Ward’s Lake Evening Market

*A stroll through authentic Meghalaya*

The Government of Meghalaya is welcoming 2024 with an evening market set up at Ward’s Lake (nan polok). Evening markets are open-air markets that have been held around the world. The evening market at Ward’s Lake will commence from January 19th onwards till March 30th, Monday through Saturday over the evening hours from 5PM till 9PM. The markets will be under the curation of Dakti, who had successfully run the 2023 Winter Tales.

Evening markets set themselves apart from the regular marketplace as their aim is to build relationships through connections whether it be in food, arts, craft, music, etc. While the various stalls are set up to entertain guests, the deeper value of the market lies in bringing together the residents and resources which exist in Meghalaya. It also serves as a break from the monotony of commercialisation enabling guests to support their local entrepreneurs.

The evening market will also host vendors on a rotational basis giving guests a chance to interact with a variety of entrepreneurs at the event. The different weeks of the evening market are themed.There will also be curated art and photography exhibitions, a showcase of the talent that Meghalaya has. Apart from the abundant food and wine stalls at the event, the evening market will also be a place for trade and commerce with a farmer's market and crafts store set up. Seeing as how the holiday season is still upon us adults are encouraged to bring their children to the evening marketplace, with a dedicated kid’s play zone and experiences set up for them. Music will set the mood for the evening which will be presented by Meghalaya Grassroots Music Project (MGMP) which has brought out a number of talented artists from the state.

The evening market is open to all. Tickets are available at Ward’s Lake ticket counter at Rs 100 per person. Entry is free for Children below 10 years of age. The proceeds from each week’s ticket sales will be donated to noteworthy institutions and causes at the end of every week. The small contribution guests make towards their tickets will go a long way for these organizations.

As you gear up for winter, why not take a stroll down to Ward’s Lake for the evening market and an experience of authentic Meghalaya.