

- New Thirupur Lodge, Adivaram ☎ : 242303, 243353
- Hotel Temple View, Ayyampulli Road ☎ : 244588

### Hotels in Kodaikanal (STD Code: 0451)

#### Hotel Tamil Nadu

- Fern Hill Road, Kodaikanal. ☎ : 241336 / 241337 / 241338
- Hotel Carlton, Boat Club Road ☎ : 240056, 240062
  - Hotel Astoria, Anna Salai. ☎ : 240524 / 25
  - Hotel Kodai Resort, Noyce Road ☎ : 240632 / 33
  - Kodai International Hotel, Law's Ghat Rd ☎ : 245191, 245192
  - Sterling Resort, Lake View, Lake Road ☎ : 241065, 242380
  - Hotel Paradise Inn, Law's Ghat Road ☎ : 241175
  - Hotel Hill Top Towers, Club Road ☎ : 240413
  - The Tamara Kodai, 22, La Providence ☎ : 08071 077 701
  - Hotel Sivapriya, 45, Convent Road ☎ : 241226
  - Hotel Anjay, Anna Salai ☎ : 241089
  - Holiday Home, Golf Links Road ☎ : 240272
  - Hotel Jai, Lyoids Road ☎ : 240344
  - Hotel Pleasant Stay 22 / 70 - 1 & 2, Bliss Villa Street ☎ : 073730 93335
  - Villa Retreat, Coaker's Walk, Noyce Road ☎ : 073730 43557
  - Hotel Valley View, Post Office Road ☎ : 240181, 240184
  - Jc Woodville Manor, Woodville Road ☎ : 073737 37359
  - Hotel Jc Grand, Woodville Road ☎ : 073737 37369
  - Jayaraj Residency, Bazaar Road ☎ : 240 178
  - Hotel Grand Palace, Old Convent Road ☎ : 242 288



- Padma Lodge, No. 16/57 Madheliapuram ☎ : 098421 85432
- Hotel Apple Valley, Anna Salai ☎ : 243 100
- Sabari Resorts, 4/8 Sivanadi Road ☎ : 243 030
- Villa Retreat, Noyce Road ☎ : 073730 43557
- Le Poshe, No.25, Sivanadi Road ☎ : 240 514

### Important Hospitals - Dindigul

- Govt. Hospital ☎ : 0451-2430017
- Aravind Eye Hospital ☎ : 0451-2448100

### Important Hospitals - Kodaikanal

- Govt. Hospital
- Govt. Primary Health Centre ☎ : 243253
- Pasam Trust ☎ : 09566920328
- Devodoss KHMS Hospital ☎ : 241379
- Van Allan Hospital ☎ : 241273

For further details contact:

#### Tourist Officer

Government of Tamil Nadu Tourist Office,  
Poet Thyagaraya Road, Kodaikanal - 624 101  
04542 - 241675, 9176995867



#### DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM

Government of Tamil Nadu  
Tamil Nadu Tourism Complex,  
No.2, Wallajah Road, Chennai - 600 002.  
Phone : 91-44-2533 3333 / 444 / 857 / 286  
Fax : 91-44-25333385 Email : dotdepartment@gmail.com  
Website : www.tamilnadutourism.org / www.ttdconline.com  
Toll free No. 1800 4253 1111



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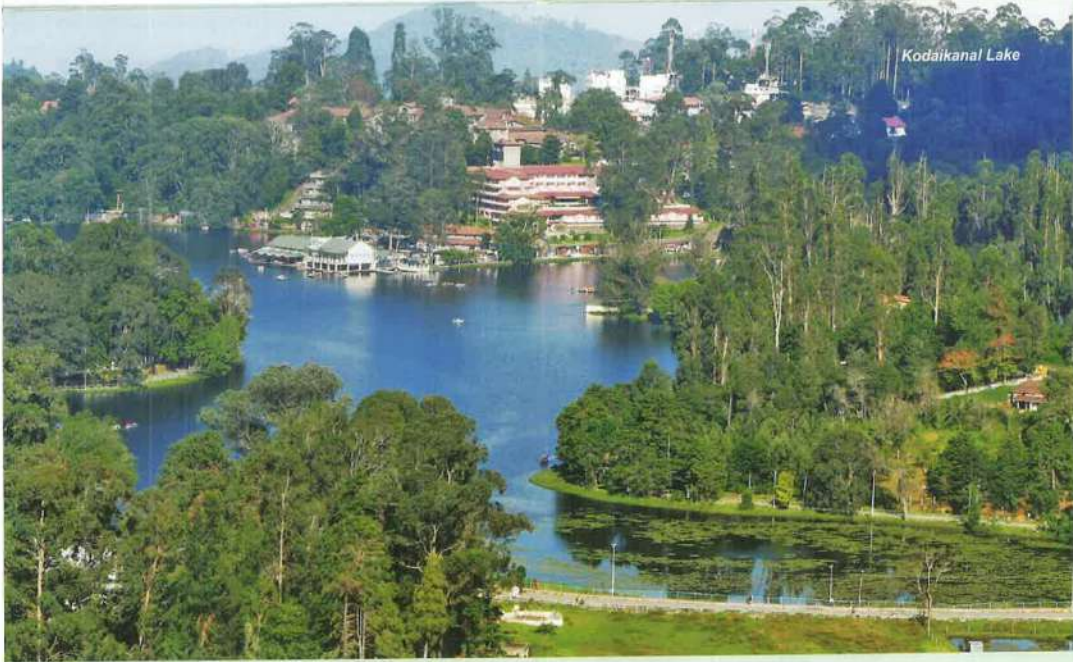
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# Dindigul

## TAMIL NADU - INDIA



# DINDIGUL

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Area	: 6267 Sq.km.
Population	: 2,159,775 (2011 census)
Temperature	: Summer 37° C - 25° C Winter 29° C - 18° C
Rainfall	: 121 cms. (approximately)
Season	: Throughout the year
Languages	: Tamil, Malayalam and English

A place of historic significance, Dindigul is an interior region of Tamil Nadu. Dindigul draws its name from the fort which looks like a pillow (Dhindu). Dindigul was famous even during 7<sup>th</sup> century as Appar, the

great poet had visited the city and noted it in Thevaram. The very fact that Dindigul is ruled by Pandiyas, Cholas, Pallavas, Vijayanagara rulers and Mysore Maharaja is evident from the various temples, forts and other structures which bear the stamp of these dynasties.

## TOURIST PLACES IN DINDIGUL DISTRICT

### Kodaikanal

Kodaikanal is a city in India whose name means 'The Gift of the Forest'. It's a major tourist destination, Kodaikanal consists an area of 2,145 sq.meters situated at an altitude of 2,133 sq.mtrs. above the sea level. The highest place of Kodaikanal is Observatory (2,343 mtrs.). The Princess of Hill earns inimitable place in the global map of tourist places. Known for its serenity and ravishing

locals with enormous tourist potentials, Kodaikanal can be approached by road from Madurai, Dindigul and Palani. The drive via Ghat roads is a unique experience. Kodaikanal is known for its rich flora. Of the big trees, Cyprus, eucalyptus and acacia are the dominant varieties. Pear trees are numerous and the fruits are of high quality. Competing with the fruit trees are the flowering ones – mainly rhododendron and magnolia. Large dahlias of different hues are the main attraction of Bryant Park, situated close to the Lake.



Airports	: Madurai 135 kms., Coimbatore 180 kms. and Trichy 200 kms.
Railway Junctions	: Dindigul 100 kms., Kodai Road 80 kms. and Palani 65 kms.

### Kurinji Andavar Temple

At a distance of 4 kms. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand (on the edge of Kurinji Andavar Road), the Kurinji Andavar Temple is dedicated to Lord Muruga, the God of Hills. As per the Tamil literature, Kurinji means 'hill region' and Andavar means 'God', hence Lord Muruga is referred as 'God of hill'. The Kurinji Andavar Murugan temple is famous for its Kurinji flower which blossoms in the area only once in every 12 years. The temple was built by Leelavathi Ramanathan. Born as a European, she was influenced by the religion of Hinduism and adopted the

Kurinji Andavar temple



religion. She patronized the construction of the temple that was erected in the year 1936. Thousands of devotees visit this temple during the summer festival to seek the blessings of Lord Muruga. It gives you beautiful views of Northern Plains and Palani Hills.

### Kodaikanal Solar Observatory

At a distance of 3 kms. from Kodaikanal. An interesting visit for students and curious children, the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory is maintained by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics. However, visitors are not allowed within the Observatory premises themselves, but are free to roam the Museum there. A place where it is absolutely permissible to look up at the stars and not at your feet, visit to learn about the universe beyond.

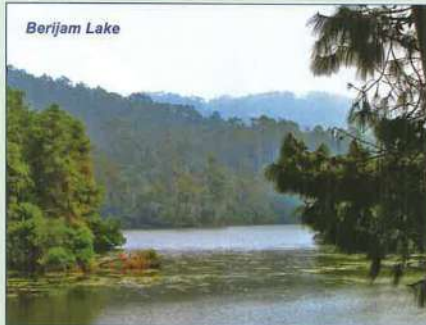
Solar Observatory



### Berijam lake

At a distance of 21 kms. from Kodaikanal (beyond the Pillar Rocks), Berijam Lake is an artificial lake. Surrounded by the lush green pine plantations, the Berijam Lake with its serene beauty has caught the imagination of artists, nature lovers and tourists. The lake is also an important conservation center for local flora and fauna. Birds such as serpent eagles, pariah kites, rosefinch, leaf-warblers and pale rumped swallows can be spotted here, as can bison, langurs, elephants and an occasional leopard. A special permission from District Forest Officer (in Kodaikanal) is required to visit this lake since it's not open for general public. Berijam Lake supplies drinking water to Periyakulam town. It is one of the popular Tourist places in Kodaikanal. Timings: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Berijam Lake



### Moir Point

At a distance of 8 kms. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand and 3 kms. from Pillar Rocks, Moir Point is a historic place and beautiful view point in Kodaikanal on Berijam Lake road. Moir Point offer breathtaking views of the highest peaks around Kodaikanal. The site is named after Sir Thomas Moir, an engineer who constructed the Goschen Road in 1929. This point joins the Berijam Lake road with Kodaikanal here. There is a monument remembering Thomas Moir at the view point. The park near the Moir

Moir Point



Point was recently upgraded making it more attractive. This is a major tourist spot and attracts lot of crowd. It is adjacent to the main road towards Berijam Lake and easily accessible.

### Pine Forest

At a distance of 10 kms. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand situated near the Moir Point, some horse riding options are available here which makes this place appears much more attractive than Pine Forest. Photography is one of the best things to do in the Pine Forest. This place with its captivating beauty of densely grown pine trees in the background should be visited by each and everyone who loves to spend quiet time in natural surroundings with scenic views.

Pine Forest

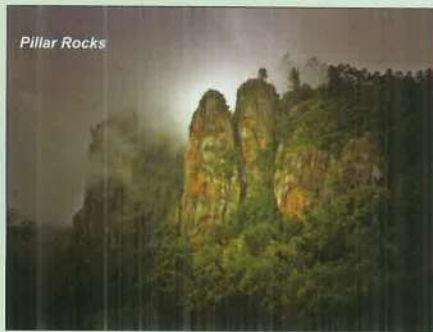


### Guna Caves

At a distance of 8.5 kms. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand and 1.5 kms. from Pillar Rocks, Guna Caves is a wonderful tourist spot in Kodaikanal on Moir Point road. The caves is formed between two large Pillar Rocks. It is one of the best tourist places to visit in Kodaikanal. This large, dark and ancient caves is also called as Devil's Kitchen. Situated amidst thick forest on hilltop behind Pillar Rocks, Guna Caves is one of the top visited places in Kodaikanal. The path to Guna Caves passes through a beautiful pine forest with roots of the trees emerged on to the ground providing unique setting to this place. Apart from the historical importance, the beauty of the nature makes it a popular tourist spot in Kodaikanal. Visitors can view the caves from a distance as the surroundings of the caves are closed for security reasons. From the hill top, visitors can get a glimpse of beautiful valleys and Pillar Rocks on a clear day. This gorge is filled with thick clouds in monsoon and winter seasons. This is a great location for photography. Visitors need to walk for about 400 meters (10 minutes) from the main entrance to reach the caves and hill top.

### Pillar Rocks

The Pillar Rocks of Kodaikanal are naturally formed boulders that stand vertical in the midst of a rainforest. When measured from the ground, the rocks are



approximately 400 ft. maintained by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, the view point of Pillar Rock is situated on the Moir Point road. A small and beautiful garden, glowing in the colors of the seasonal blooms adds to the charm and the picture perfect beauty of the place. In the shadows of the pillars are shady woods that invite picnickers. The dramatic view and the scenic surroundings make Pillars Rocks a popular picnic spot among locals and tourists. During winter and monsoons, the rocks are surrounded by thick clouds and tourists keep waiting for long time for the clouds to be cleared to get a glimpse of the clear rock view. And the waiting is worth with magnificent view of the rocks surrounded by clouds.

### Bryant Park



Just east of the lake and 500 meters from the bus stand, is a wonderfully maintained 20.5 Acres BOTANICAL GARDEN. The park was planned and built in 1908 by a Forest Officer from Madurai, H.D.Bryant and named after him. With species of trees, shrubs, the park is a rainbow of stunning flowers during the peak season. A large section is dedicated to nearly 740 varieties of roses. There is a Bodhi tree which adds a religious significance to the park. Ornamental plants are cultivated in a nursery for sale. The park organizes horticultural exhibits and flower shows every summer, to coincide with the peak season. Entrance fee to the park is nominal and it is open throughout the year.

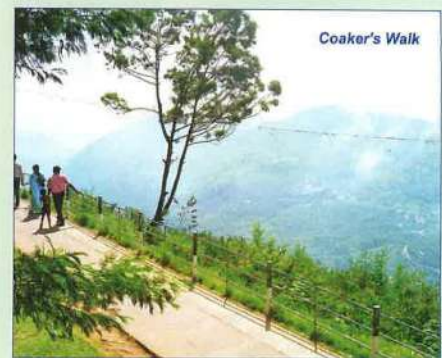
### Pambar Falls

It is 4 kms. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand. Pambar falls is one of the most magnificent waterfalls in the entire hill. The green and wild vicinity makes this place absolutely picturesque.



### Coaker's Walk

At a distance of 0.5 km. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand, Coaker's Walk is the most scenic & beautiful tourist spot in Kodaikanal close to Kodaikanal Lake. It is also one of the prime tourist place. Discovered by Lt.Coaker in 1872,



Coaker's Walk is a one km. paved pedestrian path running in parallel to the Club Road along the edge of steep slopes on the southern side of Kodai. The walk, winding around Mount Nebo, starts in front of the Van Allen hospital, running parallel to the Van Allen Hospital Road and joins the main road beside St.Peter's Church, providing a stunning panoramic view of the valleys and plains. On a clear day one can view as far as Dolphin's Nose in south, the valley of the Pambar River in the southeast, Periyakulam town and even the city of Madurai. Evenings is the best time to experience the beauty of this place when the mystic clouds slowly cover the mountains and the hills appear like covered by white carpet. The walkway is very well maintained and it's a great spot for photography. One side of the walkway is occupied by majestic houses built during colonial period.

### Shenbaganur Museum



It is 6 kms. from the bus stand, founded in 1895, is open to the public for viewing their outstanding taxidermy collection of more than 500 species of animals, birds and insects and a living collection of over 300 exotic orchid species. It exhibits artifacts of the ancient Paliyer tribe's people whose descendants still live in these hills. The main highlight of the museum is its taxidermy collection.

### La Saleth Church

A highly attractive church with a wonderful architecture, La Saleth was built in 1846 and French architecture, this shrine is located 7,000 ft. above sea level, offering a panoramic view of the lush mountain range, this catholic church in Kodaikanal is one of the most popular places to see in Kodaikanal. Was expanded over the course of the next century, a right blend of culture and Tamil. Every year 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August, a grand celebration takes place in the Church.



### Rose Garden

It is one of the biggest Rose Gardens in India. The rose Garden has been adorned with 16300 number of Rose plants in 1500 varieties. The rose beds are laid out in an area of 10 acres. There is a water fountain available. It is situated 3 kms. from bus stand and near Solar Observatory.

### Poombarai Village

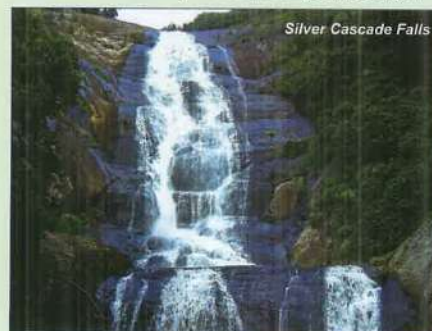
Poombarai is a picturesque hamlet near Kodaikanal that is famous for its views and ancient temples. You can walk around the little village that is step-structured upon grasslands, check out its splendid view points. Those who have been to Mannavanur or Kookal village might have seen Poombarai village from a distance. It is in the valley and visible from the main road with an astonishing view. It



is located 19 kms. from Kodaikanal. It is famous for Kuzhanthai Velappan Temple (Lord Murugan). The idol is made of Navabashanam. It is said to dates back by 3000 years or more. The village is on the valley with terrace farmlands all around it and on the surrounding small hills also. It offers a great Photographic point.

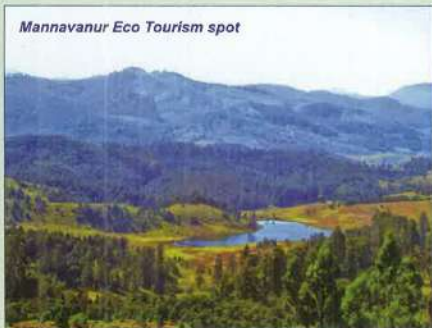
### Silver Cascade Falls

The perfect stop over in-between a long journey, these silver cascade falls demand your attention while you travel from Kodaikanal till Madurai. The Silver Cascade Falls formed as a result of the over flowing of the famous man-made Kodai Lake, are the perfect way to have a break while on a long road trip. One can also take a swim in the waters of the waterfall provided the temperature is right.



### Mannavanur Eco Tourism spot

The Mannavanur Eco Park will have a trekking path and resting places at a particular distance for trekkers and tourists to sit and relax. The Park will not only entertain tourists with physical activities but also educate them by giving lot of information about environment, ecology, plant species and flora and fauna of hill and importance of forests and Shola forests. Mannavanur is a rural village situated 37 kms. away from Kodaikanal. It is a great place to relax, take long walks across green meadows and savor the peaceful environs. The silence, the soothing breeze, hillock, greenery, pretty grasslands looked almost like the Switzerland. And also Southern Regional Research Centre (SRRC) is a regional centre of the Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute (CSWRI), a premier Institution of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (I.C.A.R), New Delhi. The SRRC was founded on November 16, 1965 and has been active for over 45 years at Mannavanur. The centre breeds sheep and rabbits for wool, including Angora, Chinchilla, White Giant and others.



Mannavanur Eco Tourism spot

### Green valley view

It is (formerly called Suicide Point) 5.5 kms. from the bus stand and near the golf course, has an excellent panoramic view of the plains and a sheer drop of 1,500 mtrs. (4900 ft.) overlooking the Vaigai Dam to the south.



Green valley view

### Kodaikanal - Things to buy

Fresh seasonal fruits like Plum, Peach, Butter Fruit (Avacado), Hill Banana, Hill Orange, Tree Tomato, Passion Fruit, Pear, Jack Fruit, fresh vegetables, fresh Home made Chocolates, Eucalyptus Oil, Spices, Hill garlic etc.

### Thalaiyar Falls

Thalaiyar Falls is located in the lush green slopes of Palani Hill ranges in the Dindigul District in Kodaikanal. With a height of 297 mts., it is the highest waterfall in Tamil Nadu, sixth highest waterfall in India and the 267th highest in the world. There is view tower in the park at the Dum Dum Rock, from where you can get a beautiful view

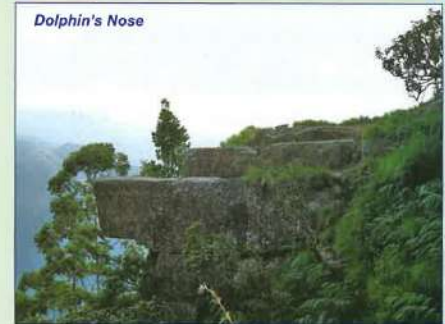


Thalaiyar Falls

of the falls and the Manjalar Dam.

The river water coming to the falls is from Perumal Malai village, through a 9 kms. downstream and is said to be clear. On a bright day, the falls is visible from the Dum Dum Rock viewpoint on the Batlagundu-Kodaikanal Ghat Road; where it appears like a white long and narrow strip of water on a background of black rock cliff face.

### Dolphin's Nose



Dolphin's Nose

Situated at a distance of 8 kms. from the main city of Kodaikanal, the Dolphin's Nose provides a bird's eye view of the scenic landscape of the surrounding mountainous area. It is a flat rock jutting out of the mountain, overlooking a deep cliff, with its shape akin to that of the nose of a dolphin. Positioned at an elevation of 6600 feet, the fascinating place is one of the central destinations for tourists visiting Kodaikanal.

### Mother Teresa Women's University

Mother teresa women's university is situated at kodaikanal. This university was established in the year 1984 by the enactment of tamil nadu act 15. This university aims to extend its service to women students of all communities. It strives for academic excellence and personality development and gives equal importance for promotion of employment prospects to young girls.

### Kurinji Flower



*Strobilanthes kunthiana*, Kurinji or Neelakurinji, is a shrub that is found in the shola forests of the Western Ghats in South India. Nilgiri Hills, which literally means the blue mountains, got their name from the purplish blue flowers of Neelakurinji that blossoms only once in 12 years. Of all long interval bloomers (or plietesials) *Strobilanthes kunthiana* is the most rigorously demonstrated, with documented bloomings in 1838, 1850, 1862, 1874, 1886, 1898, 1910, 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006 and 2018.

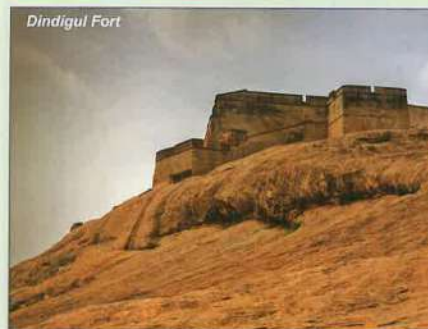
### Pethuparai Village

At a distance of 18 kms. from Kodaikanal Bus Stand, many places are there, such as Dolmen Circle, Private Coffee Estates, Anju Veedu waterfalls, (The Palar stream) originating at the Kodaikanal Lake is the source of the Anju Veedu Falls. Skamba falls is located near Pethuparai, it has clear crystal like glittering water which makes this place worthy of many visits.

### Lutheran Church

Built in 1932, Lutheran Church of Kodaikanal is an impressive Gothic style structure. The church is adorned with stained glass window, modern paintings, and murals depicting the life of Jesus Christ. Anyone interested in a beautiful piece of architecture must pay a visit to this shrine.

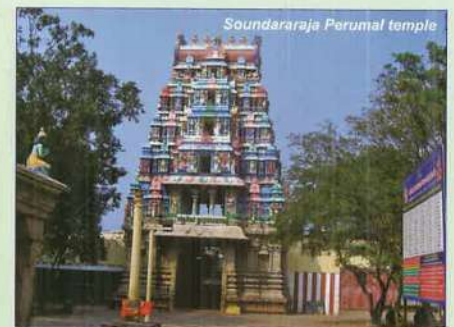
### Dindigul Rock Fort



The Dindigul Fort or Dindigul Malai Kottai is a 17<sup>th</sup>-century hill fort, situated in the town of Dindigul in the state of Tamil Nadu in India. The fort was built by the Madurai Nayak King Muthu Krishnappa Nayak in 1605. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century the fort passed on to Kingdom of Mysore (Mysore Wodeyars). During the reign of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan, the fort was of strategic importance. In 1799 it went to the control of the British East India Company during the Polygar Wars. There is an abandoned temple on its peak apart from few cannons sealed with balls inside. In modern times, the fort is maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India and is open to tourists.

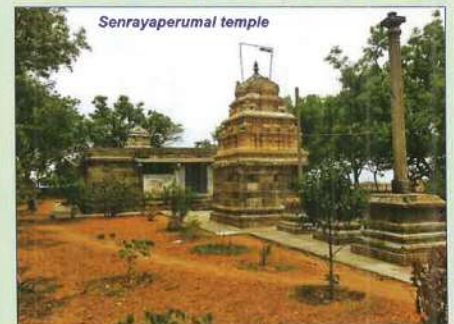
### Soundararaja Perumal Temple

Soundararaja Perumal temple is situated in Thadikombu, 10 kms. south of Dindigul on Dindigul - Karur National Highway. It is an ancient temple which is evident from the various inscriptions available in the temple. The temple has attracted devotees even from distant places in Tamil Nadu. The path that leads to the sanctum sanctorum has numerous pillars with sculptures of deities. These sculptures are artistic marvels that exhibit the artistic finesse of the sculptors. Special Poojas are conducted on Theipirai Astami and Valarpirai Astami



specific occasions that attract large number of devotees from various parts of the state.

### Senrayaperumal Temple



On the way to Kodaikanal, want to add a tinge of piety to the pleasure trip, the destination is Senrayaperumal temple in old Batlagundu. It is said that about 400 years ago, God as a boy appeared before a villager by name Senappa Naicker and had drunk milk from a cow which had not given birth to a calf. The awestruck villager was asked to build a temple to the God. The temple is known for a 3 day festival conducted once in 2 years, in the month of Masi (February). The foot hill of Kodaikanal, Batlagundu is an important junction for people who come from various parts of the country.



### Palani

Palani, located about 64 kms. from Kodaikanal is one of the six abodes of Lord Muruga (Karthikeya). The presiding deity of the temple is Lord Dhandayuthapani. Palani temple is considered synonymous with Panchamritam, a sweet mixture made of five ingredients. Murugan was furious and felt the need to get matured from boyhood and hence chose to remain as a hermit in Palani. The idol of the Muruga in Palani was created and consecrated by sage Bogar, one of Hinduism's eighteen great Siddhas, out of an amalgam of nine poisons or Navapashanam.

### ACCOMMODATION

#### Hotels in Dindigul (STD Code: 0451)

- Senthil Residency Nagal Nagar ( : 7373444555  
( : 9842912812
- Hotel Suganya, Near Bus stand. ( : 2423436 / 37
- Chenduran Park, Nagal Nagar. ( : 2441200
- Vel's Court, Mengles Road. ( : 2429944
- Sree Balaji Bhavan Hotel, Near Bus Stand. ( : 8220724444  
( : 9894624274
- Parsons Court, Mengles Road ( : 6451111-12
- Dolphin Nose, Chatram Street ( : 2431791, 2431361
- Hotel Priyam, North Car Street ( : 2421921
- Hotel Iswarya, Near Bus Stand ( : 2432324
- Hotel Swagat, Nagal Nagar ( : 2430731
- Hotel Parvathys, 14-Abiramiamman Koil Street ( : 2420117

#### Hotels in Palani (STD Code: 04545)

- Vels Court, Ayyampulli Road ( : 247770
- Hotel Rajalakshmi, Opp. Bus Stand ( : 243313 / 14
- Hotel Shanmuganada Bhavan, Railway Feeder Road ( : 242267
- Sri Ram Lodge, Opp. Bus Stand ( : 242856
- Modern home, Railway Feeder Road ( : 242376
- Abirami Residency, 148, Dindigul Road ( : 240501, 241501
- Hotel Ganpat, Adivaram ( : 242294