



# MEENA BHARANI UTSAVAM

## VELLANAD SREE BHAGAVATHY TEMPLE



**Panchayath/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Vellanad Panchayat

**District**

Thiruvananthapuram

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction**

Vellanad – 700 m

**Nearest Bus station**

Vellanad Bus Stop – 300 m

**Nearest Railway  
station**

Thampanoor Railway Station – 21.2 km

**Nearest Airport**

Trivandrum International Airport – 24.6 km



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TIME

DATES

March – April

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 days

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

The idol of *Vellanattamma* was the one worshipped in a family house earlier. The idol in the temple has a legend. In 1040(Sakha era) *Amma* appeared before a land lord and gave her offering “Now I am in a family at *Thiruvallom*, a seashore village being an orphan, without no adoration. If my idol is erected and consecrated in the temple at *Vellanad* the place will get more and more prosperity.” Accordingly, her idol was settled at *vellanad*. She showered peace and prosperity upon her devotees. Atheists had been received severe punishments. People from abroad worship *Vellanattamma* and receive her blessings. Every year millions of her devotees offer adoration for restoring peace and order in their families. *Vellanattamma* was interested to kill *Daruka*, the king of Evil. The landlord installed the idol in this temple. In 1977, people from 10 families together made the trust. In 1988, it became a public trust.



RELEVANCE-  
(Local / National /  
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE  
PARTICIPATED

Approximately 40,000  
people

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

## DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

*Thookkam*  
*Annadanam*  
*Paranettu*  
*Nilathil Poru*  
*Arattu*  
*Thalappoli*

The main offering during this festival is *Thookkam*. Government has given local holiday during the *Thookkam* in *Bharani* star of *Meenam* month. The festival starts with the flag hoisting ceremony. There will be the usual tantric rituals with special *poojas* and free food serving (*annadanam*). Next event is the procession of the idol outside the temple. Each day, the procession will move to each directions. The myth behind this procession is that Goddess is looking for *Daruka*. In *Vavu* day there will be no procession. The eighth day's festival is *Paranettu* at 10pm. It is believed to be the war in between Goddess and *Daruka* in the sky. In the next day, they will reach the ground and then *Nilathil Poru* (War in the ground) and kill *Daruka*. After that the Goddess will take the *Arattu*(bath) and go back to the temple. The Goddess will be welcomed with *Thalappoli*. To reduce the anger of the Goddess *Thookkam* of small children is also conducted. Then the flag will be descended. On all days of festival, there will be cultural programs.

