

Rota Camp 2025: A Journey of Teamwork, Adventure, and Culture
District No. 3192
Trip Dates: 6th February 2025 – 9th February 2025
Organized by: Rotaract Club of Udyog Bangalore
Destination: Dandeli, Karnataka
Group Size: 160 Rotaractors from various Rotary Clubs in Bangalore
Rotaractors from Yenepoya : 18

1. Introduction

The "Rota Camp 2025" was an adventurous and memorable trip organized by the Rotaract Club of Udyog Bangalore under District 3192. This trip aimed to bring together Rotaractors from different clubs across Bangalore for an immersive experience of teamwork, fun, and exploration in Dandeli. The itinerary was packed with exciting activities like water sports, team-building games, trekking, cultural performances, and more. The trip offered a perfect blend of adventure, learning, and fun in the serene wilderness of Dandeli.

Out of the 160 Rotaractors participating in the event, **18 Rotaractors were from the Rotaract Club of Yenepoya**, adding to the diversity and enthusiasm of the group.

2. Travel Details

On 6th February 2025, at 11:00 PM, 160 Rotaractors set off from Bangalore in three semi-sleeper buses, two from Majestic and one from Nagasandra. The journey began with a sense of excitement, as the buses were filled with music and enthusiasm. Several stops were made for breaks, dinner, and other necessities, allowing participants to stretch and socialize. As the night passed, the atmosphere in the buses became lively, with people dancing and singing to music. This created a bond among the participants even before reaching the destination.

3. Arrival in Dandeli

The journey continued overnight, and the group arrived at Dandeli at around 9:00 AM on 7th February 2025. The drive took the group through the dense forests of Dandeli, offering glimpses of the rich flora and fauna that awaited them. After traveling 50 kilometers through thick jungle, the buses finally reached their destination: Green Valley Resort. Upon arrival at 10:00 AM, the group was briefed with safety instructions and conducted a headcount before proceeding to check-in. The group was accommodated in a combination of cottages and tents at the resort. After freshening up, everyone gathered for breakfast before diving into the thrilling activities planned for the day.

4. Activities at Dandeli

Water Activities on Kali River

One of the most exhilarating parts of the trip was the series of water activities on the Kali River. Known for its crystal-clear waters and scenic beauty, the river provided the perfect setting for adventure-filled experiences.

- **River Rafting:** Participants were divided into groups and navigated the rapids of Kali River. The rush of the waves and the teamwork needed to paddle through the river created a thrilling experience for everyone.
- **Swimming:** After rafting, many enjoyed a refreshing swim in the calm sections of the river, providing a peaceful escape in the midst of the adventure.
- **Kayaking:** Some participants paddled solo or in pairs along the river, taking in the stunning natural surroundings and enjoying the serenity of the water.
- **Zorbing:** For added fun, participants rolled across the river in large inflatable balls, an amusing and lighthearted activity that had everyone laughing.

These activities not only brought excitement but also highlighted the beauty of Kali River and the importance of conserving natural water sources. Expert instructors ensured safety throughout, making this a memorable and bonding experience for all.

Inauguration Ceremony

In the afternoon, the Rota Camp 2025 inauguration ceremony was held, officially marking the beginning of the event. The ceremony featured speeches by the District Head, Host Club President, Secretary, and the Chair of the Camp. The spirit of the camp was set in motion with enthusiastic participation and excitement that lasted until 9:00 PM.

Cultural Performances and Mafia Night

After dinner, a special tribal dance performance by the locals of Dandeli was held for an hour, providing a unique cultural experience. Following the performance, everyone gathered for a fun-filled session of Mafia Night, a popular group game that had everyone laughing and strategizing into the late hours. The night concluded with a relaxing sleep at around 2:00 AM, knowing an adventurous day awaited them the next morning.

5. Trekking and Team Activities

Morning Trekking in the Forest

On 8th February 2025, at 6:00 AM, the group woke up early to embark on a trek through the dense forest of Dandeli. The fresh air and lush greenery of the forest made it a refreshing experience for everyone.

Team-Building Games

Back at the resort, the participants were divided into 10 teams, with members who were previously unknown to each other. This encouraged everyone to work together and foster team spirit. The activities included:

- **Monkey Climbing**
- **Skipping**
- **Swimming**
- **Tug of War** (the highlight of the day)

These games helped participants build teamwork and camaraderie. The competition was fierce, with each team striving to be the best in the camp. Along with the games, there were also competitions for **Miss Rota Camp** and **Mr. Rota Camp**, which were awarded to those who actively participated in all activities.

6. Valedictory Ceremony and Celebration

In the evening of 8th February, the valedictory ceremony was held, where the achievements of the participants were celebrated. The hosts and volunteers who made the trip successful were recognized and awarded gifts. The winners of the competitions, including **Mr. and Miss Rota Camp**, were announced, and prizes were given to the best teams. The night ended with a grand pool party followed by a campfire, where everyone gathered around, sang songs, and shared memories from the trip. The party continued late into the night, and many stayed awake, relishing the last moments of the camp.

7. Return Journey to Bangalore

On 9th February, after a final breakfast at 9:00 AM, the group packed up and boarded the buses back to Bangalore. En route, a stop was made in Dharwad for lunch, where participants had packed meals, and some opted to eat from local hotels. As the journey continued, lo-fi music played in the buses, and people reflected on the memories created during the camp. After a few more stops for breaks, the buses reached Chitradurga, where a final dance session took place on the buses. The buses finally reached Nagasandra at 12:30 AM and Majestic at 1:30 AM, where the participants disembarked, tired yet happy. Everyone reached home by 3:00 AM to 4:00 AM in the morning, with the hosts staying in touch to ensure everyone returned safely.

8. Conclusion

The Rota Camp 2025 trip to Dandeli was an overwhelming success, providing Rotaractors with a unique opportunity to learn, bond, and enjoy the beauty of nature. The trip helped build teamwork, fostered lasting friendships, and offered a refreshing break from daily life. The host club, Rotaract Club of Udyog Bangalore, did a phenomenal job in organizing the event, and every participant left with unforgettable memories and a sense of achievement.

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