Accommodations & Travel Guide for SRIM Programs with Amma Sri Karunamayi

September 7-20, 2023
285 Julie Lane, SRIM Center, Forsyth, GA - 31029

Travel Guide

Airline Tickets

- Closest airport is Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, which is about 50 miles north of SRIM Center.
- Availability on most airlines can be found online at kayak.com, travelocity.com and individual airline websites. It may be possible to get lower fares by searching for alternative times/dates, and allowing additional stops. Airline miles may be used to book flight tickets.
- Smaller airlines such as Southwest and Frontier offer bookings only through their own websites.
- Ticket prices usually go up closer to the date of travel, so it is advisable to book as early as possible.

Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport

International and domestic terminals are adjacent to each other but have access from different interstates (I-75 for International terminal, and I-85 or I-285 for Domestic Terminals). Please click on the following link to get familiar with the domestic and international terminal maps:

Transportation

The drive from airport to hotels or SRIM Center in the city of Forsyth is directly off Interstate 75 south. The SRIM Center is located about 45 minutes to one hour DEPENDING UPON TRAFFIC from Hartsfield International Airport. Rush hour is from around 6 AM to 10 AM and from 2PM to 7PM.

Available Options

There are 2 main options:

1. Renting a car at the airport: This option allows maximum flexibility, convenience, cost efficiency if traveling in pairs and independence for traveling to and from airport, as well as locally between hotel and SRIM Center.

2. Traveling in shuttles: Groome Transportation is recommended for traveling between airport and Forsyth; we do not recommend cab services due to the exorbitant cost involved. For travel between hotel and SRIM Center, transportation will be available at fixed times in the morning and in the night for a modest fee.

You may research Uber and Lyft as an option but it is has very minimal availability in and to the Forsyth, GA area. We are hopeful this will grow in the future. Uber Lady Jeanette does provide services from the Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport and she can be reached at 678-952-6865.

Car Rental at Atlanta airport

There are numerous car rental agencies at Atlanta Airport. Complete list is available at: http://atlanta-atl.worldairportguides.com/car_rental.php

Groome Transportation

Shuttles run daily between Atlanta airport and the city of Macon which is about 20-30 miles south of Forsyth, GA. They leave the airport almost every hour. There is a scheduled stop enroute at exit 186 Ingles Grocery store parking lot at 260 Tift College Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029. The SRIM Center is about 9 miles from Ingles.
Unfortunately none of the hotels in Forsyth have shuttle services to pick people up from the Ingles parking lot. The Groome website -
https://groometransportation.com/macon/?&sd_client_id=ff67165d-9b30-4000-a282-a5d252428592
provides information about the schedule and fees; reservations are required to ride their shuttles. Please make sure that you request to be dropped off in Forsyth at the time of making your reservation.

For return to airport, Ingles Grocery store parking lot will be the only boarding point for shuttles. The fee for adults is $37 one way and $74 round trip and children 3 to 7 is $26 one way and $52 round trip. Infants ride free.

**Georgia law requires** CHILDREN under 8, less than 57 inches tall and weighing less than 40 must have a car seat to ride in the shuttle—please bring the car seat. Groome does not provide care seats.

PLEASE NOTE: You MUST contact Groome shuttle 24 hours in advance of your pickup time in the Ingles Parking lot for your return trip home.

Travel time on shuttle is about an hour between Atlanta airport and Forsyth; and about ½ hour between Forsyth and Macon. If traffic is heavy or if you are traveling at rush hour, please allow extra time.

**Reservations:** Advanced bookings are HIGHLY recommended to reserve your space in the shuttles. Please call Groome Transportation at 800-537-7903 or 478-471-1616 to make your reservations or you may make them online.

When booking your return shuttle to the airport, please allow plenty of time before check-in. Plan on checking-in at least 2 hours in advance for domestic flights and 3 hours in advance for international flights. Peak hour traffic on the highway may cause significant delays in getting to the airport. Please note that in 2019 there is construction at the Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport that might impact the amount of time required for you to get to your gate.
Finding Groome Shuttle at the airport: Directions to get to your Groome shuttle can be found at: 
https://groometransportation.com/faq/#gt-find

From shuttle stop to your hotel
Groome transportation shuttles drop off point is exit 186 Ingles Grocery Store parking lot in the city of Forsyth. If you are staying in a local hotel, you may avail of the following cab service to arrive at your hotel.

INDEPENDENT DRIVER: Nancy Sims: 478-972-8838
Nominal charge for a destination hotel stop. Nancy provides local transportation only.
PLEASE give Nancy advance notice of your arrival so she can plan accordingly.

UBER: Jeanette Uber Lady: 678-952-6865
Jeanette does airport and local transportation. Book your slot with her in advance.

Event transportation
We are offering an informal shuttle service to and from 6 different hotels 2 hours before and after program start and ending times. The 6 hotels include: Quality Inn, Days Inn, LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Holiday Inn Express, Red Roof Inn and Hampton Inn. Each driver will make continuous loops between the hotels in their zone. Zone 1 is Quality Inn, Days Inn and LaQuinta Inn & Suites. Zone 2 is Holiday Inn Express, Red Roof Inn and Hampton Inn.

The morning shuttles will run loops for about 2 hours before the programs start. The first shuttle will depart from the SRIM Center about 45 minutes after the program ends. These are the only shuttles offered by the Center.
We kindly request that participants who are driving to the events or renting cars at the Atlanta airport offer rides to back and forth to the SRIM Center to others staying at your same hotel.

If you want to go back to your hotel or another location at other times, you will need to make arrangements. Nancy Sims, an independent drive, and Jeanette Uber Lady are available for a nominal fee to drive you to your hotel, Walmart or grocery stores, etc. Contact them in advance to make arrangements - Nancy at 478-972-8838 and Jeanette - 678-952-6865.

The SRIM Center is offering this a complimentary service and does not accept liability for the shuttles.

Communications

A WhatsApp group has been created for program communications, logistical announcements, last minute updates, ridesharing, room sharing, etc., and everyone who registers will be invited to join the group. The name of the Group is Amma SRIM Programs Sept 8-14. A separate group will be created for the International Student Retreat and the name of that group is Amma SRIM Programs Sept 15-17.

Accommodations

There are many hotels located within 10 – 12 miles from SRIM Center. Please find your choices in the accommodations guide given below:

Each hotel has blocked a fixed number, a block, of rooms to be offered at discounted rates under “SRIM2023” code for attendees. Once these are filled up, regular rates will be charged for the remaining rooms. Kindly contact the hotel directly to make your reservations. See the hotel information provided as the booking and cancellation requirements vary by provider. We recommend that you book your hotel reservations early. If you’ve already booked your room without using SRIM code, be sure to call the hotel and request that the code be
applied to your booking. In most hotels, you will be able to hold a booking with your credit card and cancel up to a few days in advance without incurring cancellation fees. Please check with each hotel as to their cancellation policies as these will vary by provider.

**Program Attire**

Modest and comfortable white, loose-fitting clothing is recommended for all 2023 programs and is required for the International Student Retreat. This includes tops with sleeves and long pants. Participants may choose to wear traditional Indian clothing of saris for women and dhotis for men for the September 8th homa with Amma Sri Karunamayi. The bookstore carries some of these items but not all sizes may be available.

**Miscellaneous**

- Three meals a day will be provided for the Ayurveda retreat and International Student Retreat. Breakfast and a late lunch will be available on September 8th for the homa. Unfortunately, we are not able to accommodate special diet needs but a variety of food will be offered.
- Yagnashala is a shoe free zone. Please choose comfortable footwear that can be taken off and put on easily.
- As the weather may be hot, you may carry with you change of clothes to the event, if you wish.
- You may want to bring pillows, second pair of shoes, cushions, backpacks, umbrellas/ponchos, shawl, pen and paper for taking notes, chanting books, flashlight, small dollar bills...
- Forsyth has restaurants, gas stations, drug stores, and Walmart supercenter, all in the vicinity of the hotels. The Walmart is located off exit 187 and Ingles grocery store is at exit 186—these exits are off I-75. Exit 187 provides the quickest access to downtown Forsyth square.
• Please take precautions with your valuables, airline tickets and passports. Contact the hotel front desk where you are staying to see if they can store them securely for you.

Contact Information

Accommodation & Transportation Inquiries:
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