



# THIRUVABHARANA GHOSHAYATRA

## VALIYA KOIKKAL DHARMA SASTHA TEMPLE



### LOCATION

**Panchayat/  
Municipality/  
Corporation**

Pandalam Municipality

**District**

Pathanamthitta



### ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction**

Pandalam Junction – 1 Km

**Nearest Bus Station**

Pandalam KSRTC – 1 Km

**Nearest Railway  
Station**

Chengannur Railway Station – 15 Km

**Nearest Airport**

Trivandrum International Airport – 127 Km



### CONTACT

Pandalam Valiyakoikkal dharmasastha temple  
Pandalam-689501



**TIME**

**DATES**

January

**FREQUENCY**

Annual

**DURATION**

3 Days



**ABOUT THE FESTIVAL**

(Legend/History/Myth)

After the departure of Lord Ayyappa to Sabari Mala, the Pandalam royal family built a private hall of worship for the members of the Pandalam Royal family. This temple is located in the big palace of Pandalam which was later opened to the public also. The important day in the temple is the twenty eighth day in the month of Dhanu when huge group of people go as a procession from this temple to Sabarimala carrying Lord Ayyappa's ornaments. The king(elderst member of the royal family of Pandalam gives his sword to his representative and tells him, "Safely go and see our son and return." Lord Ayyappa's birthday is on Uthram star of Kumbham month. That day the Salagrama is decorated. On the Vishu day, the Ornament box is brought out of the temple for the devotees to see. The temple would be a sea of devotees during the Mandala kalam of Ayyappa.



**RELEVANCE-**  
(Local / National / International)

International



**NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**

About 1Lakh



## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

*Thiruvabharana*  
displaying  
*Thiruvabharana*  
*Khoshayatra*

## DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

*Thiruvabharana Khoshayathra* is the ceremonial procession of the *Thiruvabharanam* (Sacred Ornaments) towards *Sabarimala* shrine, starting from the *Valiyakoikkal* temple every year, three days before the *Makaravilakku* festival. Hundreds of *Ayyappa* devotees, including women and children, thronged the *Srambickal* Palace adjoining the *Valiyakoickal Sastha Temple* at *Pandalam* to worship *Thiruvabharanam*, the sacred jewellery of the presiding deity of *Sabarimala Ayyappa Temple*

