

PILGRIM  
CAPITAL OF KERALA

# Pathanamthitta





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# Pathanamthitta

Pathanamthitta, fondly known as the ‘Pilgrim Capital of Kerala,’ offers a harmonious blend of spirituality, Nature and culture. This serene district is renowned for its ancient temples, vibrant festivals and eco-tourism destinations. Nestled along the mystical Western Ghats, Pathanamthitta provides a tranquil retreat with its lush forests, rich biodiversity and picturesque landscapes.

One of the most iconic pilgrimages in the district leads to the sacred hilltop temple of Sabarimala, the abode of Lord Ayyappa, attracting devotees from across India during the winter season. Along the way, pilgrims pay homage at the Vavarunada shrine, honouring Vavar Swami, a revered Muslim warrior-turned- saint believed to be Lord Ayyappa’s companion.

This pilgrimage is not only a religious journey but a celebration of faith communal harmony, as residents offer water and hospitality to devotees during their sacred trek. Pathanamthitta also shines during

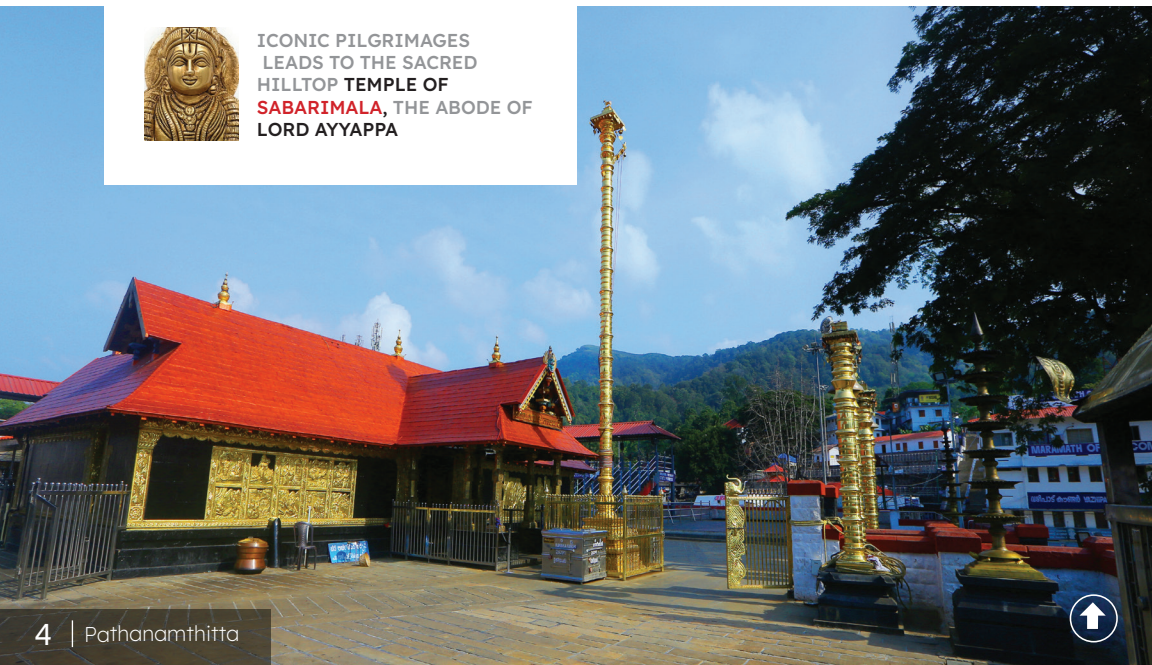
February and March with the vibrant Padayani dance rituals , and the famous Aranmula Boat Race during Onam in August/September. The cultural vibrancy extends to its unique crafts, such as the Aranmula Kannadi, a hand-polished metal mirror, and its exquisite mural paintings.

Surrounded by the districts of Alappuzha, Kottayam, Kollam, Idukki, and the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu, Pathanamthitta has become a hub for eco-tourism, with enchanting getaways like Gavi and Adavi. More than half of the district is blanketed by forest, providing a sanctuary for diverse wildlife, including tigers, elephants, hornbills and giant squirrels. The region’s rolling hills, coupled with its favourable climate, support flourishing rubber plantations and the cultivation of spices, bananas, and coconuts.

Founded on November 1, 1982, Pathanamthitta offers a blend of traditional life and natural beauty. Whether you seek spiritual fulfilment, cultural immersion or eco-friendly adventures, Pathanamthitta promises a rustic charm that stays with you forever.



ICONIC PILGRIMAGES  
LEADS TO THE SACRED  
HILLTOP TEMPLE OF  
**SABARIMALA**, THE ABODE OF  
LORD AYYAPPA





# Aranmula

A Heritage Village of Timeless Traditions





Aranmula, a heritage village in Pathanamthitta, offers an immersive experience steeped in ancient traditions, art, and spirituality. Known for the famous Aranmula Kannadi, a metal mirror crafted from secret techniques passed down through generations, this village holds a unique place in Kerala's cultural landscape. Aranmula's allure extends to its historic Parthasarathy Temple on the banks of the Pamba River, a site of devotion and architectural splendor, featuring intricate murals and carvings. The temple also hosts the grand Vallasadya feast, where oarsmen are served one of India's largest vegetarian meals as part of an age-old ritual offering.

Aranmula comes alive during the renowned Snake Boat Race, held during Onam, where traditional boats glide through the waters in sync with rhythmic songs, exemplifying unity

and tradition. The Vijnana Kalavedi, an arts training center founded in 1968, offers visitors the chance to delve into Kathakali, classical music, dance, and Kalaripayattu. This heritage village, declared as such by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), invites travelers to witness its rural charm and artistic brilliance. Whether exploring ancient temples, enjoying vibrant performances, or acquiring an Aranmula Kannadi as a souvenir, Aranmula offers a journey into the heart of Kerala's cultural heritage.

#### EXPLORE ▶



Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 116 km away



Chengannur Railway Station, about 10.2 km away



Location





# Aranmula Boat Race

A Timeless Tradition on the Pamba River





The Aranmula Uthrattathi Vallamkali, or Aranmula Boat Race, is one of Kerala's oldest and most revered water sports, celebrated with grandeur and deep-rooted tradition. Held annually on the day of the Uthrattathi asterism in the Malayalam month of Chingam (August-September), this race takes place on the scenic Pamba River in the heritage village of Aranmula. It commemorates the sacred offering to Lord Krishna at the Aranmula Sree Parthasarathy Temple, with the snake boats, or *Palliyodams*, playing a central role in the festivities.

Legend has it that the tradition began when local villagers used these boats to protect the *Thiruvonathoni*, a ceremonial boat carrying offerings for the Thiruvona feast, from an enemy attack. Since then, the boat race has become a symbol of devotion, unity, and cultural pride. The *Palliyodams* are larger and taller than typical snake boats,

with their design attributed to Lord Krishna himself. The event is accompanied by rhythmic *vanjippattu* (boat songs), with songs such as *Kuchelavritam* and *Bheeshmaparvam* resonating across the river. Divided into A and B categories, the competing boats make the race a vibrant spectacle that draws thousands of tourists to Aranmula each year, blending athleticism, devotion, and Kerala's rich heritage in one unforgettable celebration.

EXPLORE ▶



Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 117 km



Chengannur Bus Stand, about 10 km away



Chengannur Railway Station, about 10 km away



Location



08:30 A.M. - 05:30 P.M





# Aranmula Kannadi

A Marvel of Tradition and Craftsmanship





The Aranmula Kannadi, crafted in the heritage village of Aranmula, Pathanamthitta, Kerala, stands as a testament to ancient artistry and metallurgy. These unique metal mirrors, awarded the GI (Geographical Indication) tag by the Government of India, are crafted from a secret alloy of copper and tin, known as vishwakarma loha. Unlike conventional glass mirrors, the Aranmula Kannadi reflects from its front surface, eliminating any distortion, making it renowned for its flawless clarity. Each mirror is meticulously hand-polished using traditional tools and herbal pastes over several days, ensuring perfection in every piece. The technique, passed down through generations within a select few families, reflects not only skill but also the cultural heritage of Kerala.

Its origins are intertwined with local legends, including its association

with the Aranmula Parthasarathy Temple, where artisans were first commissioned to create a crown for the deity. Over time, the mirrors became sacred, listed among the eight auspicious items in Hindu rituals. Known for their intricate craftsmanship, these mirrors are sought after as gifts during weddings, festivals, and housewarmings, symbolizing prosperity and good fortune. With sizes ranging from 2 to 12 inches, these mirrors are considered collectible treasures, not just utility items. Despite modern challenges, only 19 registered craftsmen, called acharis, retain the exclusive right to produce the Aranmula Kannadi, ensuring its legacy as a rare, eco-friendly artifact that embodies centuries-old knowledge, artistry and tradition

**EXPLORE ▶**





# Padayani

A Vibrant Ritual Art of Devotion





Padayani, a ritualistic dance form deeply rooted in Kerala's cultural heritage, is performed in Kali temples along the banks of the Pamba River. Celebrated annually during the Malayalam months of Meenam and Medam (March–April), Padayani is a week-long festival that brings together dance, music and mythology to honour Goddess Bhadrakali. The central theme of the performances is the fierce goddess Kali's slaying of the demon Daarika, with each Kolam (character) representing different mythological figures like Bhairavi (Bhadrakali), Yakshi, Pakshi (bird) and Kaalari (Shiva).

Padayani is distinguished by the use of vibrant masks crafted from

the spathe of arecanut palms and lively rhythms played on Thappu and Chenda drums. The dance steps vary with each character, adding dynamism and variety to the performance. Historically linked to Lord Shiva's dance to appease Goddess Durga, Padayani has evolved into an art form blending tradition with satire, often using humour to comment on social issues. Key locations for these grand performances include Kadammanitta, Kadalimangalam and Othara in Pathanamthitta district. The colourful masks, energetic rhythms and mythological storytelling of Padayani continue to captivate audiences, offering a mesmerizing glimpse of

**EXPLORE ▶**





# Sabarimala

The Sacred Hill Shrine of Lord Ayyappa





Sabarimala, one of India's most revered pilgrimage destinations, is nestled within the dense forests of the Western Ghats in Pathanamthitta, Kerala. Perched atop a hill at an altitude of 468 metres (1535 feet), this sacred sanctuary is surrounded by mountains and forests, offering devotees a serene and spiritual retreat. Vehicles can only go as far as the Pamba, located five kilometres from the temple, after which pilgrims must continue the journey on foot. Open to people of all castes, creeds and religions, Sabarimala welcomes millions of devotees annually during two main seasons—the 41-day Mandala Kaalam from mid-November to late December, and the Makaravilakku festival in January. Devotees embark on this pilgrimage with strict adherence to rituals, dressing themselves in black or blue attire, abstaining from non-vegetarian food and alcohol, and observing celibacy for 40 days.

The temple complex, known as the Sannidhanam, houses the sanctum sanctorum of Lord Ayyappa with its gold-plated roof, spacious mandapams, balipeedams (sacrificial platforms), and the iconic 18 sacred steps—Pathinettampadi—leading to the main shrine. These steps, covered in gold, are guarded by two gatekeepers, Valiya

Kadutha Swami and Karuppa Swami. Nearby stands the Vavar Nada, a shrine dedicated to Vavar Swami, Ayyappa's Muslim companion, symbolizing religious harmony. The temple also features several smaller shrines, including those of Malikappurathamma, snake gods and Lord Ganapathy. The sanctity of the pilgrimage is heightened by ancient rituals such as the offering of consecrated coconuts into the sacred fire pit (Aazhi). Rebuilt after a devastating fire in 1950, the temple now serves as a hub of faith and tradition, with its idol of Lord Ayyappa cast in panchaloha—a blend of five metals.

EXPLORE ▶

✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 170 km away

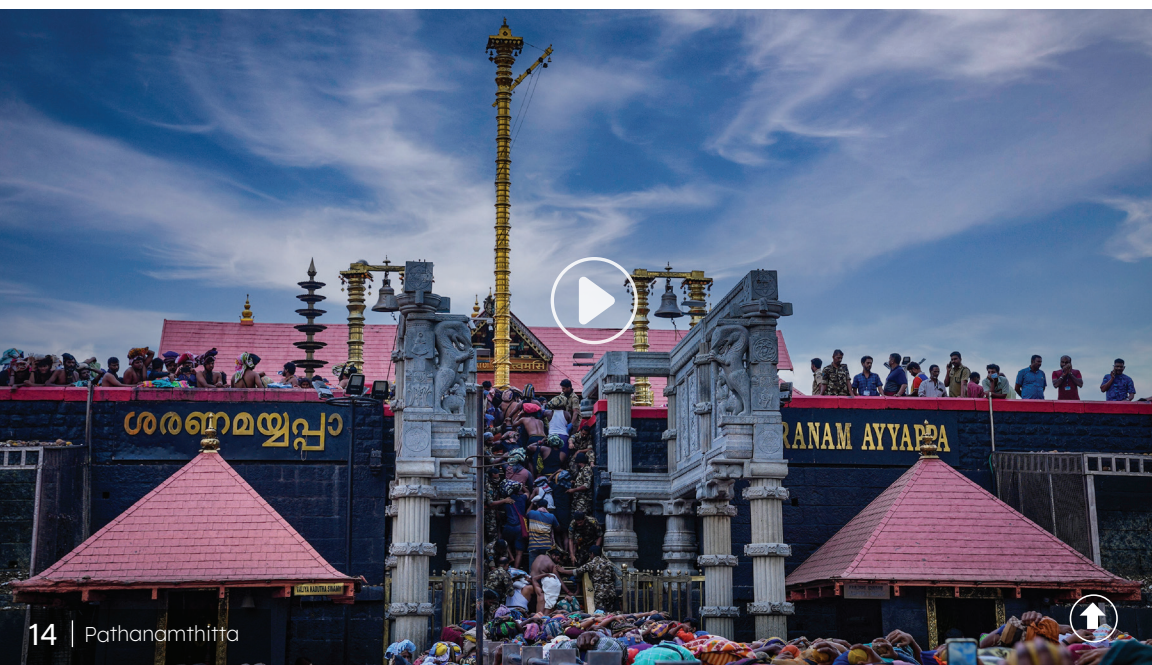
🚌 Pathanamthitta Bus Stand, about 64 km away

🚆 Chengannur Railway Station, about 85 km away

📍 Location

☎ +91 473 520 2048,  
+91 702 580 0100

🕒 03:00 A. M. - 01:00 P. M  
03:00 P. M. - 11:00 P. M





# Konni Elephant Training Centre

A Sanctuary for Gentle Giants





The Konni Elephant Training Centre in Pathanamthitta is one of Kerala's oldest and most renowned elephant camps, offering visitors a rare opportunity to interact closely with elephants. Located 10 km from Pathanamthitta town along the banks of the Achankovil River, this camp is known for housing baby elephants rescued from the wild, often abandoned or injured. These elephants are kept in massive wooden enclosures known as *Aanakoodu*, crafted from durable "Kambakam" wood [*Hopea ponga*, commonly known as Malabar ironwood], which can accommodate up to four elephants. Built in 1942, the Aanakoodu reflects the camp's long tradition of elephant training, which dates back to 1810 CE.

The camp provides a hands-on experience to visitors, especially children, who can observe the elephants being trained, taken on morning walks, bathed, and given specially curated diets. Baby elephants are known for their playful and friendly nature, making them popular among tourists. Visitors can also enjoy elephant rides, explore the elephant museum featuring a tusker's

skeleton, and browse the eco-store selling forest products like honey and herbal medicines. The camp promotes sustainability, using elephant dung to produce biogas and handmade paper. Additionally, trained Kumki elephants—used for managing wild elephants—are part of the centre's conservation efforts. Konni's elephant camp offers an unforgettable experience, combining tradition, education and eco-tourism, while fostering a deeper understanding of these majestic animals.

EXPLORE ▶

✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 100 km away

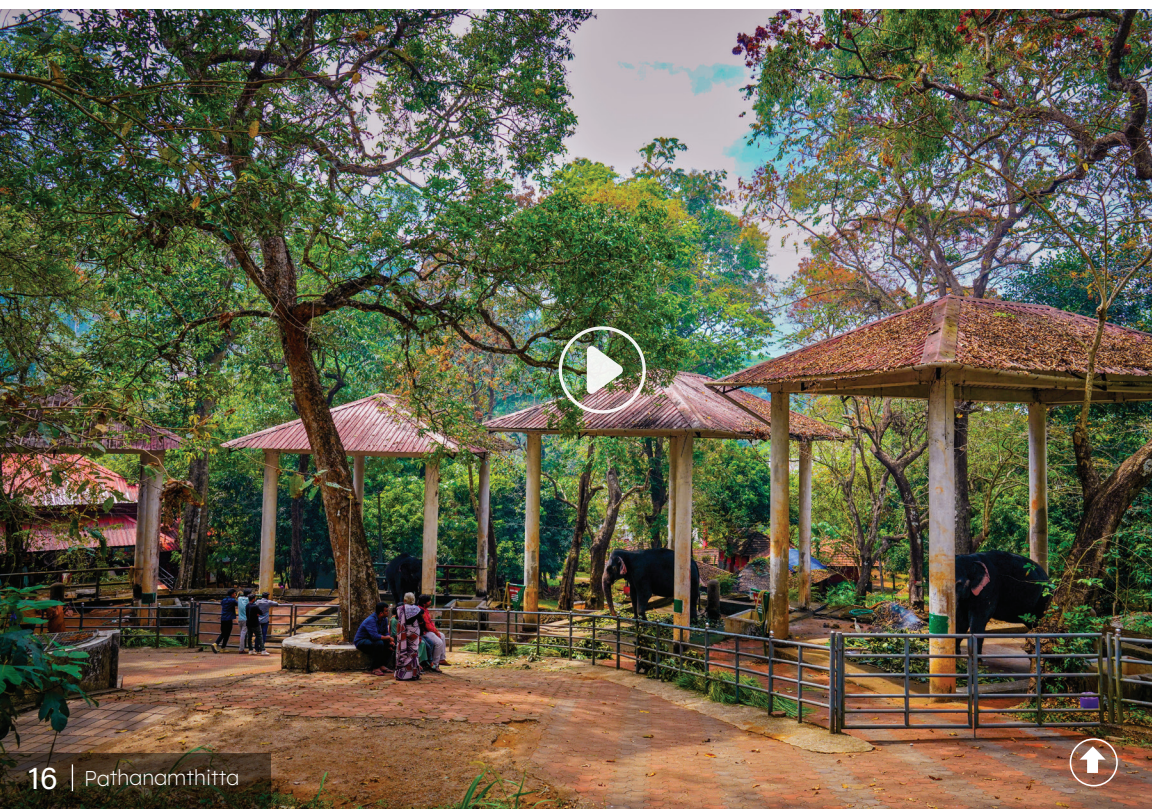
🚌 Pathanamthitta Bus Stand, about 9 km away

🚉 Chengannur Railway Station, about 34 km away

📍 Location

☎ + 91 468 224 7645

🕒 09:00 A.M. - 06:00 P.M





# Adavi

An Eco-Tourist Gem on  
the Banks of the Kallar River





Adavi, nestled along the serene Kallar River in Konni, Pathanamthitta, is a Nature lover's haven offering a blend of adventure and tranquillity. This eco-tourist destination is a collaborative initiative developed by the Kerala Tourism Development Corporation and the Department of Forests and Wildlife. Known for its coracle rides-traditional bamboo rafts-Adavi offers visitors the chance to float along the river, which meanders through lush forests.

Tourists can explore the 5-kilometre riverfront by opting for short or long rides, with tickets available at the Konni Eco-Tourist Centre. A 30-minute ride costs ₹400, delivering an unforgettable experience of gliding through pristine waters

Apart from coracle rides, visitors can stay in bamboo huts or treehouses, enjoying a night amid the sights and sounds of the forest.

Trekking paths are also available for those keen on discovering hidden trails. Just 10 kilometres from Konni and 20 kilometres from Pathanamthitta, Adavi offers a serene escape with opportunities to immerse oneself in Nature's beauty and fragility. Whether you seek adventure on the water or peace within the forest canopy, Adavi ensures an eco-tourist experience that connects deeply with Nature.

#### EXPLORE ▶

✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 112 km away

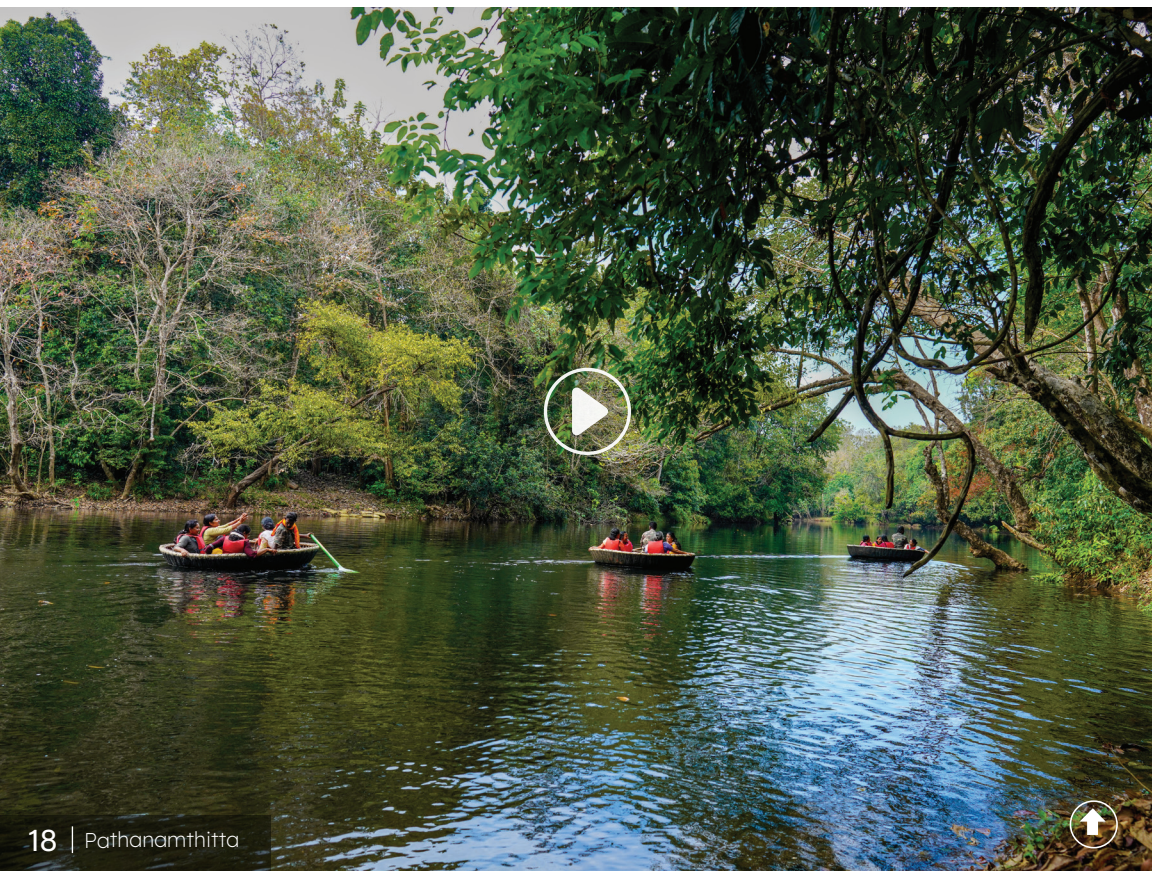
🚌 Pathanamthitta Bus Stand, about 19.6 km away

🚂 Chengannur Railway Station, about 46.6 km away

📍 Location

☎ +91 468 224 7645, 224 2233

🕒 08:30 A.M. - 05:30 P.M





# Gavi

An Eco-Tourist  
Haven in Kerala





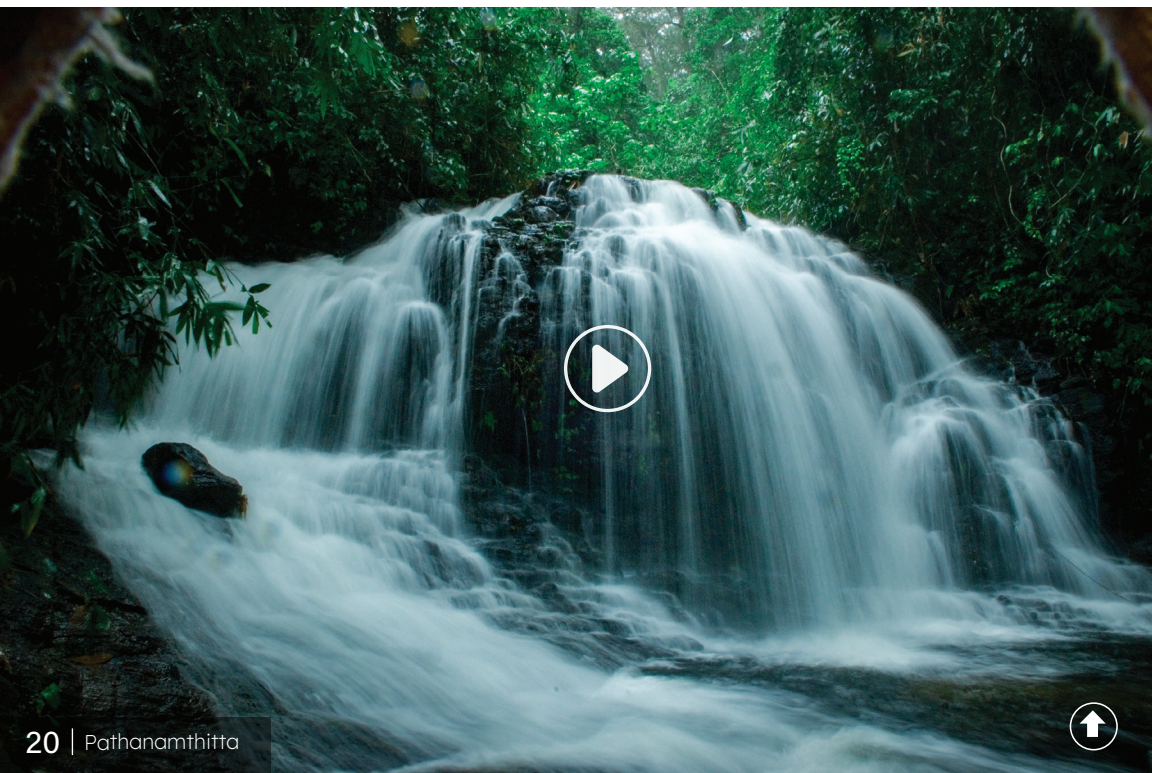
Gavi, tucked within the lush Western Ghats, offers an immersive eco-tourist experience managed by the Kerala Forest Development Corporation (KFDC). A scenic two-hour jeep ride from Kumily takes visitors past tropical forests, cardamom plantations, waterfalls, and charming spots like Mundakkayam, Kuttikkanam and Peerumedu. The journey through sections of the Periyar Tiger Reserve provides glimpses of wildlife, with the Pampa Reservoir and Pullumedu Peak offering stunning views along the way. Gavi remains untouched by modernity, celebrated by Alistair International as one of India's top eco-tourist destinations. Home to rare species like the Nilgiri Tahr, lion-tailed macaques and elephants, Gavi also delights birdwatchers with over 260 species, including hornbills, woodpeckers and kingfishers.

Visitors can enjoy jungle treks, night safaris, outdoor camping and boat rides on the tranquil lakes. Accommodation options include eco-lodges like Green Mansion and treehouses, offering panoramic views of Lake Gavi and the surrounding forests.

The project integrates conservation efforts and community participation, with local tribal members serving as guides and caretakers, enriching the experience with their knowledge. Gavi's eco-friendly initiatives not only promote wildlife preservation but also support sustainable tourism. Whether you're seeking adventure or tranquility, Gavi's serene landscape, bubbling streams, and spice-scented air promise an unforgettable experience for every Nature lover.

#### EXPLORE ▶

- ✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 190 km away
- 🚌 Pathanamthitta KSRTC Bus Stand, about 95.6 km away
- 🚂 Chengannur Railway Station, about 117 km away
- 📍 Location
- 📞 +91 99474 92399,  
+91 82898 21306
- 🕒 Throughout the day





# Vastu Vidya Gurukulam

Preserving Kerala's Architectural Heritage





The Vastu Vidya Gurukulam in Aranmula, Pathanamthitta, stands as a beacon of Kerala's traditional architectural excellence. Established in 1993, this institution plays a vital role in preserving and promoting the centuries-old principles of Vasthu Vidya (traditional architecture) and mural painting. Affiliated with the Kerala State Cultural Affairs Department and recognized by Mahatma Gandhi University, the center offers courses, including a post-graduate diploma in traditional architecture. The Gurukulam also houses a mural painting gallery, a well-stocked library, and provides opportunities for visitors to observe daily training sessions in both architecture and art.

Vastu Vidya Gurukulam is not only an academic institution but also a hub of cultural preservation, having documented over 165 traditional architectural structures across Kerala. Its focus on self-reliance and excellence has earned it national and

international recognition. The centre offers consultancy in traditional architecture and undertakes mural projects, ensuring that this ancient branch of knowledge is carried forward into the future. The Gurukulam continues to inspire future generations to appreciate and preserve the legacy of Kerala's traditional architecture and mural art.

#### EXPLORE ▶

- ✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 116 km away
- 🚌 Chengannur Bus Stand, about 8.9 km away
- 🚂 Chengannur Railway Station, about 9.6 km away
- 📍 Location
- 📞 +91 468 231 9740, +91 91880 89740
- 🕒 10:00 A.M. - 05:00 P.M





# St Peter's and St Paul's Orthodox Church, Parumala

A Sacred Pilgrimage Site





St Peter's and St Paul's Orthodox Church, popularly known as Parumala Church, is a significant spiritual landmark situated on the serene banks of the Pamba River in Pathanamthitta, Kerala. It is an independent parish of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, which traces its origins to the missionary work of St. Thomas, the apostle of Jesus Christ, who arrived in India in 52 CE. The church is revered as the final resting place of Saint Geevarghese Mar Gregorios, known as Parumala Thirumeni, whose saintly intercessions have made it a popular pilgrimage center.

Every year, thousands of devotees gather to celebrate the Parumala Perunnal, the church's annual feast, held from October 26 to November 2, culminating on the saint's death anniversary. The festivities include special prayers, vibrant processions, and commemorative services, drawing believers from around the world. Originally established as a seminary by Malankara Metropolitan

Joseph Mar Dionysius, the church, design by the renowned architect Charles Correa, was consecrated in 2000. With its blend of spiritual significance, historical importance, and architectural splendour, Parumala Church remains a powerful symbol of faith, attracting countless pilgrims seeking blessings at the tomb of Mar Gregorios.

#### EXPLORE ►

✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 127 km away

🚌 Thiruvalla Bus Stand, about 11 km away

🚆 Thiruvalla Railway Station, about 11.6 km away

📍 Location

☎ + 91 479 231 2202, 231 2328, +91 82814 01791





# Veluthampi Dalawa Memorial Museum

A Tribute to a Revolutionary Leader





The Veluthampi Dalawa Memorial Museum, located in Mannadi village, Pathanamthitta, stands as a tribute to Velayudhan Chempakaraman Thampi, also known as Veluthampi Dalawa, the prime minister of Travancore from 1802 to 1809. Known for his fierce opposition to British colonial rule, the Dalawa was a prominent figure in India's early struggle for independence. After leading the famous Kundara Proclamation that urged people to rise against the British, he faced relentless persecution. Surrounded by enemies but refusing to surrender, he took his own life at the Mannadi Pazhayakavu Devi Temple, where he had sought refuge.

The museum, established on February 14, 2010, by the Department of Archaeology, offers visitors a glimpse into both the Dalawa's heroic life and the cultural legacy of ancient Travancore. A pavilion with his statue and an open-air gallery, displaying portraits of Travancore rulers from Anizham Thirunal Marthanda Varma to Sree Chithra Thirunal, enrich the museum. Visitors can explore historical artifacts such as cannons, agricultural tools, war apparatus, and a stone

Buddha statue. The museum also features replicas of significant documents, including the Kundara Declaration, a picture gallery on the Dalawa's life and a numismatics collection. A serene garden and a library enhance the museum complex, inspiring visitors to go into a reflective mood. Situated 13 km from Aloor, Mannadi remains a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made in the fight for freedom and a place to explore the inspiring story of one of Kerala's earliest freedom fighters.

#### EXPLORE ▶

- ✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 86.2 km away
- 🚌 Aloor KSRTC Bus Stand, 10.3 km away
- 🚂 Chengannur Railway Station, about 35.4 km away
- 📍 Location
- ☎ +91 469 261 1006
- 🕒 09:00 A.M. - 05:00 P.M.





# Chuttippara Trekking

A Scenic Adventure  
with Mythical Charm





Chuttippara, a 200-foot hill cluster in Pathanamthitta district, is a unique blend of natural beauty and mythological significance. Known for its breathtaking panoramic views of Pathanamthitta town, this scenic spot is a favourite among tourists for sunrise and sunset experiences. At the summit, visitors will find the revered Harihara Mahadeva Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, believed to have been worshipped by Lord Rama himself.

The surrounding hills—Chelavirichapara, Kattadipara, and Pulipara—are steeped in local legends linked to the *Ramayana*. Chelavirichapara derives its name from the belief that Sita spread her clothes to dry there (*chela* means “clothes”, *viricha* means “spread out” and *para* means “boulder”). Kattadipara, known for its gusty winds, is associated with Hanuman, who is said to have found

respite atop the hill. Pulipara, with its natural cave formation, is believed to have sheltered Rama and Sita during their forest exile, with rock formations inside the cave resembling a bed. Chuttippara offers more than just scenic views—it provides a journey through Nature intertwined with mythology, making it an ideal destination for trekkers and pilgrims alike.

EXPLORE ▶



Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 108 km away



Pathanamthitta Bus Stand, about 1 km away



Chengannur Railway Station, about 25.6 km away



Location





# St Mary's Orthodox Syrian Church, Niranam

A Pillar of Faith and History





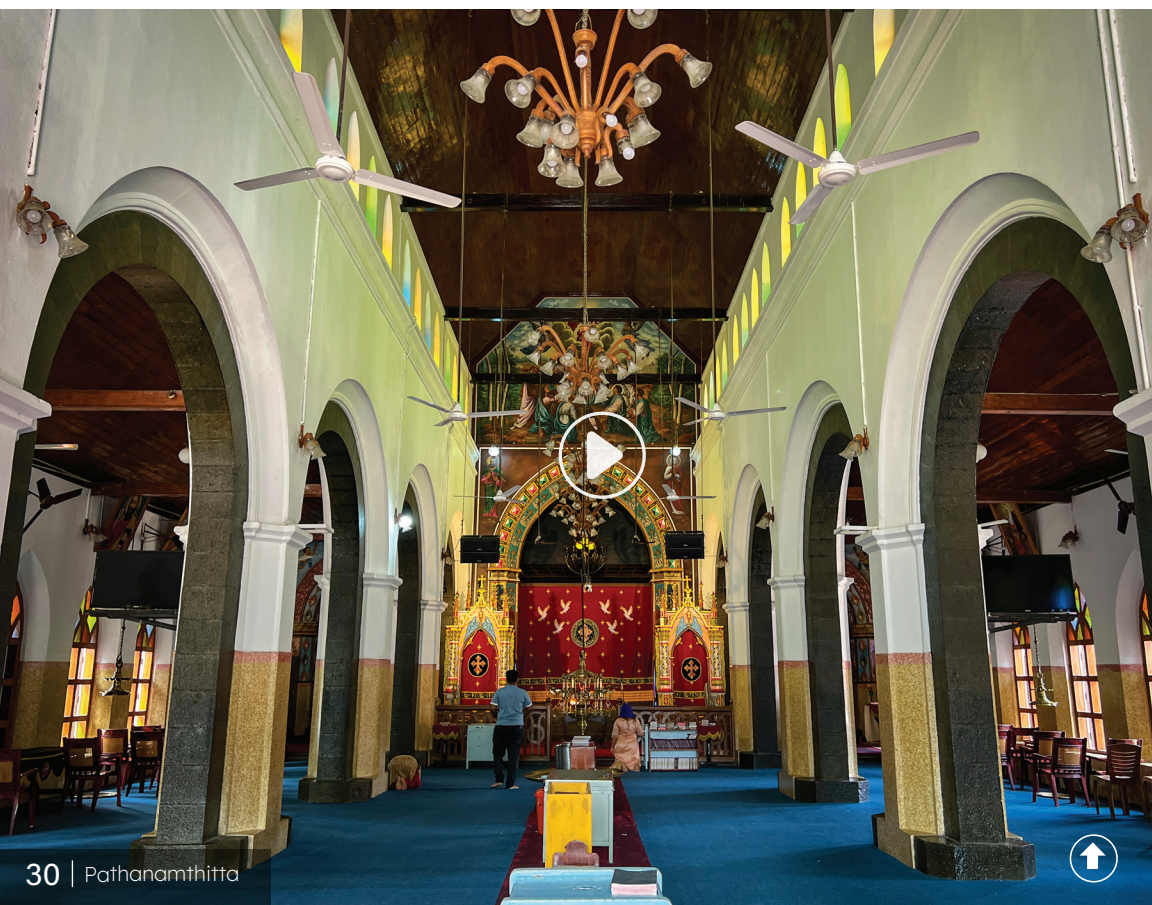
St Mary's Orthodox Church, also known as Niranam Valiyapally, stands as a testament to the deep-rooted Christian heritage of Kerala. Founded in 54 CE by St Thomas, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ, it is among the oldest churches in the world and part of the historic *Ezhara Pallikal*-the seven-and-a-half churches established by the apostle. Located in the picturesque village of Niranam in Pathanamthitta district, where the Pamba and the Manimala rivers converge, this church has been a beacon of orthodox Christianity for centuries.

The church, originally established near a Hindu temple, has been rebuilt multiple times over the centuries, with the current structure dating back to 1912. A relic of faith and tradition, Niranam Valiyapally houses a granite cross and an ancient golden cross. It has also preserved ancient palm-leaf inscriptions. The church has played a central role in the growth of the

Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, having witnessed the ordination of the first two Catholicos in 1912 and 1925. Today, Niranam Diocese includes 76 parishes and several charitable institutions such as homes for the elderly and orphanages. With its blend of history, architectural quaintness and faith, Niranam Church continues to attract devotees and visitors from around the world.

EXPLORE ▶

- ✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 120 km away
- 🚌 Thiruvalla KSRTC Bus Stand, 9.4 km away
- 🚂 Thiruvalla Railway Station, about 9.9 km away
- 📍 Location
- ☎ +91 469 261 1006





# Perunthenaruvi Waterfalls

The Hidden Gem of Pathanamthitta





Nestled in the forested region of Sabarimala in Pathanamthitta district, Perunthenaruvi Waterfalls offer a serene escape into Nature. Known for their width rather than height, the waterfalls descend gracefully into the Pamba River, which holds spiritual significance due to its connection with the Sabarimala temple. The name Perunthenaruvi, meaning “honey stream” in Malayalam, comes from the abundance of beehives found in the surrounding forest, adding to the charm of this untouched destination.

Perunthenaruvi is home to two distinct waterfalls-Panamkudantha, standing at 300 feet, and Padivathil, which reaches 200 feet. Both waterfalls originate from the dense woods of Sabarimala and cascade down rocky beds, creating natural swimming holes and picturesque streams. Visitors can access the falls via a 5-minute walk or opt for a 20-minute trek through scenic tea plantations, breathing in the refreshing mountain air along the way. The waterfalls are captivating all the year round, transforming dramatically during the monsoon when the cascades swell with energy and the surrounding greenery flourishes.

Ideal for those seeking peace and rejuvenation, Perunthenaruvi offers more than just breathtaking views—it’s a tranquil retreat where visitors can immerse themselves in Nature’s purity. Whether listening to the distant music of the falls, swimming in the cool waters or exploring the mystical forests that surround them, pilgrims and travellers will find that this lesser-known gem promises an unforgettable experience

**EXPLORE ▶**



Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 135 km away



Ranni Bus Stand, about 16.9 km



Chengannur Railway Station, about 46.8 km away



Location



09:30 A.M. - 05:00 P.M.



Adults : Rs.30/-  
Kids : Rs.15/-





# Valamchuzy Sree Bhuvaneswary Temple

A Sacred Sanctuary Along the Achankovil River





Valamchuzy Sree Bhuvaneswary Temple, located 4.5 km from the heart of Pathanamthitta, is one of the region's most ancient and revered temples, going back over 2000 years. Its name, Valamchuzy, meaning "encircled," originates from the Achankovil River, which flows in a protective embrace around the temple on three sides. This unique setting offers a serene environment where meditation and prayers bring blessings to the devotees. Despite facing centuries of river erosion and natural challenges, the temple has remained a symbol of faith and heritage, protected from floods through the dedicated efforts of the temple authorities.

The temple is renowned for the *Valamchuzy Padayani*, a ritual celebrated during the Meena Bharani festival in the Malayalam month of Meenam (March–April). This vibrant event, marked by elaborate Kolam performances such as Ganapathy, Yakshi, Bhairavi, and the famed Kalan Kolam, draws devotees and tourists alike. Kalan Kolam, a significant attraction, narrates the story of Sage Markandeya's rescue by Lord Shiva from death's grip, a tale deeply rooted in Hindu mythology. Legend has it that the temple's origins are intertwined with the

sacred Kodungallur Temple. A devoted pilgrim brought a divine flower, believed to embody Goddess Bhuvaneswary, from Kodungallur, and went in search of the perfect spot for installation. Guided by divine inspiration, he placed the flower at Valamchuzy, where the river's protective flow converges. The temple was then constructed to enshrine the goddess, and successive generations of the devotee's family continued to serve as guardians of the temple. The temple still preserves the sacred sword and *Chilambu* (anklet) brought from Kodungallur, standing as a testament to its ancient history and legacy.

✈ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, about 107 km away

🚌 Pathanamthitta KSRTC Bus Stand, about 4.4 km away

🚆 Chengannur Railway Station, about 28.6 km away

📍 Location

☎ +91 468 233 3100

🕒 05:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.  
05:30 P.M. - 07:30 P.M.





# BOOK YOUR STAY

HOTEL

HOME STAY

SERVICED VILLA

TOUR OPERATOR





# Thank You



Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala  
Park View, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India-695 003



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