

If you love bird watching, these four groups will give you a glimpse of our feathered friends in and around the city

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Avian diaries

Started in 2008, Bangalore Birding Adventures conducts bird watching and bird photography tours around Bengaluru, Mysuru and Coorg. As far as bird watching goes, these trips are mostly held in and around Nandi Hills, Bannerghatta National Park and Hoskote Lake and are led by Bopanna Pattada. The trips are tailored according to the customer inquiry and the cost depends on the size of the group, whether transport is required and how far the locations are. Look up bangalorebirding.com or call 9845149783

Nest away

Deepa Mohan is a regular birder, who conducts bird walks for the popular BnGBirds group on every fourth Sunday as well as other independent tours for school children and corporates. Her favourite hot spots are Valley School, Hoskote Lake, Jakkur Lake and Madiwala Lake. While these walks are typically held in the morning, starting at 6.30am or even earlier during summers, on rare occasions, she can take you out on an evening bird tour as well. While BnGBirds walks are free of cost, for her independent tours, it's best to hit up Mohan



Calling all the early birds



at birding.z.boods@xoxy.net and work out the schedule

Free flyer

If you don't have time to go out of the city, then call up Dr MB Krishna, a veteran birder who organises free bird walks in Lalbagh. Starting at

7.30am, these walks typically last for a couple of hours, giving you a glimpse of barbets, fly catchers, warblers, mynas, kites, magpie robins, cormorants and other winged creatures. Having conducted this walk for many decades now, he's become quite an encyclopedia of birds of Lalbagh.



Meet the group at the Glass House entrance in Lalbagh at 7.30am on second Sundays

Soar high

The Bangalore Birdwatchers came together as early as in the 1970s, thanks to the efforts of Dr Joseph George and Zafar Futehally. They meet every first Sunday of the month at Hebbal and every second Sunday at Lalbagh. Locations for the third and fourth Sundays are announced on their website bngbirds.com. The outings typically start at around 7.30 am and end by 10am. Bird-watching is free and interest and enthusiasm are the only requirements to join the group. Call up 9845171063 or look up facebook.com/ecoeduindia

MUST WATCH



Artistic intervention

Think of Whitefield and images of traffic snarls, construction and dust conjure up. But there's more to it, like the ongoing Whitefield Art Collective, which is showcasing a variety of art installations, exhibitions and cinema screenings on the theme of sustainability.

WHERE: VR Bengaluru, Whitefield Main Road, Mahadevapura
WHEN: 10am onwards, on view till March 5
CALL: 46693469

MUST SEE



An ode to nature

In line with some of her previous collections *One Tribe*, *Mother Earth*, *Colours of Sand*, and *Desert Song*, Bharti Prajapati's *Earth Story - The Elements* narrates the intrinsic bond between the five elements of nature, i.e. Earth, water, fire, air and space. The show is about the wonderful co-existence and interaction between living beings and their surroundings.

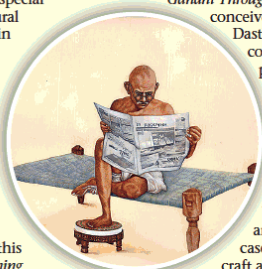
WHERE: Gallery g, Lavelle Road
WHEN: 10am-7pm, on view till February 29
CALL: 22219275

PLAN AHEAD

WHERE: Bangalore International Centre, 4th Main Road, Stage 2, Domlur
WHEN: 11am-8pm, February 27-March 5
CALL: 25359680

Gandhi's philosophy

Mahatma Gandhi gave special emphasis to India's rural craftspeople to sustain their traditional livelihoods and strengthen village economies. Use of natural materials and interdependence of communities both protected the environment and provided dignified and unified work from the onslaught of mechanisation. Human worth and self-reliance were keystones of Gandhi's vision. Keeping this philosophy forward is *Imagining*



Gandhi Through Craft, an exhibition conceived and organised by Dastkari Haat Samiti. It's a collective platform to provide marketing and promotional opportunities to enhance livelihoods in the craft sector and sustain India's cultural and environmental heritage.

This week, they will be bringing 25 of these artists and artisans to showcase their creations across art, craft and textiles.



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