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Kaveri 2018 Residential Samskritam Camp Frequently Asked Questions

What is Kaveri?

Who can attend?

Who are the instructors?

Where will the camp be held?

When will the camp start/end?

What is the airport closest to the campsite?

What is the fee for the camp?

How do I register?

Is individual sleeping accommodation available for children under 4?

I can no longer attend the camp. Can I get a refund?

Can I arrive Saturday afternoon or leave on Sunday?

Can I attend during the day, and stay elsewhere during the night?

Are there any transportation facilities from and to airport?

What do I do once I arrive at the camp?

What kind of classes will be provided for children?

What level should I register for?

Do you provide course material?

Can I make a video/audio recording of the classes?

What kind of food will be served at the camp?

What are the lodging facilities?

Should family members pack their belongings separately?

What kind of clothing should I bring?

Are laundry facilities available on-site?

What should I bring?

What should I leave at home?

Will there be cell phone reception?

What is a typical day at the camp?

Will there be first-aid supplies on camp?

What are the Walden West Center's rules for this camp?

Whom can I contact for additional information?

Samskrita Bharati USA

kaveri@sbusa.org; www.sbusa.org

Tel: (408) 752-2182 Fax: (831) 301-6972 EIN: 77-0545072



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What is Kāverī?

Kāverī is a family residential Samskritam camp held annually during the Memorial Day long weekend (May 26 - 28, 2017) in Saratoga, California (15 miles from San Jose). It is designed by Samskrita Bharati to impart Samskritam language skills using modern teaching techniques in a fun, friendly, interactive and informal atmosphere. Back to top

Who can attend?

Anyone can attend, and no prior knowledge of Samskritam is required. Familiarity with an Indian language is recommended, as our syllabus is tailored for such students¹. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or quardian. Back to top

Who are the instructors?

A team of experienced and qualified instructors will teach at different levels. This year we have a group of expert teachers from India as well as from other parts of the US. <u>Back to top</u>

Where will the camp be held?

The camp will be held at Walden West Science Center, 15555 Sanborn Road, Saratoga, CA 95070. Phone: (408) 573-3050; http://www.sccoe.org/waldenwest/facility/

Directions to Walden West Science Center - Take Highway 9 (Big Basin Way) from Saratoga towards the Santa Cruz Mountains. Turn left at Sanborn Road (near Saratoga Springs). Make first right at the Walden West sign. Stay right after the stone columns and turn right into Walden West. Back to top

When will the camp start / end?

Check-In: 8:00 AM on Saturday May 26th

Instruction/Camp ends: 2:00 PM on Monday May 28th

On Saturday May 26th, breakfast will be served from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM. Back to top

What is the airport closest to the campsite?

San Jose International Airport (SJC) is the closest airport located 18 miles North of Point Walden West Center. San Francisco International Airport (SFO) is another option (40 miles North of Point Walden West Center). Back to top

¹ Anyone, regardless of background, is welcome to attend. However, our syllabus makes frequent use of Samskṛtam words that are commonly found in Indian regional languages, and also uses standard Indian cultural motifs to help expedite the teaching process. Those who are unfamiliar with these may have difficulty following the class material.





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What is the fee for the camp?

First Adult (18 & up)	\$240
Each Additional Adult	\$210
Seniors or Visiting Parents	\$150
Children (Ages 5-17)	\$125
Children (Ages 4 & Under)	FREE

Back to top

Is individual sleeping accommodation available for children under 4?

No, children aged 4 and under will sleep with one of their parents. Back to top

I can no longer attend the camp. Can I get a refund?

For cancellations, please send an email to kaveri@sbusa.org and we will process the requests. All cancellations will incur a fee of \$25. After deducting this amount, fees will be refunded as follows:

Cancellation by April 28th – 100% of the remaining fees

Cancellation by May 05th – 75% of the remaining fees

Cancellation by May 12th – 50% of the remaining fees

Cancellation by May 19th – 25% of the remaining fees

Cancellation after May 21st or no-show at the camp – no refund Back to top

How do I register?

Please go to http://kaveri.camp and follow the instructions to register. If you have any questions, or have any problems registering, please contact us (kaveri@sbusa.org). Back to top

Can I arrive later or leave on Saturday?

No. All participants should arrive before 8:00 AM on Saturday and must stay through 2pm on Monday. If they absolutely cannot arrive on before 8:00 AM on Saturday, they must keep us informed in advance. Also, if they cannot stay until the end of the camp (2 PM on Monday), they must contact us in advance before registering. Back to top

Can I attend during the day, and stay elsewhere during the night?

No. All participants **must** remain in the camp from the time they register, until the conclusion of the camp (2 PM on Monday). If for any reason they need to leave anytime during the camp, they must

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जयत् संस्कृतम्।



जयत् मन्क्लम्

contact us in advance before registering. Back to top

Are there any transportation facilities from and to airport?

Transportation is the participant's responsibility. However, Samskrita Bharati volunteers will try to accommodate transportation requests for out-of-town guests and will also try to arrange carpools for other interested participants. If you can help with carpools, or would like some transportation help, please contact us well in advance. Back to top

What do I do once I arrive at the camp?

Please follow the signs for "Kāverī" and arrive at the registration desk at the camp site. Samskrita Bharati volunteers will be present at the camp site on Saturday from 7:30 AM onwards. Back to top

What kind of classes will be provided for children?

Classes for children will be based on their age and number of children attending the camp. Samskrita Bharati has developed a child-friendly curriculum based on conversation, games, songs and other activities. Back to top

What level should I register for?

If you are currently a Samskrita Bharati student, please discuss this with your teacher. If you are new to Samskrita Bharati camps and classes, you can contact us in advance for more information that will help you select the appropriate level. Back to top

Do you provide course material?

Yes, course material will be provided for all registered students. Supplementary books will be available for purchase at the campsite. Participants must bring their own notebooks, pens, pencils etc. Although reference books are not essential for the camp itself, participants may bring along such books. Back to top

Can I make a video / audio recording of the classes?

We encourage all the camp attendees to participate in the classes. Samskrita Bharati may at times record the sessions and make them available for purchase later. Please note that these recordings can only be used for personal non-commercial use. Back to top

What kind of food will be served at the camp?

Delicious breakfast, lunch and dinner will be catered by one of the Indian vegetarian restaurants in the SFO bay area. Tea, coffee and snacks will also be provided during break time. If you have a preference for snacks for yourself and/or your kids, please bring them with you. You will not have time to go shopping during the camp. If you have any dietary restrictions, please contact us in advance to discuss your needs. Back to top



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What are the lodging facilities?

The camp site provides lodges (dormitories) equipped with electricity and hot running water. Mattresses will be provided on dormitory style bunk beds. Please bring pillows, bed sheets and blankets. Back to top

Should family members pack their belongings separately?

Men and women will be accommodated in separate quarters and so their belongings should be packed accordingly. Gender-wise, children will stay with one of their parents / guardians. Back to top

What kind of clothing should I bring?

Saratoga has varied weather especially during Memorial Day Weekend. Please check the weather forecast prior to the camp and bring appropriate clothing. Back to top

Are laundry facilities available on-site?

The camp site does not provide laundry facilities. Please bring enough clothing for 3 days. Back to top

What should I bring?

Recommended items:

Refillable water bottles

Sheets, pillows, pillowcases, blankets and/or sleeping bags

Toiletries – Towels, Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb etc

Personal prescription medicine

Clothing as per weather variations during the day

Loose-fitting clothing (Yoga sessions)

Laundry bag

Shoes/sneakers (for nature walk)

Flashlight

Class materials (notebooks, pens, pencils, binder etc)

Optional Items:

Reference books – abhyāsa-pustakam, bhāśā-praveśa etc.

Musical instruments (to participate in the cultural program)

Indian-style clothing for the cultural program in the evening

Back to top

What should I leave at home?

Expensive jewelry and other valuables

Video games, etc. (instead we encourage everyone to interact with others during the camp)

<u>Back to top</u>

Will there be cell phone reception?

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जयत् संस्कृतम्।



जयत् मन्क्लम् ।

The campsite has very limited & intermittent cell phone coverage. Back to top

What is a typical day at the camp?

The camp's daily schedule is available at http://kaveri.camp/#schedule.

Back to top

Will there be first-aid supplies on camp?

The camp will have a first-aid kit. However, if you require any prescribed medication please bring it with you. Back to top

What are the Walden West Center's rules for this camp?

Participants must fill and sign the registration / consent form to participate in the camp. All participants must follow the instructions of Walden West staff and Samskrita Bharati volunteers. Children are the responsibility of the parents, especially during non-instructional hours. Smoking, alcohol and recreational drugs are strictly prohibited. The camp features a quiet lights-out time between 10 PM and 5 AM. Pets are not allowed. Back to top

Whom can I contact for additional information?

Please contact any of our camp coordinators whose information is given here.

Name	Phone	Email
Overall Camp Coordinator	(510) 861-0924	kaveri@sbusa.org
Camp Site Supervisor	(510) 432-5764	kaveri@sbusa.org

Back to top