



GARUDA FESTIVAL

VELLAMASSERY GARUDAN KAVU



LOCATION

Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation

Tirur Municipality

District

Malappuram



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction

Pulinchode Bus Stop – 2 Km

Nearest Bus station

Tirur Bus Stand – 7.1 Km

Nearest Railway
station

Tirur Railway Station – 6.7 Km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport - 40.9 Km



CONTACT

Vellamassery Devaswom
Shri Garudan Kavu
Kshethram
P.O Alathiyur
Triprangode - 676 102

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TIME

DATES

November-December (*Vrishchikam-Dhanu*);

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

41 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The only one Garuda Temple in India is situated in Malappuram district in Kerala near Tirur, which is known as Vellamassery Garudan Kavu Temple. This Garuda Temple is about 1800 years old. Worshipping here is mainly meant for easy recovery from diseases and for relief from serpent poisons. All Sundays are important here especially the 41 days of Mandalakalam (From November 16th to December 28th). To the Hindus, Garuda is the Lord without beginning and without end. He is eternal in the true sense and is worshipped as the Supreme Lord. The temple is the only one of its kind with Garuda in his flying form. Just as this is one of the most unique Hindu temples and is singular in having the distinction of the only Garuda temple the offering and rituals of this temple are just as extraordinary. One feature that distinguishes this temple from all other ancient temples is that entry is not restricted to anybody in the temple. It is open to all. It is almost like the Garuda that flies high above in the skies and did not discriminate between any caste, creed class or color.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National /
International)

National



**NO. OF PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED**

Approximately 3000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

*Chendamelam
Panchavadyam
Special poojas*

Every year, *Vrischika Mandala* time is celebrated as the Garuda Festival. After 41 days of *Mandala* the next two days are identified for Vishnu celebrations. Garuda gets one only *Kalasham*. *Poojas* are in *Vaishnavite* style. The *Utsavas* here use only *Anushtana Vadyas* like the *Chenda*, *Panchavadyam* etc. Garuda celebrations do not engage elephants. But for Vishnu celebrations no such restrictions exist. Garuda is believed to become excited and happy at his Lord's pleasures. Many devotees throng the place during *Mandala* with the belief that the divine power at the *Kavu* will cure them of their sufferings especially if it is found to be related to snakes as in Hindu belief.

