



# VARSHIKA MAHOTSAVAM

## ANANTHAPURA LAKE TEMPLE



### LOCATION

**Panchayath/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Kumbla Panchayat

**District**

Kasaragode



### ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/  
Junction**

Kumbla – 5.4 km

**Nearest Bus station**

Kumbla Bus Station – 5.2 km

**Nearest Railway  
station**

Kasaragode Railway station – 13.3 km

**Nearest Airport**

Mangalore International Airport – 52.5 km



### CONTACT

Ananthapadmanabha Swamy Sannidhanam  
Ananthapuram – 671321  
Phone: +91-4998-214360



**TIME**

**DATES**

February – March

**FREQUENCY**

Annual

**DURATION**

Kumbham 14

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

Sri Ananthapadmanabha Swamy Temple with the spiritual power of Lord Mahavishnu is known as the Moolasthanam, the original source of the Anantha Padmanabha Swamy Temple of Thiruvananthapuram. The Legend about the temple associates it with the great mystic and devotee of Lord Vishnu, Sree Vilvamangalathu Swami, who dominated the ancient spiritual lake of Kerala. While Sage Vilvamangalathu Swami was doing penance in the holy spot, Lord Krishna used to visit him disguised as a mischievous little boy. One day, the Lord played some pranks on the Swamigal while he was doing his pooja. Swamigal, at his wits end, admonished the child and pushed him with his back hand. The Lord, transformed into a ball of divine aura and hastened through the cave near waterbody at the temple. A divine voice echoed "Now if you want to see me, come to Ananthankadu". It was then that Vilvamangalathu Swami realized that the boy was none other than his own lord. It is said that the sage also ran into the cave and going through the passage that formed there and reached the seashore. From there he travelled southwards in search of Ananthankadu. At last, the sage reached a place which is the present location of Thiruvananthapuram, the capital of Kerala and the holy spot that eventually housed the Anantha Padmanabha Swamy Temple of Thiruvananthapuram. The north-east corner of the lake still has a big cave with a small pit with a perennial presence of water in it, which is considered as a sacred Theertham. It is believed to be the cave where the Lord disappeared.



**RELEVANCE-**  
(Local / National / International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 10000



## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Yakshaganam  
Sopana Sangeetham  
Bhajana  
Fireworks  
Cultural programs

## DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

Varshika Mahotsavam is the major festival celebrated in the temple during the Malayalam month of Kumbham, when the main deity is taken in a ceremonial possession along the lake. Yakshaganam, a popular performing art form of Karnataka is performed on the night of the festival. The major events during the festival are Sopana Sangeetham, Bhajana, Fireworks, Cultural programs etc. The temple is open to all devotees irrespective of their cast, creed and religion.

