

VINAYAKA CHATHURTHI PAZHAVANGAADY SREE MAHAGANAPATHY TEMPLE



LOCATION

Panchayat/ Municipality/ Corporation	Trivandrum Corporation
District	Trivandrum Corporation



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/ Landmark/ Junction	East Fort – 10 m
Nearest Bus station	East Fort bus depot – 250 m
Nearest Railway station	Trivandrum Central Railway Station – 350 m
Nearest Airport	Trivandrum International Airport – 4.8 Km



CONTACT

Pazhavangaady SreeMahaganapathy Temple
 East Fort
 Padma Nagar
 Pazhavangadi
 Thiruvananthapuram
 Kerala-695023
 Contact Phone Number - +91-471-2461929



TIME

DATES

August- September(*Chingam*);

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

1Day

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

It is believed that the soldiers who guarded the Padmanabhapuram palace-fort at night were repeatedly harassed by a *yakshi* and over time no one was willing to do night patrol. One of the soldiers happened to be an ardent devotee of Ganesha. When his turn came to take night vigil, he decided that the Lord will protect him from harm. He went for a bath that evening and stumbled upon a Ganesha statue lying on the river bed. He saw this as a divine signal and took it with him to work that night and did not experience any trouble from the *yakshi*. The soldiers built a temple and installed the idol in it. Later in 1795, the capital of Travancore was moved to Thiruvananthapuram and the idol of Ganesha was shifted to its current location. The temple seen today was built in 1860 by Maharaja Ayilyam Thirunal. The main idol is installed in a seated posture with the right leg in a folded stance. The temple is situated in close proximity to the Sri Padmanabhaswamy temple. Other deities worshipped at the temple include Dharmasastha, Goddess Durga and Nagaraja. The temple sculptures include 32 different forms of Lord Ganesha. The original idol was maintained by The Nair Brigade initially at Padmanabhapuram and later when they were shifted to Thiruvananthapuram they installed the Idol and the current temple came into being. After the integration of the Travancore army with the Indian Forces, the temple is being maintained by the Indian Army.



RELEVANCE-
 (Local / National /
 International)

National



**NO. OF PEOPLE
 PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 10,000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

*Coconut Breaking
Abhishekham
Deeparadhana
Mahaganapathi Homam
Kodiyettu
Navakabhishekham
Uchapooja
Deeparadhana
Chendamelam
Panchavadyam
Nadaswarakacheri
Sandhyadeeparadhana
Ezhunallippu*

DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

The daily pooja includes Nirmalyam, Prabhathapooja, Deeparadhana and Kalabhabhishekam and Managalaganapathy Homam in the morning followed by Navakabhishekam and Ucha pooja in the noon. In the Evening the premises reopens at 5pm followed by Sandhya deeparadhana at 7 pm, Bhasmabhishekam, Pushpabhishekham, etc. On the day of Vinaya Chaturthi Special poojas are performed. The temple premises is opened with the main offering, i.e., breaking of Coconut. Coconut is broken on this day to seek the blessings of the God.

After the daily poojas flag is hoisted (Kodiyettam) at around 7:30 in the morning. The temple premises gets flooded by thousands of devotees on this day and various programmes like Chendamelam, Pancavadyam, Nadaswarakacheri, etc is arranged to entertain them.

The procession of the God (*Ezhunallathu*) accompanied by percussion artists. 32 forms and 8 avatars of lord Ganesha is displayed at the procession. Ganesh Visarjan is usually done in the Shanghumukham beach after seven days of pooja after the Vinaya Chaturthi.

