



MEENABHARANI MAHOTSAVAM

THATTAYIL ORIPPURATHU BHAGAVATHY KSHETRAM



LOCATION

Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation

Thekkekkara Grama Panchayath

District

Pathanamthitta

Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction

Adoor Town – 9 Km

Nearest Bus station

Mammoodu Bus stop – 1.250 Km

Nearest Railway
station

Chengannur Railway Station – 21 Km

Nearest Airport

Trivandrum International Airport – 106 Km



ACCESSIBILITY

Thattayil Orippurathu Bhagavathy Kshetram
Orippuram,
Pandalam
Thekkekkara
Pin - 691525
Contact - 099466 50792



CONTACT



TIME

DATES

March/April(*Meenam*)

FREQUENCY

Yearly

DURATION

3 days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Orippurathu Bhagavathi temple is one of the ancient temples in Central Travancore. The origin of the temple is dated back to more than 1000 years. "*Bhadrakali*" is the presiding deity. The main festival at this temple is *Meenabharani*. The sacred *Thattayil Orippurathu Bhagavathy Kshetram* (*mandir* or temple) has an important history of more than one thousand years. It is said that the temple was constructed during the 17th century. The sacred script in *Arya* language on the stone in the temple, also indicates that it is one thousands year old. According to records, the annual festival of the temple had been started during the 18th century. Though the supreme deity of the temple is Goddess *Bhagavathy*, few more gods and goddesses are also worshipped here such as Lord *Ayyapan*, *Yakshi*, Lord *Krishna*, *Nagarajavu* and *Madaswami*. According to Hindu mythology, *Ezhankulam Bhagavathy* is the sister of Goddess *Orippurathu Bhagavathy*. However, there is no proper evidence available about the history or origin of the temple. Yet it is believed that the sacred Hindu worship place was constructed by a famous *Arya* king. The sacred temple is not only famous for its religious significance but also for its amazing architecture that shows the unique architecture of Indian style. In the main sanctum sanctorum, devotees can see two sacred idols which are made of important *Krishna Sila*. The architecture of this sacred Hindu worship place is a fine example of *Thanjavoor style* and Kerala style. Moreover, the important sanctum sanctorum is a double storied structure built of *Krishna sila* and fully covered with brass sheets. Another important attraction of the temple is its stone pillars which are decorated with attractive mythological sculptures.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED

Above 20000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Parayedupu
Jeevatha Ezhunnallathu
Cultural Programmes
Huge wooden chariots
Mammoth Bullocks
Special Poojas
Kettukazhcha

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

Thattayil Orippurathu Bhagavathi Temple represents the whole thattayil dshesham which is comprising of seven "karas" (regions). "*Holy Parakkezhunnallathu*" starts two months before Meena Bharani. Ezhunnalath takes around 30-40 days to complete. Devotees welcome the *Parakkezhunnallathu* with great fervor and offer Nelpara, Aripara and Anpoli (an offering of rice, banana, paddy, beaten rice and puffed rice). During this Bhagavathy's role is played by "Velichapaad" who in his hands takes a "sword" and a "thrisula". On each day, at the end of *Parakkezhunnallippu*, devotees of the houses whom the Bhagavathy visits, accompany Bhagavathy in the form of a procession to the temple. Cultural Programmes and special poojas are organized. This temple is famous for the *Kettukazhcha* which is conducted in the "*Meena Masam*". day, Devi is adorned with valuable jewels sacred ornaments and precious silks. Prior to the *kettukazcha* the *devi's* palanquin (pallakk) is put on the shoulders of Melshanthi and Keezhshanthi and will be taken out from the sanctum sanctorum in a procession to watch the *Kettukazcha* offered by her devotees. The most amazing thing about this *Jeevatha* is that it will not go outside temple courtyard.

