



# THIRUVUTSAVAM

## ULIYANNOOR SREE MAHADEVA TEMPLE



**LOCATION**

**Panchayath/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Uliyannoor Panchayat

**District**

Ernakulam



**ACCESSIBILITY**

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction**

Aluva Town – 1.1 km

**Nearest Bus station**

Uliyannoor Bus Stop – 350 m

**Nearest Railway  
station**

Aluva Railway Station – 3.7 km

**Nearest Airport**

Cochin International Airport – 15 km



**CONTACT**

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TIME

DATES

January- February

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

7 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Uliyannur Mahadev temple was designed and constructed by Sri Uliyannur Perunthachan at a distance of about 20 m from the old temple founded by Parashurama in BC 525. Lord Shiva's idol faces the east and the Periyar River. The sanctum sanctorum of the temple has a circumference of 42 m. The 68 wooden pillars in the temple signify 64 art forms and 4 Vedas. Temple has a wide prayer hall (namaskaramandapa). A big statue of Nandi faces the west. The idol of Goddess Parvathi also faces the west. Annapoorneshwari is the secondary deity here. Sri Madathillappan temple is situated towards the south of this temple. This temple has an idol of Swayambhu Ganapathi on its south. All these temples together make up the Uliyannur Mahadev temple complex. Uliyannur temple was build, adhering strictly to the traditional legacy. The annual festival or Thiruvutsavam is observed for more than a week in the Malayalam month of Makaram. The annual festival conducted in this temple is famous and the name of Uliyanoor Perunthachan is chatted around when we enter the premises of the temple. Once when the construction of Uliyanoor temple was taking place, Thachan was unable to fix the pillars properly. He started praying. It is believed that he heard a corporeal which told him a solution for the same. Hence the temple also came to be known as Thashttam Shivakshethram. Uliyanoor Thachan, who built the temple adhering strictly to traditional legacies later came to be known as Perunthachan.



RELEVANCE- (Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Over 4000



## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

*Kodiyettu*  
*Aarattu*  
*Annadanam*  
*Pakalpooram*  
*Kudamattom*  
*Chakyarkoothu*  
*Ottanthullal*  
*Koodiyattom*  
*Thiruvathira*  
Traditional Musical Events

## DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

Thiruvutsavam starts with a *Kodiyettu* in the month of January. The weeklong festival is notes for various rituals. Traditional performing arts, music and dance are staged during the period. Performers from all over Kerala participate in the festival. Cultural events take place in the evening in the temple premises. Devotees and other locals gather around the premises till late night. The temple is beautifully decorated during the period with plaintain, coconut leaves, flowers, traditional lamps and lights. The *Arattu* attracts thousands of devotees. The *utsava murti* of the deity is taken for ritual purification by water on the day. Elephant parade accompanied by percussion music is organized during the festival. One of the elephants carries the deity and circumambulates the temple. All the elephants in the parade are adorned with gold plated caparisons, bells and necklaces. The festival culminates ritualistically on the *Thiruvathira* of *Makaram*.

