



RAYA UMA DATTA

EXPLORATION OF IYENGAR YOGA
FOUR-DAY CONFERENCE

September 16 – 19, 2026

Scottish Cultural Centre, Vancouver, BC
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM Daily

A rare opportunity to study with a senior teacher from
Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute (RIMYI),
Pune, India

Hosted by
BKS Iyengar Yoga Association of
Vancouver

Celebrating 50 Years

1976 – 2026

ABOUT RAYA

Raya Uma Datta is a senior teacher at the Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute (RIMYI) in Pune, India. A longtime student of B.K.S. Iyengar, Geeta Iyengar, and Prashant Iyengar, he is known for his clear, grounded teaching and his ability to communicate the depth of the Iyengar method with insight and ease. Raya is widely regarded as one of the leading voices of the next generation, continuing the Iyengar legacy with intelligence, warmth, and clarity.

Raya began classes at RIMYI when he was just 10 years old. In 1998, he performed asanas during Guruji's 80th birthday celebrations, after which Guruji encouraged him to learn, study, and practice with dedication. By the age of 20, Raya was teaching the Children's Class at RIMYI, and since 2002 he has been teaching both general and medical classes at the Institute.

Raya travelled widely with Guruji and Geetaji — accompanying Guruji to Russia (2009) and China (2011), and joining Geetaji's entourage to Australia (2009), South Africa (2011), and China (2014). Today he continues to share Iyengar Yoga internationally, having taught workshops and conventions in many countries.

In addition to his teaching, Raya holds a B.A. and M.A. in Philosophy. He is also an amateur photographer, with a fondness for horizon gazing — one of his main hobbies.

SPECIAL EVENT

In the Light of Light on Yoga

Join Raya for a live demonstration inspired by *Light on Yoga* — B.K.S. Iyengar's seminal text that introduced yoga to the West. Marking the book's 60th anniversary, this unique evening explores the intelligence and depth of the practice through demonstration, reflection, and conversation.

Open to all.

Date: September 15, 2026

Time: 6:00 — 7:30 pm

Venue: The Cultch – Historic Theatre

Address: 1895 Venables St, Vancouver, BC

Tickets: \$15 — [Purchase at The Cultch](#)



SCHEDULE

September 2026

The hall will be open daily from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Please arrive early to connect with friends and settle into your space.

Wednesday, September 16

8:00 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 11:30	Morning Session
11:30 – 1:00	Lunch (not included)
1:00 – 4:00	Afternoon Session

Thursday–Saturday, September 17–19

8:30 – 11:30	Morning Session
11:30 – 1:00	Lunch (not included)
1:00 – 4:00	Afternoon Session

Sessions include some mix of asana, pranayama, philosophy, yoga chit-chat, and breaks as needed.



REGISTRATION

Regular Pricing

Eligibility	Price
Members	CAD \$610
Non-members	CAD \$660

[Register Now](#)

Save with Membership

[Become a member](#) of the BKS Iyengar Yoga Association of Vancouver for CAD \$40 and reserve your spot at the discounted member rate. Capacity is limited to 150 participants.

Cancellation Policy

Please review our [cancellation policy](#) for full details. If you have questions, feel free to [contact us](#).

WHAT TO BRING (PROPS)

Your mat!

Mats will not be provided.

Please bring the following props:

- A mat
- Two straps
- Two blocks
- Sufficient blankets for *Salamba Sarvangasana*

A limited number of prop kits (excluding mats) will be available for a rental fee of \$40, for those with challenging travel logistics. Each kit includes two straps, two blocks, and four Indian cotton blankets (or equivalent height with other blankets).

Once you have registered, if you are travelling from outside Vancouver and are interested in the rental option, please send an inquiry to bksiyengarvan@gmail.com.



CONFERENCE VENUE

OUR LEARNING SPACE

The conference will be held at the Scottish Cultural Centre in Vancouver, a spacious hall that allows for clear visibility and a comfortable environment for learning and study.

The elevated stage supports demonstration and careful observation, helping bring clarity to the teaching throughout the room.

ADDRESS

Scottish Cultural Centre

8886 Hudson St, Vancouver, BC

Located on the west side of Vancouver between Granville and Oak St, in the Marpole neighbourhood.

Website: scottishculturalcentre.com

Map: [View on Google Maps](#)



WHERE TO STAY

Billeting

A small number of billets are available for out-of-town participants attending the conference. Accommodation is \$50 per night, paid directly to the host. Please email bksiyengarvan@gmail.com. We will do our best to match requests based on availability.

Best Western Plus Vancouver Airport Hotel

3 blocks from venue. Approximately 8 min drive from YVR.
bestwestern.com

Airbnb – Marpole Area

Search Marpole, Vancouver, BC for short-term rentals.
airbnb.ca

VRBO – Marpole

Search Marpole, Vancouver, BC for vacation rentals.
vrbo.com

WHERE TO EAT

Vancouver's food scene is a vibrant and diverse culinary landscape, defined by abundant access to Pacific Northwest seafood and a profound Asian influence, celebrated for its emphasis on fresh, local, and seasonal ingredients and plant-forward dining culture.

Near the Venue

[Wick's Cafe](#)

[Cafe de L'Orangerie](#)

[Milltown Bar & Grill](#)

[The East Cafe](#)

Our Vancouver Favourites

[Do Chay](#) — *Vietnamese, mostly vegan*

[Osteria Elio Volpe](#) — *Italian*

[East is East](#) — *Silk Road cuisine*

[Ramen DANBO](#) — *Ramen*

[The Acorn](#) — *Vegetarian (Michelin Guide 2025)*

ABOUT VANCOUVER



Vancouver, a bustling West Coast seaport in British Columbia, is one of Canada's most densely populated and ethnically diverse cities. Known for its stunning natural setting—where snow-capped mountains meet the Pacific Ocean—it offers abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation, alongside a vibrant downtown and rich cultural neighbourhoods, earning its reputation as one of the world's most livable cities.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

VanDusen Botanical Garden

A stunning 22-hectare garden with thousands of plant species from around the world.

vandusengarden.org

Museum of Anthropology (UBC)

World-renowned collection of Northwest Coast First Nations art and culture.

moa.ubc.ca

North Shore Trails

Hiking and outdoor recreation with dramatic mountain scenery.

vancouvertrails.com/regions/the-north-shore

Kitsilano Neighbourhood

Beachside neighbourhood known for yoga studios, cafes, and Kits Beach.

destinationvancouver.com/neighbourhoods/kitsilano

Mount Pleasant

Vibrant arts district with galleries, craft breweries, and indie shops.

destinationvancouver.com/neighbourhoods/mount-pleasant

Granville Island

Public market, artisan studios, theatres, and waterfront charm.

granvilleisland.com

Stanley Park

Iconic 1,000-acre urban park with seawall, beaches, and old-growth forest.

vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/stanley-park.aspx

Grouse Mountain

Just minutes from the city, enjoy a scenic gondola ride, alpine trails, and panoramic views over Vancouver.

grousemountain.com

STAY IN TOUCH

Email

bksiyengarvan@gmail.com

Website

iyengaryogavancouver.com

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Share Your Experience

We invite you to capture and share moments from the conference. Please tag your posts with

[#IyengarYogaVancouver](https://www.instagram.com/iyengaryogavancouver)

[#RayaVancouver2026](https://www.instagram.com/iyengaryogavancouver)