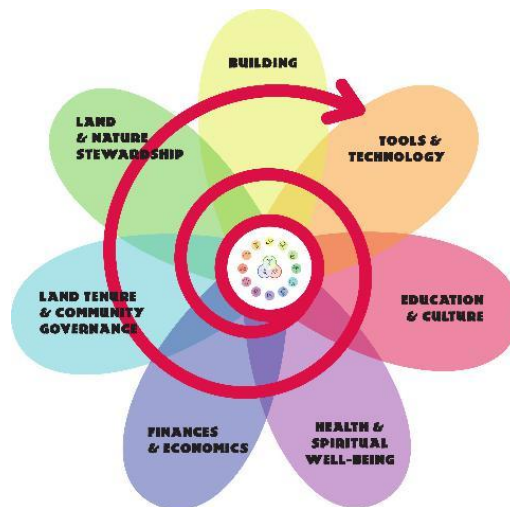


# Become a Certified Permaculture Designer in India *with Bernard Alonso*

**February 10<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020**

Hands-on learning while 'creating a useful design' benefiting life of the Joy of Impermanence Anitya community in Auroville, India.

PDC is a 72hr 'Permaculture Design Certification Course' for those who want to apply permaculture principles in their life. Agriculture is only one aspect of this concept.



The course will cover different petals of the Permaculture flower and especially the Human permaculture facilitated by the concept's creator Bernard Alonso who wrote a book on the topic (see below). We will also be accompanied with a participating 'flying team' of practitioners based in Auroville who already hold permaculture certification.

Participants will gain fundamental understanding of permaculture design to apply anywhere on this planet on different climates zone, since permaculture is a way to duplicate natural mechanisms taught by 3.8 billion years of experience.

You will be able to design integrated productive ecosystems that are capable of meeting all our human needs, whilst benefiting and respecting the environment.

Permaculture design is applicable to any climate, landscape or situation. We will be learning how to produce high yields of organic fresh food for any family with simple tools and more human solidarity. Permaculture can also be applied small scale farms to broad acre farming and ultimately global ecosystem restoration projects. The course covers sustainable living systems for a wide variety of landscapes and climates. It includes the application of permaculture principles to food production, home design, construction, energy conservation and generation, and explores alternative economic structures and teamwork strategies supporting permaculture solutions.

This 12days course will consist of a broad range of topics applicable to life anywhere on the planet, at the same time catering to the specific needs of the participating students.

**Classic 72hrs and + (plus) PDC Curriculum will include:**

- Introduction to permaculture concept
- Concept and steps of any design
- Site visits to relevant Auroville projects
- Design methods
- Pattern and models taught by nature
- Climatic zones and factors
- Reacting to climates changes
- Understanding the Soil
- Threes + Edible Forest garden
- Water on all aspects
- Local Buildings
- Waste Management
- Renewable energy
- Social and Human permaculture
- Teamwork + the strength of the number
- Life design
- Niches concept
- Life in communities
- Hands on work to apply permaculture ideas

**And much more ...**

## Primary facilitator

### Bernard Alonso



**Bernard Alonso** was trained by Permaculture Institute Kooknees (BC) with Gregory Lamoureux, Emilia Hazelip and later with Dave Jacke, the famous author of "*Edible Forest Garden*". He especially mastered his experience in applying the principles of Permaculture on his farm in Rougemont (he initiated the idea of "PERMA-Coop"). Since 1993, he managed the farm's organic apple orchard, the gardens of Mother Nature and its CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program, the school of Mother Nature (school educational program, where he taught more than 10 000 children a year in the framework of visits (school trips) sensitizing youth to nature, ecology and the joys of the farm. He also managed the Farm Equestrian Mont-Rouge, a renowned dressage stable. Since 1995, with the collaboration of the RHA and Gregory Lamoureux British Columbia, he organized on his farm several design courses in permaculture. Students of all ages and backgrounds participated there and some have now become permaculture practitioners and teachers.

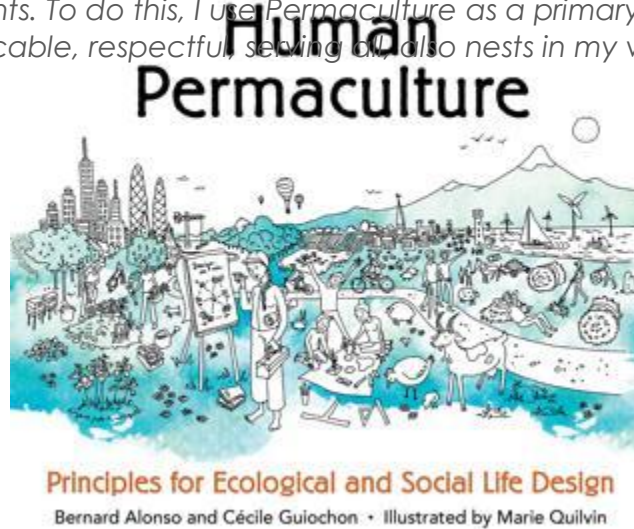
He wrote a book about what he calls 'Human Permaculture' . The book will be available in English in January 2020. Thousands of books were sold all over the world in the Francophone milieu. Both will be made available for the course.

The ultimate goal of Human permaculture is to provide any child and human been with the necessary toolbox to create a sustainable "life design" in order to complete a useful flourishing life. In Human permaculture, the intelligence of permaculture is introduced to teamwork design.

Bernard sits on the board of Nature-Action Quebec since 1993 which has been publicly recognised in 2007 for its 20 years of action in service of the environment. In 1996 its farm project was chosen and exemplified in "ECO-SUMMIT 96".

*My ultimate goal is to spread positive and concrete way, a sustainable living, healthy that is in harmony with the earth, the animals, the plants and also its human inhabitants. To do this, I use Permaculture as a primary tool. Any approach applicable, respectful, serving all, also nests in my vision.*

~ Bernard



## HOST ECOVILLAGE

### Auroville



Auroville (City of Dawn) is an experimental township in Viluppuram district in the state of Tamil Nadu, India, near Puducherry in India. Inspired by the philosophy of Sri Aurobindo, Auroville was founded in 1968 by the Mother (Mira Alfassa) in accordance with her dream of a universal township living in harmony with itself and the wider world.

Receiving support from UNESCO and the government of India Auroville is today an endorsed ongoing experiment in human unity and transformation of consciousness, also concerned with - and practically researching into -

sustainable living and the future cultural, environmental, social and spiritual needs of mankind.

Aurovillians currently come from some 49 nations, from all age groups, from all social classes, backgrounds and cultures. The population of the township is constantly growing, but at the moment stands at around 2,400 people, of whom approximately one-third are Indian.

The activities pursued by the inhabitants are many and various. They include village development, education, business, land restoration and afforestation, research into renewable energy and experimental construction, health care and varied cultural activities.

Whatever Auroville's material achievements, however, the main aim is inner change, for the Aurovillians understand that without a radical change in consciousness no permanent change can be effected.

#### **HOST COMMUNITY – JOI ANITYA:**



The Joy of Impermanence (JOI) project aims to be a "community of communities", helping people in Auroville to start up new sustainable communities based on the principle of impermanence where they can grow together in consciousness, protect and nourish the land, and explore the joys of building together.

Anitya is the first community of JOI, whose members have been dreaming and working together since 2017. To find out more please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/Joyofimpermanence/>

### **COURSE CONTRIBUTION:**

As organisers of this PDC, it's our sincere dream that financial resources are not a deterrent for people who want to attend this course. At the same time, we are having challenges as we partially live in the money economy and depend on money to make this course happen. We want to find a balance between making it inclusive as well as economically sustainable and run on a fair share principle.

One of the primary aims of this course is to empower the local community it is held in. Your contribution allows us to offer the course on a scholarship basis for participants from Auroville and the villages around who will make up one third of the course. Thank you!

Please note that this rate includes course cost, lunch/snacks, Auroville guest contribution and travel during the course. Accommodation is not included and will have to be paid separately according to the option chosen.

**For Auroville/bioregion participants: - contribution Rs.15000 unless subsidy otherwise discussed**

**For Indian participants: Rs20000 – Rs.29000 as much as you can contribute.**

**For International Participants: 490 - 590 USD as much as you can contribute**

Lunch/snacks, transport and all Auroville contributions and Indian GST for the 12 days is included in this rate. Accommodation is NOT included in this rate. Community kitchen will be made available for self catered breakfast and dinner.

All prices are in USD/Indian Rupees.

Please follow the steps to validate your PDC place with us:

Kindly fill up the form online, send us an email and add along 50% of the cost upfront by Jan 25th. You will be able to fully pay the balance in cash, either with US \$ or Indian Rupees at your arrival. \*

You also can transfer the full amount of the course if it is suitable for you. See all details for payment further down. \*\* .

We still have a few places available for 'flying practitioners'; Join the International "flying team"

If you already did attend a recognized PDC it is possible for you to go further and experiment international "flying team process". It will give you more design practice and improve your learning. You will be able to observe the steps to plan and facilitate... and most of it to become familiar with an interesting toolbox to stimulate creativity one will be able to use every where in the world. Follow the link on "flying team" [www.permacultureinternationale.org](http://www.permacultureinternationale.org) (An English translation is available). The tuition for PDC holder is 50% of the course fee. You must get in touch with Bernard Alonso and its co facilitators, to be accepted [bernalon9@gmail.com](mailto:bernalon9@gmail.com). Flying practitioners will arrive 3 days prior and leave 1 day after the course in order to learn the full process of organizing such two weeks PDC, assist in the planning and set up and participate to the full process

If it is more convenient for you to pay the tuition in smaller installments, please write to us we will certainly find a way .

If you really feel the course is unaffordable, please write to us - we hope money will not be a deterrent for people to participate.

\* Should you cancel less than 30 days before course, this down payment will not be refundable.

\*\* If you did pay the full tuition, 100% is refundable if cancellation is done 30 days before course. 70% is refundable if cancellation is done less than 30 days before the course.

French translation will be available during the course for those who not feel confident in English.

Please register using form link given below to get payment details.



## ACCOMMODATION

For the 12 days of course, accommodation for students from outside Auroville will be Anitya community unless otherwise specified. Dry Compost toilets and showers are available on site to be shared by all. For those with special needs, please write to us and we can see what can be possible. Those from Auroville and its bioregion will stay in their own homes.

STYLE	DETAIL	COST (per night in Indian rupees)
Camping	Shared camping platform, mosquito tent, mat sheet provided	250 pp per night
Dormitory	Sharing basis (3 to 4 people per room), dormitory room with fan, light etc with beds provided	350 pp per night
Auroville	Various	900 rs to 1500 rs pp per night (depending on availability –

guesthouses (located off site)	options possible accordi ng to needs – Centre and Jo guesth ouse are closest to the land (15 min walk)	needs to be booked by participant) To book: <a href="https://guesthouses.auroville.org/index.php?param=cGFnZT1oZWxwLnBocCZtZW51PTU=">https://guesthouses.auroville.org/index.php?param=cGFnZT1oZWxwLnBocCZtZW51PTU=</a>
--------------------------------------	--	--

**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

Travel Tips - With our understanding of what to expect in the sub-continent, we have put together some information and travel tips for your convenience.

**WEATHER**

South Indian weather can vary greatly. In the summer months temperatures can be severely hot around May and June (38°C ), which fortunately declines in July and August as rainfall becomes more frequent. During the day temperatures are warm, the nights are quite pleasant, and humidity is generally high. Rainfall is unpredictable.

**HEALTH**

There are no compulsory inoculation requirements for entry into India, however, it is recommended to have current inoculations to protect against Tetanus, Hepatitis and Typhoid. Providing you take some basic precautions; you should be able to stay healthy during your visit. Don't drink tap water, as it has not been sterilized. Avoid raw food such as salads and fruits and if not used to spicy food, have a simple plain meal regularly to give your system

time to adjust. Before your journey you should also have a dental check-up and obtain spare glasses prescription.

\* Travel Insurance Highly Recommended and Required.

## **MONEY**

Indian currency is the Rupee. Notes are printed in the denominations of Indian Rupee 1000, 500, 100, 50, 20, 10. Coins are minted in denominations of Rupee 5, 2 and 1, and 50 Paise. Exchange rates vary from time to time and all airports, banks and hotels provide fixed exchange rates for convenient conversion. All major credit cards are accepted. Most Travelers cheques are accepted and have to nearly always be exchanged in banks or hotels.

It is recommended that you carry local currency in small denominations for making small purchases or for providing personal tips. (approximate exchange rate 1 euro = 60 rupees).

### **WHAT TO TAKE**

Keep your luggage to a minimum (you will be carrying it with you throughout your trip); get a few pairs of light cotton clothes, a small backpack, sandals, and walking shoes. A light jacket is also recommended as nights can be cool and carry along a pocket umbrella. Remember to carry enough supply of personal medications as required.

During the day carry with you a hat, sun lotion, water bottle, mosquito repellent and bring along a camera! Remember to dress modestly in respect for the Indian culture.

A torch light is an absolute necessity in the night, preferably with rechargeable, solar charge or wind up batteries.

For menstruating women, we recommend a menstrual cup or re-usable sanitary pads, which are an eco-friendly and cost-effective alternative to tampons or sanitary pads.

### **VISA FOR INDIA**

Please check if you need a VISA for India so that you can take care of this in time for the course. A tourist visa is sufficient to participate in the course.

If you need a visa, you have to obtain it from the Indian embassy in your country of residence. A Tourist Visa is usually a multi-entry visa, valid for a period of 180 days. Verify whether the visa starts from the date of issue or the date of arrival in India. As a rule, an extension of stay on a Tourist Visa will not be granted. Please refer to your embassy for more details.

### **HOW TO REACH US**

Auroville is 16 km by bus from Pondicherry and 163 km by bus from Chennai. The nearest airports are at Pondicherry, 11 km and Chennai, 142 km. If you are

already in India and would prefer travelling leisurely by rail, Chennai Central Railway Station connects to all the major cities in India with its reliable express trains such as Tamil Nadu Express and Rajdhani Express (fully air- conditioned).

***There are a number of ways of get to Auroville to suit different budgets. One can opt for public transport which is affordable and environmentally sound.***

### **From Pondicherry**

*From the East Coast Road (ECR) junction*

Take an Auto or call an Auroville Taxi (see details below)

*Bus Station*

Buses run from the Pondicherry bus stand to the Auroville Visitor's Centre at 7:30am, 1:30pm and 4:30pm. Buses return to Pondy at 8:15am, 2:15pm and 5:15pm. Or take an Auto or call an Auroville Taxi (see details below)

*Railway Station*

Take an Auto or call an Auroville Taxi (see details below)

### **From Chennai**

*Chennai Koyambedu Bus Station*

Take a bus for Pondicherry from across the road. Ask the driver to drop you at the Auroville junction on the ECR Road.

*Chennai Airport*

Call an Auroville Taxi (see details below)

At the Auroville bus stop a cluster of motorised rickshaws are stationed, eager to carry you up the 30 metres above-sea-level plateau which hosts Auroville. These vehicles are not organised by Auroville and you will need to bargain the price. To Pitchandikulam Forest it should not be more than 150 Rs.

### **Taxi**

**Book taxi before you reach:** The journey from Chennai to Auroville takes about three hours by taxi. For the international traveller this is the safest, most convenient mode of transport. You can get a taxi at the airport but for the best low-stress experience, pre-book an Auroville Taxi to meet you at the airport as Auroville drivers are cognisant of Chennai roads and highways as well as the

inside maps of Auroville. A Chennai-airport taxi driver may not know how to find your destination in Auroville especially if you arrive at night.

### **Auroville Taxi Services**

1. **Shared Transport Service** (Can arrange taxi shares, Book online : <http://sharedtransport.auroville.org/>, Please enter location as Anitya (next to Sacred Groves) under « Other or call +91 8098776644 | +91 9442566256)
2. **Auro Cabs, Travels & Tours** (Kuilapalayam)  
Ph. 0413-2623200 or 201, mobile 96264-81620 or 98437-34825, 9787508301  
E-mail: avcabs@auroville.org.in
3. **Unity Transport Service** (AV main road)  
Ph. 0413-2623586 or 87, mobile 9047015801 E-mail: uts@auroville.org.in

### **REGISTRATION:**

Please fill in this form to register:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1x-aisqF98-O44TqLWYRhLOWJ\\_PO1x3TO6F6qGLtKJz4/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1x-aisqF98-O44TqLWYRhLOWJ_PO1x3TO6F6qGLtKJz4/edit)

### **CONTACT**

[anityaworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:anityaworkshop@gmail.com)

+91 7094716136  
(whatsapp/sms first please)

Info about the PDC Bernard

Alonso [bernalon9@gmail.com](mailto:bernalon9@gmail.com)