



performed here in ancient days. Drama, dance and music flourished to its peak during the Thondaman dynasty. Chithirai festival, Adi Pooram and Navarathiri are the important festivals celebrated here. Ph: 04322-236195.

Visiting Hours: 6.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon and 4.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.



Thirukokarnam

### ACCESS

- Air** : Nearest Airport is Tiruchirappalli (55 kms.).
- Rail** : Pudukkottai has a Railway station and Tiruchirappalli junction is the nearest Railway Junction.
- Road** : Well connected with all major cities.

### ACCOMMODATION

(STD Code: 04322)

- Hotel Maris ☎ : 221874
- Hotel Royal Park ☎ : 227783
- Hotel Shivalaya ☎ : 221684
- Hotel Sathyam ☎ : 223311
- Hotel Chidambara Vilas (Kadiyapatti) ☎ : 267070
- Hotel Saradha ☎ : 229736

### IMPORTANT TRAVEL AGENTS IN PUDUKKOTTAI

- Udayam Travels ☎ : 22228
- Arasu Travels ☎ : 221200
- Kings Air Travels ☎ : 228557
- MKP Tours and Travels ☎ : 230203

For further details please contact:

**Tourist Officer**

Government of Tamil Nadu Tourist Office,  
Collectorate, Pudukkottai.  
Phone : 04322-221620.



#### DEPARTMENT 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.ttdonline.com  
Toll free No. 1800 4253 1111



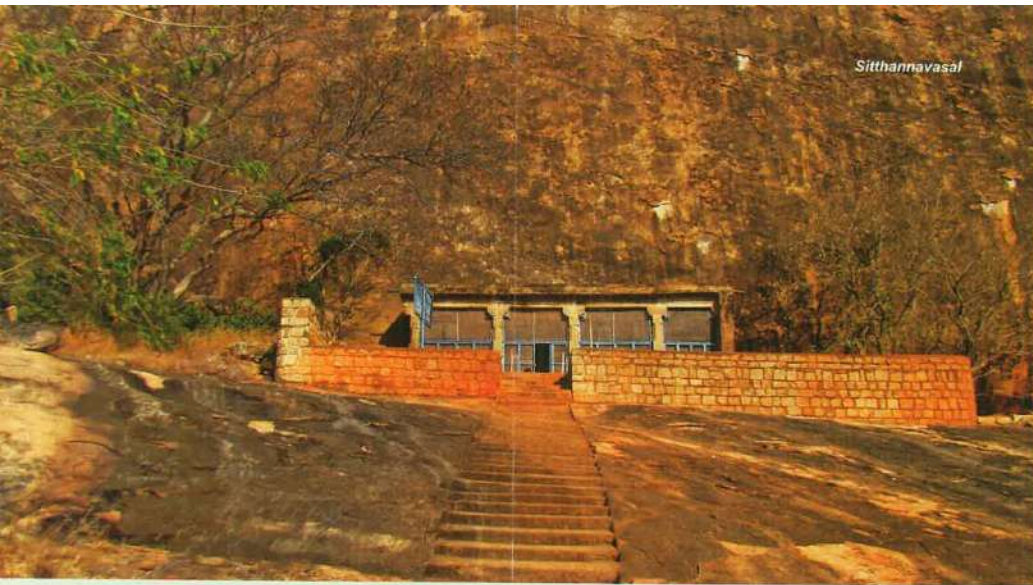
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July 2020



**Pudukkottai**  
**TAMIL NADU - INDIA**



# PUDUKKOTTAI

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Area	: 4651 Sq.kms.
Population	: 16,18,725 (2011 census)
Altitude	: 88 mts. above sea level
Temperature	: Summer 39° C - 26° C Winter 31° C - 20° C
Rainfall	: 85 cms. Average
Season	: Throughout the year
Clothing	: Tropical
Languages	: Tamil and English
STD Code	: 04322

**P**udukkottai District is one among the rapidly developing Districts of Tamil Nadu having marvelous Archaeological sites and rich Cultural

Heritage. The History of Pudukkottai is an epitome of the History of South India. Different dynasties such as Pandyas, Cholas, Pallavas, Nayaks, Irukku Veliyar, Mutharayar, Thondaman, Vijayanagar Emperors and



Hoysalas ruled over this district on different occasions. The prosperity of the district that had existed on the periods of monarchy continued and maintain the same pride till now.

The Vijaya Raghunatha Thondaman Palace, now Collectorate complex has been built on the Indo - Saracenic style of architecture, expose the culture, life and times of the ancient people. Sangam age literature mention the life and people of Pudukkottai. Kodumbalur has been mentioned in the epic Silapathigaram. Narthamalai, Thirumayam, Kudumiyanmalai, Kunnandar Koil, Avudayar koil and Sittannavasal are the familiar archaeological sites express the ancient Tamil Culture, architectural beauty and a wonderful proof for the rich cultural heritage.

## PLACES OF INTEREST

### Sittannavasal

Sittannavasal is a Prominent Tourist Centre of Pudukkottai District. It is located on the Annavasal - Pudukkottai Road at a distance of 17 kms. from Pudukkottai. In ancient days, the Jain Monks used to live in caves and hillocks so as to perform their ascetic life. They polished the hill for the purpose of poojas and penance in the open shelter. Such a type of Jain temple and



Painting (Royal couple) - Sittannavasal

Jain beds are found in Sittannavasal and surrounding places. On the eastern side of the Sittannavasal hill have more than 17 beds. The rare Brahmi Tamil script inscriptions are found near the beds. The Jain Beds are collectively known as Ezhadi pattam. A second century Jain temple in Sittannavasal consisted of Mahavir statue on both sides of wall is considered as a 'Meditation Hall' or Arivar temple. The ceiling of the Arivar temple is full of Fresco herbal painting dates back to Mahendravarma Pallava. Paintings of a royal couple and a lotus tank with marine creatures are notable fresco paintings. These paintings are considered to be the next of Ajantha Cave paintings at Aurangabad. The cave temples are under the control of Archaeological Survey of India.

The excavations of Archaeological Survey of India reveals that the surroundings of the Sittannavasal have unearthen burial pots. This pots are know as Mudhumakkal Thazhi. After death, the Jain monks are kept in the pot and buried in the burial ground.

#### Boat Jetty - Sittannavasal

The district administration together with the financial assistance of Tourism Department incorporated the miniature statue park, childrens park, dancing fountains and boat jetty near the Jain cave temple. Many foreign and



Boat jetty - Sittannavasal

domestic tourists used to visit this place throughout the year. It ranks first in the tourist visits of this district. The entrance fee for cave temple and Jain Bed Rs. 5/- for Indians and 2 USD for Foreigners.

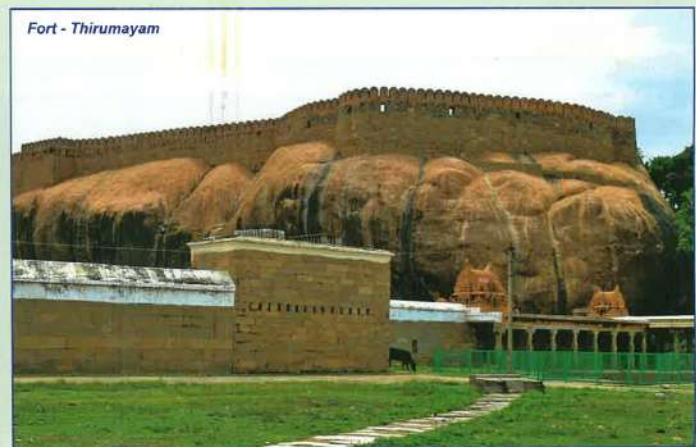
Charges for Boating are collected by Tourism Promotion council.

Adult Rs. 20/- Per head. Child Rs. 10/- per head.

#### Thirumayam Fort

In olden days, Kings constructed Forts and Palaces, so as to protect the public from enemy country and as a residential area for the royal family. Similar type of fort existed in Thirumayam at a distance of 18 kms. from Pudukkotai. It was built by Sethupathy Vijaya Ragunatha Thevar of Ramanathapuram in 1687 A.D. The actual fort is two times greater than the fort as we see today. The main entrance of the fort is situated one km. away

from the present structure. A rock cut Siva temple and a Vishnu temple with different statues, darbar hall, some inscriptions and pillared corridor are situated at the foot of the hillock adjacent to the Fort. It is under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India. Many Tourists visit



Fort - Thirumayam

this spot for the historical importance of this place. (Ph: 04322 - 221084).

Visiting Hours: 6.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon and 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

### Thirupunavasal

A Lord Siva temple dedicated to Viruthapureswarer has been located here at a distance of 70 kms. from Pudukkottai. The renowned saints Thirunavukarasar, Sundarar and Thirugnana Sambandar sung songs towards the pride of Lord Siva in this Temple. The car festival celebrated during the month of Vaikasi (April - May) attracts many tourist to this place.

### Viralimalai

A small temple dedicated to Lord Subramania is situated on the top of a hillock on the Tiruchirappalli to Madurai National Highways at a distance of 28 kms. from Trichy and 40 kms. from Pudukkottai. An Inscription of

this temple reveals that the original temple has been built by a King Azhakiya Manavalan. Later on the additions were made in this temple by the Chola dynasty. Some other inscriptions told that the renovations of this temple were made by Adhithiya Chola, additions like pragaram and mandapas were made by Nayaks and Marungapuri dynasty, the Navarathiri mandapam constructed by Pudukkottai Emperors. Roaming of peacocks are the added attractions of this temple. Lord Subramaniya with his consort Theyvnanai fulfill the wishes of the devotees. Chithira Pournami, Vaigasi Visagam, Teppa Thiruvizha, Kandasashti and Panguni Uttiram are the important festivals celebrated here. Jallikattu, an event expressing the ancient Tamilian culture has been performed at Viralimalai every year during the time of Pongal festival.

Lord Subramania - Viralimalai



Vijayalaya Chozheswaram - Narthamalai



### Narthamalai

It is located at a distance of 17 kms. from Pudukkottai. Narthamalai is headquarters for the Cheiftain of Mutharaiyar. The earliest structural stone temple in circular shape, Vijayalaya Choleeswaram cave temple and Kadambarmalai temple are the main attractions of Narthamalai. Narthamalai Muthu Mariamman temple attracts many tourists to this place. The mulaipari procession is an attracting event of this temple.





#### Kunnandar Koil (Thirukundrakudi)

The name Kunnandar Koil is called as Thirukundrakudi in the inscriptions available in this Temple. It is located 40 kms. from Pudukkottai and 22 kms. from Keeranur. A Siva temple (cave temple) has been constructed during the period of Nandhivarma Pallava (775 AD) is existed in this village. Lord Muruga Temple is also available on the top of a small hill. There is a mandapa in the shape of a chariot with horses attract many tourists in this spot.

Chariot structure - Kunnandar koil (Hundred pillar hall)



Mujukundeeswarar Temple - Kodumbalur



#### Kodumbalur

The name Kodumbalur has been mentioned in the Tamil epic Silapathigaram. It is located at a distance of 35 kms. from Trichy and 40 kms. from Pudukkottai. The architectural structure existed here are the forerunner for Dravidian style of architecture. The remaining structures of Muvar koil and Mujukundeeswarer temple attracts many tourist to this place. It is under the control of Archaeological Survey of India.

#### Government Museum

A museum has been initiated by the State Government on 1910 AD with the antiquity of History, Geology, Zoology, Archaeology, Anthropology and Sculptures. The rare materials like war fares, copper materials, sword, coins, musical instruments and paintings are exhibited here for vision. The materials expose the life and times of ancient people and their culture. Working on all days between 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., except Friday and National Holidays.

#### Thiruvengaivasal

On the Tiruchirappalli - Pudukkottai Highways at a distance of 6 kms. this place is situated. During the 11<sup>th</sup> century AD Cholas constructed a Siva temple dedicated to Viyagapureswarer with Pragadambal. The inscriptions shows that the temple has been renovated by Pandyas and donations were made by them to upkeep the temple. Gnana Dhakshina Moorthy and Yoga Dhakshina Moorthy statues are notable statues of this temple.

Duvarabalager - Thiruvengai vasal



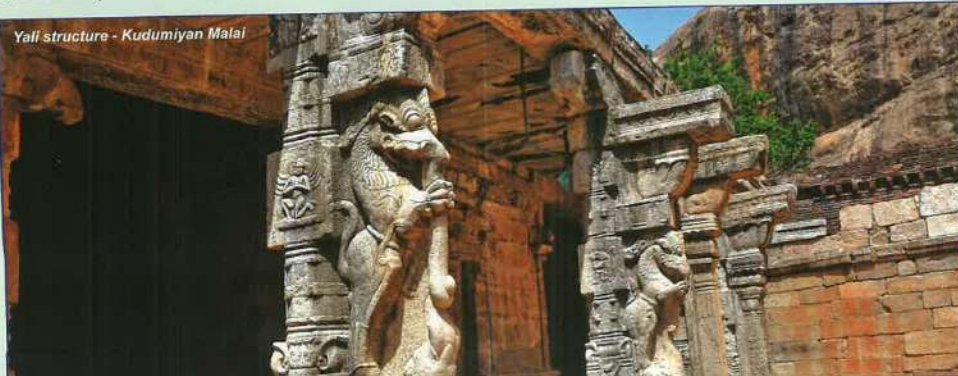


**Avudaiyar Koil**

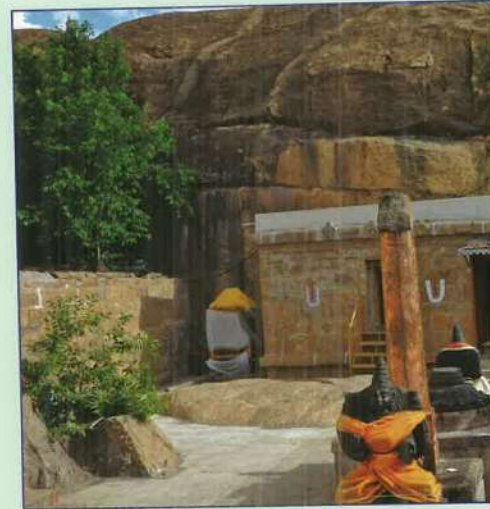
The temple dedicated to Athmanathaswamy is situated in Avudayar Koil at a distance of 60 kms. from Pudukkottai, contains life-size sculptures. The roof of the Avudaiyar Koil made up of copper plate similar to that of the Nataraja temple at Chidambaram having golden plates. The temple is noted for its granite roof work. The saint Manickavasaga had been given high focus in this temple. It has been under the control of Thiruvaduthurai Aadheenam. (Ph: 04371-233301).

**Kudumiyan Malai**

It is located at a distance of 20 kms. from Pudukkottai. The cave temples situated here are the testimony for the ancient art and culture. There is Siva temple on a hillock dedicated to Sikkatheeswarer and life size sculptures are surrounded by this temple. There are more than 100 inscriptions with a highlight of an inscription expressing the grammatical notes of Karnatic music. There is a famous Agricultural college of Government of Tamil Nadu.



*Yali structure - Kudumiyan Malai*

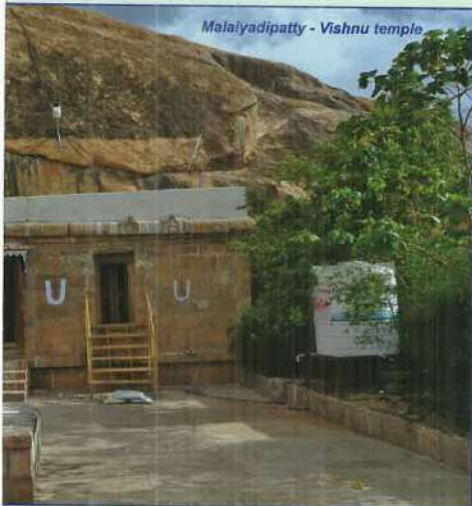


**Malaiyadi Patti**

At Keezhayur panchayat, a Siva temple together with Vishnu temple have been situated at a distance of 33 kms. from Pudukkottai and 15 kms. from Keeranur is known as Malaiyadi Patti. During 730 AD, Nanthivarma Pallava carved the Siva temple (Vakeeswarer) from the hillocks. The Vishnu temple is constructed later than the Siva temple and Narashima Moorthy, Thirumal, Ananada Sayana Moorthy and Adhishesan statue are very attractive statues situated in this Vishnu temple. Some of the paintings depicting the ten avatars of Thirumal have been beautifully painted on the walls of Thirumal Cave Temple. The Mudhumakkal Taazhi is also found in some parts of this village.

**Vedanpatti**

Vedanpatti situated at a distance of 40 kms. from Pudukkottai on the way to Ponnamaravathi. A Siva temple



Malaiyadipatty - Vishnu temple

known as Meenatchi Chokeeswarer is located in the village. In this temple, the Ghee Nandhi is very familiar attraction worshipped by many devotees. Eventhough poojas and abishegam have been performed using pure ghee to the Nandhi, it is free from the menace of flies is the peculiarity of this temple.



Ghee Nandhi - Vedanpatti



Avur Chrch

#### Avur Chrch

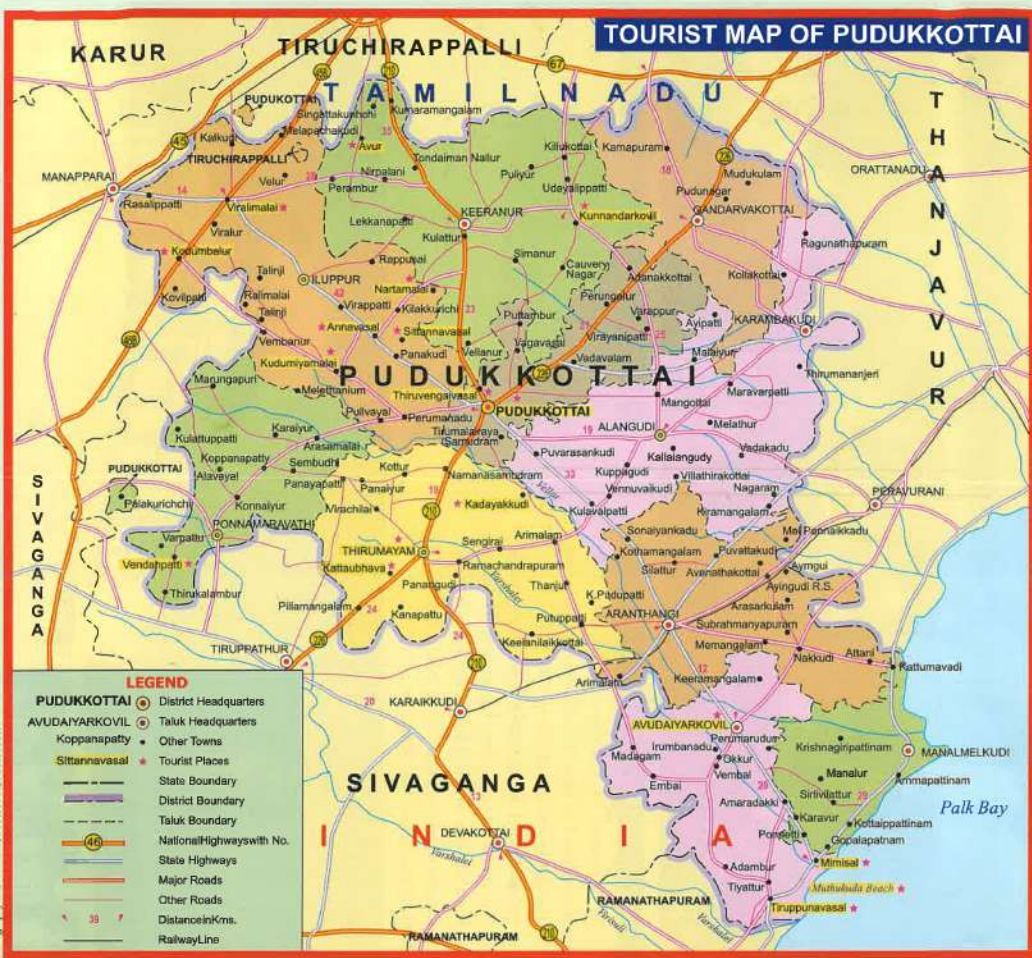
Avur is located at a distance of 20 kms. from Tiruchirappalli and 42 kms. from Pudukkottai. A Roman Catholic Church constructed during 1747 A.D. is existed here. The prominent Tamil scholar Rev. Father Joseph Beschi (Veeramamunivar) started his religious service by initiating a mission in this Church. Periodically many foreign tourists visit this place. Easter festival is a familiar festival celebrated here in a grand manner.

#### Kattubhava Pallivasal

One of the Islamic centre located in the Thirumayam - Madurai highway at a distance of 30 kms. from Pudukkottai. It is constructed by Arcot Nawab during the 17<sup>th</sup> century AD. Pagruthin Avuliya alies Kattubhava samathi is situated here. The Annual Urs festival is the familiar festival celebrated in this centre. Not only Muslims but also Hindus used to visit this place.



Kattubhava Pallivasal



Muthukuda Beach

### Muthukuda Beach

This is a beautiful beach area on the East Coast Road of Pudukkottai District at a distance of 105 kms. from Pudukkottai. The sundarban forest on the seashore attracts many tourists to this place. This is also a suitable place for boating on the seashore with the enjoyment of lush green sundarban forest. Manalmekudi, Kottai pattinam, Amma pattinam and Meemisal are some of the other seashore areas situated on the coastal area of this district.

### Thirukokarnam

A rock cut cave temple situated in the heart of the city built by Mahendravarma Pallava is Kokaraneeswarer temple. Lord Siva (Kokaraneeswarer) and Lord Sakthi (Pragadambal) are the main deities of this temple. The later additions were made by Pandyas, Cholas and Thondaman Dynasty and became a great structure. Many festivals and dance programmes were frequently