



THIRU UTSAVAM

PERANDOOR BHAGAVATHI TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Elamakkara

District

Ernakulam



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Perandoor Junction – 150 m

Nearest Bus station

Padom Bus Stop – 300 M

**Nearest Railway
station**

Ernakulam South Railway Station – 6.3 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport - 24.9 Km



CONTACT

Perandoor Bhagavathi Temple
Chambady Rd, Punnakkal
Elamakkara Kochi
Kerala 682026
Phone : 0484 2408801



DATES

April

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

8 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Perandoor Bhagavathy Temple, a major temple among the 108 *DURGA* temples in Kerala, is situated in *Elamakkara*, in Kochi. Main deity (*Prathishta*) of the temple is *Durga* worshipped in *Karthyayani Bhava*. History reveals very interesting facts about the origin of the temple. *Cheraman Perumal*, the last emperor of the great *Chera* dynasty who ruled Kerala during the 10th century AD, renounced his empire and all material possessions in order to lead an ascetic life. The empire was divided and given among the regional chiefs and lords under him. At the last minute he remembered that the royal priests *Elangallur namboothiris*. Who were not given anything. He made amends for this by taking back some portions of land from other lords and gave it to the Royal priest family. Thus began a new dynasty called the *Elangallur swarupam* (The kingdom of *Elangallur* family) in *Edappally*, which is one of the only two *brahmin* royalties in Kerala. The kingdom included *Edappally*, parts of *Karthikapally*, *Haripad*, *Cherthala* and places in and around *Mavelikkara*. Kings of *Elangallur Swarupam* (known as *Edappally Thampuran* meaning of Lord of *Edappally*) were known to be great patrons of temples and there were several prominent temples under them including the *Ganapathy* ("Lord *Ganesa*") temple at *Edappally* and *Sastha* Temple at *Thrikkunnappuzha* (near *Cherthala* in *Alleppy* district)). It was their practice to personally oversee the running of the festivals under them. One such occasion the *Thampuran* was staying at *Thrikkunnappuzha* during the festival at the *Sastha* Temple there. At night he had a dream in which the Goddess *Durga* appeared to him and expressed her wish to stay at *Edappally* near *Ganapathy*. (The idol of *Ganapathy* –*Ganesa*– who is the Chief deity of the royal family was always carried by the king along with him). Accordingly next morning, the king started towards *Edappally* carrying an idol of "*Durga*" together with the idol of *Ganesa*. He travelled up to the west end of *Edappally* by boat and got down there and started towards the Palace. On the way the idol of *Durga* fell down from his hand. King was very much upset at this incident and called his astrologers for advice. The astrologers found that at the place where the idol had fallen there had been a *Durga* Temple built by *Parasurama* the sixth incarnation of Lord *Mahavishnu* and that the Goddess *Durga* (Devi or *Bhagavathy*) liked to be there at the same place. Accordingly a temple was duly constructed which became a prominent one among the 108 *Durga* temples of Kerala. Since the idol had *Perandu Veenu* (Malayalam phrase for falling down unexpectedly) the place became known as *Perandoor* and the temple became known as *Perandoor Bhagavathy* Temple.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 10000



EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Thrikotiyettu
Elephants' Parade With
Percussion Music
Cultural Programmes
Chenda Melam
Aarattu

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

Major festival of this temple is celebrated every year in the month of *Medam* (Malayalam Calendar) for eight days ending with the Star *Uthram* as the last day. The festival is held in the traditional style with splendor and grandeur and the devotees join the festivity passionately. "Annadanam" is performed on the last day of the festival and thousands of devotees participate in it.

Kudamattam Ceremony, 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. People mounted on the elephants hold Tinselled Silk Parasols (Muttukuda) up high, swaying White Tufts (Venchamaram) and Peacock Feather Fans (Alavattam) to the rhythm of the Panchari Melam (Panchari).

