











## Catalogue of Festivities

The plethora of festivals that Kerala grandly celebrates every year has great significance attached to each one of them. Find a brief account of the important festivals celebrated in Kerala along with the location, dates, and the point of contact associated with the festivals or the religious centres in this calendar. These approximate dates can be confirmed with the local authorities.

With every festival, the land of God comes to life with colourful processions, radiant displays, feasts, dynamic fireworks and cultural programmes; all of which accounts for a virtual carnival that for sure is not to be missed!

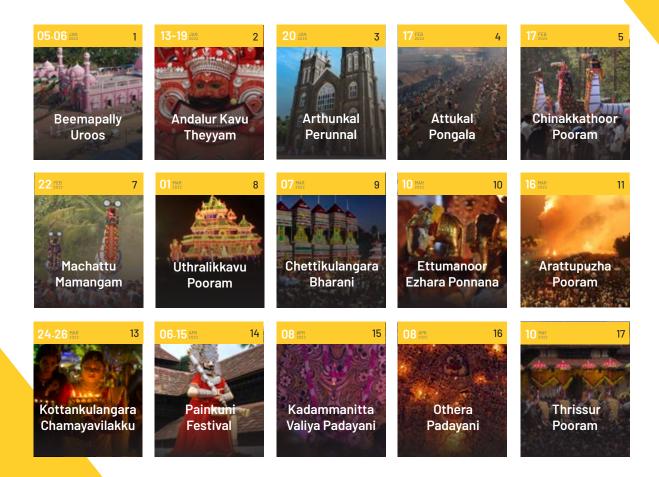




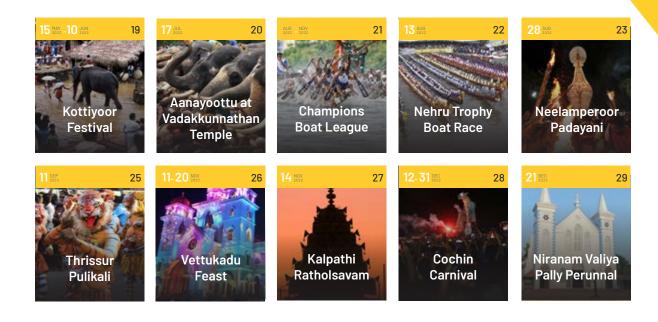




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Browse the calendar to have a roundup of the important festivals and their specialities along with their approximate dates that can be confirmed with the local authorities





The Beemapally Dargah Shareef in Thiruvananthapuram is famous for its Uroos festival known as the Beemapally Uroos or Chandanakkudam Mahotsavam. Devotees carry earthen pots covered in sandalwood paste, filled with coins as offerings during the festival. Art forms like Daharamuttu are also part of the celebrations.



District

Thiruvananthapuram



Location

Beemapally



Contact





The Andalur Kavu Theyyam is performed during the annual festival at Andalur Kavu located at Dharmadam village in Thalassery. The Theyyam performed in the ancient temple depicts stories from the epic Ramayana.





District **Kannur** 



Location

Dharmadam village



Contact





rthunkal Perunnal is the annual feast celebrated A at St Andrew's Forane Church at Arthunkal in Alappuzha district. One of the main highlights here is the ceremony where devotees crawl on their knees from the beach to the church. This is followed by the procession carrying the statue of St Sebastian.







District Alappuzha Location **Arthunkal**  Contact





A ttukal Pongala is celebrated at Attukal Temple in Thiruvananthapuram district and sees the largest congregation of women gathered to worship Goddess Bhagavathy. The main ritual is the sweet payasam made by the women as an offering to the Goddess with huge crowds gathered around the temple and the streets.



District

Thiruvananthapuram



Location **East Fort** 

**C** 

Contact

+91471 2463130





C hinakkathoor Pooram is the annual festival celebrated at Sree Chinakkathoor Bhagavathy Temple in Palakkad district. The highlights of the festival are a procession of elephants, performance of folk art forms, traditional orchestra, Pulikali and many other cultural performances.



District **Palakkad** 



Location **Palappuram** 



Contact







Dedicated to Goddess Bhagavathy, the Machattu Mamangam festival is celebrated at Machattu Thiruvanikkavu temple in Vadakkancherry. The main attraction of the festival is the Kuthirakolams, which are huge decorated horse effigies taken out for procession accompanied by percussion music.



District **Thrissur** 



Location **Vadakkancherry** 



Contact





thralikkavu Pooram is an annual festival celebrated at Sree Ruthira Mahakalikavu Temple, Vadakkancherry. It is an eight-day festival highlighted by elephant processions, traditional musical ensembles like Panchavadyam, Pandimelam and also performances of temple and folk art forms of Kerala



District

Thrissur



Location **Vadakkancherry** 



Contact

+91 99954 36838





Chettikulangara Bharani celebrated at Chettikulangara Bhagavathy Temple, Alappuzha, is an important festival dedicated to Goddess Bhagavathy. The main attraction of the festival is the Kettukazhcha, where giant decorated structures are taken as a procession through the temple roads.



District **Alappuzha** 



Location **Mavelikara** 



Contact

+91 479 2348670





Etumanoor Ezhara Ponnana is a ritualistic procession held during the annual festival celebrated at Ettumanoor Sree Mahadeva Temple, Kottayam. Seven golden elephants are taken as a procession accompanied by traditional orchestra and caparisoned elephants.



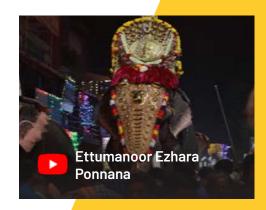
District **Kottayam** 



Location **Ettumanoor** 



Contact





A rattupuzha Pooram held at the Sree Sastha Temple, Thrissur, is considered the oldest Pooram festival celebrated in Kerala. Folk art performances, traditional orchestra, a grand procession of elephants and the gathering of huge crowds of people are a few of the highlights that mark the festival.



District **Thrissur** 



Location **Arattupuzha** 



Contact







Kottankulangara Chamayavilakku is a unique festival where men dress up as women in the most beautiful attires and make-up and walk in procession to the temple accompanied by the traditional orchestra. The Chamayavilakku festival is held in the Malayalam month of Meenam at the Kottankulangara Devi Temple in Kollam.





District **Kollam** 

Location

Kottankulangara



Contact





Painkuni is a ten-day annual festival celebrated at the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram district. One of the main attractions of the festival is the display of the huge fibreglass figures of the Pandavas (characters from Mahabharatha) at the eastern entrance to the temple.



District

Thiruvananthapuram



Location

East Fort



Contact

+91471 2450233





The Valiya Padayani celebrated as part of the tenday annual Padayani festival at Kadammanitta Bhagavathy Temple is held on the 7th day that begins with the ceremonial procession of Padayani Kolams. The major attraction is the performance of the giant Bhairavi kolam that dances to the tune of traditional Padayani songs.



District **Pathanamthitta** 

<u>@</u>

Location

Kadammanitta



Contact





The Othera Padayani celebrated at the Othera Puthukulangara Devi Temple is marked by many rituals and Kolam performances with the main highlight being the Valiya Padayani that falls on the last day of the festival. A giant Kolam called Chattathel Kolam, made of 1,001 sheaths of areca nut, is a prime attraction of the festival.



District Pathanamthitta



Location Othera



Contact





Thrissur Pooram, a much-awaited annual temple festival held at the Thekkinkadu Maidanam in Thrissur, is considered the mother of all Pooram festivals in Kerala. The festival is celebrated grandly with the procession of caparisoned elephants, percussion music, fireworks and many other cultural events.



District **Thrissur** 



Location **Thrissur** 



Contact







The Kottiyoor Vysakha Mahotsavam is an annual festival hosted by two temples, Akkara Kottiyoor and Ikkara Kottiyoor, in the Kannur district. This 28-day festival is celebrated with many rituals that involve Neyyattam, Rohini Aaradhana, Elaneerattam and many more such unique practices.







District **Kannur** 

Location **Kottiyoor**  Contact

+91490243 0234





A nayoottu festival is celebrated at Sree Vadakkumnathan Temple, Thrissur, to worship and feed the elephants as an offering to Lord Ganesha, the elephant-faced God. A row of elephants is lined up in front of the temple with thousands of devotees waiting to feed them.



District **Thrissur** 



Location **Thrissur** 



Contact





The Champions Boat League (CBL) is a muchanticipated event that conducts snake boat races in Kerala, in the model of the Indian Premier League (IPL). CBL is a major sporting event where the legendary boat races will be conducted across Kollam, Alappuzha, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Malappuram districts.



Location

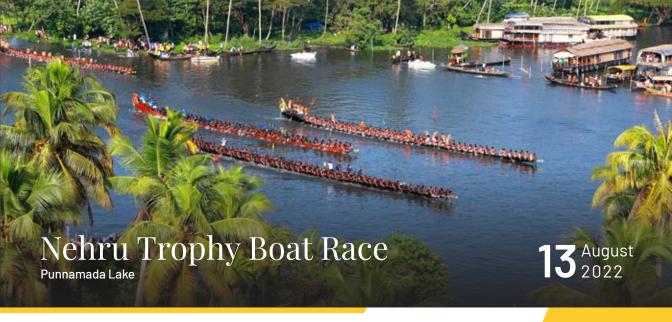
**Backwaters of Kerala** 



Contact

info@championsboatleague.in





Nehru Trophy Boat Race is one of the famed snake boat races in Kerala, which is a muchanticipated event during the Onam festival. The race is conducted in Punnamada Lake where the majestic snake boats race against each other to the tunes of the old boat songs accompanied by ceremonial water processions.



District

Alappuzha

Location

Punnamada



Contact

+91477 2263441





Neelamperoor Padayani is held in Palli Bhagavathy Temple, Alappuzha that sees some of the rarest Padayani displays in Kerala. A notable highlight here is the Kettukazhcha where decorated effigies of swans and mythological characters are taken out for procession.



District **Alappuzha** 



Location **Neelamperoor** 



Contact







Pulikali is a folk art form performed mostly as part of the Onam festival celebrations in Kerala. The Swaraj ground in Thrissur turns vibrant and festive on the fourth day of the Onam festival with the Pulikali artists and the crowd gathered to witness the event.



District **Thrissur** 



Location **Swaraj Round** 



Contact





Vettukadu Feast is a significant event celebrated at the 500-year old Madre-de-Deus Church at Vettukadu, a coastal suburb in Thiruvananthapuram. The festival is celebrated by all communities alike and is highlighted by special prayers and grand ceremonial processions that light up the whole area in a festive mood.



District

Thiruvananthapuram



Location

Vettukadu



Contact





Ralpathi Ratholsavam is a chariot festival celebrated at Sree Viswanatha Swamy Temple at Kalpathi in Palakkad in November. The highlight of the ten-day annual festival is the procession of the giant decorated chariots through the streets. The event is marked by a huge crowd of devotees gathered together to witness the procession.



District

Palakkad









Kalpathi

Contact





Cochin Carnival is a cultural event that begins with the hoisting of the Carnival Flag at the Vasco da Gama square in Fort Kochi. This carnival is the biggest gala to be celebrated in Fort Kochi and is highlighted by various cultural shows, fairs, food festivals, games and many such exciting events.



District **Ernakulam** 



Location Fort Kochi



Contact





🖊 iranam Perunnal is an eleven-day festival that **N** is celebrated in the memory of Saint Thomas. The celebrations begin with the hoisting of the flag known as Kodiyettu and a religious rally known as the Perunnal Vilambara Rally. The highlights include holy mass, special prayers, Nerchavilambu and other cultural events.



District

Pathanamthitta

Location

Niranam

Contact

+91 4692 711510







## Vettukadu Feast

A ten-day glorious celebration of Christ that culminates with a grand feast. Vettukad Feast is marked by many special events, especially the ceremonial procession carrying the statue of 'Christ the King' by the devotees, held on the main day of the festival. People of different caste and creeds throng the sandy premises of Vettukadu Church in Thiruvananthapuram during the feast, which is celebrated heartily by believers of all faith.



### Vaikathashtami

A magnificent annual festival highlighted by grand processions, cultural performances and other festive revelries. Vaikathashtami is celebrated for twelve days at the famous Vaikom Mahadeva Temple, an ancient Shiva temple known for its striking Kerala style temple architecture, in Kottayam district. The temple, considered to be the one of the oldest temples in Kerala, is surrounded by the serene Vembanad Lake.



# Kalpathi Ratholsavam

A ceremonial chariot festival that enlivens the streets of Kalpathi in Palakkad. Kalpathi Ratholsavam is celebrated annually with much pomp at the Sree Viswanatha Swamy Temple in Palakkad, where a huge crowd of devotees assemble to witness the giant chariots being drawn through the streets. Kalpathi Ratholsavam is a much-anticipated event that has been celebrated for centuries.









