



PALODE MELA




LOCATION

Panchayat/ Municipality/ Corporation	Peringammala Grama Panchayat
District	Thiruvananthapuram



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/ Landmark/ Junction	Palode Junction – 20 m
Nearest Bus Station	Palode Bus Stop – 500 m
Nearest Railway Station	Thampanoor Railway Station – 34.7 Km
Nearest Airport	Trivandrum International Airport – 37.6 Km



CONTACT

Palode Janakeeya Committee
 Contact: Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer
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TIME

DATES	FREQUENCY	DURATION
February	Annual	10 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Palode mela is a traditional agricultural festival which has a heritage of 53 years which is being organized at the beautiful village named *Palode* in *Thiruvananthapuram* district of Kerala. The festival witness one of the largest gatherings of village people in Kerala and is considered as national festival of south Kerala which has been conducting since 1962. Before the economic liberalization and globalization took over the scene, when farming and cattle rearing were considered as the spine of the society a few farmers took the initiative to start the fest. Years back, *Velamvetti Janardhana Pillai* started a market event called *Kannukalichantha* in which cows, buffalos etc were bought and sold. This event later became the famous festival known as *Palode Mela*.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED**

About 50000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

Traditional folk dances
Cultural programs
Palode Run
Medical camps
Seminars
Competitions
Vadamvali
Tournaments

The *mela* is usually inaugurated by famous personalities. Wide varieties of tuber crops, vegetables and herbs which are the assets of the Western Ghats are available at the festival for sale and exhibition. Various traditional cuisines can also be enjoyed at the feast. Many breeds of cattle are also available in the fest. Traditional folk dances and many cultural programs will be held at the fest. It is the best place to project the ethnicity and culture of the villages in front of the world. A mini marathon race is conducted known as *Palode Run*. Medical camps, tourism promotion programs etc are held. Seminars related to agriculture and environment, quiz competitions for children, debates, competitions on cooking, agriculture, *Vadamvali*, dances, painting etc are also held. Variety competitions on eating, telling lies etc also make the fest different. Tournaments for cricket, shuttle, volleyball etc are held.

