



POORAM

THIRUVAKADU BHAGAVATHI TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Thalasserry Municipality

District

Kannur



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Pazhayangadi Town – 1.3Km

Nearest Bus station

Eripuram Junction - 500 m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Pazhayangadi Railway Station- 2.4 Km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport -139 Km



CONTACT

Madiyakavu Thiruvakadu Bhagavathi Temple

Madayi Para
Pazhayangadi,
Kannur District
Kerala -670334.

Phone : +91- 0497-2875834

:+91- 0497-2778307(Kovilakom)



TIME

DATES

March/ April ('Karthika to Pooram star' in Meenam)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Madayi Kavu, also known as Thiruvar Kadu Bhagavathi Temple, is a famous Hindu temple dedicated to Kali Amma in Kerala. Madayi Kavu is believed to be the oldest one built in Kerala. The origin of the temple is ancient, and the main deity worshipped here is Madayi Kavu Amma or Thiruvar Kadu Bhagavathi in the form of Maha Kali. The temple, now under the administration of Devaswom Board, was originally under the control of the Kolathiri kings. The temple, situated in Madayi near Payangadi, is an important site of worship in the Kannur District and Kerala region. 'Madayikavu Amma', Goddess who is known for her blessings on devotees is worshipped as Mother Kali and it is a belief that any devotee who worship this Goddess with faith will be free from the black magic's and witchcrafts of the enemies.

The origin of the temple is ancient, possibly preexisting Vedic times. The main deity worshipped here is Madayi Kavu Amma or Thiruvar Kadu Bhagavathi who is Bhagavathi in the form of Kali. The Bhagavathi is worshipped as the daughter of Shiva. Other deities are also present. The temple also contains a Shiva shrine. The Shiva shrine faces East, while the Mata Kali shrine faces towards the West. The Brahmin priests at the temple, known as Podavar Brahmins, belong to a particular sect associated with Kali worship, and are not barred from consumption of meat. A particular aspect of the temple is Kozhi Kalasham, which is the sacrifice of poultry for the goddess which is held in high regard. The temple was spared from destruction by Tipu Sultan (whose followers destroyed the nearby Vadukunnu Temple). The Madayi Kavu temple was saved from destruction by a Nair warrior, Vengayil Chathukutty Nayanar, who received the title of Nayanar from the temple authorities for his bravery (Sthanaperu).

There are two different stories about the existence of the deity. In one of the stories, Madayikavu Amma who is in the form of Bhadrakali originally was existing in Shiva Kshethara Thiliparambha Rajarajeshwara temple. But, as she was non-vegetarian and could not continue to exist at Thiliparambha Rajarajeshwara temple, she ordered the then King of that region to construct a separate temple in her name. Then 'Madayikavu' temple came into existence as per the deity's wish. In another ancient story it is believed the people of Madayi were troubled by a demon named 'Dharaka' and Madayikavu Amma in the form of Kali killed him and requested Lord Shiva to give a place on earth where people can worship her always. Lord Shiva ordered his disciple Parashuram and as per his orders Parashuram hit the ground with his sword and the sea which made way for a hill was transformed into a "Punya Kshethara" of mother Kali very popularly known as Madayi Kavu Amma or Thiruvar Kadu Bhagavathi.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 10000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kodiyettam
Ezunallath
Pooja to Kamadeva
Lakshamdeepam
samarpanam
Thiruvathirakali
Panchavadyam
Sahasradeepam
Prasada ootu
Spiritual speeches
Cultural festivities
Dramas

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

The Pooram Festival spread over seven days begins on the day of Karthika Asterism and ends on the day of Pooram. Every Pooram Festival Days, there will be *Ezunallath* – it is held in the morning. People from nearby places come to see the *Ezunnallath*.

During festival days the image of Kamadeva is installed in every Hindu home and unmarried girls offer *pooja*. The girls observe fasting and go out collecting flowers. It is said that the demon who hid inside a flower was one of the incarnations of 'Lord Shiva'. As a tradition people conduct certain types of rituals in their home by making the model of '*Kaman*'. Usually it is made with wet cow dung and decorated with a particular kind of flower all over the body of the molded idol. Flowers are then spread around the idol like a flower carpet.

The number of '*Kaman*' varies from day to day. On the last day of this festive season (Pooram day), after performing certain ceremonial rituals during the evening, all these idols are removed from the courtyard and disposed. The Pooram festival ends with the *Pooramkuli* at the Vadukunna Temple. The '*pooram kuli*' (holy dip in water) is attended by thousands of people from nearby places.

The festival starts with *Kodiyettam* and the festivities are prominent in the evening time. *Laksham deepam samarpanam*, *Thiruvathirakali*, *Panchavadyam*, *Sahasradeepam*, spiritual speeches, cultural festivities, Dramas etc are prominent. Three days of continuous dance dramas and *arangettam* for students of dance etc are prominent. The second last day constitutes the *Thayambaka* performance in great grandeur. The final constitutes the '*Pooram Kuli*' in Vadukundha lakewhich is followed by *Prasada ootu* and Providing *pooram kanjhi* to the needy.

