



# MAHOTSAVAM

## TRICHAMBARAM SREE KRISHNA TEMPLE



**Panchayath/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Thaliparambu Municipality

**District**

Kannur

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction**

Thaliparambu

**Nearest Bus station**

Thrichambaram Petrol pump bus stop - 250 m

**Nearest Railway  
station**

Kannapuram Railway station - 11.5 km

**Nearest Airport**

Karipur airport - 137 km



Trichambaram Temple Road  
Trichambaram  
Taliparamba  
Kerala 670141  
Phone: 0460 220 1022





TIME

DATES

March (Kumbham /Meenam)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

15 days



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

The temple is believed to have got the name from *Thiru Shambara* or the *holy Shambara* in reverence to *Maharishi Shambara* who is supposed to have meditated here. The main deity of the temple is Shree Krishna after *Kamsavadham*, sitting in *Raudra* posture (ferocious posture). This temple is considered equal in status to the world famous Guruvayoor Temple, and is also called 'North Guruvayoor'. The sanctum has beautiful carvings and murals from the 15th and 16th centuries. In the temple complex, there is also a shrine dedicated to goddess Durga which is in middle of a tank.

There are no documentary evidence available to show exactly when this holy place was built .There is a reference to this in the sanskrit epic (*Moosa kava sam*) penned by the court poet of the Kolathiri king Athulan in 1100 AD .The reference says that the popular ruler Vallabhan II renovated the Trichambaram Sreekrishna temple during that period.

The sanctum sanctorum is in squarish shape. Inside the main temple there is a Bhagavathy shrine facing Lord Krishna, with a lotus in her hands. Behind the main sanctum sanctorum there is the enshrinement of Ananthasayanam. This sanctum sanctorum is believed to be the abode of Lord Balabhadra, Sri Krishnas elder brother . The temple also contains one of the most exquisite collection of mural paintings in south India.



RELEVANCE-  
(Local / National /  
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE  
PARTICIPATED

Approximately 15000

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kodiyettu  
Koodiyattom  
Theyyam  
Thitambu Nriththam  
Laksham Deepam  
samarpanam  
Aarattu  
Koottipiriyal  
Peruvazhiyil nritham  
Spiritual Speeches  
Cultural Festivities  
Dramas

## DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

The annual festival of the temple lasts fourteen days in the month of March (Kumbham / Meenam). The festival starts with the hoisting of the flag, known as *Kodiyettam*. Special *poojas* and religious discourses are conducted on all the festival days.

On the first day, the image of Lord Balrama , elder brother of Lord Krishna, is brought in a grand procession from the Dharmakulam temple. A peculiar feature is the performance of the religious dance *Thidampu nritham* in which the main priests carries on his head the *Thidambu* (image of the diety) and dances rhythmically to the accompaniment of the drums. This dance is performed every night till the twelfth day.

*Pallivetta* (holy hunt by the deity) ceremony takes place on the thirteenth day. After the *aarattu* (holy bath), the touching *Koottipiriyal* ceremony takes place. This represents the parting of the brothers Krishna and Balrama. It is held at night, when two devotees carry the images of Krishna and Balrama, go around the temple.

During the circumbulation, they get possessed by the spirit of the deities, and in a fit they go out of the temple and perform the dance known as *Peruvazhiyil Nritham*. It is at this ceremony that Balrama takes leave of Krishna, and goes back to his temple. This marks the conclusion of the annual festival. Many colorful religious programmes are also conducted in the temple courtyard.

