



**Course Name:** Goan Crochet: Tradition and Craft  
**Artisan Name:** Godeliva Rodrigues  
**Campus:** Ahmedabad



## About Craft

Crochet craft in Goa, introduced during Portuguese rule nearly 400 years ago, blends European needlework traditions with local artistry. Practised mainly by women of the Catholic community, it has long served as both a domestic art and a source of livelihood. Crochet holds cultural significance in Goan households and rituals, where lace-like textiles such as altar cloths, doilies, and bedspreads are integral to weddings, church ceremonies, and home décor, symbolising refinement and devotion.

The process uses a hooked needle to loop cotton or silk thread into intricate patterns, often passed down through generations. Traditional products include table runners, curtains, and apparel, while contemporary adaptations include accessories and fashion items. Crochet in Goa embodies heritage, resilience, and women's creative labour.

## Course Objectives

- Through hands-on engagement, collaborative projects, and reflective dialogues, participants will explore the multifaceted nature of craft—its rituals, cultural significance, and contemporary relevance.
- Enjoy the privilege of co-creating with Craft practitioners and exploring the historical foundations of craft practice, rooted in the cultural landscape.
- To spark creative detours, an infusion of unbiased interdisciplinary participation, and breakthrough
- Outcomes that celebrate diversity in thought and contemporary themes in a traditional setting
- Through the platform, opening up possibilities for intercraft collaborations.



## About Artisan

Godeliva runs a home-based startup called **Captivating Talent** that specializes in handmade projects. This includes various needle arts like hand embroidery, machine embroidery, crochet, and knitting. She uses her background as a psychologist to conduct classes on relaxation techniques, incorporating basic crochet, hand embroidery, and mandala art. Additionally, she is associated with the "Banyan tree embroidery project at Peace Cottage," an initiative focused on reviving the art of hand embroidery in Goa.

## Course Methodology

- Demonstration by Master Craftsperson
- Learning the basics of the craft, explorations of traditional forms
- Developing contemporary themes for contemporary narratives and new possibilities
- Making prototypes
- Finishing and displaying new outcomes to encourage conversations around them.

