



# THALAPPOLI MAHOTSAVAM

## VALANJAMBALAM DEVI TEMPLE



### LOCATION

**Panchayat/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Chittoor Panchayath

**District**

Ernakulam



### ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction**

Valanjambalam Junction – 80 m

**Nearest Bus station**

Valanjambalam Junction Bus Stop – 23 M

**Nearest Railway  
station**

Ernakulam South Railway Station – 800 M

**Nearest Airport**

Cochin International Airport - 29.7 km



### CONTACT

Valanjambalam Devi Temple  
Chittoor Rd, Chittoor – 682016  
Phone: +91-9746144051



**TIME**

**DATES**

February

**FREQUENCY**

Annual

**DURATION**

4 Days

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

Valanjambalam Devi Temple is situated in the heart of the Ernakulum city. A major draw is Thalappoli Utsavam (festival), which lasts for two days. Ezhunnallethu accompanied by elephant pageants is held on this occasion.



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

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 50000

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Ezhunnallathu  
Thalappoli  
Chenda melam  
Cultural programmes

## DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

During the festival the temple is traditionally decorated with plantain, coconut leaves, flowers, traditional lamps and lights. *Ezhunnallathu* is the ceremonial procession of the idols in a temple. It is accompanied by traditional music, elephant pageants and various cultural art forms. *Thalappoli* is a unique ritual in Kerala. In the ritual, women and young girls carry *thalam* (plate) in their hands. *Thalam* is filled with rice, flowers and a lighted lamp. It is a symbol of prosperity. The elephants parade with percussion music, a world famous temple festival in Kerala. The elephants are decorated with gold plated Caparisons (*Nettipattam*), Bells (Mani), and Necklaces. Traditional performing arts, dance and music are staged during the festival. The *utsava murti* of the deity is taken out of the shrine for ritual bathing on the final day. Caparisoned elephants and melam are part of the ritual.

