Award (Swachhatam Mahavidyalaya Samman) of Goa University for three consecutive years 2016-17, 17-18, and 18-19 (<https://www.unigoa.ac.in/about-us/c/swachh-bharat-abhiyan.html>).

Conference Venue and Location

- ✓ Goa is the last state in India got independence from Portuguese colonial rule in the year 1961, and considered as 'Golden Goa', the El Dorado, the 'Rome of the East'. Such was its beauty and grandeur, that a travellers was moved to remark: 'Whoever has seen Goa, need not visit Lisboa' – Lisbon, which was then the grand epicenter of the Portuguese dominions (**Government Of Goa | Official Portal**)
- ✓ The words of the 17th Century French Traveler, Francois Pyrard, aptly describes Goa:
'Whoever has been in Goa may say that he has seen the choicest rarities of India, for it is the most famous and celebrated city, on account of its commercial intercourse with people of all nationalities of the East who bring there the products of their respective countries, articles of merchandize, necessaries of life and other commodities in great abundance because every year more than a thousand ships touch there laden with cargo' 'as for the multitude of people, it is a marvel to see the number which come and go every day by sea and land on business of every kind. One would say that a fair was being held every day for the sale of all sorts of merchandise.'

Conference Venue and Location

Hence Goa is considered as one of the most sought after tourist's destinations even in the present day, and the period from November till January of every year is considered as tourist peak season. Goa also have many religious places to visit.

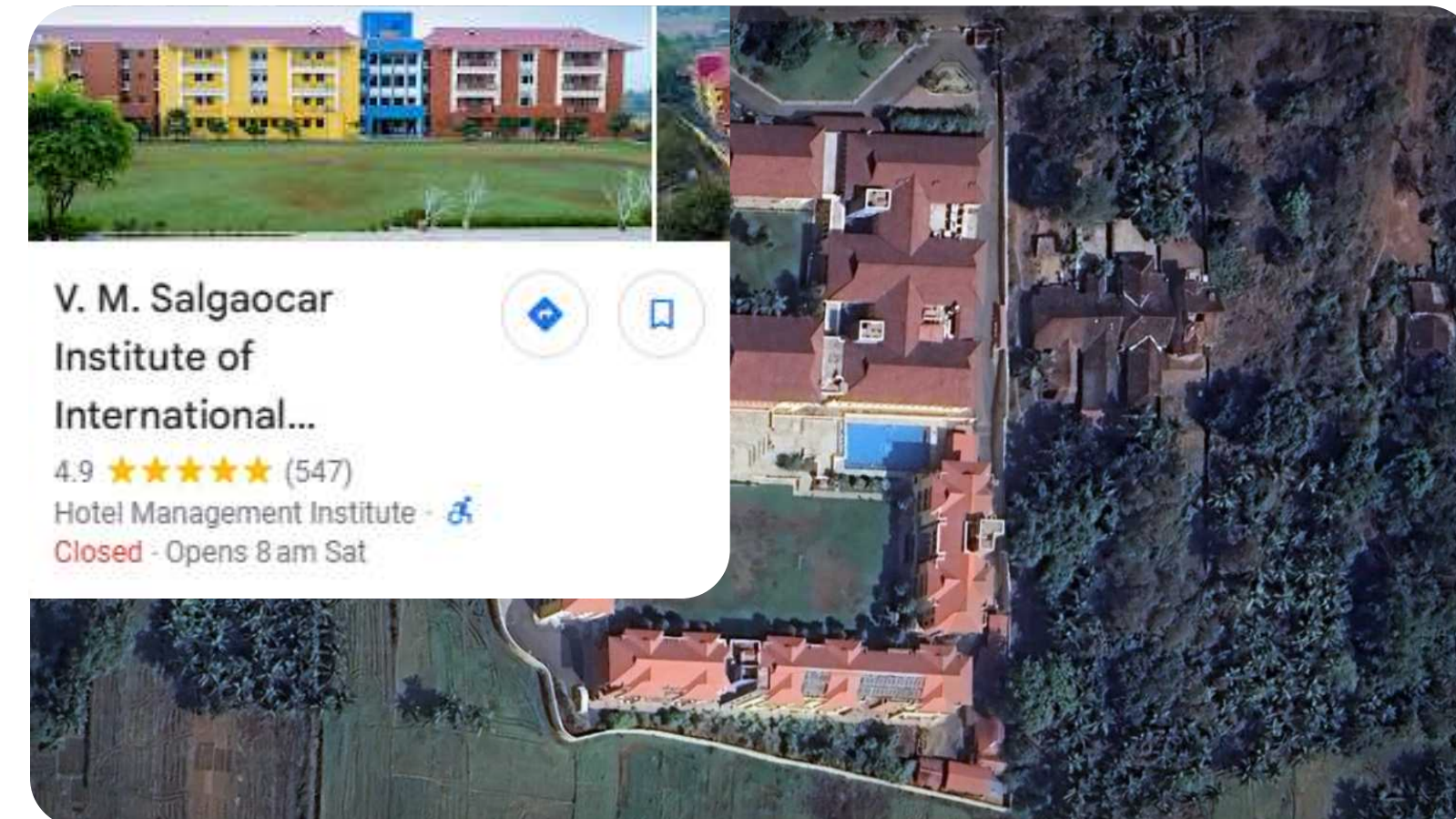
- ✓ The four religious sites covered during the field trip are: (1) Birla Radha Krishna Mandir, Modern Architectural Marvel in white Marble Stone, (2) A UNESCO World Heritage Monument, Bom Jesus Basilica, has the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier, (3) The Safa Shahouri Mosque, and (4) Sikh Gurusdwara in Betim, opened by Ex-President of India His Excellency Mr. Giani Zail Singh in 1984.

The participants will have an opportunity to visit all the four important religious sites during the API RTP 2024 Conference to experience religious diversity and harmony in the state of Goa.

Conference Venue and Location



V. M. SALGAOCAR INSTITUTE
of
INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY EDUCATION
Affiliated to Goa University



Please check the IRTP Conference website for further information:



Travel Information

- ✓ There Are Two Airports In Goa, **Dabolim (GOI)** – 20 Km From VMSIIHE) And **Mopa (GOX)** – 60 Km From VMSIIHE).
- ✓ Direct Flights To Both Airports Are Available From All Major International Centers In European, Asian, American, Middle Eastern, And African Regions.
- ✓ All Cities In India Also Well Connected To Goa By Air
- ✓ **Qatar Airways Have Direct Flights From Doha To Goa.**
- ✓ **Pickup And Drop Facility Will Be Provided On The Day Of Arrival And Departure,** Required Information Will Be Collected At The Time Of Registration. Both Airports Have The Facility For Visa On Arrival To Citizens Of Eligible Countries.

Visa Information

- ✓ In general, Indian Visa is granted to citizens of most of the countries, and now **eVisa** facility is also available, except for citizens of few countries (who are required to obtain normal Visa by applying at their respective Indian Embassies).
- ✓ **Visa on Arrival** is also given to citizens of selected countries. Participants **MUST** check and see if they are fulfilling the conditions and accordingly apply for eVisa, otherwise, apply for regular Visa at the Indian Mission in their country or get Visa on Arrival.
- ✓ The 2 Airports in Goa are the entry point for issuing Visa on Arrival. Further details about Visa formalities will be provided once the prospective participants complete the registration form giving all relevant information's latest by **30 November 2024**.

Visa Information

- ✓ Visa on Arrival (please check and see if your country name is in the list):
[Spotlight| National Portal of India](#)
- ✓ General Policy Guidelines Relating to Indian Visa (please check and see which type of visa you are planning to apply – tourist visa or conference visa or business visa):
https://www.mha.gov.in/PDF_Other/AnnexI_01022018.pdf
- ✓ Details of Visas Granted by India (please check and see if conditions are fulfilled by your country): https://www.mha.gov.in/PDF_Other/AnnexIII_01022018.pdf
- ✓ Countries / Nationals who are eligible to avail eVisa and eVisa Application (most of the countries are included in the list, but check and see if your country is also in the list)
<https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>
- ✓ Relevant information about eVisa from the government official website is given below:
[\[https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html#parentHorizontalTab12\]](https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html#parentHorizontalTab12).

Accommodation close to **VMSIIHE**

✓ Calvins Retreat [9.7 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 90 per night
✓ Villa Mayfair [15.1 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 120 per night
✓ Costal Suites Apart-hotel [6.3 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 60 per night
✓ Chalet du Beach Goa [7.1 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 100 per night
✓ Seaside Apartment [5.7 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 120 per night
✓ Beleza by the Beach [5.9 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 220 per night
✓ Crystal by Morpho Goa Villaio [5.5 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 140 per night
✓ Varca Le Palms Beach Resort [5.9 km from VMSIIHE]	USD 150 per night

Tentative Conference Schedule

• ✓ **14 January 2025** [Tuesday]

- ⦿ Arrival / Airport Pickup

• ✓ **15 January 2025** [Wednesday]

- ⦿ Registration
- ⦿ Welcome Remarks / Keynote Speech
- ⦿ Lunch
- ⦿ Paper Presentation
- ⦿ Dinner

• ✓ **16 January 2025** [Thursday]

- ⦿ Breakfast
- ⦿ Paper Presentation
- ⦿ Lunch
- ⦿ Paper Presentation
- ⦿ Dinner

• ✓ **17 January 2025** [Friday]

- ⦿ Breakfast
- ⦿ Paper Presentation
- ⦿ Lunch
- ⦿ Paper Presentation
- ⦿ Gala Dinner

• ✓ **18 January 2025** [Saturday]

- ⦿ Breakfast
- ⦿ Field Trip
- ⦿ Lunch
- ⦿ Dinner

• ✓ **January 2025** [Sunday]

- ⦿ Breakfast
- ⦿ Departure / Airport Drop