



Join

PIR ELIAS AMIDON

*and friends at Himmelreich Retreat Center, near Lindau, Germany
for a Five-Day Retreat on*

Love and Nonduality

PRACTICES OF THE AWAKENED HEART

May 8 – 14, 2019

The focus of this retreat is *love* — love in all its forms and names: kindness, empathy, compassion, passion, ecstasy, devotion, friendship, intimacy, caregiving, playfulness, kinship, mercy, grief, forgiveness, gratitude, blessing, service — *agape, eros, bhakti, metta*. Our intention will be to deepen our capacity to love in all these ways and to use that capacity for the well being of all.

In some contemporary teachings of nonduality, the subject of love is considered to be dualistic and conditional. In this retreat we will turn that view inside-out and experience directly the essence of Being as a loving essence. We will also inquire into what obstructs our capacity to love — in relationships, in our experience of beauty, in loving our own being — and open ourselves to ways of releasing those obstructions.

Although there will be some sessions of talk and discussion, the retreat will be primarily experiential. We will learn Sufi (and other) practices for receiving and intensifying the stream of love through our hearts, including guided meditations, musical meditations (*zikr*), body prayers, dance of the soul (*nirtan*), poetry (*alankara*), nature meditations, song, forms of communal invocation, and periods of solitude and silence.

This retreat is intended for those who have completed a nine- or six-month Open Path training, or for those who have had an equivalent background in recognizing nondual awareness and what is called *the natural state*.



Logistics

The ***Love and Nonduality Retreat*** will take place at Himmelreich Retreat Center near Lake Constance, Lindau, Germany. Himmelreich is a beautiful and gracious home for our retreat and is known for its sacred atmosphere. Lindau is easily reached by train (1 1/2 hours from Zurich) or by plane (Zürich or Friedrichshafen - 1/2 hour drive from Friedrichshafen). Directions to Himmelreich will be available upon registration.

The retreat will begin with dinner at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, May 8. Please plan to arrive at Himmelreich between 3:00-6:00 PM that day. Our first session will begin after dinner. The retreat will run through Monday evening, May 13, with departures after breakfast on May 14.

Cost and Registration

The **tuition fee** for the retreat is €440. A deposit of €200 is required to secure your registration. The balance is due two months prior to the retreat. You may also pay the balance in installments. A refund for cancellations will be given up to two months prior to the retreat, minus a €50 administration fee. If you cancel after that date and a replacement can be found, you will receive the same refund.

A scholarship fund has been established through the generous donations of past students; it is our hope no one will be prevented from attending any Open Path program for financial reasons. To apply for a partial scholarship, write to openpath@sufiway.org, describing your financial circumstances and the amount you feel able to pay. If you can contribute toward the scholarship fund we would be most grateful.

The cost for room (double occupancy) and board at Himmelreich (5 ½ days, 6 nights) is €600. There are a few single rooms available for a small extra charge. PLEASE NOTE: All room and board costs (per seminar) are paid directly to Himmelreich at the beginning of the retreat.

TO REGISTER: Go to www.regonline.com/HimmelreichRetreat2019
If you have any questions about the retreat or the registration process,
please write to openpath@sufiway.org.



Pir Elias Amidon is the spiritual director (Pir) of the Sufi Way (www.sufiway.org), a contemporary and non-sectarian inner school in the lineage of Sufi Inayat Khan. Pir Elias teaches and holds retreats on nondual spirituality and Sufism throughout Europe and the United States, and is known for his direct and experiential approach to spiritual realization. He has worked for many years in the field of peace and environmental activism in the Middle East and Southeast Asia, and with indigenous tribes on land-rights issues. He is the author of *The Open Path: Recognizing Nondual Awareness*; *Free Medicine: Meditations on Nondual Awakening*; and *Munajat: Forty Prayers*.