

Malappuram: Food and Football



Football and food evoke intense emotions in Malappuram. Football had its start in the colonial era when the British taught the people how to play the game. The craze for the game has not undergone any change, rather, football is more of a religion to the people. A range of football tournaments is held here every year. The famous Sevens Football Tournament is Malappuram's contribution to the world of soccer.

The culinary spread in Malappuram is rich, abundant, unique and seeped in spices. It is indeed the flavour capital and the must-go-to place for gourmets. Be it snacks or main course, the choices are a legion at Malappuram. Biriyani, the staple diet of the land, has a great culinary history attached to it. The array of non-vegetarian dishes in mutton, pork and beef are sure to satiate the taste buds of any food enthusiast.





God's Own Country

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Fonnani

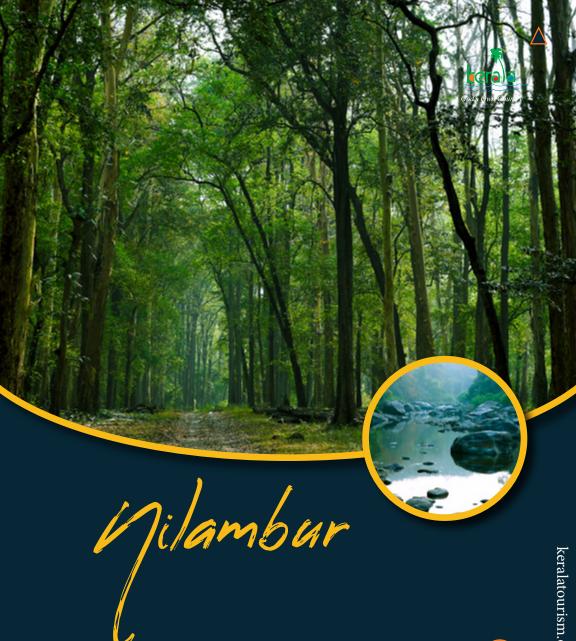




Ponnani town (view video) in Malappuram has always been an attraction for travellers across the world since ancient times. This port town is renowned for its scenic coastal landscapes. It is bordered by an estuary to the North, backwaters to the South and the Arabian Sea to the West. It is the land where Bharathapuzha, Kerala's second longest river, merges with the Arabian Sea after a long, winding journey through Malabar.

Ponnani's cultural fabric has always had a strong Islamic influence, dating back to the arrival of the first Arab traders in the state. The Ponnani Juma Masjid built in the 15th century by Zainudeen Ibn Bin Ahmed, the Thrikkavu temple near the Juma Masjid, the Biyyam Kaayal (backwaters) and the Padinjarekkara beach (view video) are some of the attractions in Ponnani.





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Nilambur town in Malapuram has a lot to tell about its teak plantations that share a bond with the lives of its people. Situated about 53 km from Malappuram, it is well known for teak plantations and tribal settlements. The oldest teak plantation in Nilambur is Conolly's Plot (view video), which is two km from the town. The Teak Museum (view 360° video) near it houses around 55 types of bamboos, and an arboretum with the biggest teak in the world. The Museum offers new perspectives on the specialities of teak wood and its value.

Nilambur is blessed with ample rainfall, waterfalls and lush green forests as it lies close to the Nilgiri ranges of the Western Ghats (view video). The area is surrounded by hillocks and is home to several tribal settlements as well

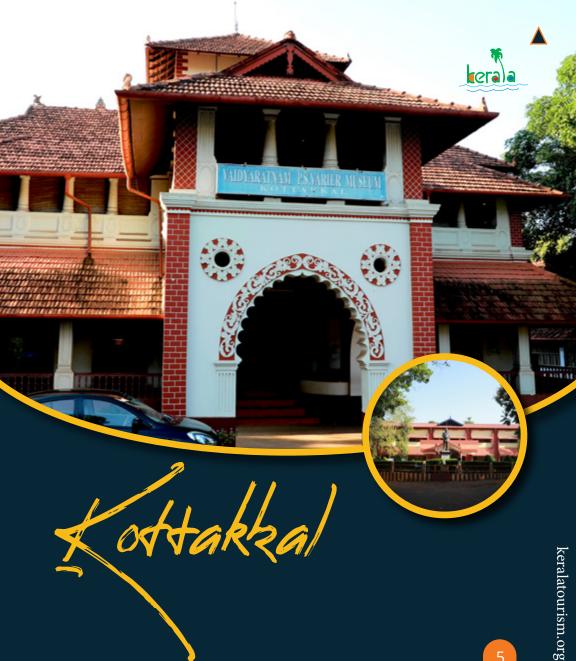
How to reach

The nearest railway station to

Nilambur is Shornur, situated about
76 km away.
Calicut International Airport, which is
the nearest airport, lies about
45 km away.







Kottakkal



Once considered the cultural centre of Malappuram district, Kottakkal is now synonymous with Ayurveda. It is famous for Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala, a pioneering institution in Ayurvedic research and treatment, established by Dr. P. S. Varier in 1902. This quaint town is reminiscent of the various kinds of indigenous treatment and organic lifestyle that Indians have been following since time immemorial.

Kottakkal is also culturally vibrant. P. S. Varier, a great patron of arts, was instrumental in setting up a Natya Sangham [dance troupe] in Kottakkal for the promotion of traditional art forms. P. S. V. Natya Sangham, as the institution is now called, has given birth to many Kathakali artistes.







Thirunavaya

Thírunavaya



Thirunavaya is a serene village located in Malappuram. Its name features in many ancient texts, owing to its cultural, historical and religious prominence.

The Thirunavaya Navamukunda Temple, believed to be 6000 years old, is one of the oldest temples dedicated to Lord Vishnu. It is located on the banks of river Bharathapuzha. Thousands of devotees come here to perform rituals to propitiate the souls of their deceased ancestors. The sanctum sanctorum is adorned with exquisite sculptures such as the ten avatars (incarnations) of Lord Vishnu.

Another tourist attraction of Thirunavaya is the Melpathur Illam, home of the great poet, Melpathur Narayana Bhattathiri, and is located about two miles from the temple.

How to reach

The nearest railway station is
Thirunavaya.
The nearest airport is Calicut
International Airport which is about
32 km from Thirunavaya.





Virur

Tírur



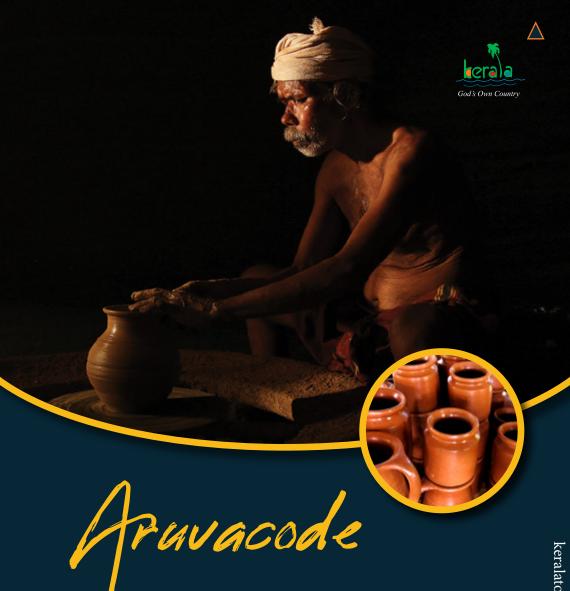
Tirur, situated about 26 km from Malappuram, is best known for the famous Moplah rebellion of Malabar, which resulted in the death of 70 political prisoners due to the cruel negligence of the British.

It is home to Thunchan Memorial, constructed in honour of Thunchath Ramanujan Ezhuthachan, the father of Malayalam language. Tirur hosts several literary events and is often frequented by prominent personalities in the fields of art, literature and culture.

The Koottayi Boat Jetty located near the Tirur railway station is the entry and exit point for boats plying the Kanol canal, a tributary of the Bharathapuzha. The Tirur-Koottayi road ends at Padinjarekara, where the Bharathapuzha and Tirur rivers converge to drain into the sea. Tirur also has a railway station that connects Malappuram district to the rest of the country.











Aruvacode (view video) is a quaint little village near Nilambur, known for its exceptionally skilled pottery artisans. Its traditional artisan community, known as Kumbharan, has been making and selling pottery for generations.

The Kumbham Handicraft Project was started in the village to revive the tradition of pottery making under the leadership of activist-designer K. B. Jinnan, with the help of the potters.

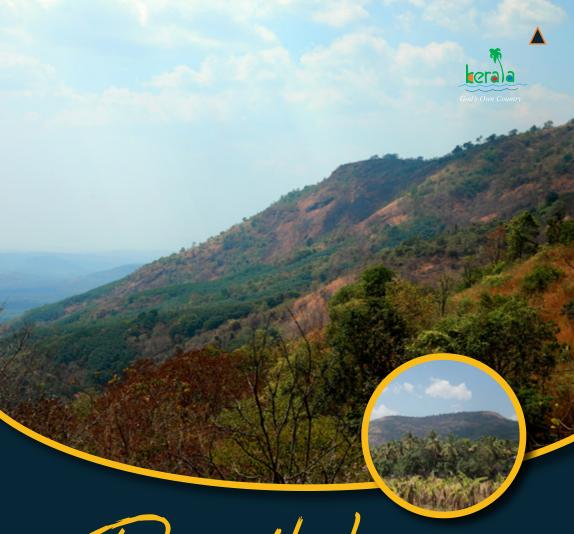
At present, the potters of Aruvacode make over 500 unique designs for garden furniture, landscape products, household wares, murals and architectural accessories. The Kumbham project is thus a fine example of how traditional skills can be garnered to overcome the challenges of globalisation.

How to reach

The nearest railway station is Nilambur located about 6 km away. The nearest airport, Calicut International Airport, lies about 41 km away.







Berinthalmanna

Perinthalmanna



The rustic town of Perinthalmanna boasts of a number of tourist attractions.

The kovilakams or palaces of the Valluvakonathiris (former rulers of South Malabar) are scattered all across the town. The picturesque Kulirmala hills in Perinthalmanna offer a panoramic view of the entire town below.

The other attractions of the town are the Valiyangadi mosque and the Pattani mosque.

How to reach

The nearest railway station is Angadipuram which is about 4 km away.

The nearest airport, Calicut International Airport, is about 82 km away.





Kodikuthimala

Kodíkuthímala



Kodikuthimala, a tranquil hill station situated at a height of 2000 ft. above sea level, lies nearly 10 km from Perinthalmanna town. With its lush green valleys, misty mountains and grassy meadows, Kodikuthimala has earned the name 'Ooty of Malappuram'. It is the highest point in the Amminikandan hills.

The main tourist attractions of this green paradise are its waterfalls, perennial springs, watchtower and Suicide Point. Kodikuthimala offers a panoramic view of Malappuram, and is an ideal trekking destination for Nature enthusiasts.





Kodtakkunnu

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Kottakkunnu, which translates to 'the hill with a fort', is a popular tourist attraction in Malappuram. The place gets its name from an old fort built by the Zamorins, the erstwhile rulers of Kozhikode.

Kottakkunnu is historically prominent as it witnessed many struggles for freedom from the colonial rulers. Lying in the heart of Malappuram district, the Cantonment hills of Kottakkunnu are bordered by an estuary to the North.

Recently, the area was revamped, and entertainment facilities were put up, adding value to this tourist destination





Pazhayangadi Mosque

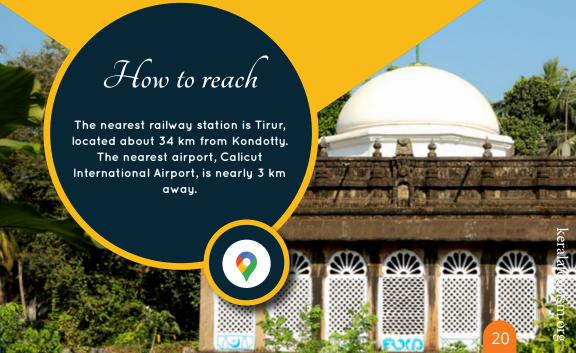


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Pazhayangadi Mosque

Pazhayangadi mosque, or Kondotty mosque, is a 500-year-old Muslim pilgrim centre located about 18 km from Manjeri in Malappuram district. The mosque is dedicated to a Muslim saint from Persia called Kondotty Thangal. The architecture of this mosque carries a strong Mughal influence, characterised by intricate carvings and a large white dome that stands out against the backdrop of the green hills.

The three-day-long Valiya Nercha feast is a famed festival of the mosque. Held during February or March, it is celebrated as a local cultural event with several programmes, including music recitals.



3600 Videos





Nilambur Teak Museum



Adyanpara Waterfalls



Video Gallery





Ponnaní



Aruvacode



Ponnaní Víllage



Conolly's Plot





Nedumkayam Rainforests



Nílambur Forest







Padínjarekkara Beach







Thírumandhamkunnu Pooram



Adyanpara Waterfalls





Photo Gallery









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Nilambur Nature Park





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Keralamkundu Waterfalls





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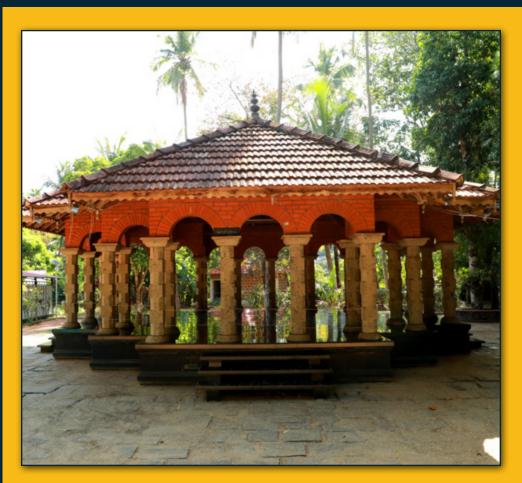
Hanging Bridge Nilambur





Thunchan Memorial





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Adyanpara Waterfalls







Nedumkayam Forest







Kottakkunnu







Nílambur Forest





Kozhí Nírachathu









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