



KARTHIKA THIRUNAL MAHOTSAVAM

PALAKKAVU BHAGAVATHY TEMPLE, EDAVA



LOCATION

Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation

Edava Panchayat

District

Thiruvanthapuram



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction

HAS Fuels (HP petrol pump) – 100 m

Nearest Bus station

Press Mukku Bus Stop – 350 m

Nearest Railway
station

Varkala Railway Station – 5 Km

Nearest Airport

Trivandrum International Airport – 50 Km



CONTACT

Palakkavu Bhagavathy Temple
Varkala-Edava Kappil Road
Vettakada
Edava -695311
Phone: +91-470-2660093
+91-470-2663601



TIME

DATES

February-March (*Kumbham*);

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The Mahotsavam is a celebration of the *Aarattu* of the presiding deity of the temple, Goddess Bhadrakali. The annual event is marked by a spectacular procession, display of folk art forms and traditional rituals. The deity known as Palakkavilamma is worshipped as Goddess Bhadrakali here. *Karthika* being the birth star of the goddess, the *Aarattu* is conducted on the very day the star falls in the Malayalam month of *Kumbham*. *Aarattu* procession is completed by offering *Nirapara* after the *aarattu* while the idol is taken back to the temple. Women welcome the goddess with *Niranjana Vilakku* and instrumental music. Elephant procession with colourful floats, ceremonial umbrellas, swan chariots, Theyyams, Pookavadis and Thalapoli and Thookkapayattu. Chendamelam, Shingarimelam, Neyyandimelam, Bandumelam, Panchavadyam, Nadaswaram etc also add to the flavor of the celebration.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED

Over 10,000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

Thrikodiyettu
Ahaspooja
Sreebhoothabali
Uthsavabali
Kalamezhuthum Pattum
Thottam Pattu
Pongala
Pallivetta
Ghoshayathra
Aarattu
Thookapayattu
Garudanparappu
Thrikodiyirakku

A harmonious celebration by all communities of the region, the festival is a commemoration of the power of Goddess Bhadrakali. With festivities lasting for 10 days, the entire village of Edava stands decorated. Streets are adorned with tender coconut fronds and plantain leaf-stalks. Many cultural and traditional events are organized during the festival and the temple premises are adorned with red banana stems. This is an occasion when the entire village erupts in a festive mood. The streets are made colourful on the festival days with colourful processions. The main attractions of this festival are *Thrikodiyettu*, *Ahaspooja*, *Sreebhoothabali*, *Uthsavabali*, *kalamzhuthum pattum*, *Thottam pattu*, *Ponkkala*, *Pallivetta*, *Ghoshayathra*, *Aarattu*, *Thookapayattu*, *Garudanparappu* and *Thrikodiyirakku*

