

28 February, 2013

Dear dharma friends:

It is with great delight that we announce the opening of registration for the first-ever KTD Stupa Pilgrimage of the Southwest.

Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche has given his blessing to this tour, which will be led by Lama Kathy Wesley. The purpose of the tour is to connect dharma practitioners with holy sites through prayer and meditation. Instructions on meditation and dharma will be given daily throughout the tour, and participants will be able to spend time at each stupa making prayers, offerings, aspirations, and sacred connections.

WHAT: Stupa Pilgrimage of the Southwest, a bus tour of stupas in Santa Fe, Taos and Questa, NM; and the four stupas of the Crestone Valley in Colorado.

WHEN: June 3-6, 2013

WHERE: Group will meet the evening of Sunday June 2 at hotel in Albuquerque, NM. Participants will fly into and out of Albuquerque, NM. Departures should be scheduled for 2 p.m. or later on Thursday, June 6.

WHAT IS INCLUDED: Double-occupancy hotel rooms Sunday June 2 in Albuquerque and Monday June 3 in Taos; dorm accommodation June 4 and 5 in Crestone at the Blazing Mountain Retreat Center; a seat on our 28-passenger tour bus (including driver gratuity); all vegetarian meals (from Breakfast on June 3 to a sack lunch on June 6 on the way back to the Albuquerque airport).

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED: Your airfare to Albuquerque; the KTD Stupa Pilgrimage prayer book (to be announced at the end of March); offerings at the stupas and to the three lamas we will meet along the way; incidentals.

COST: \$555.

HOW TO RESERVE A SPACE: Send Check or Money Order made out to "KTD Stupa Pilgrimage" to:

KTD Stupa Pilgrimage
243 English Avenue
Newark, OH 43055

Include your name, address, phone number, and email address. Also include any food allergies or special needs. An email acknowledgment will be sent within two weeks. Due to interest in the program, space on the tour will only be considered "reserved" if the space is secured with a deposit or payment. Reservations are logged on a first-come, first-served basis.

ONLY HAVE ENOUGH MONEY FOR A DEPOSIT? Then Send check for \$250 to the above address. Final payment will be due May 2, 2013.

WANT TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD? Email Lama Kathy at the above address and include your phone number. She will call you with registration information by phone.

CANCELLATION POLICY

All fees will be fully refundable through May 2; cancellation after May 2 will result in a \$100 fee being held out of deposits or fees charged.

TOUR LIMIT: 27 people. We're keeping the first tour small to help create a template for future pilgrimages. We need 16 people to make this tour happen. If the tour does not have sufficient registrations by 1 April, 2013, the tour will be cancelled and all registration money will be refunded.

MERIT/OBSTACLE ADVISORY: It's been said that wherever there is great merit, obstacles can arise. While we are doing our best to make this first-ever pilgrimage comfortable for all, pilgrimages can awaken our expectations and anxieties, and unforeseen obstacles (outer and inner) can arise. We will offer teachings about this in our pre-pilgrimage conference calls in late April; but in the meantime, be sure to engender bodhicitta - and dedicate your pilgrimage (and any of its obstacles) to the liberation of all sentient beings :-)

PROPOSED ITINERARY

Sunday June 2: Pre-pilgrimage arrival date. Meet in the evening at an Albuquerque airport hotel (To be announced).

Monday June 3: Stupa Pilgrimage begins. Bus to stupas in Santa Fe and Taos. Overnight in Taos.

Tuesday June 4: Bus to stupa in Questa; trip to Crestone, CO. Overnight in Crestone.

Wednesday June 5: Bus tour of stupas around Crestone, including His Holiness 16th Karmapa's stupa. Overnight in Crestone.

Thursday, June 6: Return by bus to Albuquerque airport, arriving at airport around 12 noon

Special Prayers and offerings will be made at all stupas. The merit of such a trip will be inestimable :-).

Questions? Email me at kmwesley@me.com.

Thanks go to all who helped plan the event: Jeannie Faulkner, and my husband Mike

Wesley. May all beings benefit!

All the best in dharma,
Lama Kathy :-)