

SITE VISIT TO BUDDHIST TEMPLES & CENTERS

(Facts and Figures change rapidly in Buddhist Atlanta:
Please contact the temple or center when planning your visit.)

Etiquette:

1. Wear modest, comfortable clothing (for example, no shorts, tank tops). A skirt would make the sitting posture difficult unless it is very long.
2. Do not wear any fragrances.
3. Turn your cell phones completely off.
4. Remove your shoes. (Where and when will vary. Please attend to the practices of the site you choose. This will happen soon upon your arrival.
5. Arrive 5-10 minutes early. It is important that you not interrupt the session by being late.
6. Be polite.

Primarily Non-Asian Center:

Atlanta Soto Zen Center (Japanese, Soto Zen tradition)*
1167 C/D Zonolite Place, Atlanta, Georgia 30306
404-532-0040
www.aszc.org

Newcomer sessions on Wednesday's at 7 pm and Sunday's at 9 am

*They ask that when you arrive, to please introduce yourself to the attendant.

Tibetan, Karma and Kagyu Traditions and Shambhala (founded by Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche):

Shambhala Meditation Center of Atlanta
1447 Church Street
Decatur, GA 30080
(404) 370 9650
www.atlanta.shambhala.org

Tuesday Evening Open House

Join us on Tuesday evenings for meditation instruction, meditation practice, and a talk and discussion about the practice and teachings of the Shambhala Buddhist tradition.

Afterwards we invite you to have refreshments and meet some of our members.

Meditation instruction and practice: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Talk and discussion: 8:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Refreshments and conversation with Shambhala members: 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

No charge.

Sunday Morning Open House

Join us on Sunday mornings for meditation instruction, meditation practice, and a talk and discussion about the practice and teachings of the Shambhala Buddhist tradition.

Meditation instruction and practice: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Please note instruction begins promptly at 10:00 AM

Talk and discussion: 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Refreshments and social time: 12:15 PM

No charge.

Tibetan, Gelugpa Tradition (the tradition of His Holiness the Dalai Lama):

Drepung Loseling Monastery*

1781 Dresden Drive

Atlanta, Georgia 30319

404-982-0051

www.drepung.org

*Before the Sunday 11 am sessions there is a restricted program (for those with the appropriate training and initiation). Please be mindful of this as you arrive, if you choose option 1 or 2 below.

1. Learn to meditate at our shamatha meditation sessions, every Sunday morning from 11:00am-Noon. These guided meditation sessions with instruction are designed to help you develop stability, calmness and clarity of mind.
2. Basics of Meditation—First Sunday of each month, 11:00am-1:00pm—Offered on the first Sunday of each month, from 11:00am – 1:00pm, our Basics of Meditation sessions introduce newcomers to the practice of meditation. Each session begins with a talk by Geshe Lobsang Tenzin, Spiritual Director of Drepung Loseling, followed by a guided meditation session, a question and answer period, and a community reception. This is also a good way to learn about Drepung Loseling and what we offer. Dress is comfortable clothing; cushions and chairs are provided.
3. Meditate for the healing of yourself, others, and the world at large at our monthly Medicine Buddha practices on the last Friday of the month from 7:30pm-8:30pm. Instruction is provided and newcomers are always welcome.

Additional etiquette information for this site:

Events at Drepung Loseling Monastery are casual in general, but there are a few points of etiquette you may want to be aware of to avoid confusion:

Kindly remove your shoes and place them in the shoe rack or on the floor before entering the shrine room.

Please rise in respect as the teacher enters the room, and wait until the teacher sits to be seated yourself. Please rise again at the end of the teaching when the teacher rises to leave.

Some people will bow in respect with their hands folded when the teacher walks by, and some will prostrate before and after the teaching. This is a sign of humility and respect for the teachings, and not an act of worship. You may feel free to bow and prostrate if you feel comfortable doing so, but you are not required to.

In the Tibetan tradition, it is considered impolite to stretch your legs towards the shrine or a teacher or to point the soles of your feet in their direction.

Out of respect, please do not place any Buddhist texts, images, or items (including handouts) directly on the floor or cushions. We have cloths available to place below your texts and items and you may ask for one. Dress code is casual but respectful. You may wish to wear something comfortable, as you may be sitting for long periods of time.

Please hold your questions and comments until the end of the teaching when there will be a question and answer period.

If the microphone is being passed around, please wait until you receive it to ask your question. This facilitates the recording made for those who couldn't make it to the teaching.

If you don't know, just ask! Members and staff persons will be happy to answer your questions. You can also email us at center@drepung.org and take a look at our FAQ. [Find these at www.drepung.org].

Other Centers:

Black Fox Zendo (Japanese, Soto Zen tradition)
Unzan Leslie Real
2908 Black Fox Drive (home)
Atlanta 30345
404-727-4099
lreal@biology.emory.edu

International Zen Dojo Sogen Kai of Atlanta (Japanese, Rinzai Zen tradition)
Atlanta Center for Zen & Arts
Dr. Ginny Whitelaw
292 S. Atlanta St, Suite F
Roswell, GA 30075
770/649-8383
gwhitelaw@bodylearning.com
www.bodylearning.com/zen/index.html

Asst. Teacher: Glenn Murray
404-216-5293 (Day)
404-294-0083 (Home)
radagast@mindspring.com

Atlanta branch of International Zen Dojo Sogenkai, a Rinzai Zen Dojo. Teaches Zazen and Aikido, a martial arts tradition that uses wooden staffs. Teachers are Dr. Ginny Whitelaw & Glenn Murray. Zazen: Sunday 6:30-7:45 pm (intro class) and 7:45-9:00 pm; Thu 6:00-6:45 pm; and Saturday 9:00-10:15 pm.

Atlanta Zen Group (Japanese, Rinzai Zen tradition)
Susan Culpepper & Wesley Anderson
712 Northern Ave (home)
Clarkston 30021
404-523-2767 - O
404-296-2703 - H
susanculpepper@hotmail.com

Nipponzan Myohoji - Atlanta Dojo (Japanese, branch of
Nicheren tradition)
Brother Utsumi & Sister Denise
1127 Glenwood Ave, SE
Atlanta, GA 30316
404-627-8948

Sect of Nicheren Buddhism, involved in peace walks, building
peace stupas, and social activism. One Japanese monk and
one Western nun live in this center.

Combination of Zen & Mindfulness. A Floating sangha@ B
meets every other Saturday or Sunday, at different people's
homes in Atlanta area, and every Friday or Saturday in
Athens.

Namaste Sangha (Vietnamese, Thich Nhat Hanh tradition)
Faith Russler
frr@mindspring.com

Drikung Kagyu (Tibetan, Drikung-Kagyu tradition)
Ven. Konchog Dorje
2688 Braithwood Road (H)
Atlanta 30345
770-938-9590
kdorje@aol.com

Rameshori Buddhist Center (Tibetan, New Kadampa tradition)
Gen. Losang Kelsang
PO Box 250708
Atlanta, GA 30325
Rameshori@mediaone.net

New Kadampa tradition, founded in 1997 by Geshe Kelsang Gyatso. Their tradition is
highly critical of the Dalai Lama, and vice versa, because they do a practice HH has
banned. This group used to meet at the Quaker Meeting House in Decatur, but I'm not

sure if they still do. Dharma teachings on text, Sunday 11-1 and 1:30-3:30; meditation instruction 7:30-9:30 pm.

Asian Temples

Wat Buddha Bucha (Theravada, Thai)
Ven. Chao Koun
3094 Rainbow Drive
Decatur, GA 30034
404-284-2416

Primarily services the Thai community, but other Theravadin groups use this facility as well; approximately 2 Thai monks. Meets every Sunday, 9-2 for Thai language classes; Vipassana meditation taught Wed 7:30-9:30 pm and Dhamma Study Thursday 7:30-9:30 pm. Great festivals held periodically throughout the year.

Georgia Buddhist Vihara (Theravada, Sri Lankan)
Ven. Wajirabodhi
1683 South Deshon Road
Lithonia 30058
venwajira@hotmail.com
770-482-9913

Lithonia is near Stone Mountain. Head monk, Wajirabodhi, speaks great English. Around 2 other monks. New temple, services Sri Lankans, mostly on Sunday morning.

Cambodian Buddhist Society (Theravada, Cambodian)
Ven. Sathain
6533 Rock Springs Rd
Lithonia 30058
770-482-5563

Lithonia is near Stone Mountain. Monks don't really speak any English.

Chua Quang-Minh/Vietnamese Buddhist Assoc. of Georgia
(Mahayana, Vietnamese)
Rev. Thich Thein Thanh
1169 Benteen Ave SE, Atlanta
404-624-9782

Near Grant Park. Services the Vietnamese community. Meets every Sunday, 11:00-12:30. Head priest speaks no English, so be sure to talk to Dr Chuong Tran, President, 706-798-1102(hm), 706-737-4093(of) OR contact Mr. Phone Le, Secretary

(pv1@atlanta.ds.com) before going. Usually they will suggest that you get there by around 10:30, so they can explain things to you before the service. Expect to be fed after the service. (great food!)

Mietoville Academy/Pure Land Buddhist Association (Pure Land, Taiwanese)
2513 Paden's Chace Way
Lawrenceville, GA
770-418-1086
Talk to Ms. Lee.