

Embassy of India
Rome



भारत का राजदूतावास
रोम

Embassy of India, Rome

Press Release

Celebration of 8th International Day of Yoga

The 8th International Day of Yoga celebrations organized by the Embassy of India in Rome were held in a hybrid modality in order to maximize reach and give the possibility to everyone to participate and enjoy the benefits deriving from a daily Yoga practice.

Online conferences and Yoga and meditation practices started on June 13 in collaboration with fourteen yoga associations and schools and are being streamed live daily on the social media channels of the Embassy of India till June 26.

This year, the series of 'in presence' Common Yoga Sessions started in **San Marino** on June 10 with an open Yoga practice organized in synergy with the Government of San Marino. Amb Dr Neena Malhotra & H.H. Andrea Belluzzi, Secretary of State (Edu & Culture) inaugurated the event, joined by Yoga enthusiasts. Six local Yoga schools took part in leading the practice and the event was enriched by a special Yoga session for children, as a follow up of the steps taken by Government of San Marino to introduce yoga in the schools of the country.

In-presence celebrations in the Italian territory started on Sunday, June 19 in the Island of **Procida**, Italian Capital of Culture for the year 2022. Yoga session was held at the sea port of Procida and was followed by Indian concert by Edward Feldman (tabla) and Renata Frana (dhruba). The event was organized in collaboration with Orientale University of Naples in the framework of the Festival Maya and under the patronage of the Municipality of Procida.

Celebrations were organized all over Italy on the day of the Summer Solstice. Mission in Rome patronized and contributed directly to the celebrations

organized by local schools in the city of **Palermo** and in the towns of **Montevarchi (Arezzo)** and **Bisceglie**, where hundreds of participants followed the lesson in the backdrop of the sea.

Celebration in **Rome**, held at the Castel Sant'Angelo, one of the most important sites in the city center, which saw participation of hundreds of Yoga enthusiasts. In the magnificent backdrop of the Castle, the representatives of 10 yoga associations united on the stage to perform the common yoga protocol. Organized with the support of the Municipality of Rome, the event was opened by the remarks of the Ambassador Dr Neena Malhotra, followed by the President of the City Council of Rome Capitale in representation of the Hon'ble Mayor and Hon'ble Senator Lucio Malan. Senior representatives of the Rome-based Diplomatic Community, including various Ambassadors and DCMs, graced the occasion, showing an increased and palpable enthusiasm, attending the Yoga practice and joining on the stage, wearing the Yoga TShirt, to greet the participants. Also this year, the Yoga session was marked by participation of people from all the sectors of society, including elderly as well as young yoga enthusiasts, priests, representatives of the diplomatic community, expats, etc. In order to best mark the ongoing celebration of the 75th year of India's independence and the International Day of Music, the Yoga session was followed by a traditional music performance, a SUMMER RAGA by Apratim Majumdar (sarod) & Amit Chatterjee (tabla) - the inaugural event of the Summer Mela Festival, at its tenth edition.

The Yoga practices in celebration of IDY concluded on June 22 in **Florence**, where an engaging yoga session was organized in the backdrop of the stunning panorama from Piazzale Michelangelo. Celebration was organized in association with local Yoga associations and with the collaboration of the City authorities who suggested and granted the use of the iconic location of Piazzale Michelangelo, one of the main touristic spots of Florence offering an incredible panoramic view on the domes of the city.

All the events received a very good response and achieved a resounding success among the Italian public and Yoga lovers.