



Enchanting **Tamil Nadu**



Issue: 01

A Tamil Nadu Tourism Newsletter

January '23



Indian Dance Festival 2022

23 December 2022 | Mamallapuram

Where the sounds of the waves and the anklets synchronised

Have you ever witnessed a magic unravelling right in front of your eyes? What if the word grandeur took a physical form? The audience and art enthusiasts attending the Indian Dance Festival at Mamallapuram are witnessing these.

This 20-day event of cultural extravaganza was successfully inaugurated on 23rd December 2022 at the golden shores of Mamallapuram by Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan, Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of Tamil Nadu and the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism Thiru. K. Ramachandran. The inaugural event kickstarted with the Mangala Isai performance by musicians from Govt. Music College, Chennai.

Tmt. Varalakshmi Madhusudhanan, MLA, Chengalpattu, Thiru. S.S Balaji, MLA, Thiruporur, Tmt. Vasanthakumari Kamalakannan, Mayor of Tambaram district, Dr. Chandramohan B, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Tourism, Culture, and Religious Endowments, Thiru. Sandeep Nanduri, IAS, Director of Tourism and Managing Director of TTDC, and Thiru. A.R. Rahul Nadh, IAS, District Collector of Chengalpattu participated in the inaugural function and honoured the event.

During the inauguration ceremony, two professional Bharathanatyam and Folk dance groups gave scintillating performances at the Shore Temple complex. The Dance Festival will be conducted till January 12 2023 at Mamallapuram and till January 22 2023 at Island Grounds, Chennai.



Inside Vandaloor Zoo

22 December 2022 | Chengalpattu



TTDC's Restaurant gets a new look

Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation recently refurbished and reopened the restaurant at the Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandaloor on December 22, 2022.

The modernised restaurant was inaugurated by Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan, Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. K. Ramachandran, Minister of Tourism, and Dr. M. Mathiventhan, Minister of Forests.

Tmt. Varalakshmi Madhusudhanan, MLA, Chengalpattu, Dr. B. Chandra Mohan, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments, Thiru. Sandeep Nanduri, IAS, Director of Tourism and Managing Director of TTDC, and Thiru. Srinivas. R. Reddy, IFS, Director of Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandaloor honoured the event with their presence.



Inauguration of Quick Bites stall

Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan, Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, also inaugurated two food kiosks named Quick Bites inside the zoo campus.

The kiosks offer lip-smacking snack varieties like rolls and sandwiches, while the restaurant serves multi-cuisine delicacies ranging from delicious appetizers to delectable main course.

The cool interiors of the restaurant with warm lighting conditions, comfortable seating space and delicious cuisine, make the place a perfect spot to relax after a long walk around the zoo.



Reminiscing the Pandiyan Era

24 December 2022 - 30 December 2022

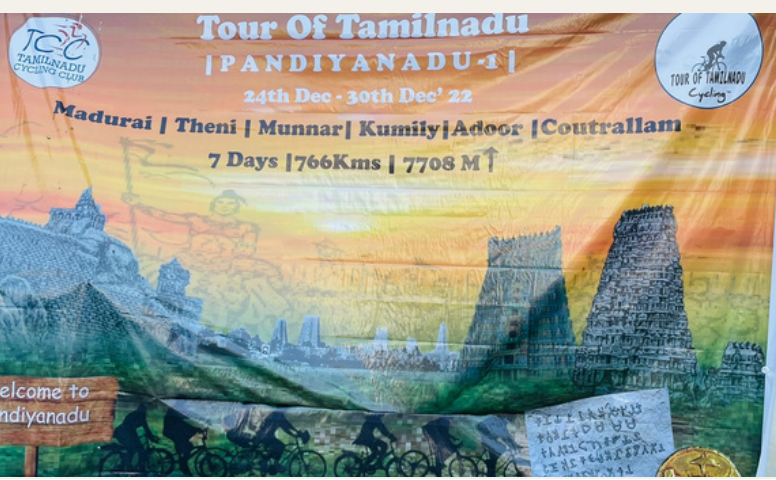
A Heritage Trail in and around Madurai



Ancient Tamil scriptures lauds the legacy of the Pandiyas. The Pandiya dynasty is the most ancient out of the three crowned-dynasties, with Madurai as its administrative capital. The kingdom was the official hub for the development of Tamil literature, Music and Drama and formation of Tamil Sangam. To discover and learn more about their contribution in building their dynasty, TN Tourism along with Tamil Nadu Cycling Club organised a historical Pandiyanadu cycling trail.

The trail started on 23rd December with an active participation of a group of cyclists. The trail was flagged off by Thiru. R. Shiva Prasad, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Madurai. This 6-day cycling trail covered 6 major cities and towns that were a part of the Pandiya dynasty.

The trail started at Madurai and covered the scenic Theni and Munnar, took a turn to Kumily and Adoor, and finally halted at the pristine Coutrallam. The cyclists rode and covered 766 km in this trail.



Destination of the month



Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram)

A town which you must visit. Scenic seascape, the radiant sun painting the horizon, and monolithic marvels adorning the ground, will be a visual treat for your eyes.

Visit this historic town and relax along the shores. Take a stroll to the heritage sites, and learn the history of Pallavas, who built this town.

Through the lens: The Neo-Gothic architectures of Chennai

Madras Heritage Trail - Church Circuit - 17 December 2022



Inaugural event of Hotel Tamil Nadu Restaurant – Coimbatore

12 December 2022 | Coimbatore

The restaurant at Hotel Tamil Nadu Coimbatore is now brand new!



TTDC runs a business hotel at the central hub of Coimbatore. The restaurant section of the hotel serves various authentic dishes and delectable Kongu cuisine at an affordable rate.

Recently, the restaurant was renovated by TTDC. The modernised and new-looking outlet was inaugurated on 12 December 2022 by the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Government of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Mathiventhana.

Other delegates who honoured the ceremony with their presence were Thiru. Sandeep Nanduri, IAS, Director of Tourism and Managing Director of TTDC, Dr. G.S. Sameeran, IAS, District Collector of Coimbatore, and Commissioner M. Prathap, IAS, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation. The newly renovated restaurant can offer seating for up to 40 people and is fully air-conditioned.

When visual shots spoke more than words

4 December 2022 | Mamallapuram

Photography tour for the deaf An Exclusive Architectural Heritage Visit



To commemorate World disability day and promote inclusive tourism, Tamil Nadu tourism sponsored a 1-day photography tour for deaf photographers arranged by the Madras Photo Bloggers (MPB). They visited the heritage town Mamallapuram and the treasured island Mudaliyar Kuppam to capture their beauty.

The participants were accompanied by historians and story curators from Nam Veedu Namoor Nam Kadhai who shared the significance on various aspects of the places visited and made the trip interactive and engaging.

Sign-language interpreters from MPB conversed with the participants and explained the tales told by the curators. The entire trip gave the participants a space to showcase and develop their photography skills and capture the moments from a varied perspective. The best photos taken were featured on the TTDC's Instagram page.



Yaadhum oore yaavarum kelir

22 December 2022 | Nilgiris

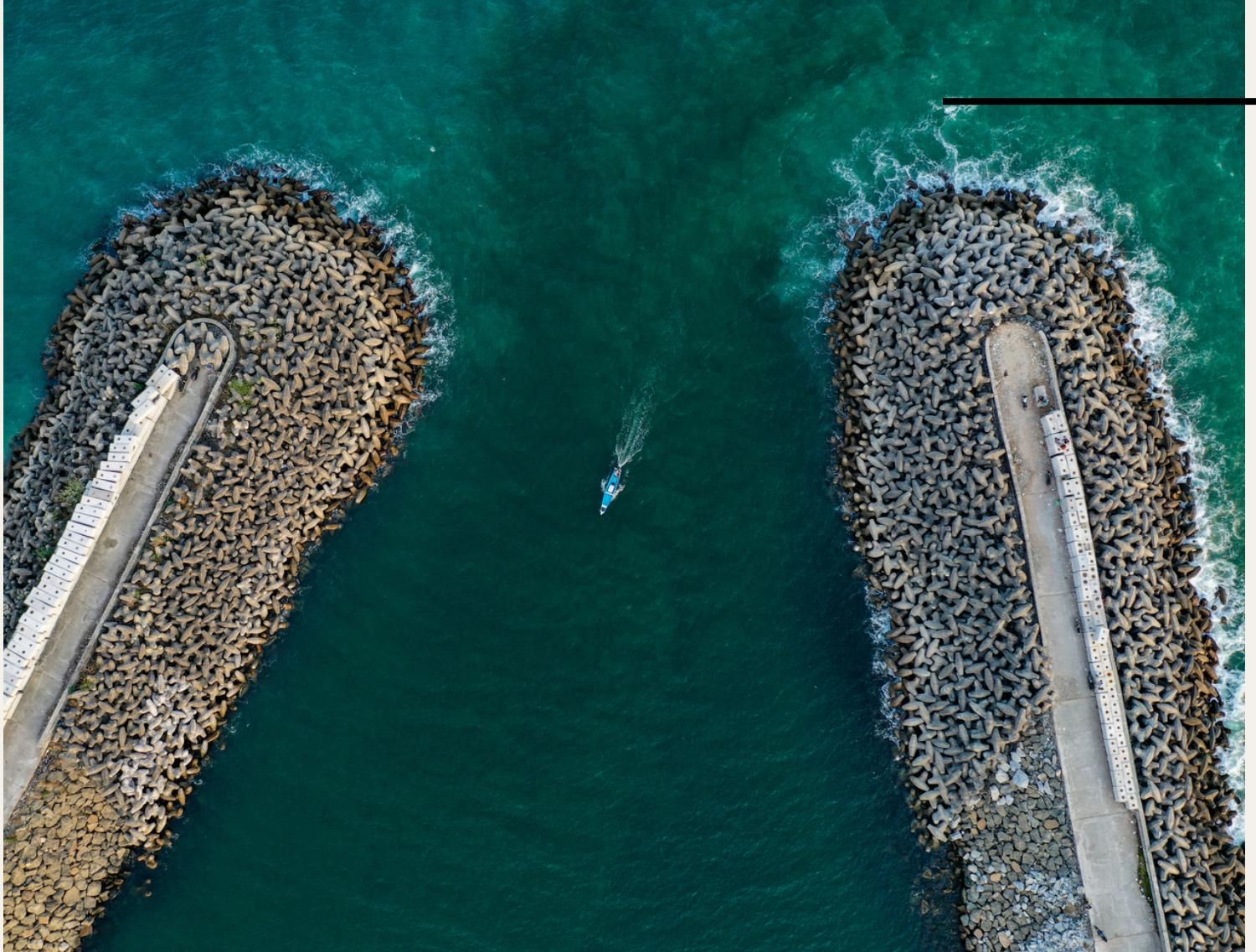
A one-day educational tour for differently-abled children as inclusive tourism



TTDC along with Ooty District's Differently Abled Welfare Organisation (DDAWO) hosted a one-day field trip around Nilgiris for 40 differently-abled children on 22 December 2022. The trip was flagged off by Thiru. S.P. Amrith, IAS, District Collector of Ooty. The trip was organised to promote inclusive and accessible tourism.

The children were accompanied by their parents from Kothagiri and Gudalur. The trip covered exciting tourist spots like the scenic Doddabetta Park, the vibrant Karnataka Siri Horticulture Garden, and the sparkling Ooty and Pykara boat house. The food and transportation were arranged by TTDC for the children and their families. At the end of the trip, the organisers received lots of positive feedbacks and were shown gratitude by the parents for providing utmost care and comfort.

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