11th Durga Puja to take place near Wimborne this weekend

14th October India Events Leisure Religion Dorset





By Fraser Simpson
Reporter

A celebration of Indian culture and community spirit is set to take place in Dorset this weekend.

Authentic Indian meals from local food specialists Crumbs and Curries and Coconut Chutney will be available at designated meal times.



The free-to-enter Durga Puja festival returns for the 11th year, offering five days of vibrant festivities from Saturday, October 17, to Wednesday, October 21.

Held at Horton & Chalbury Village Hall near Wimborne, the event brings a slice of Kolkata to Dorset, with traditional ceremonies, music, dance, and cultural performances.

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Organisers, the Dorset Indian Association, have been hosting the annual celebration since 2017, welcoming people from across the area to experience the traditions.

> This year, 200 to 300 or more visitors are expected to attend from Dorset, Hampshire, and surrounding areas.

The festival also includes a community charity raffle, with tickets priced at £1 each.

The draw will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday, October 21.

The event aims to celebrate not just Durga Puja's religious significance, but its role as a UNESCO-recognised cultural tradition, highlighting the triumph of good over evil.

The festival offers a chance for residents to connect with Indian culture and for the local Bengali community to celebrate their heritage.

The organisers hope to attract more local people to experience the festival.

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