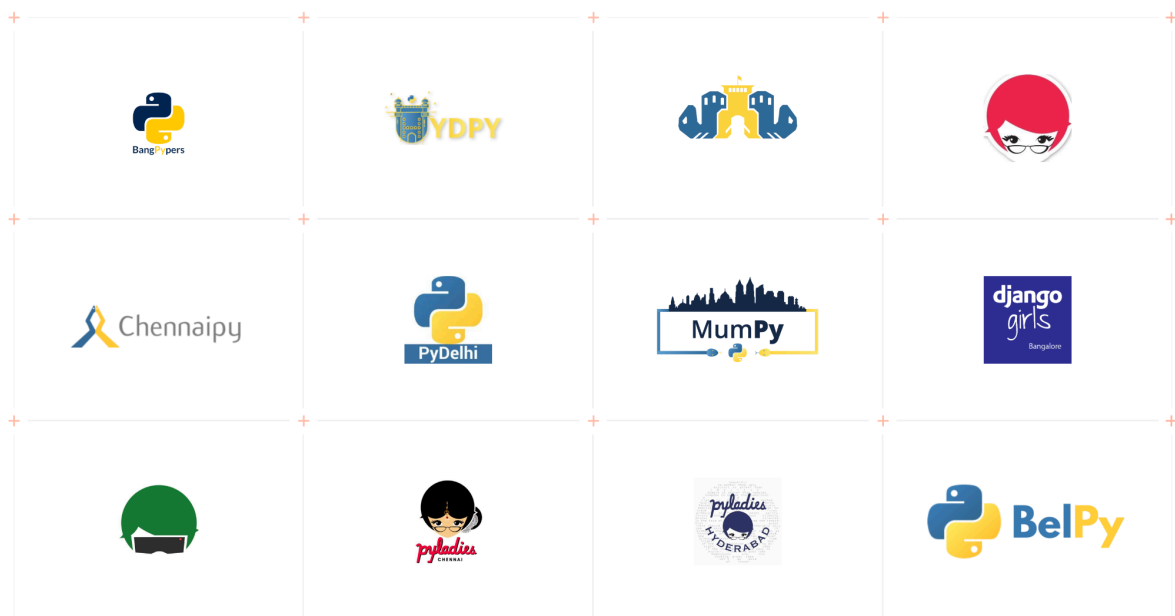PyCon APAC 2025 in India

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Introduction

PyCon India, since its inception in 2009, has been a yearly pilgrimage of the Python community in India. Every year, thousands of people from all across India come to meet old friends, make new ones, and learn something. We just concluded PyCon India 2024, the 15th edition of PyCon India, with over 1200 attendees, 50+ speakers, four inspiring keynotes, panel discussions, and so many other activities for everyone.

PyCon APAC is a unique opportunity to gather brilliant Python minds from all over the Asia Pacific region. We would love to use this platform to introduce SEA countries to the Indian subcontinent and its rich culture. We have many vibrant local Python user groups who would also love to get involved. From bringing new ideas and taking new initiatives to share their knowledge and experience, they would be very excited to promote the language and introduce new people to the community we all love.

About Python User Groups in India

BangPypers, PythonPune, HydPy, PyDelhi, ChennaiPy, and MumbaiPy are some of the most active Python user groups. In addition to local PyData, PyLadies India, and other local Pyladies, local Djangogirls communities in India have a vibrant local presence and ground-level engagement amongst Python communities.

On-Site Team and Volunteers

Role	Name	Previous Experience
Chair	Nabarun Pal	- PyCon India 2024 - Co-chair - PyCon India 2020-2021 - Technology Working Group Lead - Kubernetes Maintainer and Steering Committee - Elected Member
Co-chair & Program Committee Lead	Bhavin Gandhi	- PyCon India 2024 - Co-chair - PyCon India 2019-2023 - Volunteer across multiple working groups - Organizer of PythonPune Local User Group
Co-chair & Finance Lead	Ananyo Maiti	- PyCon India 2023-2024 - Tickets and Platforms Lead, Program Committee Member - PyCon India 2018 - Technology WG Lead - PyConf Hyderabad 2017, 2019 - Technology Lead - Co-organizer of Hyderabad Python Users Group
Sponsorship Lead	Abhishek Mishra	- PyCon India 2023-2024 - Sponsorship Lead - PSF Fellow - PyCon India 2019-2021 - Volunteer in various working groups - Organizer of MumPy Local User Group
Venue & Logistics Lead	Bibhas Debnath	- PyCon India 2024 - Venue & Logistics Lead - PyCon India 2012-2015 - Volunteer across multiple working groups
CoC Committee Lead	Shabnam	PyCon India 2024 - Code of Conduct Committee, Design Working Group

		and Track Host
Content Lead	Nikhil Maan	- PyCon India 2021-2024 - Content Lead - PyCon India 2020 volunteer - PyDelhi organizer
Operations Lead	Pratik Anurag	- PyCon India 2024 - Operations Lead - PyCon India 2023 - Volunteer
Emeritus Advisors	Sayan Chowdhury	- PyCon India 2020 - Chair - PSF Fellow - PSF Grants WG - EuroPython Sponsorship Team - PyCon India Organizer since 2012
	Kumar Anirudha	- PyCon India 2024 - Chair - PyCon India 2021 - Co-chair - PyCon India 2020-2021 - Program Lead - Organizer for BangPypers since 2016 - DjangoGirls BLR Organizer since 2015

Historically, PyCon India has been conducted by various Python Local User Groups - BangPypers, PythonPune, PyDelhi, HydPy, and ChennaiPy. Volunteers from all the chapters participate in each of the events. It will be the same for PyCon APAC when it happens in India.

Conference History

Title	Location	Dates	Attendees	Sessions	Sponsors
PyCon India 2024	Bengaluru	September 20-23	1200+	60+	16
PyCon India 2023	Hyderabad	September 29 - Oct 2	1200+	50+	18
PyCon India 2021	Online	September 17-20	2100+	60	7
PyCon India 2020	Online	October 2-5	2100+	60	11
PyCon India 2019	Chennai	October 12-15	~1200	64	41
PyCon India 2018	Hyderabad	October 5-9	1400+	51	24
PyCon India 2017	New Delhi	November 2-5	~900	45	8
PyCon India 2016	New Delhi	September 23-25	~800	39	8
PyCon India 2015	Bengaluru	October 2-4	1200+	43	10
PyCon India 2014	Bengaluru	September 26-28	1200+	32	10
PyCon India 2013	Bengaluru	August 30 - Sep 1	1100+	34	14
PyCon India 2012	Bengaluru	September 28-30	650+	52	12
PyCon India 2011	Pune	September 16-18	700	27	7
PyCon India 2010	Bengaluru	September 25-26	~300	56	6
PyCon India 2009	Bengaluru	September 26-27	~300	44	9

Potential Sponsors

PyCon India has been a widely popular event for international and local sponsors. We expect the same for PyCon APAC happening in India. Most of our sponsors have been big multinational companies. There are only a few domestic companies.

Past International Sponsors from the last 5 editions

- HappyFox (2024, 2023, 2019)
- Bloomberg Engineering (2024, 2023, 2019)
- Python Software Foundation (2024)
- Zeomega (2024, 2023, 2019, 2018)
- Red Hat (2024, 2023, 2020, 2019)
- Neo4j (2023)
- Google (2023, 2018)
- Microsoft (2020, 2019)
- GitHub (2020)
- AWS (2019)
- Indeed (2019, 2018)
- IBM (2021, 2018)
- VMware (2018)

Proposed Dates

The following dates are the best suited according to the festival schedule:
1. Sep 19, 20, 21, 22
2. Oct 24, 25, 26,27

One of the days above will be earmarked for the workshops, two days for the conference tracks, and one day reserved for the Developer Sprints. We have plans to organize a CPython sprint by inviting CPython Core Developers to the conference.

Day 1   3-5 parallel workshop tracks and 2 sessions per track

Day 2   3-5 (depending on the choice of venue) parallel talk tracks in English recorded and uploaded later to YouTube

Day 3   3-5 (depending on the choice of venue) parallel talk tracks in English recorded and uploaded later to YouTube

Day 4   Developer Sprints

Potential Keynotes

We have a list of keynote speakers who were interested this year but couldn't come by due to other commitments. We will reach out to them again early next year to check their availability. We want to consider the privacy of the potential speakers and, hence, cannot publicly share the list without their explicit consent.

We have a couple of CPython Core Developers based out of India. We plan to reach out to them for keynotes.

Year	Speakers
2024	Mars Lee · Kovid Goyal · Usha Rengaraju · James Powell
2023	Cheuk Ting Ho · Jessica Greene · Marcelo Trylesinski · Rushabh Mehta · Shailesh Kumar
2021	Sebastian Ramirez · Alolita Sharma · Dr. Ajith Kumar B P · Luciano Ramalho
2020	James Powell · Naomi Ceder · S Anand · Terri Oda · Victor Stinner
2019	David Beazley · Ines Montani · Jake VanderPlas · Devi A S L
2018	Carol Willing · Travis E. Oliphant · Armin Ronacher · Sidu Ponnappa
2017	Peter Wang · Noufal Ibrahim · Elizabeth Ferrao
2016	Baishampayan Ghose · Andreas Mueller · Van Lindberg
2015	Nicholas H.Tollervey · Dr Ajith Kumar B.P
2014	Kushal Das · Michael Foord
2013	Kiran Jonnalagadda · Kenneth Reitz
2012	David Mertz · Jacob Kaplan-Moss
2011	Raymond Hettinger
2010	David Goodger

Conference Agenda

The conference will have the following program items:

- Keynotes
- Talks
- Workshops
- Developer Sprints
- Lightning Talks
- Open Spaces
- Poster Presentations

Aside from that, we plan the following social items:

- Speaker/Sponsor/Volunteer Dinner. We have been doing this for multiple years in the past.
- All Attendee Mixer.
- Social events like beatboxing performances, animal flow workout sessions, etc.
- PyLadies Luncheon. This is a tradition in PyCon India.
- Sponsor Booth Crawl and Showcase.

Expected Differences from other PyCon APAC conferences

- Discounted tickets for students enrolled in full-time educational programs.
- Scholarships for attendees and speakers-in-need to support their travel, accommodation, and conference tickets.
- Workshops and Developer Sprints.
- Local meetup groups help promote the event by conducting events like "Road to PyCon APAC". In the past, we conducted them under the name of PyFlames.
- Poster presentations for promoting the use of Python in higher education and research.
- Community Booths for Python chapters and friends like Django, PyLadies, and DjangoGirls for them to promote their activities.

Venue

The proposed venue is NIMHANS Convention Centre, Bengaluru. It's centrally located in the city and well connected via metro, train, and road. The venue is spread across two floors. A detailed map of the venue can be seen on our 2024 website: https://in.pycon.org/2024/venue/. The venue is inside an Institute of National Importance as mandated by the Government of India. The cost of the venue is fractional compared to other commercial venues like hotels or resorts.

The venue has enough total capacity for talk rooms, training rooms, plenary sessions, booth space, and catering/restaurants, if possible, including room plans. There are three halls which can host regular talks and keynotes with the following capacities:

1. Hall 1: 1100
2. Hall 2: 220
3. Hall 3: 200

The halls are equipped with spotlights, focus lights, handheld mics, lapel mics, and secondary screens for presentation notes.

Open Space sessions can be organized in 3 smaller rooms with capacities of 50 people each.

The Sponsor Expo area can easily accommodate 25 sponsors with varying booth sizes. In addition to that, there are large open areas to accommodate around 20 communities and several poster presentations.

All the regular track sessions will be recorded, captioned, and uploaded to YouTube for future viewers. These recordings go through multiple rounds of post-processing.

Dedicated internet is provided to speakers, sponsors, and event staff for the smooth functioning of the event. The venue has two internet connections - 300 and 400 Mbps each, in addition to a separate leased line for uninterrupted internet. We will set up access points to provide seamless connectivity to attendees.

Catering

The catering for the conference will be held at the venue itself. We will have Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Snacks, and all day running Coffee/Tea/Biscuits for all attendees.

Other Venue Options

KTPO

If we scale the event to 2000 or more, then KTPO is a good venue. Located in Whitefield Bengaluru, over an area of 48.35 acres, it's an air-conditioned exhibition hall spanning 5371 sq mts. with 11 open exhibition halls, each with an area of 38 sq mts.
We can run 3-4 main tracks in parallel with a minimum capacity of 1000 people in each. Or we can use the 2000 capacity main hall and 2 additional halls with a capacity of 1000 people each.. In addition to it, there are few more halls we can block with a capacity of 250, 100, and 40 capacity for smaller sessions to run in parallel. There's an outside food area and parking available for more than 10k cars.
This venue is close to many hotels and restaurants and well connected with the metro and road.

Sheraton

If we look for a venue with a luxurious setting that's able to accommodate up to 2000 people , there is no better place than the Sheraton Convention Center. The place is very well maintained. A complete capacity chart and floor plans can be found here: https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/blrsw-sheraton-grand-bengaluru-whitefield-hotel-and-convention-center/events/

BIEC

BIEC comprises five state-of-the-art exhibition halls, a conference center, and a multi-level food court with a combined total of 77,200 sq mts. of covered exhibit space and 5,600 sq mts. of conference space. The halls range from 6,000 sq mts. to 17,500 sq mts. in a single level making BIEC one of the largest exhibition centre in the country.
The hall capacity chart can be found here: https://www.biec.in/capacity_chart
The complete pricing can be found here:
https://www.biec.in/images/PDF/Rate_Card_2024-2025.pdf

Transportation

Bengaluru is connected to the world and the rest of India by all means of transport. Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru is the 3rd largest airport in India with connections to 102 cities, both international and domestic. Bengaluru also has multiple railway stations connecting it to all major hubs in India.

By Plane - Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru

If you're arriving by air, the Bengaluru International Airport serves as your gateway to Bengaluru. Various Indian airlines operate flights to this airport, including Air India, Air India Express, Indigo Airlines, Akasa Air, and SpiceJet.

By Train – YPR Or KSR Bengaluru City Junction

For those opting for train travel, Indian Railways offer services to Bengaluru from different parts of India. Major railway stations include Yeshwanthpur Junction YPR or KSR Bengaluru City Junction. KSR City Junction is a significant hub for trains to South and North India.

For more comprehensive travel information and options, please refer to the Bengaluru Wiki Page.

Accommodation

There are multiple accommodation options near the venue with reasonable commute times. We have a detailed guide here: https://in.pycon.org/2024/bengaluru/#accommodation

About the City - Bengaluru

The earliest records of a place named 'Bengaluru' are found in a 9th-century temple in an area that is now known as 'Old Bangalore'. Legend has it that the feudal lord Kempe Gowda was once hunting in this area, when a rabbit turned and attacked his dog. This made a great impression on Gowda and he gave the place a title of *gandu bhoomi* (the place of heroes) and in 1537, with the assistance of the local king, he constructed three districts protected by a walled fort on the site.

During the next three centuries, Bangalore existed very much in the shadow of its neighboring city Mysore, and control of the town changed hands many times. The year 1831 marked a major turning point for the city. Claiming misrule by the king Krishna Raja Wodeyar III, the British took control of the Mysore Kingdom and, possibly influenced by the city's salubrious climate, moved the administrative capital to Bangalore. New telecommunication systems were laid, rail connections built, fine government buildings constructed, and the city's famous parks and gardens established. After independence, Bangalore maintained its position as the Karnataka state capital and continues to flourish.

For many years, Bangalore was known throughout India as the greenest, liberal and forward-thinking city. In recent years, these attributes have propelled Bangalore to the forefront of the high-tech industry boom in India, and it currently ranks as India's most developed city and one of the world's fastest-growing urban areas.

The name Bangalore appears to come from an Anglicisation of the native name "Bengaluru" - an adaptation of the earlier name in Kannada: *Benda Kaalu Uru* (The Town of Boiled Beans). Apparently this rather humble name was bequeathed to the city by King Vira Ballala. Once while lost in the area, he was offered boiled beans by an old woman, and it was out of gratitude that he named the area after this simple offering. This story is questionable however and a more authentic source is the earliest reference to the name "Bengalūru", which was found in a ninth-century Western Ganga Dynasty stone inscription on a "vīra gallu" (ವೀರಗಲ್ಲು) (literally, "hero stone", a rock edict extolling the virtues of a warrior). In this inscription found in Begur, "Bengalūrū" is referred to as a place in which a battle was fought in 890 CE. It states that the place was part of the Ganga Kingdom until 1004 and was known as "Bengaval-uru", the "City of Guards" in Halegannada (Old Kannada).

Bengaluru is a city famous for its amazing food, gardens, and lakes. It is considered to be one of the fastest-growing global major metropolises. There are plenty of activities to be done in the city. We have written a guide for our 2024 conference attendees here: https://in.pycon.org/2024/bengaluru/#places-to-must-visit

Visa

The Government of India has launched an e-Visa scheme for the nationals of more than 166 Countries to visit India by using the new e-Visa services applying online from their own Countries. All visitors except those belonging to visa-exempt countries are legally required to hold a valid India travel visa.

The e-Visa services will allow citizens of the following countries/territories who have ordinary passports to obtain the e-Visa (other than some exceptional cases). You can read more about e-Visa here: [Eligible Country for Indian e-Visa in 2024](#)

More details on Conference Visa can be found here: [Frequently Asked Questions relating to Conference Visa](#)

Visa on Arrival

Visa-on-Arrival facility is available to the citizens of Japan, South Korea, and UAE. Please refer to the [Visa on Arrival](#) guidelines.

Budget

The budget for the PyCon India 2024 was approximately USD 100,000. We have gotten around USD 128,000 in revenue. We plan to use the excess budget for improving the future PyCon events in India. As a principle, we don't aim to earn any money from the conference. Whatever excess is left for a particular conference year is earmarked for the next conference budget.

Following is a roundup of the budget for different attendee counts:

Attendees (approximately)	Budget (in USD)	Differences from 2024
200	30,000	Smaller Venue
800	75,000	Current Venue
1200	100,000	Current Venue
2000	500,000	Larger Venue

We will hold a budget call early next year after considering logistics costs. Post that we will continue doing monthly check-ins to make sure our budget is on track. We invite the PAC to attend those meetings as well. Post every year's conference, we publish our financial reports for the event to the community.

Code of Conduct

PyCon APAC in India will follow the PyCon India Code of Conduct, which can be found here: https://in.pycon.org/2024/code-of-conduct/. The PyCon India Code of Conduct is derived from the Django Code of Conduct and PSF Code of Conduct.

We have been publishing our conference transparency reports since 2023.