



THIRUVUTSAVAM

SREE VALLABHA TEMPLE THIRUVALLA



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Thiruvalla Municipality

District

Pathanamthitta



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Thiruvalla Town – 2 Km

Nearest Bus station

Thiruvalla Market Bus Stop – 700m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Thiruvalla Railway Station – 4.5 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 118 Km



CONTACT

Thiruvithamkoor Devaswom Board
Sree Vallabha Maha Temple
Sree Vallabhapuram, Thiruvalla
Phone: +91-469-2700191
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TIME

DATES

February – March (*Kumbham*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Present Thiruvalla was once a village among 64 *Namboothiri* villages in Kerala and is one among the oldest human settlements in India. Since this place is situated at the mouth (*vai*) of *Manimala* River (*valla* river) it had been known as ‘*vallavai*’ and later transformed into ‘*thiruvalla*’. Historical evidences point out the place had been inhabited by humans before 3000 BC.. *Sreevallabha* temple flourished to a major spiritual and educational centre by AD 1100. While going through the legends related to *Sreevallabha* temple it is clear that even though *Sreevallabhan’s* idol is older, it was the temple for *sudarshana* built first. The temple used to be opened for ladies only during *Thiruvathira* of *dhanu* month and *Vishu* of *medam* till then. 1752-1753 *Marthanda Varma* of Travancore captured the temple from *Pathillathil Pottimarand* it is believed that Ramayyan *Dalawa* loot whole temple assets to Thiruvananthapuram. Up to 1968, ladies and elephants were not allowed in the temple. The temple used to be opened for ladies only during *Thiruvathira* of *dhanu* month and *Vishu* of *medam* till then. Anyhow now this custom is not in practice. These facts clearly say that how popular and wealthy the temple was in those days.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Regional



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Above 25000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

Kodiyettu
Special Poojas
Sreebhoothabali
Pallivetta
Deepa Aradhana
Colourful Procession
Arattu(Holy Bath)

In Sreevallabha Temple Uthsavam is conducted giving importance to Aaraattu (holy bath) and is celebrated for ten days ending with Pushya Nakshatra of Kumbham (February-march) of Malayalam calendar. Its customs and procedures are much complicated and start with kodiyettu or raising the festival flag on the flagstaff. Two days before kodiyettu, temple sanctifying procedures are performed. Then on the kodiyettu day, the holy flag is raised. Special poojas are done every day along with sreebhoothabali (sacrificing food to all crew of the deity) in the noon. The seventh day is marked by Pallivetta(custom done on the belief that the Lord hunts away all evil spirits) and tenth day by the holy bath or Aarattu. It is done at the river near Thukalassery and the deities of Sreevallabhan and Sudarshana moorthy are taken back to the temple after Deepa Aaradhana at Thukalassery Mahadeva Temple, accompanied by large and colourful procession.

