

Metta Vihara Forest Monastery



Donations can be sent to:

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Hypo Vereinsbank Kempten
Bank No. 733 200 73
Account No. 6690 326 505
Reference: Kuti project

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Thank you sincerely!

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Forest Monastery in Germany New Kutis for Metta Vihara



Metta Vihara is the first German forest monastery for monks in the Theravada tradition and was founded by Ayya Khema in 1997 as part of the Buddha-Haus Project Group. It is idyllically and peacefully situated at the height of 1.000 meters in the foothills of the Allgäu Alps, surrounded by woods and meadows.



Since march 2008 three residential monks are living there under the guidance of Bhante Nyanabodhi, the successor of Ayya Khema, abbot of Metta Vihara and spiritual director of the Buddha-Haus Project Group. In 2009 Bhante Nyanabodhi was awarded with the "Euler Prize" for his teaching, and his dedication and successful work for spreading Theravada Buddhism in Germany.



During the Vassa and special retreat periods the number of Bhikkhus from all over the world is increasing up to six now. In accordance with the monastic rules (Vinaya) they live in a separate dwelling house for monks or in a improvised Kuti (building caravan).



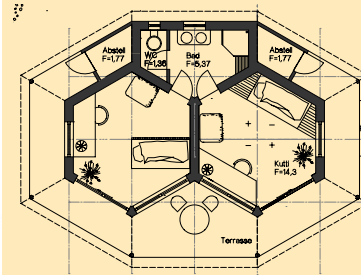
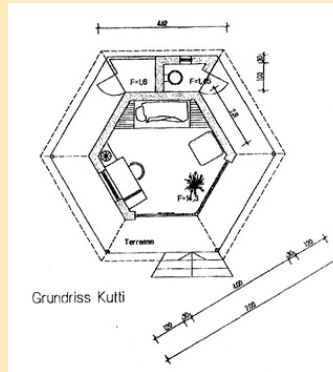
In the nearby major building with meditation hall, kitchen and library up to 25 lay practitioners, Upasikas and Upasakas, can stay to serve, meditate and study for an extended period accompanied and guided by the monks.

Eight new Kutis planned

As the reputation of Metta Vihara as an ideal Forest Monastery for intensive meditation in a remote and peaceful environment has spread within and outside Europe now, the demand for suitable lodgings has increased as well. Metta Vihara is therefore to be expanded now, so that more Bhikkhus can reside permanently and laypeople can find improved shelter as well. In accordance with Lord Buddha's recommendation to go "to the forest, or the root of a tree, or a lonely hut", to further deepen ones meditation in solitude, the construction of eight Kutis has been planned. Kutis are huts with a modest interior, which are situated in remote locations in order to give ordained and laypeople the possibility to retreat and meditate in tranquillity.



The new Kuti will be located in the forested area along the stream flowing through the monastery land. Four single Kutis shall be built for monks or laymen below the main building, and two single Kutis as well as a slightly more comfortable Double-Kuti for women above the main building.



The single Kutis will consist of a six-cornered room with a sliding door and windows, encircled by a walking path for walking meditation. The Kutis have wooden siding on the outside and loam rendering on the inside. There will be a small storage room and a toilet on the rear side. In order to save energy (the winter is cold up here), the building will be highly insulated with biologically-based insulation material. The Kutis will have grass roofs. They will have electricity, but no direct water supply. The Double-Kuti will have a shared plumbing unit with a shower and a flush toilet. There will be two additional showers installed in the main building for the other Kutis' occupants.

In order to connect the Kutis to the main building, changes in the landscaping will be necessary, e.g. walking paths and electrical connections.

Estimation of expenses to be incurred:

Costs for single Kuti	
Six-cornered single Kuti with surrounding path	37,200
Interior/ furniture	2,200
Power supply/ landscaping	1,500
Total for one Kuti	USD 40,900
Total for six single Kutis	USD 245,400
Costs for a Doube-Kuti	
(incl. shower and toilet, otherwise as above)	59,400
Interior/ furniture	4,400
Sanitary unit (shower, sink, toilet)	7,800
Power supply/ landscaping	3,000
Total for Double-Kuti	74,600
Two new showers and utility room	
in the cellar of the main building	30,000
 Total for Kuti project	 USD 350,000

The Buddha praised the offering of accommodation to the Sangha as being the highest of material gifts. The Executive Board of the Buddha-Haus Project Group invites you cordially to make a contribution to the construction of these Kutis. Every donation is welcome.

We are planning on attaching plates with the donors' names to the Kutis, so that their inhabitants can share their merits with the donors and include them in their metta-practice.

Whoever feels delight in engaging and in seeing the Metta Vihara Forest Monastery growing through one's own energy is welcome to donate.