



AURA POTTERY RETREATS

March 2019 - October 2019

When was the last time you did something that stirred your soul? Maybe now is the time to take the plunge. Venture closer to the world of creation and discover your earthy side at Aura Pottery.

Announcing the Aura Pottery Retreats, a ten-day rendezvous amidst nature at the beautiful lush-green Aura Farm. It is an opportunity to find your inner clay connection and explore the artist within.

Come and experience various pottery techniques such as pinching and coiling, slab work as well as working with clay on the wheel. Combined with bisque firing and glazing, this retreat promises to be a complete and wholesome pottery experience.

Enjoy other interesting activities too! Meet and connect with like-minded people from the world over, and spend some community time drumming together. Learn other forms of art such as Batik, Zentangle, Pickle Making etc. All this combined with healthy vegetarian food served for meals, we hope to make this experience one to remember for life!



Arrival, Friday

As you arrive at the venue, get prepared to meet and greet like-minded people from the world over with a common interest in pottery. Settle in or take a tour of the property with your hosts Atul and Anuja, who also reside here along with their daughters and four adorable dogs.

We start with a guided tour of the pottery studio, a well-equipped facility, which will be your work space for the next few days!

As you take your time to settle into the space, we wind off the day with some good food and community drum circle (West African Djembe) in anticipation of a week full of exciting experiences.



Djembe Community Drum Circle

Djembe is a West African instrument popularly known for its healing properties. Drumming in large groups is known to promote healing and self-expression. Groove to the rhythm and get connected to your roots.



Holistic Health & Food Talk

Attend an interesting 2 hour session on the curative properties of food, why it is important to walk barefoot on grass, get enough sunlight each day, and how you can improve your longevity. This talk promises a lot of food for thought!

Day 1, Saturday

It's your first day working at the studio. Get ready to set out on an exciting new journey as Anuja, a.k.a @weekendpotter, welcomes you and shares her story and journey with clay. The day is full of hands-on learning on the wheel, along with other interesting sessions.

We promise a wholesome, eclectic experience throughout your stay, and so we start with a talk session on healthy food habits and how food can be thy medicine.

Pottery Learning



Clay wedging



Centering the clay ball



Pulling the walls



Shaping your pot

Day 2, Sunday

Start your day with Yoga to prepare your mind and body for a soulful experience at Aura.

As you begin to immerse yourself into the world of pottery, throw some pots of your own. We encourage you to make and cut open as many pots as you like to reach a certain level of perfection.

Wind off the day with an introduction to Batik and how you will create your own piece of batik art on cotton fabric.



Meditative Breathing Session

Pranayam or meditative breathing exercise is a guided breathing process, which is known to help cure ailments. Its daily practice amidst the calm and serene setting is sure to take your breath away!

Day 3, Monday

We start the day with some meditative breathing exercises, just so you soak in everything, and feel refreshed from within!

Today is about getting better at throwing. Just keep at it and continue exploring new shapes, learning the finer points of the art and craft of pottery. Finishing your pots is important too, and we won't let you off the hook without learning a few tips and tricks on turning and trimming your pots... so they come out looking smashing hot even before they go into the kiln!

Pottery Learning



Instruction



Centering



Opening



Pulling

Day 4, Tuesday

Now that you've had an experience on the wheel, it's time to explore other interesting techniques. The next few days bring newer experiences of twisting and molding the clay. Learn to roll out the clay, and create using slabs. If you thought pots turn out pretty only on the wheel, you're in for a big surprise!

Today, let's also tickle your taste buds and add some zing to your day with a pickle-making workshop.

You will be surprised at what this authentic Indian meal accompaniment can do, not just on the table but also through the cutting, chopping and mixing process of its making!



Pickle Making Workshop

Tickle your taste buds learning traditional Indian style of pickle making. Sweet and tangy pickles made from mangoes, lemons and other seasonal fruits and veggies to take home and relive your memories at the retreat.



Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) Workshop

Change your relationship with your body. Let go of negative patterns. Take time to immerse deeply into your own chakras to shift and clear anything that might be holding you back.

Day 5, Wednesday

Today, we move on to pinching and coiling techniques and cover off all the basic clay work techniques.

Learn how to make an Ocarina (a clay whistle) and you have some interesting posts ready to go on your Instagram and Facebook pages!

Maybe you'd also want to add some pictures from your Dance Movement Therapy session planned later during the day, to show off some of your moves.

Pottery Learning



Slab Work



Pinching Pots



Coiling Pots



Ocarina Making

Day 6, Thursday

Practice makes you perfect! With some of your pots ready to go into firing, spend the next few days having some serious fun! The more you work, the more creative you find you are getting... and we don't want you to hold anything inside!

Today, we also try and finish our Batik art and get it ready for dyeing and finishing.



Batik Workshop

An age-old dying technique is a fun way to create and connect with the colours of nature. Indigo happens to be one of our favorites, and we hope it will inspire you to learn and flaunt batik print with your own personal stamp on it.



Zentangle Workshop

If making art scares you, colors and blank canvases intimidate you, then this is just the thing you should try. Zentangles is now a world-famous technique to experience minimalism on paper.

Day 7, Friday

By now we are sure you're making pretty pots even in your dreams! So work some more in the studio as you relive your clay fantasies.

Move on to some Mandala making or Zen art to wind off the day at the studio.

Day 8, Saturday

Let's fire up the kiln today after you prepare your pots for a bisque firing. We get the firing started and then take a break and go for a tour to explore the nearby village.

In the second half of the day, another beautiful experience awaits you, as you learn to make your own Macramé pot holder to go with the beauties that eventually emerge from the kiln.



Macramé Workshop

Whilst you are busy at the retreat, opening the knots of your mind and body, we have some fun teaching you Macramé - the fun way to 'hitch' a knot and build attractive artifacts.

Pottery Learning



Practice



Practice



Practice



And more Practice

Day 9, Sunday

The first round of firing was just prepping up...for the glaze work! On the last day of the retreat, explore the 'oh so wonderful' world of glazing your favorite pieces.

By now you probably know that clay has a memory, but this is the time to find out that it has a mind of it's own too!

And we couldn't let you leave without some real art on your hands as well. Join the Mehendi (Henna) session with an expert henna artist ready to create some beautiful patterns. It's time to thank your hands with all that they've done in the studio during this retreat.



Henna Art Workshop

Why limit your experience with art to just walls and papers? Join a session of Henna Art, watch henna artist put beautiful, breathtaking patterns on your hands. Pamper and thank your hands for all they do for you!



Glaze Kiln Viewing

We end the retreat with opening the glaze kiln and admiring each others work. Remember you get to take your pots with you! May the kiln gods bestow all their blessings on this beautiful glaze firing!

Departure, Monday

We truly hope you enjoy your journey with clay at the Aura Pottery Retreat. The pots look beautiful, and we wish you the best as you set out into the world starting your own clay journey.

We look forward to hosting you again at Aura Pottery in the future and hope to stay connected as we discover the joys of making some awesome pottery!



Pottery Learning



Firing Prepration



Glazing



Kiln Loading



Output

Retreat Schedule

Here is the calendar of activities and workshops for the duration of your retreat at Aura Pottery. Please note that while activity timings are fixed for each day, the nature of activities and workshops will keep varying.

Time	Activities	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	
7-8 AM	Facility Tour		✓										
	Yoga			✓		✓		✓		✓			
	Meditative Breathing				✓		✓		✓		✓		
8-9 AM	Freshen up	Same Schedule for all days											
9-10 AM	Breakfast	Same Schedule for all days											
10 AM-1:30 PM	Introduction, Demo and Wheel Work	A	✓										D E P A R T U R E
	Wheel Work	R		✓	✓								
	Slab Work	R				✓							
	Pinching, Coiling and Ocarina Workshop	I					✓						
	Pottery Practice	V						✓	✓				
	Bisque firing and Village Tour	A								✓			
	Glazing and Firing	L										✓	
1:30-3 PM	Lunch and Rest	Same Schedule for all days											
3-5 PM	Holistic Health and Food Talk	A	✓										D E P A R T U R E
	Wheel Work	R		✓	✓								
	Pickle Making Workshop	R				✓							
	Dance Movement Therapy	I					✓	✓					
	Zentangle Workshop	V							✓				
	Macramé Workshop	A								✓			
	Henna Session	L										✓	
5-6 PM	Studio Wind up & Tea	Same Schedule for all days											
6-8 PM	Orientation and Studio Tour	✓											U R E
	DYOT, Batik or Drum Circle		Same Schedule for all days										
8-9 PM	Dinner	Same Schedule for all days											
9-10 PM	Interaction	Same Schedule for all days											
10 PM	Lights Out	Same Schedule for all days											

*DYOT: Do Your Own Thing

Calendar

The pottery retreat calendar is as follows for 2019:

- **MARCH 2019:** Friday 08th to Sunday 17th
- **APRIL 2019:** Friday 12th to Sunday 21st
- **MAY 2019:** Friday 10th to Sunday 19th
- **JUNE 2019:** Friday 07th to Sunday 16th
- **JULY 2019:** Friday 12th to Sunday 21st
- **AUGUST 2019:** Friday 09th to Sunday 18th
- **SEPTEMBER 2019:** Friday 13th to Sunday 22nd
- **OCTOBER 2019:** Friday 11th to Sunday 20th

Pricing & Terms

Pricing per person for the 10 day retreat: | **INR 84000** | **\$1140** |

Please email us at hello@aurapottery.com with your preferred dates to book a retreat at Aura.

Note:

- There are only 10 spots available for each retreat
- All retreats start on a Friday and end on a Monday morning
- Lunch and dinner are included for the starting Friday
- Breakfast is included on the checking out Monday
- We request you to arrive at Aura by evening on the Friday your retreat starts

Terms:

- Meals and stay are included in the cost
- All workshop activities are included in the cost
- All material for pottery is included in the above costs
- Firing & Glazing is included for up to 1kg of work
- For additional work, a cost of INR 100 per 100 grams shall apply
- The pottery retreat must be booked and paid for in advance



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