



KODUMBU RATHOLSAVAM

KODUMBU KALYANA SUBRAMANYA TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Kodumbu

District

Palakkad



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Kodumbu Althara junction– 450m

Nearest Bus station

Kodumbu Althara junction bus stop– 450m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Palakkad town railway station- 8 km

Nearest Airport

Coimbatore International Airport- 69 km



CONTACT

The Executive Officer
Kodumbu Kalyana Subramanya temple
Palakkad-678551
Kerala



TIME

DATES

January-February (*Makaram*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Kodumbu Kalyana Subramanya temple has an interesting story behind it. A group of Tamil merchants belonging to the Sengutha Mudaliyar caste who were regularly coming to do business in Kerala and settled down in Kodumbu. They used to go to Avinasi town to sell clothes. Once when they were going, they heard a voice from the bush near Kozhi Mampatti village telling them, "I also will come". They tried their best to locate the source of that voice, but they were not able to. During the next trip the same thing happened. They searched thoroughly; they found a Subramanya statue along with *Valli* and *Devayanai* in a ditch. That statue told them, "I want to come with you and I would protect all of you." They took the idol with reverence and kept it on a cloth bundle on the back of a bullock. Suddenly the bullock disappeared. Though they searched they could not find it but when they reached their homes, they found the bullock carrying the statue. They started worshipping the god. After several years they wanted to build a temple for that god.

The local administrator at that time was one Kurror Mana Nambuthiripad. He allotted them a place inside the Shiva temple to build their temple. The temple was built. The priest of the Shiva temple during those days was Achuthan Namboodiri. He insisted that the *pooja* should be performed according to the Agama followed in Kerala and the Mudaliars were not prepared for it. The Kurror Mana Nambudiripad asked the Malayali side as well as the Tamil side to keep a Kumbha at the northern gate of the temple and asked the Nambudiris to lift the pot kept by the Tamil side. Manikka Vachakar, the great Saivite saint who represented the Mudaliars easily lifted the pot kept by the Nambudiris. So it was decided that the *pooja* in the Subramanya temple would be according to the Tamil Agama and that of the Shiva temple following the Kerala Agama. This is being followed today. In Thirupugazh Arunagiri nadhar says that "Kodumbu" is half of Pazhani. Devotees believe that if a devotee takes a bath in the Soka Nasini river, all his sorrows would fly away. The *Sthala Vruksha* of the temple is a *Champaka* tree. The temple is open from 5:30 am to 12 noon and from 4.30 Pm to 8 Pm. There are special *poojas* conducted at the temple during *Pradosham*, *Karthika*, *Sashti* and *Thiruonam*. The *Brahotsavam* of the temple is conducted during *Thai Pooram*.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Approximately 8000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Chariot procession
Skanda Shashti
Thiruvonam
Cultural programmes
Sashti
Kumbhabhisheka
Maamaangam

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

Kodumbu Ratholsavam is celebrated for a period of ten days which starts on Bharani day of Makaram month in Malayalam calendar. *Skanda Shashti*, *Thiruvonam*, *Navaraathri*, *Deepavali* are special here. *Ratholsavam* is celebrated on 7th day of *Thaipooyyam*.

During the Rathotsavam, the first few days are spent in holy rituals with devotees performing prayers and making offerings to the deities. Vedic chants ring in the air, adding to the spiritual and pious feel of the place. There are also several cultural programmes and classical music concerts during the day to keep devotees and other visitors occupied and entertained. The last three days, however, are the main highlight of the event – the time when the beautiful temple chariots are taken out in large processions. With beautiful carvings and elaborate decorations, the chariots carrying the temple deities are pulled by devotees in grand processions through the streets.

Large number of devotees comes for praying during *Karthika* and *Sashti*. Every 12th year celebrated as *Kumbhabhisheka*. *Maamaangam* also conducted in every 12th year.

