THE NILGIRIS EARTH FESTIVAL

2024 SCHEDULE

19-22 DEC '24



DAY 1 THURS 19 DEC 2024

FORGOTTEN GREENS & HERITAGE GRAINS

Devi Lakshmikutty & Shruti Tharayil

8AM - 10:30AM | 180 Mciver, Coonoor

Dive into the world of heritage rices, wild edibles, and medicinal greens; explore local grains and sustainable eating, and the unique farming and foraging traditions of India with Devi Lakshmikutty of Bio Basics, and Shruti Tharayil of Forgotten Greens.

NATIVE HORIZONS: A WALK THROUGH UPSTREAM ECOLOGY NURSERY

Vasanth Bosco

11AM - 12:15PM | Upstream Ecology Nursery, Ooty

Explore over 100 rare and endangered native plant species of the Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve grown as part of critical conservation efforts.

PARUVA

Dr Suresh Belliraj & Kartik Pendse

6:30 PM | Donnington Bakehouse, Kotagiri

A truly special experience centred around a tasting menu featuring Badaga cuisine, helmed by educationist and restaurateur Dr Suresh Belliraj in collaboration with Chef Kartik Pendse, accompanied by a rare Badaga cultural performance.

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DAY 2 FRI 20 DEC 2024

TRANQUILITEA

Sandeep Subramani

10:30AM - 1PM | Tranquilitea, Coonoor

A tasting of artisanal Nilgiri teas that illustrate the nuances of terroir, craft, and elevation, alongside a unique high tea menu with pairings by artisanal tea grower Sandeep Subramani.

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DAY 3 SAT 21 DEC 2024

GINKO WALK THROUGH LAWRENCE SCHOOL

Shobhana Kumar

8AM | Lawrence School, Lovedale

Award-winning author and poet Shobhana Kumar leads us through the Lawrence school's tranquil reservoirs and shola grasslands, where she introduces the Japanese art of haiku and inspires you to create your own verses amidst nature's beauty.

FARM-TO-FORK SOJOURN

Vishanth Kumar & Karan Thakker

10AM - 4PM | Kikui Farms, Ooty

Experience the flavours of high-elevation organic produce, farm-to-table wood-fired cooking, and stories from a life on the region's most iconic farm, with lunch by Chefs Vishanth Kumar and Karan Thakker.

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DAY 4 SUN 22 DEC 2024

HABBA

10AM - 3PM | Keystone Foundation, Kotagiri

The Habba is the heart of The Nilgiris Earth Festival, a day of indigenous produce, food, music, dance, artisanal stalls, and inspiring conversations. Savour a seasonal spread of vibrant indigenous cuisines representing the communities of the Nilgiris biosphere.

For this year's edition, we have **Bablu Ganguly** (of Timbaktu Collective), **Arshiya Bose** (Black Baza Coffee), and **G. Sundarrajan** (Poovulagin Nanbargal) who will share their insights on climate activism, food sovereignty, and biodiversity.

Chief guest **Rohini Nilekani**, author and philanthropist, will present The Nilgiris Earth Award during the event.

A special highlight of the day is the screening of 'Nilgiris: A Shared Wilderness', a stunning film by Sandesh Kadur, produced by Rohini Nilekani, capturing the magnificence and challenges of our precious biosphere. Before the screening, Sandesh and Rohini will share a glimpse into the making of this film and its central themes.

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For more details, head to: www.thenilgirisearthfestival.com



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