

A RIDE TO REMEMBER...



Pages from the diary of Tejas

Evolve Back Kuruba Safari Lodge, Kabini, June 2010

Tejas visits our resorts in Coorg and Kabini and shares with you some of his uplifting experiences. Join him as he immerses himself in the activities at our two resorts, and enjoy them with him, virtually!

Tejas Joseph resides in Auroville near Puducherry and is part of a consulting group engaged in creating viable models of decentralised lighting (using solar energy) for off-grid Indian villages. Tejas travels a lot in the course of his work and feels a deep connection with the history and ethos of the places he visits. He is a keen observer of the winds of change that are now blowing across the physical, cultural and social landscapes of India and seeks to capture its effects in his articles, ever believing that the journey is as important as the destination, the travel as rewarding as the arrival!

Feel free to write to him at ouseptejas@gmail.com if your interests or work coincide with his.

Activity Name	Bullock Cart Ride
Duration	20 Minutes
Timing	Between 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Between 04:00 PM to 06.00 PM
Guided	Yes
Cost	Rs. 700/- per person
Prior Booking Required	No

A ride to remember...

The bullock cart has for long symbolised ease of pace, a throwback to another era when time was not the demanding monster it is today. It has also been a metaphor for backwardness in developing societies. How ironic then that we have guests who step out of their Audis to queue up for a ride in one. Take a joyride on a bullock cart on the banks of the river Kabini. It is a cheerfully painted and decorated one drawn by two handsome oxen who go by the unusual but fitting names of Mahindra and Mahesha.



Experience firsthand the only means of mass transport used by our ancestors a little more than a half century ago before the coming of the car or the city bus. Think of also how minimally polluting (the only footprints they left were those of the oxen!) this erstwhile form of mass transport was long before the discovery of oil.

Enjoy the wind and the view without being hindered by a windscreen or windows. Be immersed in 'live music' from chirping birds and cicadas, the gentle wash of the Kabini's waves and the tinkling bells of the oxen in motion. Exquisite as this is, it is all just a build up to the main show, the magnum opus, which is Shivalinga's heart-felt rendering of traditional Kannada folksongs as he lovingly guides his 4 legged companions. His clear high voice carries across the Kabini's shore to the resort and is as comforting as it is delightful to hear.

If you wish to 'test ride' this vintage machine and find the confidence to handle some serious bull power (no horse power here!), then Shivalinga might offer to give you the reins if you can convince him of your ability to pilot two bulls without the assistance of automatic transmission or cruise control. See for yourself how hard or easy this is when compared to driving your Camry or Octavia.