



# MAKARA BHARANI UTSAVAM

## THRICHATTUKULAM MAHADEVA TEMPLE



**LOCATION**

**Panchayat/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Panavally Grama Panchayat

**District**

Alappuzha



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction

Cherthala Town – 17 Km

Nearest Bus station

Cherthala Bus Station – 21 Km

Nearest Railway  
station

Cherthala Railway Station – 22 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 50 Km



CONTACT

Thrichattukulam Mahadeva Temple  
Thrichattukulam  
Panavally  
Alappuzha - 688566  
Contact: Panavally Grama Panchayat  
Phone : +91-478-2522250



TIME

DATES

January- February (*Makaram*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

8 Days

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

Thrichattukulam Mahadeva Temple is one of the famous Shiva temples in Alappuzha District. The main deity of this temple is Lord Shiva, popularly known as *Thrichattukulam Mahadeva*. The place is 21 Km away from Cherthala and 4.5 kilometers away from Arookkuty. The Mahadeva temple functions under the Travancore Devaswom Board. The temple faces towards the east and the eastern *gopuram* is small and simple. There is a big *anakkottil* in front of the copper *dwaja*. The *balikkalppura* and *namaskaramandapam* are decorated with wooden sculptures. Usually the Shiva lingam is covered with a *Thirumukham* and devotees can feel the presence of Lord Mahadeva while standing in front of the *sreekovil*. There are shrines for Lord Ganapathy and *Bhagavathy* inside the *nalambalam*. All the three deities face east. The two storied *sreekovil* of Shiva is rectangular in shape with a copper covered roof. There is a Naga Yakshi *prathishta* at the north-east corner of *valiyambalam*. The temple pond is situated to the north side of eastern *gopuram*. *Vedi vazhipadu* especially the *Gopurathinkal vedi* is the main offering. *Ksheera Dhara*, *Pinvilakku* and *Rudrabhishekam* are the other important offerings. *Ksheera dhara* is specially done for curing mental problems and *Pinvilakku* for getting good marriage life. The annual *utsavam* is in *Makaram* (January-February) and is called *Makara Bharani Utsavam*.



RELEVANCE-  
(Local / National /  
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE  
PARTICIPATED

About 25,000

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kodiyettu  
Utsavabali  
Annadanam  
Kathakali  
Arattu  
Cultural Programs  
Percussion Music  
Musical Concerts

## DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

The temple celebrates the annual festival in the month of *Makaram* i.e. during the months of January- February. The annual festival is noted for various rituals. There is a flag hoisting ceremony (*Kodiyettum*) marking the beginning of the festival. The shrine is traditionally decorated with plantain, coconut leaves, flowers, traditional lamps and lights. There are special pujas and offerings during the festival period and *Annadanam* is also organized. Traditional performing arts, music and dance are staged during the period. Caparisoned elephants, *melam*, Percussion music and *sheevali* are part of the festival. On the final day of the festival *Arattu* (holy bath) ceremony takes place. The festivities conclude with *Arattu*. The *utsava murti* of the deity is taken out of the temple for the ceremonial dip on the final day.

