



# Kaustubh Khade

## Open Water Kayaking



Date of Birth: 17th January, 1987



Birthplace: Mumbai, Maharashtra



Known to his friends simply as KK, Kaustubh Khade is a man that boldly goes where no Indian has gone before - in a kayak. Currently based in Mumbai, India, KK is a natural athlete, who after years of excelling at Sprinting, Football, Rugby and Swimming in school and college, finally found his calling with water sports when he and his friends, in Goa, got down from a motorboat and kayaked for about two kilometres to chase Dolphins.



After graduating from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), KK took up kayaking as a challenge, and in a span of five years, has found himself amongst the crop of India's top pro kayakers. Trained under twelve time world Champion for Surfski Kayaking, Oscar Chalupsky, KK's first major tournament was the 2012 National Championship for Dragon Boat Racing held in Mumbai. He had one of the best timings of the Championship and qualified for the International Asian Dragon Boat Championship in Thailand. After an intense and rigorous training session, KK was part of the Indian contingent sent to Thailand, where India secured nine medals across the Championship. Kaustubh has also represented India at the Asian Sea Kayaking championship held in Krabi, Thailand, where he clocked a new personal record in the 13 Km race. In addition to pro kayaking, KK is also actively involved in race Sailing. He also recently finished his certification to become an International Canoe Federation Coach.

A trailblazing innovator in what is fast becoming one of the most exciting water sports on the planet, KK has battled waves in dozens of places, and is now one of the most exciting and dynamic kayakers in the world. From the competitive scene, KK is now transitioning his way into the record books as he gears up to explore the most breathtaking rapids he can find in India. In 2015, he etched his name in the Limca Book of Records when he kayaked from Mumbai to Goa in 17 days. In 2016, he will be the first Indian to kayak around the coastline of India. This will mean, he will be kayaking for 180 days and will cover 9 states and 2 Union Territories covering 7500 Kms.

### Milestone



**Limca Record holder** for the longest Solo Sea Kayaking by an Indian covering 415 Kms in 17 days



**2 Silver & 1 Bronze** - Asian Dragon Boat Championship, 2012



**Finished 5th** at the Asian Sea Kayaking Championship, 2013



**Finished 3rd** at the Silver Fleet race held at Khadakvasla, Pune, 2013