Velas Turtle Festival

About This Experience

Velas Turtle Festival is a mesmerizing eco-tourism event in Maharashtra, where visitors can witness the heartwarming sight of baby Olive Ridley turtles hatching and making their way to the ocean. Organized by the Velas Turtle Festival Committee, this event blends wildlife conservation and adventure. Join the turtle festival, explore the historic Borkat Fort, a scenic cruise amongst with panoramic views of the Arabian Sea, and visit Harihareshwar, a serene beach town famous for its ancient Shiva temple and picturesque landscapes.

Adding to the charm of this experience is the opportunity to stay in a traditional village homestay, where you can experience the rare essence of rural life. Sleep on an open terrace under a blanket of stars, wake up to the soothing sounds of nature, and enjoy simple yet delicious home-cooked meals prepared by the local hosts. This immersive experience offers a deeper connection with nature in Velas, inviting you to be a part of a community countryside lifestyle. Whether you're a nature enthusiast, history buff, or beach lover, Velas Turtle Festival, combined with these attractions and an unforgettable homestay experience, promises a truly enriching getaway.

Highlights

- Baby turtles Hatching
- Borkat Fort
- Borkat Fort
- Harihareshwar Temple
- Village Homestay
- Authentic Kokani Food
- Travelling AC Bus

Duration: 2 Days, 1 Nights

Start Point : Mumbai / Pune/ **Destination :** Velas

Accomodation : Homestay

Difficulty Level : Easy

Best Season : March - April

PLAN IN A NUTSHELL

Day 0 — Star journey towards Velas from Mumbai/ Pune
Travelling

Day 1 — Reach Velas village
Turtle Hatching Sessions - Borkat Fort - Sunset

Day 2 — Harihareshwar Temple
Ferry Ride to Harihareshwar Temple & Beach

Meals Not Included

Stay: Homestay

Meals: All Meals

Breakfast, Lunch

INCLUSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

INCLUSIONS

- Mumbai / Pune Travelling by Pvt. AC Pushback bus
- Day 1 : Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Evening Tea
- Day 2 : Breakfast | Lunch
- Village Home Stay in Tent Stay
- Forest entry ₹200 Per person
- Ferry Charges ||
- Basic First aid|
- Guide & expertise charges.
- All entry fees

EXCLUSIONS

- Any meals and accommodation not mentioned in the package inclusions.
- Meals during the bus journey
- Any type of cold drinks, soft drinks, or mineral water.
- Any other items not specified in the inclusions.

PICK UP POINTS

PICK UP LOCATIONS	GOOGLE MAP LINK
Borivali (Mumbai)	Go To Google Maps
Andheri (Mumbai)	Go To Google Maps
Sion (Mumbai)	Go To Google Maps
Vashi	Go To Google Maps
Kalamboli MCD	
Shivajinagar (Pune)	Go To Google Maps
Wakad (Hinjewadi)	Go To Google Maps

BOOK NOW

Pricing

Mumbai To Mumbai	₹ 3499/- Per Person
Pune To Pune	₹ 3399/- Per Person
Without Transportation	₹ 2499/- Per Person

Add On Prices

Non Veg (1 Lunch / Dinner)	₹ 150/-

Booking Amount
₹ 1000/- per person

Book Now

March 14, 2026 - March 16, 2026	From: ₹ 3399/- Per Person	BOOK NOW
March 21, 2026 - March 23, 2026	From: ₹ 3399/- Per Person	BOOK NOW
March 28, 2026 - March 30, 2026	From: ₹ 3399/- Per Person	BOOK NOW
April 4, 2026 - April 6, 2026	From: ₹ 3399/- Per Person	BOOK NOW
April 11, 2026 - April 13, 2026	From: ₹ 3399/- Per Person	BOOK NOW

PLAN IN DETAIL

Day 0 — Star journey towards Velas from Mumbai/ Pune
Travelling

Meals Not Included

Day 00 - Start Journey Towards Velas from Mumbai / Pune
10:00 PM - Assemble at designated pick-up points in Mumbai/Pune and meet the MG team.
Overnight Journey – Travel to Velas in comfortable transport.

Day 1 — Reach Velas village
Turtle Hatching Sessions - Borkat Fort - Sunset

Stay: Homestay | Meals: All Meals

Day 01 - Turtle Hatching Sessions & Borkat Fort Visit

- 06:00 AM – Arrive at Velas and check into a traditional village homestay.
- 06:30 AM – Freshen up and prepare for the first visit to the turtle hatching sessions.
- 06:30 AM – Introduction session followed by witnessing the magical turtle hatching experience.
- 08:00 AM – Return to the village for a wholesome breakfast.
- 10:00 AM – Leave for Borkat Fort.
- 11:00 AM – Arrive at Borkat Fort and explore its rich history and stunning sea views.
- 12:30 PM – Begin the return journey from Borkat Fort.
- 01:00 PM – Enjoy a traditional Harihareshwar Konkani lunch at the homestay.
- 04:00 PM – Visit Velas Beach for the evening turtle hatching session.
- 08:30 PM – Relish a delicious dinner followed by a relaxing night stroll.
- 10:00 PM – Retire for the night with the unique experience of sleeping under the stars on the terrace.

Day 2 — Harihareshwar Temple
Ferry Ride to Harihareshwar Temple & Beach

Breakfast, Lunch

Day 2 - Harihareshwar Temple Visit return to home

- 06:00 AM – Wake up call for an optional first visit to Velas Beach for turtle hatching.
- 07:00 AM – Return to the homestay and enjoy breakfast.
- 09:00 AM – Depart for Harihareshwar.
- 11:30 AM – Explore the famous Harihareshwar Temple and spend time by the serene beach.
- 12:30 PM – Savour authentic Konkani delicacies at Harihareshwar Beach.
- 01:30 PM – Relax and soak in the coastal beauty.
- 02:30 PM – Begin the return journey to Mumbai/Pune.
- 10:00 PM – Arrive at Mumbai/Pune (tentative).

Important Notes:

- The **Velas Turtle Festival is a limited-time event**, attracting a high number of visitors. Early bookings are strongly recommended to secure spots.
- **Velas is a remote village** with limited infrastructure and resources. While our team will ensure you have a comfortable and enjoyable experience, we encourage you to embrace the simplicity and authenticity of village life.
- We are committed to providing everything as mentioned in the itinerary, but due to sudden surges in visitors, there might be slight variations. We request your **understanding and cooperation** as we work to make your experience memorable and seamless.
- The **turtle hatching is a natural phenomenon**, and sightings depend on nature's timing. While not guaranteed, they are highly likely during the festival period.

Join us for an **unforgettable blend of nature, history, and rural charm** at the Velas Turtle Festival 2026!

THINGS TO CARRY

- Things to Carry for Velas Turtle Festival

Essentials:
☐ Valid ID proof (Aadhar Card, PAN, Driving License)
☐ Sufficient cash (Limited ATMs available)
☐ Medicines (prescription/others)

Clothing & Accessories:
☐ Light cotton clothes (as it can be hot & humid)
☐ A light jacket or sheet (for cool evenings/nights)
☐ Comfortable trekking/sports shoes & flip-flops
☐ Sunglasses & cap/hat for sun protection

Personal Care Items:
☐ Sunscreen lotion (SPF 30+ recommended)
☐ Insect repellent/mosquito repellent
☐ Toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, etc.)
☐ Hand sanitizer & wet wipes
☐ Small towel

Food & Hydration:
☐ Reusable water bottle
☐ Dry snacks (biscuits, nuts, energy bars, etc.)
☐ Electrolyte sachets (for hydration)

Tech & Miscellaneous:
☐ Mobile phone & power bank
☐ Camera/binoculars (optional)
☐ Torch/flashlight with extra batteries
☐ Small backpack to carry essentials

Additional Items:
☐ Raincoat/poncho (if visiting during pre-monsoon)
☐ Personal medications & first-aid kit
☐ Notebook & pen (if interested in documenting the experience)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Why Harihareshwar Beach Adventure?

- DIRECT OPERATING TRESHOLDING/TBP COMPANY
- Rated 4.9 On Google
- Organized Trips for more than 5000+ travellers every year
- Experienced & fun-loving trekking leaders, guides
- Comfortable stays in decent Hotels
- A- Years of experience in industry
- Suitable for solo, group of friends & couple
- Certificate & trekking badge
- SAFE FOR SOLO WOMEN TRAVELLERS
- Delicious & hygienic meals throughout the trekking
- Like minded co-travellers

FAQs

1. What is the Velas Turtle Festival?
The Velas Turtle Festival is an annual eco-tourism event in Velas, Maharashtra, where visitors can witness the hatching and release of Olive Ridley turtle hatchlings into the sea. The festival promotes conservation and eco-tourism.
2. When does the Velas Turtle Festival take place?
The festival usually takes place between February and April, as this is the peak hatching season for Olive Ridley turtles. The exact dates vary yearly based on turtle nesting and hatching patterns.
3. Where can I stay in Velas?
Accommodation is mainly in local homestays run by villagers, offering simple but comfortable lodging with home-cooked meals. It is advisable to book in advance as the village has limited staying options.
5. What is the daily schedule of the festival?

- Early morning (6:00 AM): turtle hatchling release session
- Morning: Visit to Borkat Fort (optional)
- Exploration of Borkat Fort (optional)
- Evening (6:00 PM): turtle hatchling release session

6. Is it guaranteed that I will see turtles hatching?
No, turtle hatching is a natural process, and sightings depend on nature. However, since the hatching period lasts for weeks, chances are good if you visit on a festival weekend.
7. What should I carry for the trip?
Carry essentials like comfortable clothing, trekking shoes, a flashlight, sunscreen, a hat, a water bottle, and some snacks. A detailed list is available **[here]**.
8. Are there any rules I should follow during the festival?
Yes, since this is a conservation initiative, visitors must follow these guidelines:

- Maintain silence near the hatchling sites.
- Flash photography is strictly prohibited.
- Avoid making loud noises near the beach.
- Do not litter; carry back your waste.

9. Can I swim at Velas Beach?
No swimming is not advisable due to strong currents and conservation efforts.
10. Are there any nearby attractions?
Yes, you can visit:

- Borkat Fort – A historic fort with scenic views.
- **Harihareshwar Beach & Temple** – A spiritual and serene beachside spot.
- **Dhneger Beach** – Another beautiful beach near Velas.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- The company shall not be held liable for any additional charges incurred due to events such as accidents, vehicle breakdowns, riots, or train delays.
- Additional fees may apply if the government issues new guidelines regarding hotel stays or transportation.
- Travel plans may be subject to change by the manager for the convenience of participants.
- During the trip, the manager reserves the right to dismiss any individual who disrupts the harmony of the group. The company disclaims responsibility for any sightseeing cancellations resulting from natural disasters or man-made incidents.
- Maharashtra Darshn will not be accountable for any false or incorrect information provided to government authorities.
- Personal belongings are at the sole responsibility of the customer(s).
- Customers must provide accurate and complete travel information, and any resulting consequences or additional charges will be borne by the customer.
- Customers are required to submit photo ID proof for all travelers at the time of booking.
- Final seating arrangements will be determined by the leader for the convenience of all participants.
- Smoking and drinking are strictly prohibited.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- In case of cancellation from the organiser's end (due to Lockdown, Or any Natural calamities including pandemics, thunderstorms, floods, landslides, earthquakes, bad weather or unexpected political unrest, terrorism activity, curfews, riots, or government restrictions) the entire amount will be fully refunded.
- In case a client wishes to change the trek date, Maharashtra Desha Adventure reserves the right to do so, provided the request is made 30 days/prior to the initial departure date.
- **Booking amount is Non-Refundable.**
- Refunds will be made within 7-14 working days from the date of cancellation
- The refund amount will be calculated from the total fee, in case any partial payment has been made.
- No refund is applicable on cancellation if Advance Amount is Paid to Book the Trek.Cancellation charges are based on the total trek fee, irrespective of the amount paid either full or partial.
- **If the cancellation is from the client's end at any point of time post the registration refund will be provided as per the details mentioned below:**

1. Cancellation made 14 days before the trek/ Trip - 50% refund
2. Cancellation made between 07 days to 13 days before the trek- 30% cash refund
3. Cancellation made between 07 days or less before the trek - No Refund.
4. If the Cancellation is made on the Starting day of the trek or there is no Show on the start day of trek, there will be No Refund

ABOUT YOUR HOSTS

Our Story - Maharashtra Desha Adventure

Trekking / Travel Company based in Mumbai / Pune we organise treks in Maharashtra / Himalayas India.
Also we organise Backpacking Trips in Maharashtra and all over India.Maharashtra Desha Adventure was established in 2017. As Traveller ourselves, we believe in giving adventure activity yet be responsible.

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