



# THIRU UTHSAVAM

## MARARIKULAM SREE MAHADEVA TEMPLE



**LOCATION**

<b>Panchayat/ Municipality/ Corporation</b>	Mararikulam North Grama Panchayat
<b>District</b>	Alappuzha



**ACCESSIBILITY**

<b>Nearest Town/ Landmark/ Junction</b>	Mararikulam Railway Station -500m
<b>Nearest Bus station</b>	Cherthala Bus Station – 12Km Alappuzha Bus Station – 15Km
<b>Nearest Railway station</b>	Cherthala Railway Station – 13Km Alappuzha Railway Station – 16Km
<b>Nearest Airport</b>	CochinInternational Airport – 73Km



**CONTACT**

Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple,  
Mararikulam North,  
Alappuzha - 688549  
Phone: +91-478-286 2634



TIME

DATES

February (*Kumbham*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 Days

### ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The Mararikulam Mahadeva temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and is located in Mararikulam, Alapuzha. This is one of the most famous ancient temples located in this region. The temple is believed to be almost 700 years ago. It is believed that Villwamanglam Swami built this famous temple. Sri Mahadevan has been called, *Marari*, the killer of Cupid. This is the only temple where Sri Mahadevan and Sri Parvathi Devi are present face to face. The temple has a specialty – this was where the famous *Arattu* took place in the sea. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and is worshipped by devotees from far and wide. It is said to grant the wishes of the devotees that pray with full devotion. There are two deities of Lord Shiva that are worshipped in this temple and they are known as *Vadakkanappan* and *Thekkanappan*. The temple is also known for some of the best architecture of its time. This is one of the most famous ancient temples located in this region. During the festival days, thousands of devotees are attracted towards the temples where they come to seek the holy blessings of the Lord.



RELEVANCE-  
(Local / National /  
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE  
PARTICIPATED

About 25000



## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Flag Hoisting  
*Sreebhoothabali*  
*Annadanam*  
Cultural Programs and folk arts  
Spiritual discourses  
Seminars  
Percussion Music  
Musical Concerts  
Kadhakali  
Mohiniyattam  
Ottanthullal  
Drama  
Bale  
*Chakyarkoothu*  
*Sopanasangeetham*  
*Kettukazhcha*  
*Arattu*

## DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

Annual festival of this festival starts on Malayalam month *Kumbham*(February). It is a 10 days spectacular event. There will be a flag hoisting ceremony marking the beginning of the festival. The shrine is traditionally decorated with plantain, coconut leaves, flowers, leaves, traditional lamps and lights. There will be special poojas and offerings during the festival period. Also *annadanam* on all days. Traditional performing arts like *Kadhakali*, *Chakyar Koothu*, *Nangyar Kooth*, *Villadichan Paattu*, *Harikadha*, *Kadhapresangam*, etc; music and dance are staged during the period. Caparisoned elephants, *melam*, fireworks and *sheevali* are part of the festival. On the 10th day by evening 6Pm *Arattu*(holy bath) ceremony starts. The *utsava murti* of the deity is taken out of the shrine for ritual bathing on the final day. The temple has a specialty the famous *Arattu* took place in the sea. After *Arattu* there will be an *Arattu* procession covering the major part of the town. Caparisoned elephants, *melam* and percussion music are part of the ritual.

