



Dechen Summer Course Programme

Sakya Changlochen Ling 17th - 29th August 2025



This summer, Lama Jampa Thaye will be teaching the 8th century Indian master Śāntideva's classic guide to the Buddhist path, the Bodhicaryāvatāra or 'Entering the Bodhisattva Conduct'. This remains one of the most popular and important works of the Mahayana Buddhist tradition. The detailed commentary was composed by Sonam Tsemo (1142-1182), one of the most celebrated masters of the Sakya school in Tibet. The commentary shines a brilliant light on Śāntideva's great work, clarifying every detail and resolving every difficult point.

Week 1	Sun 17	3.00 - 4.30	Initiation of Chenrezik Mahamudra
	Mon 18 / Tue 19	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra (Break: 11.15 - 11.45am every morning)
		2.30 - 4.00	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		4.15 - 4.45	Chenrezik Mahamudra practice
	Wed 20	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra (Afternoon free)
	Thu 21	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		2.30 - 4.00	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		4.30 - 5.00	Group photo
	Fri 22	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		2.30 - 4.00	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		7.00 - 10.00	Soirée - Please bring food and drink to share
	Sat 23		Day free
Week 2	Sun 24	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		3.00 - 4.30	Initiation of Amitayus
	Mon 25 / Tue 26	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		2.30 - 4.00	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		4.15 - 4.45	Chenrezik Mahamudra practice
	Wed 27	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra (Afternoon free)
	Thu 28	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		2.30 - 4.00	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		4.15 - 4.45	Chenrezik Mahamudra practice
	Fri 29	10.00 - 12.30	Bodhicaryāvatāra
		2.30 - 4.00	Bodhicaryāvatāra

Facility Fee for the course: £250 for both weeks or £21 per day. Concessions available on request to changlochen@dechen.org. Children 18 yrs and under go free.

Facility fees are charged to cover the expenses of running the course and the annual upkeep of Sakya Changlochen Ling. Refuge and the bodhisattva vow will be given to everyone during the preliminary part of the initiations.

General useful information for Sakya Changlochen summer course 2025

European or Global Health Insurance Card: Ensure you have a valid EHIC or GHIC. EHIC cards have now been replaced by GHIC cards, but if your EHIC is still in date, you can use it until it expires. A GHIC lets you get medically necessary state healthcare in Europe at a reduced cost or sometimes for free. To apply online: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Registration: When you arrive at Changlochen please go to the reception, the Little House, on the right of the track, where you can register for the course.

Camping fees at Changlochen are £60 (€70) per person per week. There are limited spaces so please make your request to camp in advance. Some site maintenance responsibilities will be allocated to all those staying onsite on arrival.

Parking All vehicles should be parked in the designated area.

Be Aware During the course please remember that you are representing the Dechen Community, so awareness of avoiding disturbing our neighbours in the village is important.

Useful numbers

Brin d'Amour Campsite: +33 (0)553 07 23 73
Le Bugue Taxi: (Archambeau) +33 (0)553 07 10 70
Bergerac taxi: +33 (0)553 23 32 32
Doctor: Dr. J. Barrier, 28 Rue de la Republique, Le Bugue, +33 (0)553 07 22 50 (You can see him without an appointment - just call to make sure).

The Dechen Café will be open prior to the first session of the day, in the morning break, and during the lunch break, serving hot and cold drinks and light refreshments.

Café sponsorship

It will be possible to sponsor the cafe for a morning break for €100. This will give everyone present a free drink for that session. Please ask at the cafe for details.

There will be **no Dechen Diner** this year so please make alternative arrangements. You're welcome to bring a picnic lunch to eat onsite if you wish.

The shrine room will be open 6.30am - 10.00pm for people to use for their daily practice before and after the teaching sessions. Please dress modestly and respectfully when in the shrine room.

Nominated medics will take care of anyone in case of accident or illness on site and will have a comprehensive first aid kit on site.

Ticks Please be mindful when walking in long grass and in the woods as ticks are present and can easily attach to bare legs etc. It is best to wear long trousers tucked into socks when walking in wilder areas.

It is **illegal to light any fires** outdoors during the summer months.

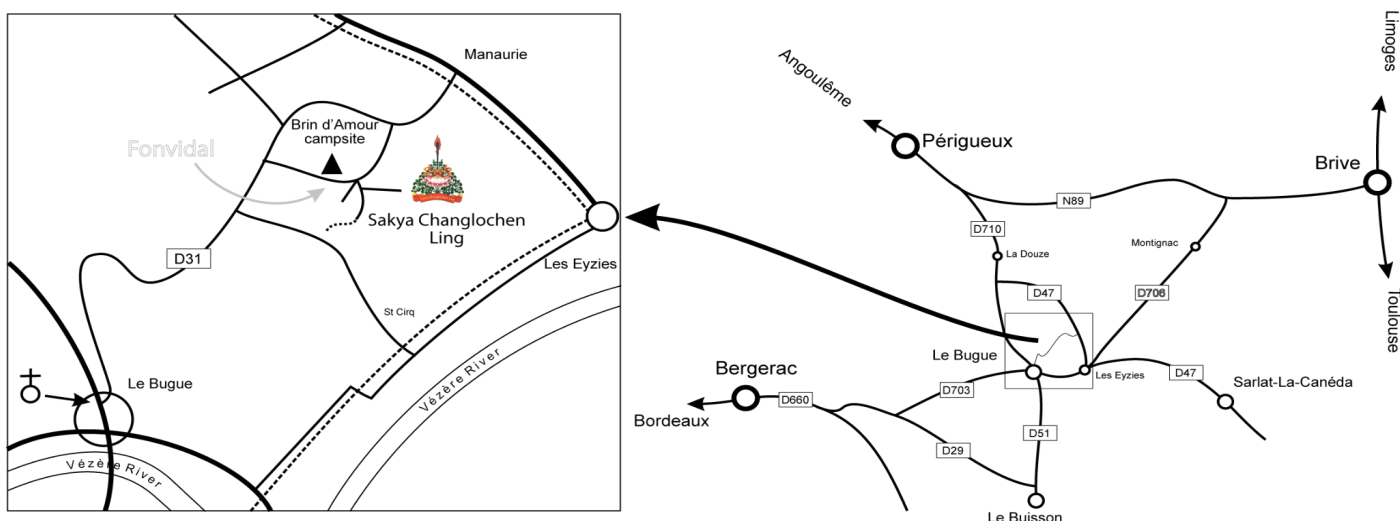
There is a **no-smoking** policy onsite throughout the course.

Pets on site: Furry friends are welcome at Sakya Changlochen Ling. Please ensure however that no dogs are in the shrine room or marquee during teachings - thank you.

There is a lot of activity needed before, during and after the course, from setting up the marquee to tidying the shrine room. All offers of help are very welcome - to find out more, please email changlochen@dechen.org or ask one of the organisers during the course.

Shopping

Brin d'Amour campsite has a small shop for basics. The nearest shops and supermarkets are in Le Bugue, 4 kilometres from Changlochen. The Intermarché is open daily from 9am to 7pm except Sunday: 9.00am to 12.30. There is a market in Le Bugue every Tuesday which makes the high street inaccessible to cars all morning until around 2pm.



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www.sakyabristol.org/about/sakya-changlochen-ling/