

Online Nature Guide Training Course Schedule (7 Feb to 10 March 2021)

| Date & Time | Set | Topic | Duration | Type | Resource Person |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---|------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 7 February 10 am | One | Getting started | 3.5 hours | | |
| | | Meet your mentors and fellow participants | | Live | Payal & Harsha |
| | | Understanding Tour Guiding and the role of a guide | | Recorded | Harsha J |
| | | Field note making | | Recorded | Abhisheka K |
| | | Classification of the Living World | | Recorded | Payal Mehta |
| | | A Biodiversity Hotspot: The Western Ghats | Recorded | Payal Mehta | |
| 10 February 6 pm | Two | All about Birds | 4.5 hours | | |
| | | Review Set 1 assignments and Q&A | | Live | Payal & Harsha |
| | | What are birds? | | Recorded | Harsha J |
| | | The why and how of bird watching | | Recorded | Harsha J |
| | | First steps to identifying Birds | | Recorded | Harsha J |
| | | Birds of the Western Ghats | | Recorded | Harsha J |
| | | Learning how to learn | Recorded | Payal Mehta | |
| 14 February 10 am | Three | Some guiding skills and a peek into the world of Insects | 3.5 hours | | |
| | | Review Set 2 assignments and Q&A | | Live | Payal & Harsha |
| | | Handling sightings with guests | | Recorded | Payal, Harsha, Sae & Vineeth |
| | | Basic principles of communication for a guide | | Recorded | Payal Mehta |
| | | A peek into the world of Insects | Recorded | Payal Mehta | |
| 17 February 6 pm | Four | Getting deeper into the world of Insects and Spiders | 5 hours | | |
| | | Review Set 3 assignments and Q&A | | Live | Payal & Harsha |
| | | More about Butterflies & Moths | | Recorded | Payal Mehta |
| | | Life of Dragonflies & Damselflies | | Recorded | David Raju |
| | | The quiet world of Spiders | | Recorded | Devi Priyadarshini |
| | | How to use iNaturalist app? | Recorded | Subhadra Devi | |
| 21 February 10 am | Five | A lot about Plants and a new guiding skill | 4.5 hours | | |
| | | Review Set 4 assignments and Q&A | | Live | Payal & Harsha |
| | | Opening up the world of Plants | | Recorded | Payal Mehta |
| | | Plants of the Western Ghats | | Recorded | Siddarth Machado |
| | | How to start and end a nature excursion | | Recorded | Harsha, Payal, Vineeth & Sae |
| | | How to use SeasonWatch app? | | Recorded | Swati Sidhu |

| Date & Time | Set | Topic | Duration | Type | Resource Person |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---|------------------|--|---|
| 24 February 6 pm | Six | About Frogs and other important things Review Set 5 assignments and Q&A What are Amphibians? Amphibians of the Western Ghats Ethics in Nature Tourism Care for your guests and more to bear in mind while guiding Interview of wildlife travellers and their experiences with local guides | 4.5 hours | Live Recorded Recorded Recorded Recorded | Payal & Harsha Harsha J David Raju Payal Mehta Payal Mehta Invited speakers |
| 28 February 10 am | Seven | About Snakes and other interesting creatures Review Set 6 assignments and Q&A The not so scary world of Reptiles Reptiles of Western Ghats Interviews: Nature Tour Leaders and their experiences with local guides Special touches to your nature excursion | 5 hours | Live Recorded Recorded Recorded Recorded | Payal & Harsha Arpita Dutta Surya Ramachandran Invited speakers Harsha J |
| 3 March 6 pm | Eight | World of Mammals and eBird Review Set 7 assignments and Q&A Introduction to Mammals Mammals of Western Ghats Been birding for a month, now time to learn how to use the eBird app. | 4 hours | Live Recorded Recorded Recorded | Payal & Harsha Nikita Khamparia Harsha J Mittal Gala |
| 7 March 10 am | Nine | Interconnections in Nature and views of nature guides Review Set 8 assignments and Q&As Interconnections in Nature Career as a naturalist Interview: What do you look for in your lodge nature guide? Interviews: local nature guides | 5 hours | Live Live Live Recorded Recorded | Payal & Harsha Karthikeyan S Invited speakers Invited speakers Invited speakers |
| 10 March 5 pm | Ten | Wrapping up Review Set 9 assignments and Q&A Conclusion | 2 hours | Live Live | Payal & Harsha Payal & Harsha |