



SHIVARATHRI

AMBALAVAYAL SREE MAHA SHIVA TEMPLE



LOCATION

Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation

Nenmeni Panchayat

District

Wayanad



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction

Ambalavayal Junction – 800 m

Nearest Bus station

Sultan Bathery KSRTC Bus Station – 13 Km

Nearest Railway
station

Kozhikode Railway Station – 97 Km

Nearest Airport

Calicut International Airport – 120 Km



CONTACT

Ambalavayal Shiva Temple
Nenmeni Village
Ambalavayal

Sultan Bathery – 673593

Contact: Nenmeni Grama Panchayath

Phone: +91-4936-220310



TIME

DATES

February-March (*Kumbham*)

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

8 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Maha Shivratri is an auspicious Hindu festival that is dedicated to the worship of Lord Shiva. Maha Shivratri is also an extremely significant day for Hindu women, who perform a hunger fast during the day to appease Lord Shiva's wife, Goddess Parvati. Parvati is the mother goddess in Hinduism and represents the goddess of love, fertility and devotion. Parvati is believed to be the goddess that blesses women with marital bliss and long and prosperous married life. She is also thought to represent divine strength and her relationship with Lord Shiva is one of equality. Many Hindus believe that those who worship Lord Shiva on the auspicious day of Maha Shivratri would be cleansed of all their sins, making it one of the most important festivals for the Hindu religion. Shivratri is also said to be the day when Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati got married, bringing together two of the greatest forces in the universe, with Lord Shiva being known as the 'destroyer' of the Universe, paving the way for beneficial change. As the destroyer, Lord Shiva was known to have an untamed behaviour. He was only calmed by his wife Goddess Parvati, who would bring balance to his life and turn him into a lover. This is the reason why the day of their union is celebrated so widely among Hindus.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local

NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Over 6000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*



Abhishekams
Meditation
Percussion Music
Elephant Procession
Thalappoli
Fire Works

Lord Shiva is often represented by the *Shiva ling*, a statue that represents the power of Shiva and his masculinity. Hindus believe that the *Shiva ling* represents the seed of the universe and on Maha Shivratri the *Shiva ling* is bathed in water, milk and honey as it is worshipped. Beautiful flowers are also placed around the statue. The famous prayer ceremony conducted on this day is the *Maha Rudra Abhishek*, which is performed to gain the blessing of Lord Shiva. The *puja* is said to worship Lord Shiva in his "*rudra*" form, or "benevolent" form. It is said that the *Maha Rudra Abhishek* is hailed by all Vedic scriptures as one of the greatest *pujas* to perform in order to remove all evil and attain prosperity. It is believed that prayers to Lord Shiva are answered by transformation of negative energies surrounding oneself into peace and joy.

