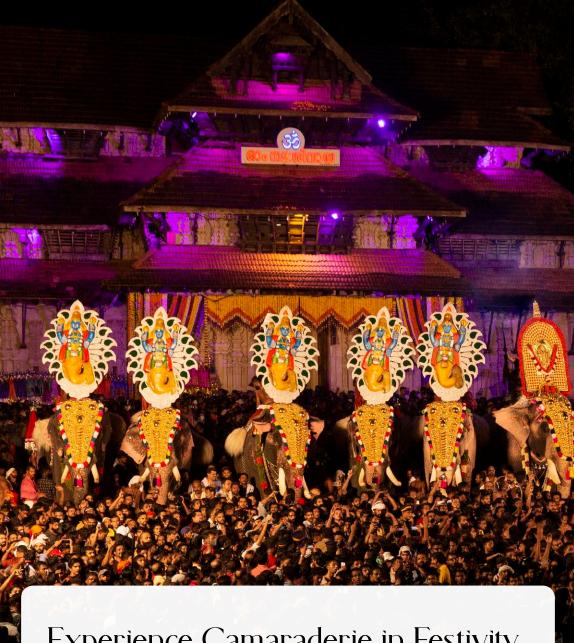


# THRISSUR

Where colours craft stories





# Experience Camaraderie in Festivity

Kerala's cultural capital Thrissur is a marker of legends and a bygone history. Synagogues, forts and galleries take you through the annals of a past ruled by the Zamorins, the British and the Portuguese over time.

The Thrissur Pooram (Festival of Thrissur) is one of the mostawaited events by tourists from far and wide. It is where colour and sounds bring alive culture and history, on an annual basis. Thrissur, the ancient Tiru-Shiva-Peru, meaning the big town of Lord Shiva exists in its modern form of architecture, courtesy Sakthan Thampuran. The city is believed to have been discovered by Lord Parasurama. The city also remains one of the most tranquil circuits in Kerala thanks to its backwaters and naturescapes.

### Tourist Circuits in Thrissur district



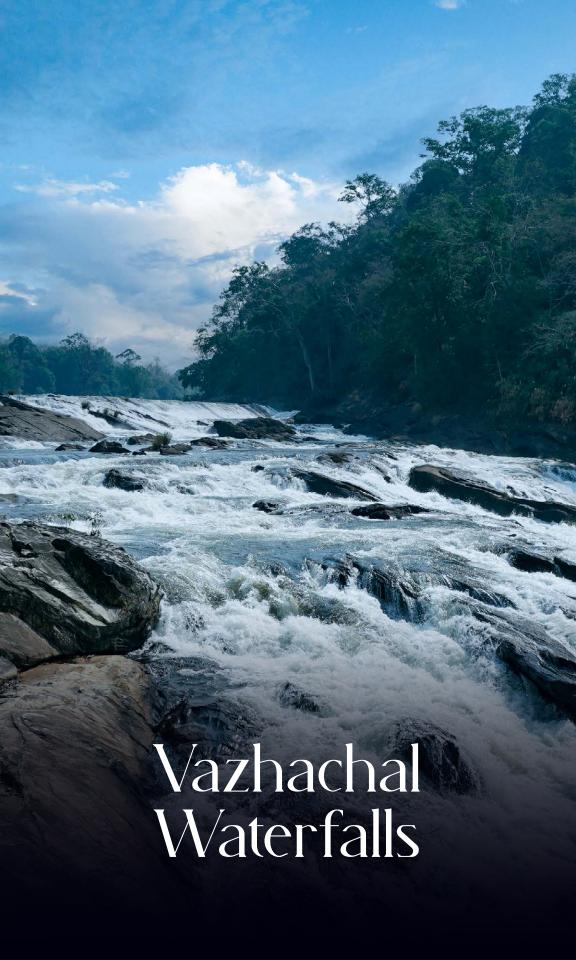
# Blue Circuit - Water Tourism



### **Athirappilly Waterfalls**

### Blue is the Deepest Colour

Welcome the breathtaking majestic tumult of Athirappilly and Charpa and flow along with the ceaseless frothing of peaceful waters in Vazhachal and Thumboormuzhi. The Blue-circuit covers four of the most exquisite sights of waterfalls from the Chalakudy River to Munakkal Dolphin Beach.





# Gushing waters from the foothills of Sholayar are a feast to the eyes

Vazhachal's waters are equally tempting and mesmerising. The abundant sunshine and burbling water add to nature's healing powers, just what the tourist running away from the metro cities is looking for. Vazhachal is also a spot that is skipped on many tourists' itineraries. A hidden gem among the caverns, 120 metres above the ground, it can be the perfect place to make your own at least for a little while. Grab a book, sip some tea while lying on a mat with the sound of the waters and a view of the calm sky above. This is the best part of Vazhachal waterfalls, as it flows down in its own ecstasy, one that is hard to ignore.



Cochin International Airport, about 58 km



Chalakudy Railway Station, about 38 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Chalakudy, about 37 km



+91 85476 01915



08:00 am to 05:00 pm

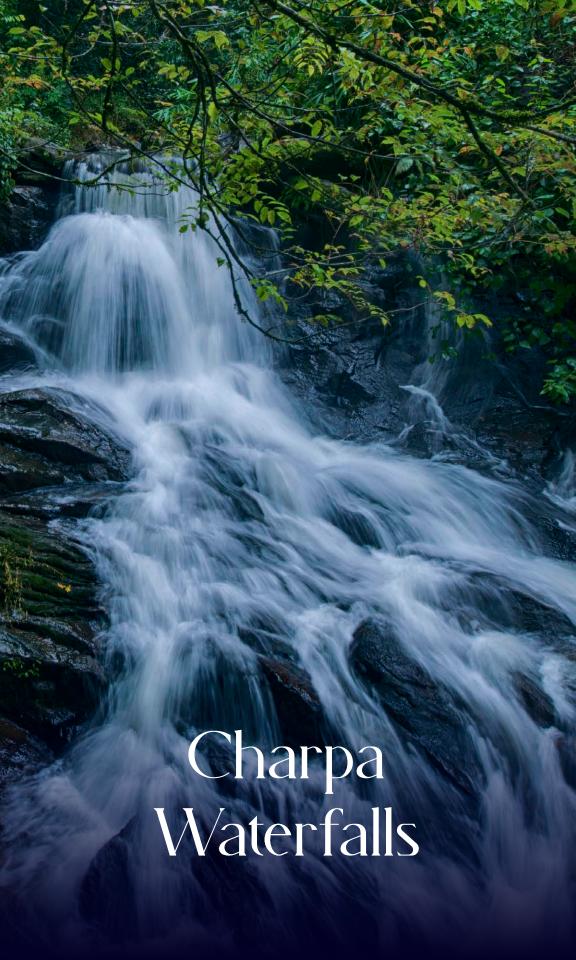




#### **Explore**

A perfect place to make your own, at least for a little while







# At 70 metres above the ground, Charpa is an all-time popular stopover

A perfect spot where the giant waterfalls are a great chill-out option during the monsoons. Sandwiched between Athirappilly and Vazhachal Waterfalls, Charpa invites you to feel the mind-blowing experience of soaking in the cool waters and to immerse in its sensual appeal.

The proximity of the flowing waters attracts thousands of visitors to stop by and enjoy the cascade to the fullest. Charpa waterfalls can be located from the roadside where you can pull over and drive towards a magical place. The sight during the monsoons where the falls drench onlookers in its raging fury is a sight to remember.



Cochin International Airport, about 57 km



Chalakudy Railway Station, about 36 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Chalakudy, about 35 km



+91 85476 01915



08:00 am to 05:00 pm





#### **Explore**

The raging fury of the falls during monsoon is a sight to remember







# The massive rush of the waters flowing down from the hills is gorgeous

These magnificent waterfalls, falling from an amazing 82m and 330m in width are the largest in Kerala. Endearingly called the Niagara falls of South India, it mightily begins its journey at the doorway to the Sholayar ranges in the Western Ghats. It is a view to behold as the waters run deep from within the Anamalai Hills of Tamil Nadu.

The sight of these waterfalls will be your evergreen takeaway from Thrissur. The locale buzzes regularly with tourists and has become a gorgeous choice for significant shots in many films. Hornbills perch beside these waterfalls while deer and squirrels tread the pathways.



Cochin International Airport, about 41 km



Chalakudy Railway Station, about 32 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Chalakudy, about 31 km



+91 85476 01897



08:00 am to 05:00 pm





#### **Explore**

Endearingly called the Niagara falls of South India







# Dam, hanging bridge and butterfly park make the spot worth visiting

Scattered around a vast area are innumerable colours of its winged inhabitants and the glow of deep forests. This massive dam, built across the Chalakudy river helps the city meet its power demands. Thumboormuzhi hosts Kerala's largest butterfly garden with hundreds of varieties fluttering around. Harbouring fresh flame lilies and letting the butterflies add colour to the lush greenery around. Thumboormuzhi lies wide open with sights that are sure to leave nature amazed. The hanging bridge is another attraction, connecting the marshy lands of Thumboormuzhi in Thrissur and Ezhattumukham in Ernakulam districts.



Cochin International Airport, about 27 km



Chalakudy Railway Station, about 21 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Chalakudy, about 19 km



+91 480 2769888 +91 94970 69888



08:00 am to 05:00 pm







#### **Explore**

Some rare species of butterflies find their habitat here







# Kerala's largest beach with 30 acres unravels along Arabian coast

along the tantalising shorelines of Munakkal Dolphin Beach in Azhikode, as glittering sun above and coastal sands at your feet bring magic to your body and mind. The beach rests at the confluence of the Perivar river and the Arabian Sea. The Cheena Vala, the Choola trees (Australian Pine Trees) and the Miyawaki forests adorning the beach premises are those that no other beach in Kerala will offer you. The boat jetty towards the Eastern side of the beach also has remnants of the Muziris port. The Munakkal Dolphin Beach is also the first beach for differentlyabled people with 30m wide pathways and disabled-friendly kiosks and washrooms.



Cochin International Airport, about 35 km



Chalakudy Railway Station, about 29 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Chalakudy, about 30 km



+91 480 2320800



No fixed timings

### Explore

The beach has 30m wide pathways and disabled-friendly kiosks



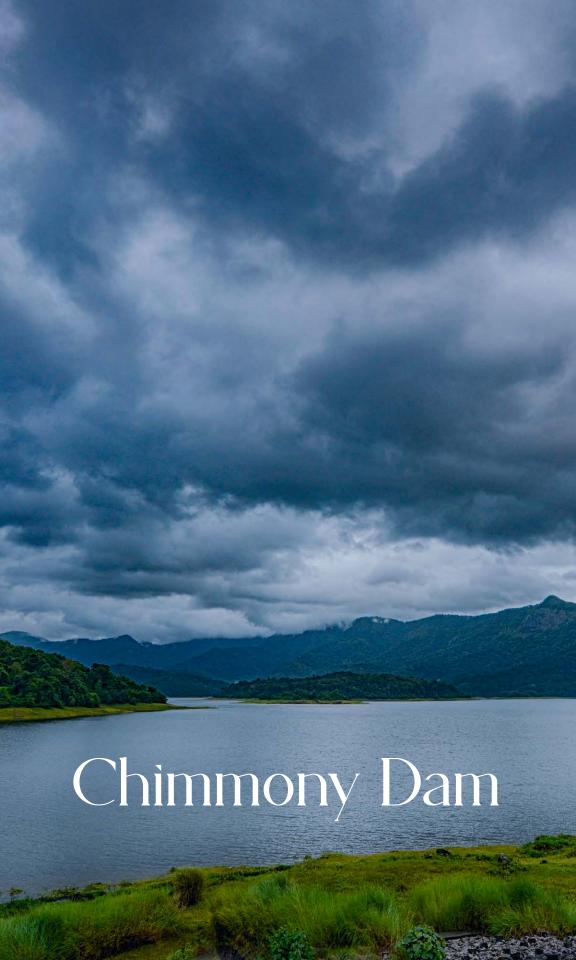


# Brown Circuit - Dam Tourism



### **Reservoirs of Power**

Thrissur caters to Kerala's largest number of power sources. The presence of a range of flora and fauna, and the development of adventure sports at these dams makes a visit to these spots enjoyable. The sheer height and strength of the dam structures are also a revelation about the potential of humankind to turn natural resources into reservoirs of power for the benefit of the people. The circuit starts from Thrissur, leading to Chimmony Dam, Peechi dam, Vazhani Dam and Poomala Dam before ending at Vilangankunnu.





### It is Thrissur's largest reservoir without a canal system

Located in the Echippara region, Chimmony dam is a revelation of the engineering marvel that power dams are in Kerala. Traversing the Chimmony river, the dam is the largest in the district. It is one of a kind in the absence of a ubiquitous canal system.

The flow of the Chimmony river, a tributary of the Karuvannur river, has been streamlined towards this massive reservoir, much to the awe of its visitors. It is also a thriving ecosystem to the wildlife around. Animal tracking, bamboo rafting, jungle rafting and butterfly safari are just some of the activities that are available spot. this Coracle rides across the dam offer a unique experience.

### X

Cochin International Airport, about 58 km



Thrissur Railway Station, about 39 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 39 km



+91 85476 03454



08:30 am to 04:30 pm

### **Explore**

Animal tracking & bamboo rafting are some of the activities here









# Botanical gardens, other recreational activities make dam a must-visit

The lifeline of Thrissur, Peechi Dam, built across Manali dam, meets the drinking water requirements of the city. Built with a catchment area of 3200 acres, Peechi Dam is surrounded by botanical gardens fountains born from the designs of E. Ikkanda Warrier in 1958. The dam is a part of irrigation that nourish projects surrounding villages. A boat ride across the waters of Peechi Dam provides a breathtaking glimpse of the Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary.

The pool beside the dam is perfect for a swim, nestled as it is within the scenic landscape. Make a trip up the watchtower for a bird's eye view of the area.

### Cochin International Airport, about 67 km

- Thrissur Railway Station, about 24 km
- KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 23 km
- +91 487 2698200
- 08:00 am to 06:00 pm

### **Explore**

A boat ride provides a breathtaking glimpse of the sanctuary









# A tranquil spot for an evening of fresh air and a refreshing stroll

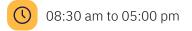
A place that holds 60 years of history within its sturdy walls, Vazhani Dam is a delightful place for a breath of fresh air. This clay dam, built over the Wadakkanchery River spread across four acres of gardens, gives you a spectacular evening to cherish forever. The simple and elegant construction, made through a vigorous process of clay blanket, gravel and earth embankment, remains a model for sustainable development as well. The nearby hanging bridge is also an exciting prospect while there. Those who are intrigued by engineering feats will find Vazhani Dam a place that is to be visited at all costs.













### **Explore**

The simple construction remains a model for sustainable development as well





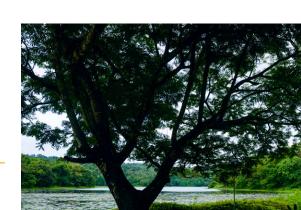


# The eco-friendly premises also include a handrail walkway and water-laden steps

Designed from mud and stone, Poomala Dam is located around a beautiful landscape that will fill the onlooker's heart with joy. Set across a picturesque location, a children's park and boat ride facility provides ample source of entertainment for visitors who look forward to having more to do.

For those who want to simply soak in the ambience, the sight of the waters will be enough for a calming experience to feel refreshed. Poomala dam is a popular spot among tourists to the city of Thrissur. The sunset from the dam is not to be missed.











+91 487 2332486

No fixed timings







# The Oxygen Jar of Thrissur brings the brown circuit to a wrap

Amateur photographers are in for a treat as Vilangankunnu, final destination on the brown circuit, popularly known as the Oxygen Jar of Thrissur, provides plenty of picture perfect frames. The Vilangankunnu hills provide a series of breathtaking shots. Standing at a height of 80 metres, the hills, once a military base and camp site during World War II, are today remnants of a history embodied in a series of sculptures here. The hills are highly recommended for trekking enthusiasts. There are about 500 mango trees and an amphitheatre in the area apart from a medicinal garden or asokavanam. Top that off with a view of the sunset, and it ought to leave you recharged for life back in the city again.



Cochin International Airport, about 63 km



Thrissur Railway Station, about 10 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 10 km



+91 487 2320800



09:00 am to 06:00 pm



The hills were once a military base and camp during World War II





### Green Circuit - Backwater Tourism



### Thrissur's hinterlands beckon

The green circuit begins from the Chimmony waters where a cruise through the houseboats from the Enamavu lake takes one to Snehatheeram in the evening. The twilight hours are magical to say the least as the sky changes from a dramatic orange to an alluring red, finally giving way to an ink black sky. Paddy fields, hamlets, the greenery around and the mushy waters are an experience to behold while on a boat ride or kayaking in the area. Look far out wide to see the waters converge with the Arabian sea on the horizon.





### Waters from Peechi, Kurumali & Puzhakkal form the backwaters

Enamavu Kettu or Enamavu bund across the lake prevents the mixing of freshwater and saltwater, the bund catering to the safe drinking water needs of the Enamavu village.

replete Enamavu is with historical references. Once a hub which attracted foreign sailors. the colonial edifices of the British and the Portuguese here stand as reminiscents of the history of Kerala. The Portuguese Church of Lady Mount of Caramel is one symbol of the colonial era here. Cross the Enamavu waters to stop over at Coconut Island, a cosy nest where one can relax over lunch, or write or read a book.



Cochin International Airport, about 70 km



Thrissur Railway Station, about 19 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 19 km



+91 487 2320800



No fixed timing

#### **Explore**

Enamavu was once a hub that attracted foreign sailors













KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 25 km

+91 487 2320800

No fixed timing



# Experience tranquility amid picture-perfect setting at Chettuva

Located about 10 kilometers south of Guruvayoor, Chettuva in Thrissur district is known for its placid and scenic backwaters. With its rich mangrove vegetation, Chinese fishing nets, estuary, fort, migratory birds and islets, the destination is known for the tranquility it offers.

The biggest mangrove forest in Kerala is situated in the middle of the Chettuva backwaters. The backwaters stretch from Enamakkal Lake all the way up to an estuary where it empties into the Arabian Sea. Going for a boating here is the best way to relax and rejuvenate from the hectic schedules of life. Tourists can hire shikaras or houseboats, and go on a leisure trip.

#### **Explore**

The biggest mangrove forest in Kerala is situated here







# This beach is a reminder that love makes the world go round

Peaceful and clean, Snehatheeram or Love Shore draws people from all walks of life to enjoy its relaxing beach. As the name suggests, the beach in Thalikulam is a love nest for the young, a meeting spot for friends, and a picnic spot for families. Snehatheeram was selected as one of the best beach tourism destinations by the Department of Tourism in 2010.

There is a freshwater fish pond apart from miniature mandap constructions built in traditional architectural style without which Thrissur would be incomplete. A children's park completes the setting with a stage for the music performances that provide all the music one needs.

#### **Explore**

The beach is a love nest for the young, a meeting spot for friends







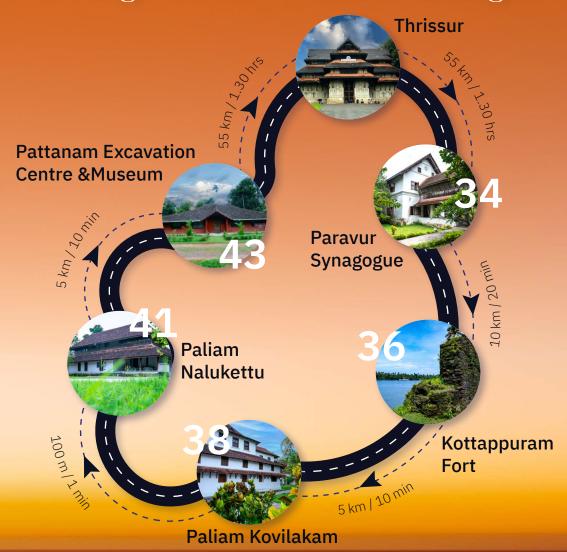


+91 487 2320800

No fixed timing



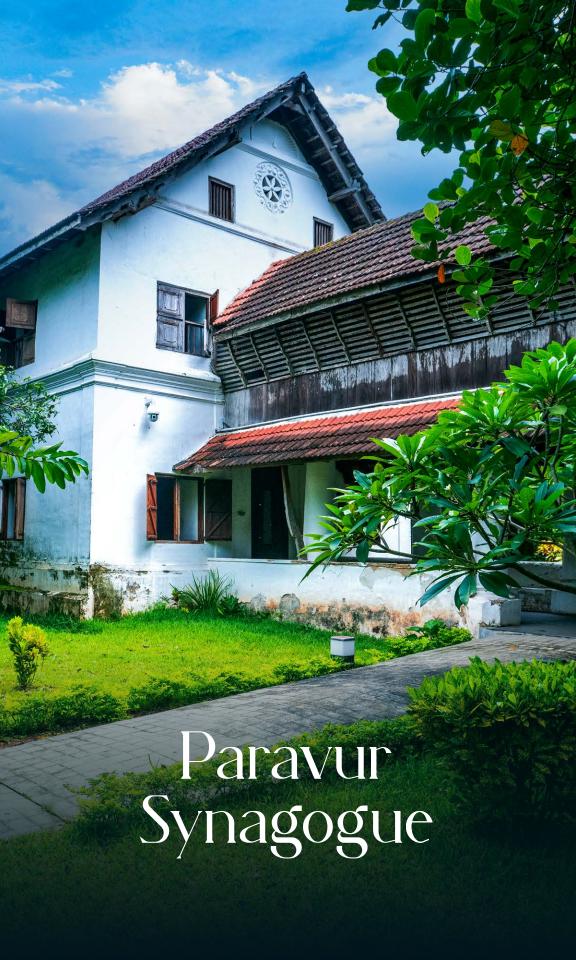
# Orange Circuit - Muziris Heritage



### Connect through ages

A glance through Kerala's culture and heritage tells many a story - of bravery and integrity, a glorious battlefield of trade and power. The geographical, social and political dynamics of this past have enormously altered and shaped the cultural identity and architectural styles of Kerala, with Thrissur as a witness to most of their inceptions.

The orange circuit is part of the Muziris heritage conservation project, the largest such heritage conservation project in India and the first green project under the Kerala Government.





# The first-ever vast place of Jewish worship in Kerala

The Paravur Synagogue was a place of worship built to fulfil the spiritual needs of the immigrant Jewish community in Kerala. A blend of the Portuguese and Kerala styles of architecture, the colours and lights whisper together to rekindle a past which was not just of the natives of Kerala, but also a space where different lives from afar came to make their livelihood.

It was in the large porch and yard that members of the community met to air their sorrows and visualise their hope for a safe life. Over the years most of them have returned to Israel with the synagogue having few Jews who could come and offer prayers.



Cochin International Airport, about 20 km



Aluva Railway Station, about 18 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Aluva, about 18 km



+91 480 2807717



Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00 am to 05:00 pm





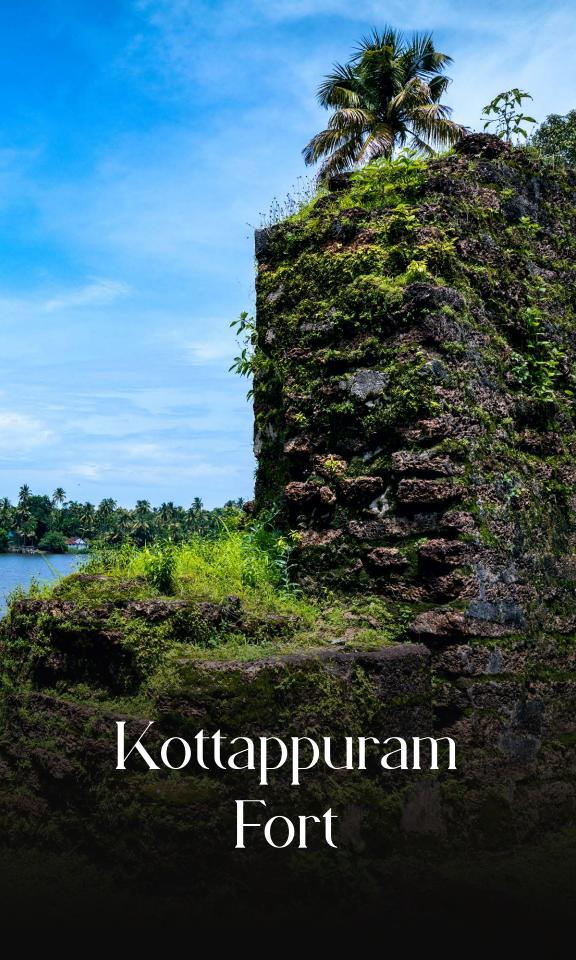




#### **Explore**

Signs of Jewish tradition are visible in the architecture







## Has a great chapter in socio-political history of Kerala

The Kottappuram Fort in Kodungalloor, also known as Fortaleza da São Tomé and Cranganore Fort, occupies a great chapter in the sociopolitical history of Kerala. Forts are symbols of defence; they also portray the struggle between belonging and forceful evictions.

The ownership of Kottapuram fort was always a contentious issue - right from 1523, when it was first built by the Portuguese to the Dutch in 1663, to the Mysore kings and the then King of Travancore in 1789. Finally it fell back into the hands of the Travancore administration and finally became public property. What remains now is a dilapidated structure.

### X

Cochin International Airport, about 27 km



Aluva Railway Station, about 26 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Aluva, about 25 km



+91 480 2807717



Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00 am to 05:00 pm





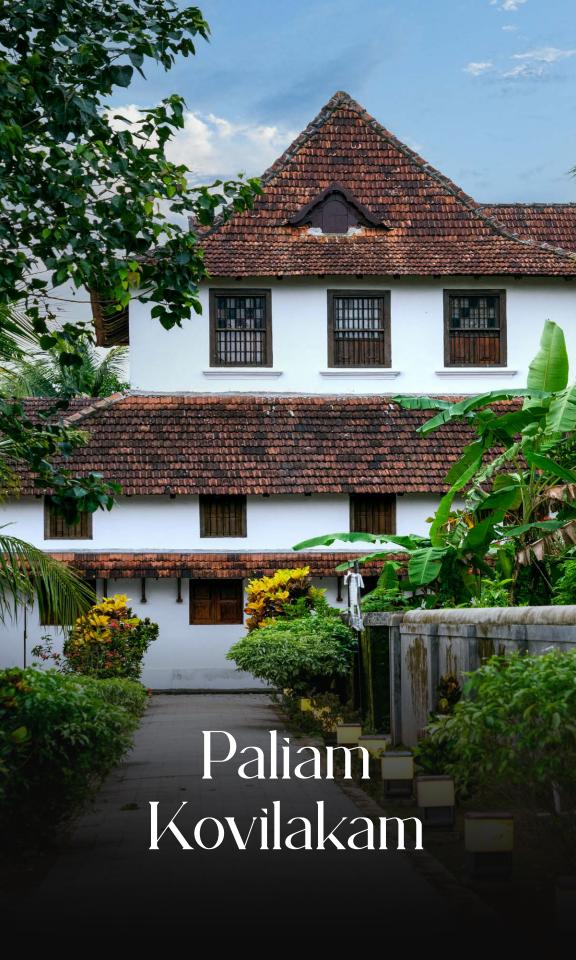




#### **Explore**

The ownership of the fort was always a contentious issue







## Where history and truth remain locked in time

Paliam Kovilakam was once the hub of all diplomatic relations of the times. The Paliath Achans, chief ministers to the maharajas of Kochi, were bestowed with the duty of protecting them. The title was given to the chief member of the Nair family. The Achans bravely held fort against internal and external attacks, including that from the Zamorin of Kozhikode, the Portuguese and the British. One of the Paliath Achans once shifted the King to Chendamanagalam, the ancestral land of the Achans, and hid him in their family home to fulfil his duty of protecting the ruler from the Portuguese. Later, the house attained the title of 'Kovilakom', meaning palace, reminding us that the king had once stayed there.



Cochin International Airport, about 22 km



Aluva Railway Station, about 19 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Aluva, about 19 km



+91 480 2807717



Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00 am to 05:00 pm





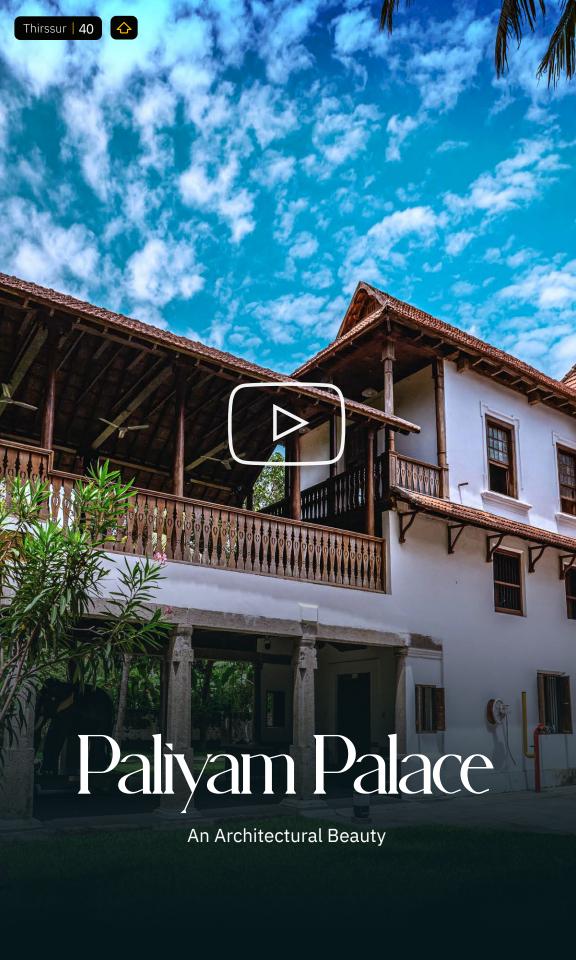


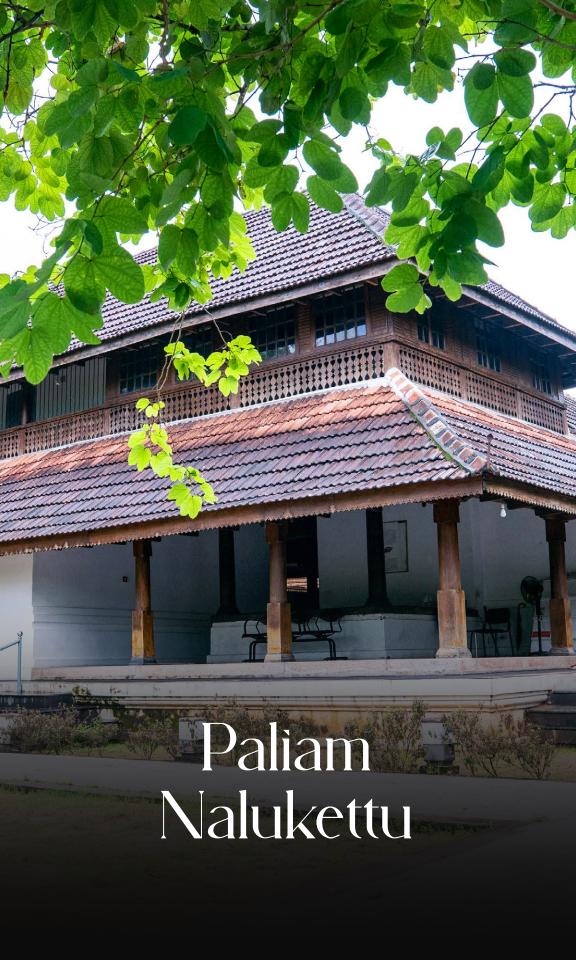


#### **Explore**

The ancestral house of the Achans in Chendamangalam









## The house speaks volumes about Paliyath family's lifestyle

Elegant yet simple, the Paliam Nalukettu, the ancestral base of the Paliyath family, is a remnant of the matrilineal joint family system that existed in the sociocultural purview of Kerala. Its interiors bring back Kerala's feudal era. The quadrangle structure helps unearth the architectural and cultural sensibilities of the times.

spectacular courtyard, large portico and four blocks -Northern, Western Southern, Eastern along and with the Vadakkini and the thekkini which accommodates the dining hall, an adjacent room and guest rooms are spaces which once accommodated family members by the hundreds.

### X

Cochin International Airport, about 22 km



Aluva Railway Station, about 19 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Aluva, about 19 km



+91 480 2807717



Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00 am to 05:00 pm





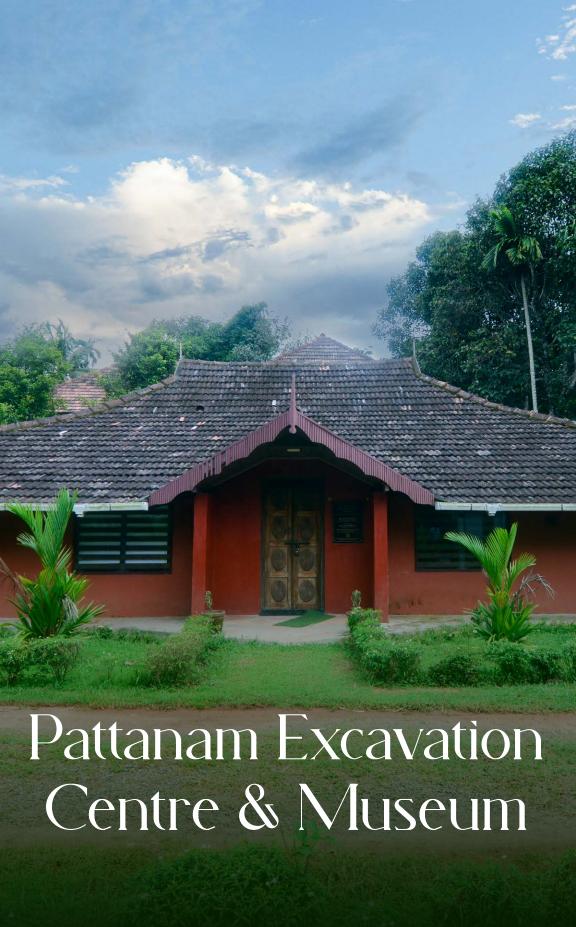




#### **Explore**

This is a reminder to one of the most powerful families in Kochi







### Dug and dive into the ancient lives and stories

While pattanam means 'city', the centre and museum get their names from a village located 8km south of Kodungalloor which is a part of the Muziris Heritage Project. It was where the first such multi-disciplinary excavation project was held in Kerala from 2007-2015. The site, dated from circa 500 BC, has revealed much about the Iron Age, be it early historic, medieval or modern.

Regional and foreign artefacts, from the Indo-Mediterranean and South-East Asian regions, having been unearthed through the process. The project showed the existence of a vast urban settlement, the objects found defining the status of its owners.



Cochin International Airport, about 23 km



Aluva Railway Station, about 20 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Aluva, about 20 km



+91 484 2991220



Monday to Friday: 09:30 am to 05:30 pm









#### **Explore**

The excavation was led by Kerala Council for Historical Research

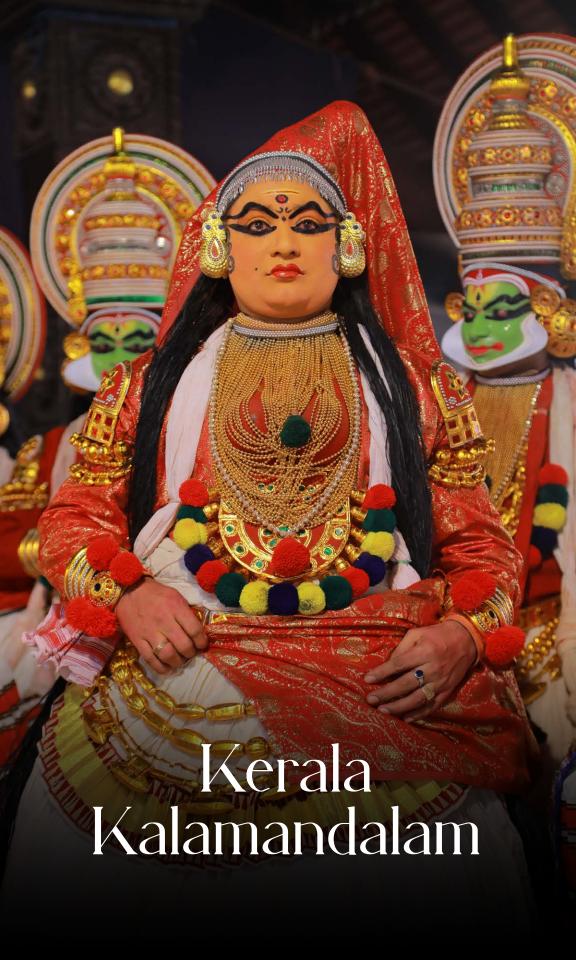


### Yellow Circuit - Culture Tourism



### Yellow is the Colour of Enchantment

Sliced out from the rhythms of God's own country, a more significant portion of Kerala's cultural multitudes lie miscellaneously entangled here. In Kerala's cultural history, influences overlap, as religious harmony goes back a long way in the state, much before it became the Kerala that we know today. From artistes honing their passion in the arts at Kerala Kalamandalam to the museum of Sakthan Thampuran, this circuit offers excitement at varying degrees.





## Music and dance meet passion at this institute that has shaped legends

Founded by the great Malayalam Romantic poet Vallathol Narayana Menon in 1930, Kerala Kalamandalam is а revered institute which provides training in art forms such as Kathakali, Mohiniyattam, Kutiyattam, Panchavadyam, Thullal. Mridangam and Carnatic Music.

The institution has stood the test of time, vigorously training artistes who have gone on to make their mark on global platforms. A small traditional temple called Koothambalam is also a part of this place. Visitors can see students attending classes, in their traditional uniforms, guided by senior artistes. The courses are conducted with utmost seriousness and discipline.

### **X**

Cochin International Airport, about 83 km



Shoranur Junction, about 4 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 30 km



+91 4884 262418



Monday to Friday: 09:30 am to 12:30 pm





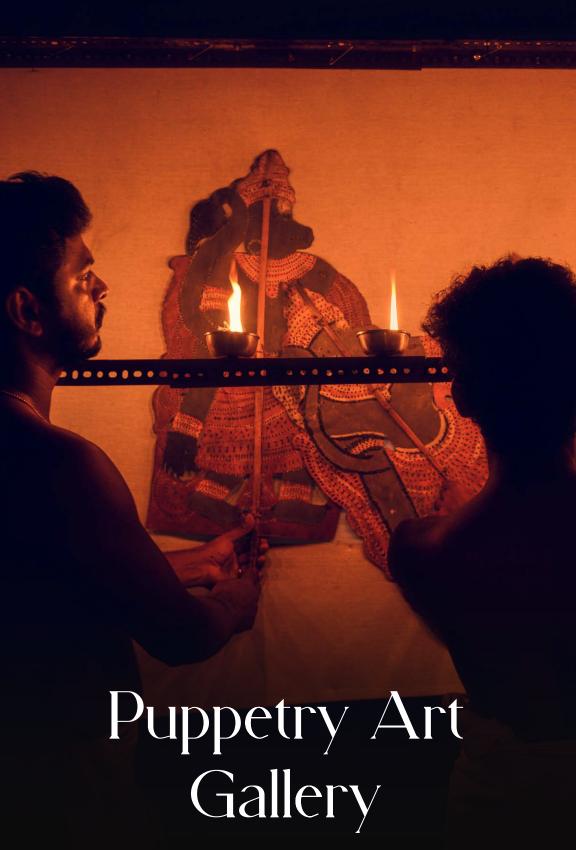




#### **Explore**

Kalamandalam artistes have gone on to make a mark on global platforms









Cochin International Airport, about 92 km



Shoranur Junction, about 7 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 40 km



+91 94953 97457 +91 98465 34998 +91 98473 58668



No fixed timings



# In this world of shadows, silhouettes narrate mythical tales

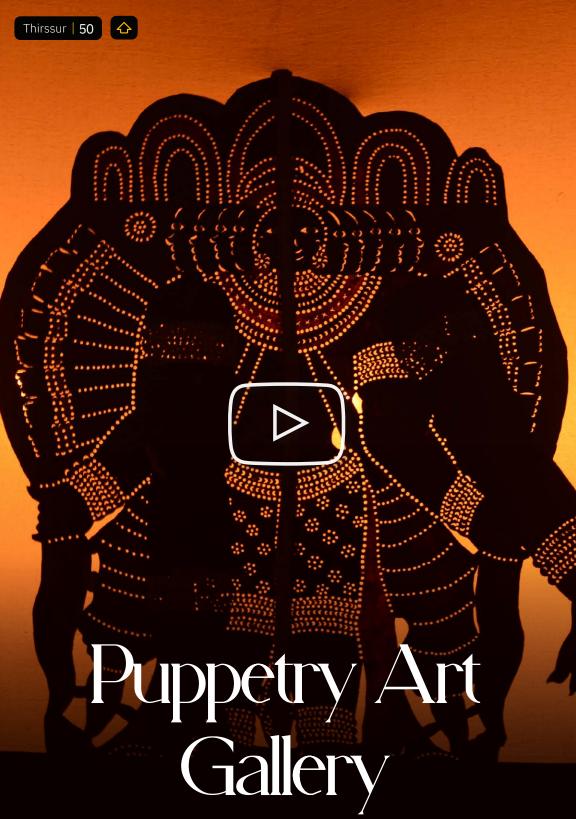
The Indian tradition of puppetry brings with it the influences of each state. Kerala's style of Tholpavakoothu is unique. Thol means skin/hide and refers to the leather used to cut out the shapes which bring the puppets to life. Dedicated to Bhagavati or goddess, it tells the stories of the goddess during temple festivals from January to March.

Koonathara Shoranur Αt in there are mainly three puppet galleries where tourists can witness the performance. They Krishnan are Kutty Pulavar Memorial Tholpavakoothu Puppet Center, Tholpavakoothu Kalakendram (Harisree Kannan Tholpavakoothu Kalakendram) and Tholpavakoothu Sangam.

#### **Explore**

Tholpavakoothu tells the stories of goddess during temple festivals





A popular storyteller





## Where history sleeps with the memories, nothing completely is lost

It is no surprise that King Rama Varma Shakthan Thampuran, a visionary ruler whose reign was called the golden era of Kochi, has a museum dedicated to him. Formerly known as Vadakkechira Kovilakam, the palace which is now a museum owes its current form to Shakthan Thampuran.

A confluence of Dutch and Kerala styles of architecture, the two-storeyed palace has been constructed by taking Kerala's seasons into consideration. The interiors are cool and airy for the same reason. The palace is also a tomb for a Zamorin, a Kochi king and Shakthan Thampuram himself. The museum houses a bronze gallery, a sculpture gallery and an epigraphy gallery.



Cochin International Airport, about 55 km



Thrissur Railway Station, about 3 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 3 km



+91 487 2323631



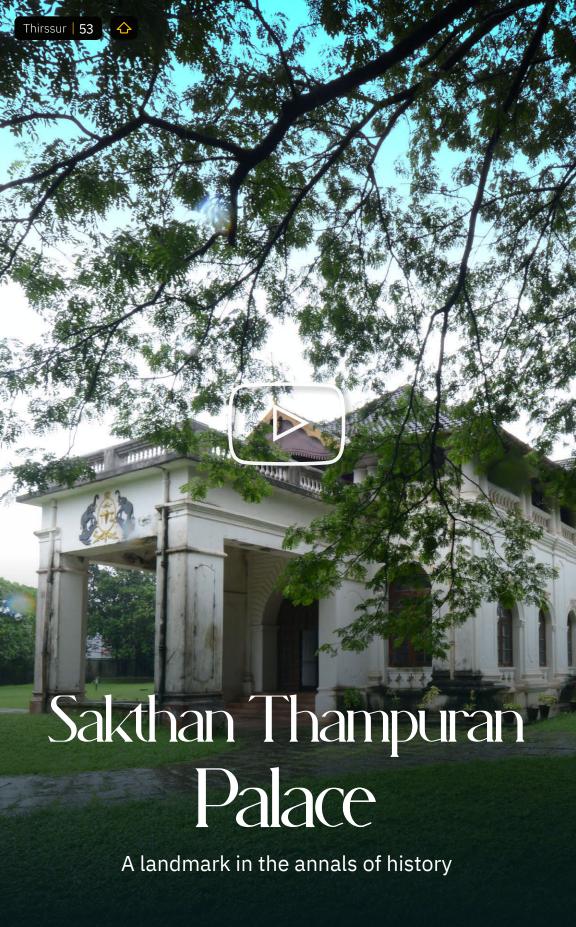
Tuesday to Sunday: 09:00 am to 01:00 pm & 02:00 pm to 05:00 pm

#### **Explore**

It is a confluence of Dutch and Kerala styles of architecture











## The Thrissur Zoo has plenty to leave animal lovers in awe

At two kilometres from Thrissur city, Thrissur Zoo or the State Museum & Zoo draws large crowds. One of only two zoological parks in the state, the State Museum & Zoo which began in 1885, houses a natural history museum, botanical garden and an art museum.

Set aside a day to make your way through this 13.5-acre zoo, be it to teach your young ones about lions and tigers, to spotting more exotic animals such as lion-tailed macaque & sloth. Zoos have always been a place of wonder and excitement among children, making it a great weekend option. A new zoo is in development, expanding to 306 acres, at Puthur, closer to Peechi Dam.



Cochin International Airport, about 54 km



Thrissur Railway Station, about 4 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 3 km



+91 487 2333056



Tuesday to Sunday: 09:00 am to 01:00 pm & 02:00 pm to 05:00 pm

#### **Explore**

A natural history museum and a garden are on the premises









## Tour down to the sceptre of Ayurveda and its ancient knowledge of life

Mention Thaikkattussery and it is immediately recollected for a particular name in Ayurveda which has made it world famous - Ashtavaidyan Thaikkattu Mooss, founder of the Vaidyaratnam Group of institutions.

The museum, set in a twostoreyed traditional house of over 100 years, is dedicated to Ayurveda with galleries that take visitors through the mythological and Vedic aspects of the ancient science. An audio-visual theatre, a 3D gallery, a library of ancient scripts and texts, a multimedia digital library. touch screen palm-leaf manuscripts, this is a storehouse of knowledge for those who are interested in this alternative system of medicine.

### **X**

Cochin International Airport, about 44 km



Thrissur Railway Station, about 10 km



KSRTC Bus Station, Thrissur, about 9 km



+91 487 2350230 +91 94953 54805



Tuesday to Sunday: 09:30 am to 05:00 pm





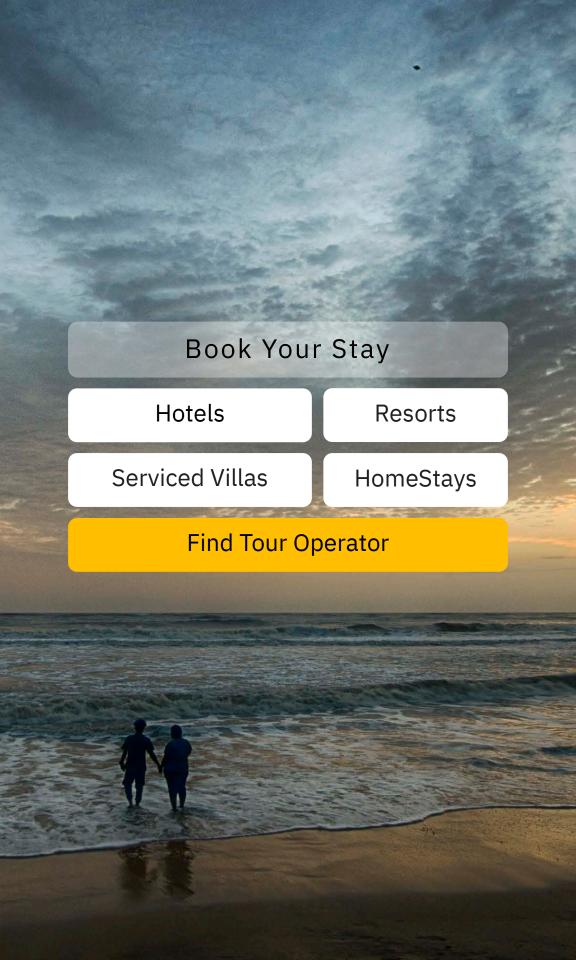


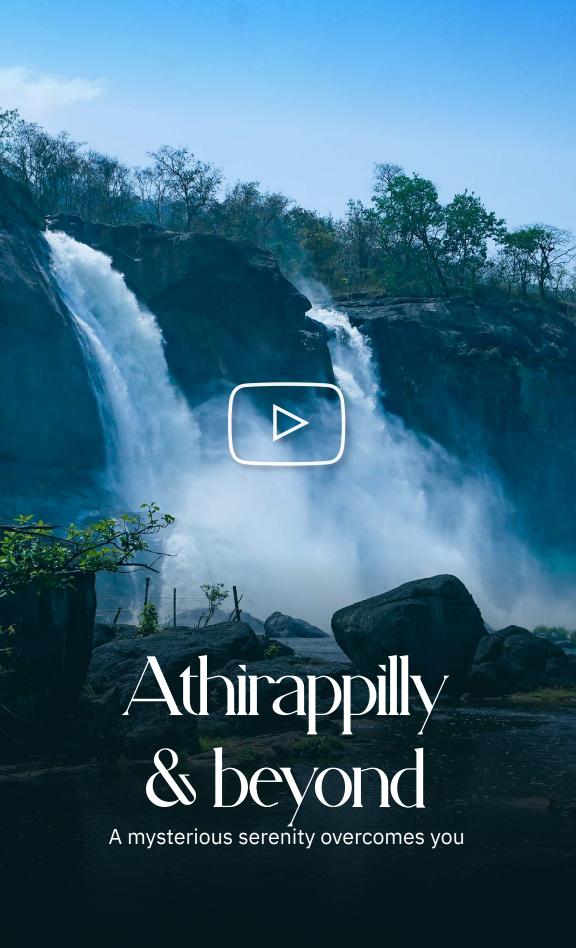


#### **Explore**

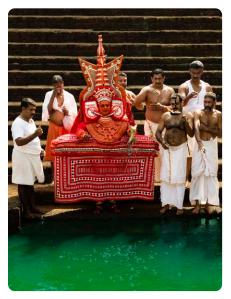
The museum is set in a two-storeyed traditional house







### Explore Other E-brochures



A Catalogue of Festivities



Fort Kochi: Where History, Sleeps Serenely



Go Camping in Kerala



A Chronicle of Kerala's Cultural Richness

**Explore More** 

# Thank you

