Kannur

A Journey of Discovery and Enchantment
Welcome to Kannur, a city that boasts of a vibrant tapestry of history, culture, tradition and natural beauty. Explore its illustrious past at well-preserved forts and historical sites, where remnants of colonial influences whisper tales of the yesteryears. Here, you can step into the mystical world of Theyyam, where divine spirits come to life, and add enchantment to the cultural landscape.

The soothing waves of Kannur’s pristine beaches serenade you as you bask in golden sunsets. Embark on a cultural odyssey, and embrace traditional arts at the centuries-old temples, where ancient stories and folklore come alive before you. Indulge in Nature’s beauty amidst lush greenery and scenic landscapes. Take leisurely strolls through coconut groves and revel in the serenity of backwaters. Above these, don’t forget to treat your taste buds to the tantalizing delights of Malabari cuisine. In Kannur, every corner beckons with something unique, promising a journey of discovery and wonder like no other.
Tourist map of Kannur

- Payyambalam Beach
- St. Angelo Fort
- Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach
- Dharmadam beach
- Vayalapra Parappu Park
- Palakkayam Thattu
- Madayipara
- Rajarajeshwara Temple
- Parassinikadavu Muthappan Temple
- Arakkal Kettu Museum
- Gundert Museum
- Thalassery Fort
- Vayalapra Parappu Park
- Rajarajeshwara Temple
- Palakkayam Thattu
- Madayipara
- St. Angelo Fort
- Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach
- Dharmadam beach
- Parassinikadavu Muthappan Temple
- Arakkal Kettu Museum
- Gundert Museum
- Thalassery Fort

Area
2,966 sq. km

Altitude
Kannur has an elevation of 1.02 metres

Weather
- Dec to Feb: Pleasant Weather
- Mar to May: Warm Weather
- Jun to Sep: Heavy Rainfall

Kannur Railway Station
Kannur International Airport
KSRTC Central Bus Terminal, Kannur
01 Parassinikadavu Muthappan Temple
03 Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach
05 Vayalapra Parappu Park
07 Payyambalam Beach
09 Madayipara
11 Dharmadam Beach
Nestled in Parassinikadavu, on the serene banks of the Valapattanam, the Muthappan Temple beckons devotees with its unique blend of inclusivity and profound devotion. This temple is dedicated to Sree Muthappan, an extraordinary manifestation of both Lord Vishnu (Thiruvappana) and Lord Shiva (Vellatom).
Renowned for its daily performances of Theyyam (Thiruvappana and Vellatom), a vibrant, ancient ritual art form, the temple exudes an electric spiritual aura.

At this sacred place, Darshan (the act of seeing or worshiping a deity) is open to all, irrespective of their caste or religion and every devotee will be warmly welcomed and offered prasad made of red cow peas and coconut. There is no special dress code for the devotees. Special offerings at the temple are Thiruvappana, Karinkalasam, Oottum Vellattam, Payankutti and Payankutti Vellattam. Dogs are considered sacred at the temple, symbolizing the divine vehicle of Lord Muthappan. Apart from indulging in a spiritual sojourn, one may explore boat riding options at the boat terminal nearby.
Discover the perfect blend of natural splendour and thrilling experiences at Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach, a stunning coastal gem located on the Malabar Coast in Kannur district.
This pristine beach stretches over 4 kilometers, making it the longest drive-in beach in Asia. The unique hard, compact sand of the Muzhappilangad beach allows vehicles to drive on the shore, offering a thrilling experience and splendid sea views. This drive-in feature has made it a favourite spot for both locals and tourists.

Swimmers will find paradise here, as the black rocks at the fringe act as a natural barrier, protecting the beach from strong currents. You might also catch a glimpse of dolphins frolicking in the sparkling waters. Additionally, enjoy yourself amidst the vibrant birdlife that makes this beach a hotspot for birdwatching.
Welcome to Vayalapra Parappu Park commonly known as V-Pra Kaayal Floating Park, a mesmerizing park resting gracefully on the tranquil waters of Vayalapra Kaayal. Perfect for families and children seeking a delightful day out, the park greets you with a unique experience as you stroll along a pathway constructed atop the serene waters of Chemballikundu Lake.
As you explore the park, you’ll be immersed in the beauty of diverse mangroves flourishing in their natural habitat, with the floating pathway ensuring minimal disturbance to these delicate ecosystems. Boating takes centre stage as the park’s most sought-after activity, catering to both adventure enthusiasts and families. For the thrill-seekers, the sprawling game zone is a haven of excitement, offering bumper cars, snooker, bull rides, the human gyro, bungee trampolining, gliding in water balls, and exhilarating roller games, among other delights. To satiate your taste buds, the park hosts a delightful array of food courts, nestled within the lake’s embrace.

Entry Fee:  
- Adult - Rs.30
- Kids - Rs.10

Location

Pazhayangadi Railway Station, about 5 km
Kannur International Airport, about 51 km
Pazhayangadi Bus Stand, about 4 km

Location

+91 70126 62882

11:00 AM - 08:00 PM
Discover the captivating beauty of Payyambalam Beach, a remarkable stretch of shoreline extending for about 2 kilometers. Cross the charming bridge over a narrow canal to enter the beach, and explore the memorials honouring Kannur’s revered political figures nearby.
Experience the breathtaking sunset hues as you engage in various beach activities at Payyambalam Beach. Whether it’s sunbathing, swimming, engaging in a lively game of beach volleyball, or leisurely strolls along the shoreline, there’s something in store for everyone. Thrill-seekers will be delighted to find options, like horse riding and camel riding, adding an extra dose of excitement to the beach experience. Indulge in local delicacies, especially the fresh seafood dishes.

Payyambalam Beach has a newly constructed walkway along the scenic seawall, providing beachgoers with a delightful pathway to enjoy breathtaking ocean views.
Welcome to the captivating world of Madayipara! Spanning approximately 600 acres, Madayipara is a flat-topped hill predominantly made up of laterite rocks, adorned with a variety of flowering plants, herbs and shrubs.
Madayipara has been touched by the civilizations of the Greeks, the Jews, the Portuguese and the Arabs. The Jooda Kulam, a perennial pond shaped like a handheld mirror and the remnants of Madayi Kotta showcase its history. Madayipara is rightfully known as the ‘land of flowers’, being home to an impressive array of over 300 flowering plant species and 30 varieties of thick grass. The area is a haven for various butterfly species, including the magnificent Atlas butterfly, which holds the title of being the largest butterfly in the world. Madayipara is a paradise for bird lovers too, with over 100 species of birds, both endemic and migratory.
Dharmadam Beach

A captivating and enchanting destination in coastal Kannur, boasting a stunning golden shore that entices those seeking rejuvenation. The sight of the palm-fringed shoreline bathed in sunlight is truly awe-inspiring and soothing to the senses.
The Dharmadam beach’s abundance of attractive, colourful and exotic seashells is a sight to behold.

On the other side of beach, a harmonious meeting point of river and sea is home to the Dharmadam Beach Tourism Facilitation Centre, thoughtfully established by the Department of Tourism. This idyllic spot offers comfortable seating and delightful play equipment for children, offering a joyful experience for families. Moreover, the Facilitation Centre provides an enchanting venue for Destination Weddings, allowing couples to start their journey together against the picturesque backdrop of the beach.
Arakkal Kottaram, commonly referred to as Arakkal Kettu, is a historically significant mansion located in Kannur that once belonged to the Arakkal family - the sole Muslim royal family in Kerala.
A rakkal Kettu mesmerizes onlookers with its grand complex, where standalone units exhibit exquisite woodwork in every nook and corner. A two-storey structure unfolds, revealing vast halls with wooden floors and stunning stained-glass windows. There is a hallowed chamber that houses the ever-lit Kedavilakku lamp, heightening its allure. The elongated cuboid design echoes the regal style of Muslim kings, its windows adorned with vibrant hues. The illustrious Durbar Hall of Arakkal Kettu has been transformed into the Arakkal Kettu Museum, a treasure trove of artefacts and heirlooms from the esteemed Arakkal Dynasty.

Entry Fee: Adult - Rs.20
Children - Rs.10

Kannur Railway Station, about 3 km
Kannur International Airport, about 26 km
KSRTC Central Bus Terminal, Kannur, about 2 km
Location
+91 94460 17949
10:00 AM - 05:00 PM (Mondays closed)
Create grand memories of a serene retreat amidst the greenery and tranquillity of Kerala’s lesser-explored hill station, Palakkayam Thattu. Located at an elevation of around 3,500 feet above sea level, the hill station often welcomes low-hanging clouds, creating an air of mystique.
Embrace on an enchanting and leisurely trek to Palakkayam Thattu, with designated routes and gentle inclines allowing trekkers to reach the hilltop within no time. As you venture into Nature’s embrace, be captivated by the lush greenery, tall trees, and majestic hillocks. Tourists can hire a jeep from the valley below to transport them to the trekking point.

At the hilltop, inviting metal benches beckon you to relax and soak in the mesmerizing ambience. Visitors can also capture a photo at one of the square-shaped cement frames known as the ‘two eyes’. With each moment that goes by, the landscape gets transformed, revealing new facets of its beauty.
A testament to Kerala’s historical eminence and colonial legacy, built by the British East India Company in 1708, strategically positioning it to overlook the Arabian Sea, in order to secure their control over the lucrative spice trade along the Malabar coast.

Thalassery Fort
Also known as Tellicherry Fort, Thalassery Fort exhibits massive walls adorned with intricate carvings, showcasing a harmonious blend of British and local Malabar architectural styles. Constructed using laterite blocks, the fort stands tall at an elevation of 90 feet above sea level. The entrance to the fort is perched atop a colossal 10-meter wall. Its underground chambers are believed to have housed precious commodities like pepper and cardamom. Local legends further suggest that the East India Company’s coins were minted within these chambers. The fort features a secret tunnel leading to the sea, which once served as an escape route during potential attacks.

No Entry Fee
Standing tall along the picturesque coast of Kannur, St. Angelo Fort, also known as Kannur Fort, showcases the enthralling history of trade, anti-colonial struggles and battles that shaped the region. Constructed in 1505 by the Portuguese Viceroy, Don Francisco de Almeida, the fort has endured time, bearing witness to significant historical events.
St. Angelo Fort was captured by the Dutch in 1663 modified before being sold to the Ali Raja of the Arakkal dynasty, and later controlled by the British from 1790 until India’s independence in 1947.

The Fort, also known as the ‘Single Gate Fort’ (Otta Vaathil Kotta), features a front door with sharp edges, designed to withstand elephant attacks during war. With a triangular layout, the fort features Dutch-built bastions with iron cannons. The fort also houses an underground jail. While strolling along the fort’s walls, enjoy the breathtaking views of the natural harbour, Mappila Bay. St Angelo Fort, now protected by the Archaeological Survey of India is a tranquil and historically significant destination.

Entry Fee : Adult - Rs. 25
Free entry for children upto 10th Standard
Welcome to Gundert Museum, also known as Gundert Bungalow – a historical treasure that holds the legacy of Dr Hermann Gundert, a revered German missionary, scholar and lexicographer. Gundert bungalow served as Dr Gundert’s home and workplace from 1839 to 1859, becoming the centre of his profound linguistic and literary pursuits.
This iconic building is a place of utmost importance in history, for it was here that Dr Gundert toiled tirelessly, crafting the very first Malayalam dictionary, an extraordinary achievement that has enriched the linguistic heritage of Kerala forever. In 2022, the Kerala government transformed Gundert Bungalow into a museum, which features new attractions, including an interactive map highlighting major historical landmarks in the northern districts, a digitized biography of Gundert and a display of the first Malayalam dictionary with easy access to its contents and prints. Within the museum premises, visitors can explore the remarkable Hermann Hesse Library, a statue of Gundert and the Digital Book Archive.

Entry Fee:
- Adult - Rs. 50
- Senior Citizen - Rs. 25
- Students - Rs. 20
(Should produce the school/college ID cards)

**Location**

- Thalassery Railway Station, about 2 km
- Kannur International Airport, about 23 km
- Thalassery Bus Stand, about 3 km

**Contact**

+91 497 270 6336

**Opening Hours**

10:00 AM - 04:45 PM
(closed on Mondays)
Located in Taliparamba, this ancient Shiva temple is counted among the 108 ancient Shiva temples of Kerala. It holds immense historical and religious significance, and is a remarkable example of Kerala temple architecture. The temple’s ancient Shiva Lingam is believed to be thousands of years old, and was installed by Lord Parashurama himself.
Nestled in the heart of a vast six-acre compound, the Rajarajeshwara Temple is enclosed by a compound wall and two striking Gopurams on its eastern and western sides. The ancient compound wall is a testament to the engineering ingenuity of the past, showcasing impressive craftsmanship.

The temple features the tallest shikhara of its time and its sanctum sanctorum is a remarkable two-tiered rectangular structure adorned with copper sheets. Unlike other Kerala temples, it lacks a kodi maram (flagstaff). The temple allows only men to enter the Naalambalam during the daytime, but after the evening Athazha Pooja, women can also worship Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvathi together. Ponnumkudam, Vellikkudam and Ashwamedha Namaskaram are the special offerings at the temple.
Palakkayam Thattu

An inviting magnetic beauty on the mountains
Chootad Beach

A tranquil getaway for families
Kottiyoor Temple

Discover the mystical divinity at Kottiyoor
E-brochures’ Gallery

A Catalogue of Festivities

Go Camping in Kerala

Fort Kochi
Where History, Sleeps Serenely.

Thrissur
Where colours craft stories

Find More
Thank you