



THRIKKARTHIKA

CHOTTANIKKARA BHAGAVATHY TEMPLE



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Chottanikkara Panchayath

District

Ernakulam



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Chottanikkara Junction – 180 m

Nearest Bus Stop

Chottanikkara Temple Bus Stop – 170 m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Thrippunithura Railway Station – 6.4 km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 36.6 km



CONTACT

Chottanikkara Bhagavathy Temple
Chottanikkara, Ernakulam,
Kerala 682 312
Phone Number : 0484-2711032,2713300
Email: info@chottanikkarabhagavathy.org



TIME

DATES

November/ December

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

3 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Chottanikkara was once a dense forest and it is believed that *Lord Parasurama* chose this area for spiritual pursuits. Legend says that there was a dacoit known as *Kannappan*, a tribe who lived with his daughter. He used to steal cows from the nearby village and sacrifice them to get blessings of the evil spirit. One day he stole a cow and calf and the cow was sacrificed. The cute calf was given to his daughter for rearing. Once when he could not steal any cow, he caught the calf for sacrifice despite resistance from his daughter. The calf escaped from his clutches and disappeared in the forest. Though *Kannappan* followed the calf, he could not find it. When he returned he found the calf with his daughter. Few days later his daughter passed away and since then he reared the calf as his daughter loved it very much. One day he had a dream in which Goddess *Durga* appeared and told him the calf was Herself and to transform him as a good person as desired by his daughter. The Goddess also told him that there would be two *Sila* idols near the cow shed. Next day he saw the idols as seen in the dream and many members of the tribe assembled there to see it. At that time a sage arrived there and told that the idols are Goddess *Durga* and *Lord Narayana* And *Kannappan* would reborn as a saint and visit the place again. It is believed that the re-born saint was *Vilwamangalam Swamiyar*. Many great saints and sages are associated with the legends of the temple. They include *Srimad Sankaracharya*, who prescribed the *pooja* system of the temple; *Villwamangalam Swamiyar* who found an idol from the temple tank and consecrated it as *Keez kavil Amma*; *Kakkasseri Bhatathiri* who defeated *Udhanda Sastri* in *vedic* arguments.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED

Over 10,000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Deepaalankaaram
Karthika vilakku
Karthika Thozhal
Ezhunnellippu
Fireworks

DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

The *Karthika* star falling in the month of *Vrishchikam* (November / December) is celebrated as Devi's birthday. Great festivities on *Karthika*, *Rohini*, *Makayiram* days are customary. They are held under the auspices of the Cochin Devaswom Board. Worshipping Devi on *Karthika* "*Karthika Thozhal*" is well known. People come to reside in this temple in advance with this end in view. On these days, there is *ezhunnellippu*, *Kazhcha siveli*, *stage programme*, *deepaalankaaram*, *Karthika vilakku*, fireworks etc.

