

Region is storehouse of rich biodiversity. Nearest airport is Madurai which is 106 Kms away from Kurangani. Kurangani is 16 Kms from Bodinayakanur.

Kodaikanal

Situated at the southern tip of the upper palani hills in the Western Ghats, this beautiful hill station is one of the most famous tourist spots in the South. At a height of 2133 m above sea level, Kodai, as it is popularly known, is set amidst the wooded slopes and "shola" forest of the ghats, making for a very pleasant climate throughout the year. This hill resort is known for hill plantains and plums. Several varieties of flowers abound here, including the Kurinji, which blossoms once in twelve years.

Accommodation

Theni (STD Code - 04546)

Western Gatz	- 251475
ABM Grande	- 265161
Theni International	- 250656
Hotel Anjana	- 264375
Hotel Pupiya's	- 265268
Hotel Sapphire	- 264480
Hotel Sree Vignesh	- 264470
Gowmariamman Res.	- 255442
Hotel Vaigai	- 265399
Naveen Nagar Hotel	- 989430069
New Everest Hotel A/c	- 252173
	252505

Vaigai Dam (STD. Code - 04546)

Vaigai Illam (PWD)	- 291610
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Uthamapalayam

(STD. Code - 04554)

Deluxe Lodge	- 263231
Akbar tourist Home	- 265348
Dheen Lodge	- 267641

Distance from Theni

Madurai	: 75 Kms	Chinnamanur	: 24 Kms
Andipatti	: 16 Kms	Kumili	: 65 Kms
Periyakulam	: 16 Kms	Kodaikanal	: 87 Kms
Bodinayakanur	: 16 Kms	Kurangani	: 31 Kms
Cumbum	: 40 Kms	Palani	: 115 Kms
Uthamapalayam	: 32 Kms		

Important Telephone Numbers

District Collector, Theni STD Code : 04546

Collectorate	: 253676
Superintendent of Police	: 254100 (04546)
Tourist Officer (Theni)	: 297707
Tourist Officer (Kodaikanal)	: 241675 (04542)
Hotel Tamil Nadu (Kodaikanal)	: 241336-39 (04542)
Hotel Tamil Nadu (Madurai)	: 2334757 (0452)

Suruli



for further details contact :

Tourist office

Government of Tamilnadu Tourist office,
No.5, New Bus stand complex, Theni - 625531
Mob : 7397715689, Phone : 04546-297707



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THENI

TAMIL NADU - INDIA

Introduction:

Resounding cascades, silver-lined clouds resting atop billiard green hill tops, sheer rock faces and temples of antiquity are the stuff that distinguish the tourism destination of the Theni District.

Theni district situated in the Southern part of Tamil Nadu is one among the choicest tourist delights and destinations with a delightful mixture of tourist attractions such as captivating dams, waterfalls and countless pilgrim centre.

This district is surrounded by the western ghats, with it ubiquitous green stretches of cultivated lands and tea gardens. Silk cotton, Soft towels, Coffee seeds, Cardamom, Mango are the main produce of the district.

Theni district is the main route for the tourist bound from Madurai to Kochi via Bodinayakanur and Munnar and Madurai to Thekkadi wildlife sanctuary.

Fact File

Area (District)	: 2889 Sq. Km.
Population	: 12,43,684 (2011 Census)
Altitude	: 100 m above sea level
Climate	: Maximum : 39.5°C / Minimum : 25.8°C
Season	: Throughout the year
Clothing	: Tropical
Language	: Tamil, English
STD Code	: 04546

Theni

Theni is the district headquarters. It is a business centre for Cotton, Chilly, Textiles, etc. It is connected by Rail and Road to Madurai. The nearest Airport is Madurai. Good network of Road links to all destinations within the District and State.

Andipatti

Andipatti is a taluk headquarter, comprising a number of villages with rich rural tourism wealth including small hamlets in the ghat section of Varushanad hill ranges. Handlooms, textiles are popular here.



Suruli Falls

Suruli Falls which falls from a height of 150 feet gathers into a pool, flows for a short distance and again plummets to a depth of 40 feet, offering a Spectacular sight of nature's raw and wild beauty. The dense forests that surround it provide an awesome backdrop. Facilities are available for men and women to bath separately in this falls.h

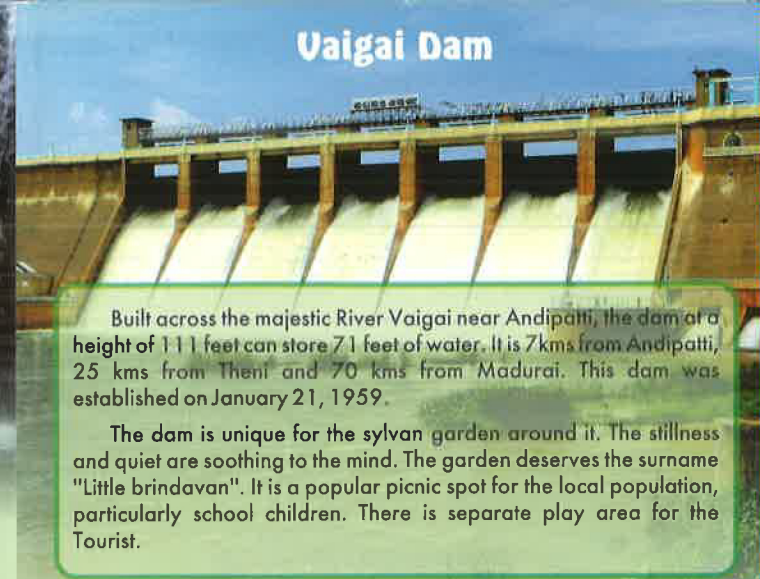
The special feature of the falls is that it is "around the year" falls. However, the best season to visit is June - October, when the thickness of the water column is astounding. The beauty of this falls finds mention in Tamil Epic, Silappathikaram written by poet Ilango.

Kailasanathar Temple Cave is located near Suruli Falls. There are 18 caves in and around the Suruli falls. The Kailasanathar Cave Temple is situated 800 metres above the falls and has a spring, which possesses water of curative powers.

One more temple for Lord Kartikeya is also located near the falls which is called Suruli Velappar Temple. Devotees carry pots of milk on Saturdays in the Tamil month of Chithirai to this temple.

Cloudland Falls (Chinna Suruli)

Situated 54 Kms from Theni near Kombaitozhu Village. These falls originate in the Megamalai. This is popularly known as Chinna Suruli.



Vaigai Dam

Built across the majestic River Vaigai near Andipatti, the dam at a height of 111 feet can store 71 feet of water. It is 7kms from Andipatti, 25 kms from Theni and 70 kms from Madurai. This dam was established on January 21, 1959.

The dam is unique for the sylvan garden around it. The stillness and quiet are soothing to the mind. The garden deserves the surname "Little brindavan". It is a popular picnic spot for the local population, particularly school children. There is separate play area for the Tourist.

Mavoothu

The main attraction in Mavoothu is the Velappar Temple. This holy shrine is situated in the Varushanadhil ranges, 20 kms from Andipatti. Nestling among the hills, the temple is atop a peak, surrounded by natural vegetation. Transport is available upto the foothills only. Rainwater gathers around the mango trees near this temple and flows downhill in torrents. This has given the place the name "Mavoothu" which in Tamil stands for "spring of the mango grove". This place has a perennial water source.

The main deity (idol) of this temple was discovered by the local tribes called "paliyars" while the temple was constructed by Kandamanur Zamindar. The temple has shrines of Vinayaka and Saptakannikas.

It is believed that a ritual bath in the spring and eating food cooked in the water will cure the incurable diseases.

Important Festivals

AdiAmavasai (Blue Moon) and Thai Amavasai are celebrated with gaiety. There is also annual festival in the month of Chithirai.

Devadanapatti

The main shrine in Devadanapatti is Kamatchi Amman Temple. It is situated on the banks of the Manjalriver. This temple is 3 Km from, Devadanapatti in Theni District. In this temple, the doors of the sanctum & sanctorum are never opened and all the pujas are offered only to the portals. The special puja performed in the evening accompanying local musical instruments is a spectacular audio - visual feast.

Important Festivals

The important festival in Kamatchi Amman Temple is MasiMaham and shivarathi, which falls in February - March.

Periyakulam

Periyakulam is an important town in Theni - District. It is situated 16 Kms from Theni and located in the foothills of odaikanal. Mangoes of this town are very popular. Mango is the largest harvest here, considered second only to Salem and is exported to foreign countries. During summer the climate is cool at night like Kodaikanal. Periyakulam is connected with all major towns in Tamil Nadu by road. Nearest Airport is Madurai (84 Kms).

One of the important temples in Periyakulam is ArulmiguBalasubramanya Temple. This was constructed by Rajendrachola nearly 2000 years ago.

Once King RajendraChola went hunting in Agamalai near the banks of the Varahariver. There a pig was feeding milk to its young ones. The king unknowingly killed the pig. Seeding the hunger of the young pigs, Lord Muruga fed the piglets. King RajendraCholasaw this amazing sight and constructed this temple in memory of this Divine event.

This temple is considered equal to Kasi. Since Bramatheertha runs in this river, it is believed that any incurable disease is cured when one have a bath in this river water.

The idol of Lord Muruga with six face seems to have been pierced from the under ground. Lord Muruga, seen here with his consorts, blesses all his devotees.

Kumbakarai Falls

An amazing feat of Nature, the Kumbakarai Falls is yet another jewel in the crown of Tamil Nadu's tourist attraction. Comparatively less known, these falls offer a breath taking view of the fascinating interaction between gushing water and solid rocks. Add a verdant and wild backdrop and you have an exquisite sight.

Situated on the foothills of the Kodaikanal hills, the falls is located 8 km from Periyakulam. The water from these falls is full of the goodness of minerals and herbs.

There are two stages in these falls. At the first stage water gathers in huge rocky recesses which are variously named after wild animals such as Tiger, Elephant, Snake, etc., before falling as the main fall. Bathing is possible.



Veerapandi

Gowmariamman Temple which is located here attracts many pilgrims. This 14th century temple was built by the Pandya King Veerapandi. The Pandya king is said to have regained his vision by praying to Gowmariamman and Kanneswaramudaiyar. Close by the temple, the perennial Mullai river runs its course. The temple is nearly 8 Km from Theni.

Theertha Thotti

This natural spring is located on the Madurai - Kochi national highway between Theni and Bodinayakkanur. Subramanya Temple here is a popular pilgrim centre.

Chinnamanur

This was formerly known as "Harikesarinallur" and it is mentioned in "Tholkappium". This municipal town is a business hub for the nearby villages.

Weekly Sandhai (Market) here is very popular. Sivagami Amman Temple Located on the banks of the Mullai river is worth visiting.

Velli Malai

A densely forested place replete with natural flora and fauna is located 65 kms from Theni in the Varushanadu hill ranges.

Kuchanur

Saturn or Saneeswarar is the main diety worshipped in kuchanur. In this temple Lord sani is present in splendid isolation benefit of the other plants. Here he is known as kuchanooran. The temple is situated 20 Kms from Theni. It is Close to Chinnamanur situated amidst paddy fields.



Megamalai

This scenic place is dotted with tea estates and cardamom plantations. Situated at an elevation of 1500 meters above sea level, the place is rich in flora and fauna. It is 52 kms from theni.

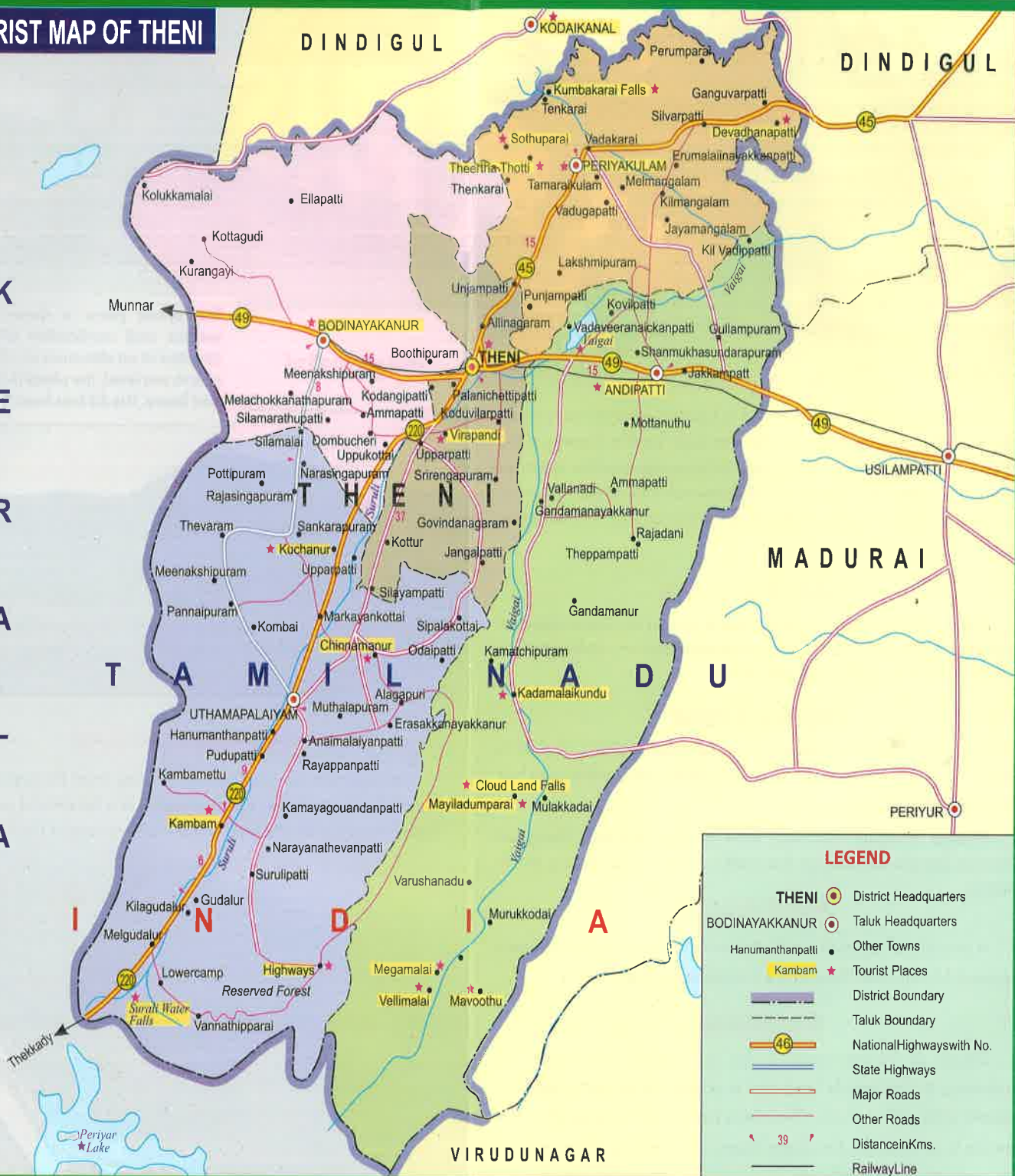


Sothupparai Dam

Sothupparai dam is located 12 Kms from Periyakulam. This dam is built across the Varahariver. It is a beauthiful picnic spot. The wide expanse of stored water is an impressive sight.



TOURIST MAP OF THENI



Access

- Air : The nearest airport is Madurai (87kms)
- Rail : Theni is well connected with all important cities
- Road : Well connected by road.
- Local Transport : Town bus service, tourist taxis, van and autos available

Important Festivals

Andipatti

Sri Mavoothu Velappar Chitrai Festival (April)

Devadanapatti

Kamatchi Amman Maha Sivarathiri Festival (March)

Veerapandi

Gowmariamman Festival (May)

Kuchanur

Saneeswaran Adi Festival (July/August)

Suruli

Velappar Festival (May)

Bodinayakanur

Paramasivan Temple Festival (April)

Other Information

Bodinayakkanur

Located on the foot hills of the West Ghats, this town is popular for cardamom, mango and coffee market.

Bodi Mettu

A hill resort situated at a height of 4500 feet. it is most scenic place. It is 26 Kms from Bodinayakkanur.

Tiger Falls

A dainty fall on the route to Munnar between Bodi and Bodimettu from Theni.

Excursion

Kurangani

Kurangani is situated in the Western Ghats at an altitude of 400 ft. 6500 ft. It is promoted as a new tourism model - endogenous spices tourism.

Kolukkumali is the highest tea estate in the world. It is situated in a precipitous ledge atop Kurangani. The entire Kurangani

LEGEND

- THENI (Yellow Circle) District Headquarters
- BODINAYAKKANUR (Red Circle) Taluk Headquarters
- Hanumanthanpatti (Black Dot) Other Towns
- Kambam (Red Star) Tourist Places
- (Thick Blue Line) District Boundary
- (Thin Blue Line) Taluk Boundary
- (Orange Line with 46) National Highways with No.
- (Blue Line) State Highways
- (Red Line) Major Roads
- (Thin Red Line) Other Roads
- (Black Line with 39) Distance in Kms.
- (Black Line) Railway Line