



# PONGALA MAHOTSAVAM

## PAZHANCHIRA DEVI TEMPLE



### LOCATION

**Panchayath/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Trivandrum Corporation

**District**

Thiruvananthapuram



### ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction**

Paravankunnu Junction – 230 m

**Nearest Bus station**

Paravankunnu Bus Stop – 230 m

**Nearest Railway  
station**

Thampanoor Railway Station – 4 km

**Nearest Airport**

Trivandrum International Airport – 7.1 km



### CONTACT

Pazhanchira Devi Temple  
Ambalathara, Manacaud – 695026  
Phone: +91-471-2461037, 2455204  
Email: [mail@sreepazhanchiradevitemple.in](mailto:mail@sreepazhanchiradevitemple.in)  
Website: [www.pazhanchira.org](http://www.pazhanchira.org)



**TIME**

**DATES**

March - April

**FREQUENCY**

Annual

**DURATION**

8 days

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

The history says that the famous priests like Ashwathamav used to come to Pazhanchira Desham to rest on the way to Sree Padmanabha Swami temple for *Seeveli*. During the time, a *yogi* settled there. The divinity of Pazhanchira was received through this *yogi*. Once, a Goddess appeared before this *yogi* and asked him to install an idol of Devi in Pazhaya chira on the banks of Neelaru. Then Pazhaya chira came to be known as Pazhanchira. The Pongala Mahotsavam is celebrated to pay obeisance to the divine presence of Pazhanchira Devi. The festival celebrates the oneness of the people on the banks of Neelaru. Pongala is also celebrated to thank the elements of nature.



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

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 30,000

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

## DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

*Kappuketti Kudiyiruth*  
*Kuthiyottam*  
*Maalappuram Thali*  
*Charthu*  
*Kalamezhuthu*  
*Sarppapattu*  
*Ashtamangalya pooja*  
*Sreebhoothabali*  
*Kuthiyottam*  
*Chooralkuthu*  
*Ponkala*  
*Kappu Aruppu*  
*Kuruthi Tharppanam*

The first day's festival starts with the usual *Nirmalyam*, *Usha pooja* etc. *Kappuketti Kudiyiruth* is the major event during the first day. Money offering for *Kuthiyottam*, *Maalappuram Thali Charthu* will be conducted during the next day. On the fifth day there will be *Kalamezhuthu* and *Sarppapattu*. Followed by that, the next day there will be *Ashtamangalya pooja*, *Sreebhoothabali*. The seventh day is the important day during the festival in which thousands of ladies will offer *Ponkala* for the Goddess. Then there will be *Kuthiyottam Chooralkuthu*, and procession of Goddess outside the temple. The final day there will be *Kappu Aruppu* and *Kuruthi Tharppanam*. The temple will be reopened after 7 days of the festival with special rituals and cultural events. There will be cultural programs conducted during the eight days of festival. Free food serving is also held as a part of the festival.

