

Gudiyam Caves

The Gudiyam caves the first of its kind in India, discovered by geologist Sir Robert Bruce Foote exists near Poondi in Tiruvallur district and reaching there takes some adventurous paths into the silent forests, which can actually turn out to be a nice expedition for trekkers and even nature lovers. Gudiyam Caves are rock shelters in South India and known for prehistoric stone tools and culture. This ancient site is situated in the Tiruvallur district near the Poondi reservoir, 60 km from Chennai, Tamil Nadu.



Archaeological evidence suggests that the caves were used by Paleolithic Man. The site has been excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India in 1963 and 1964. Systematic paleolithic studies in this region indicate these sites suggest extensive movement of early hominids across the landscape about 200,000 years ago. Sixteen such shelters have been identified by the Archaeological Survey of India in Allikulli Hill ranges near Poondi.

Note: To visit this place prior permission need to be obtained from the Forest Department. Ph: 044 - 27660487.

How to Reach:

Air: The nearest International/ Domestic airports is Arignar Anna International Airport/ Kamarajar Domestic Airport at Tirusulam (47Km).



Rail: Tiruvallur Railway Station plays an important transit point to many places in Western parts of India like Salem, Erode, Bengaluru, Mangalore etc. Further, it is well connected

to holy places like Tiruvalangadu, Tiruttani, Tirupati. In addition, EMU Services to Puratchi Thalaivar Dr MGR Central railway station (Chennai Central), Arakkonam and Tiruttani are available from early in the morning to late in the night.

Road: Three important National Highways namely, NH 16, NH 48 and NH 716 passes through the District boundaries. Bus Stand is situated in the heart of the town and buses are available to outstation and mofussil routes from early in the morning to late in the night.



For Further Details Contact

Tourist officer

District Collectorate Complex,
Tiruvallur - 602001.

Phone : 044 - 27666007 Mobile : 7397715675

Email : tiruvallurtourism@gmail.com

For Tourist information and TTDC tours and hotel bookings, please contact:

Sales Counter:

Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation,
Wallajah Road, Chennai - 600 002.

Ph: 044-25333444, 25333333.



Tamilnadu Tourism

Government of Tamilnadu

Tamil Nadu Tourism Complex,
Wallajah Road, Chennai - 600 002.

Ph: 044-25333854, 25333850,

Toll Free : 1800 4253 1111

Fax: 25361385, Email: dotdepartment@gmail.com

www.tamilnadutourism.org

For Online Bookings: www.ttdconline.com



30,000 copies

March 2020

1st Print, Chennai - 2.

Incredible India

enchancing
Tamil Nadu

experience yourself



TIRUVALLUR
TAMIL NADU - INDIA

TIRUVALLUR

History

Tiruvallur was originally known as Tiruvallur which specifies the sleeping position of the Holy Lord "Vishnu", in the Veeraragava temple of Tiruvallur. Later people began to refer it by names such as Trivellore and Tiruvallur. Today Tiruvallur is well known, for the Veeraragava Temple. The new moon day is very auspicious day for the Lord and so for the people of the town.

General Information

Area	: 3423 Sq. Km.
Population	: 3,728,104 (2011 Census)
Altitude	: 137 Feet above the sea level
Temperature	: summer temperature is 37.9 °C and the average winter temperature is 18.5 °C.
Summer	: Max. 37.9 ° C Min. 25.2 ° C
Winter	: Max. 18.5 ° C Min. 18.4 ° C
Rainfall	: 1152 mm
Clothing	: Tropical
Season	: Throughout the year
Languages	: Tamil, English & Telugu
Country/STD Code	: (+91) 044

Arulmigu Subramanya Swamy Koil, Tiruttani

This temple is one among the six Padaiveedu's of Lord Muruga. ie. the 5th Padaiveedu.

Tiruttani constitutes one of the six Padai Veedu shrines of Skanda (Lord Subramanya), and it represents the site where Subramanya stayed after destroying the demon Surapadman. Tiruttani is said to be the place where the Lord Subramanya married Valli - one of his two spouses. The other five are; Palani (100 km west of Madurai), Swamimalai (150 km east of Madurai), Tirupparankunram (5 km from Madurai), Pazhamudircholai (25 km north of Madurai) and



Thiruchendur (100 km south of Madurai). Thai Poosam and Panguni Uthiram festivals are very famous festivals and large number of devotees are coming here at that time.

The hill temple is reached by road, and is also accessed by 365 steps. It has 4 prakarams and a series of towers. There is a shrine to Aabat Sahaaya Vinayakar who is said to have come to the aid of Skanda in winning Valli's hand in marriage.

The processional image of Skanda is housed in a Rudraksha vimanam with his consorts. The shadkona padakkam or the hexagonal medallion is adorning the image of Skanda is decorated with green stones and is of great beauty. Also of significance here is a golden vilva garland.

The beautiful temple of Lord Muruga at Tiruttani crowns a single rock 700 feet above sea level. It is situated amidst a range of hills with a dramatic panoramic view. This sacred place is 13 kilometers from Arakkonam and 84 kilometers from Chennai.

Around this town are famous religious places such as Kancheepuram (Banaras of the South) on the South, Sholingar and Vallimalai on the West, the popular and renowned pilgrimage centre, Tirupati (otherwise called Balaji) and Kalahasti (with its Vayu Lingam) on the North and Tiruvalangadu (of puranic fame) with Lord Nataraja on the East.

Timings: 5.45 AM to 8.45 PM.

Contact No: 044-27885303 (Hill Temple), 044 - 27885247(Office).<http://www.tirutanigaimurugan.tnhrc.in/>

Lord Veeraraghava Perumal Temple, Tiruvallur

Sri Veeraraghava Swamy Perumal Temple is one among the 108 Divya Desams of vaishnavas and a part of Tondai naadu divyadesams. The sthala is also the 21st Thiruthalam in Thondainadu. It is praised in poetry by two of the Twelve Alvars - Thirumangai Alvar and Thirumazhisai Alvar which are referred to as Divya Prabandham. This is an ancient temple built during the period of Pallavas. The presiding deity Veera raghava perumal is in a reclining position in the



temple. The God is in a recumbent position facing east on a dais at an elevation of 15 feet. The lord's right hand is positioned on Salihotra Munivar's head while the left hand is in the Gyana Mudra position indicating the teaching of the four Vedas to the Lord Brahma. Abishekam to the Lord is done only with sandalwood oil. It has five tiered Rajagopuram (main gate). There are inscriptions dating back to the 2nd half of the 9th century Pallava dynasty reign here. Local folklore claims that the temple is around 5000 years old. The water in the tank is considered more sacred than that of Ganga. A dip in the holy tank Hritayathabhanasini is believed to relieve the devotee from sins. In this temple people offer small metal sheets resembling a specific human organ engraved on them as a request to God to cure the illness or problems of those organs.

Timings: 5 AM to 12 Noon and 4 PM to 9 PM.

Nearest Railway Station: It's situated 3.5 Kms away from Tiruvallur Railway Station. Phone: 044-27660378,

Arulmigu Viswaroopa Panchamukha Anjaneyaswami Temple-Tiruvallur

The Temple is situated at 45 kms from Chennai on the Chennai - Tiruttani - Tirupati route. The Mahapradishtai of 32 feet tall Sri Viswaroopa Panchmukha Anjaneyaswami at Periakuppam Village in Tiruvallur (45 kms from Chennai, enroute to Tirupati) was performed on the 6th June, 2004. From "oil mill junction" sign boards will be guided you to reach the ashram.

Phone: +91-44-27600641, Website : www.panchamukha.org



Bhavani Amman Temple, Periyapalayam

Bhavani Amman Temple is located at about 32 kms from Tiruvallur and 40 kms from Chennai and it's situated on Chennai-Kolkata highway near Red Hills. There are many Sacred Places of pilgrimage in the ever green and affluent Tamil Nadu. Among those numerous sacred places, in Periyapalayam, Goddess Bhavani has manifested herself as a great boon to the crores of devotees who worship her. She is popularly known as 'Mother Bhavani of Universe'. Goddess Bhavani is the family deity of many devotees.

Timings:

From Monday to Saturday (5:30 AM to 12:30 PM and 2:00 PM to 9:00PM) On Sunday (5:00 AM - 9:00 PM) Contact No:9444487487.<https://omsribhavaniammantempleperiya-palayam.org/>



Devi Karumariamman Temple - Thiruverkadu

One day Devikarumari took the image of old nomadic lady and went to Sun to forecast his future. Without realising her as Devikarumari, he simply neglected her. Devikarumari immediately vanished. Sun has lost its brightness and its glory started declining. Realising his mistake he begged Devikarumari to forgive and excuse him. Sun also requested Devikarumari to celebrate Sunday as the day of Devikarumari. Devikarumari also accepted it. He also got permission from her to pour on her sunrays twice in a year in the month of Panguni and Purattasi.

There are references about this holy place in the myth written by the great saint Veda Viyasar. Apart from the mythic history many great saints came to this holy place worshipped the deity and praised the glory of lord with their songs. Arunagirinathar and Sambandar composed many poems about this place. Sekilar Peruman in his Periya Puranam has sung about this holy place. Thiruverkadu is 27 kms from Tiruvallur and just 18 kms from Chennai.

Timings:

From Monday to Saturday (5:00 AM to 9:30PM)

On Sunday (4:00 AM - 10:30 PM) Phone : 044 - 2680 0430-26800487 <http://www.thiruverkadukarumari.tnhrce.in/>

Our Lady of Glory Shrine, Pulicat - Tiruvallur

Our Lady of Glory Shrine is a Church dedicated to Mother Mary located in Pulicat. This Church was established in 1515 at Pulicat, a fishing village, separated by a lake which connects the Bay of Bengal.

The Portuguese arrived at Pulicat in 1500 AD. Identifying the statue of Mary as the one they have lost from their ship, they constructed a chapel for the use of the people and named Mary as 'Our lady of joy'. This shrine now is declared as the first parish to be established in the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore, the first in Tamil Nadu and even the first



parish on the coromandel coast in India.

Pulicat

Pulicat or Pazhaverkadu is a historic seashore town in Thiruvallur District. It is about 60 kilometres (37 mi) North of Chennai and 3 kilometres (1.9 mi) from Elavur, on the southern periphery of the Pulicat Lake. Pulicat lake is a shallow salt water lagoon. Pulicat revolves around the early role of Pulicat as a seaport in one of the few natural harbours on the Coromandel Coast of South India. Pulicat is the 2nd largest brackish water ecosystem in India after Lake Chilika of Odisha. Pulicat is situated on the barricade island of Sriharikota which divides the Pulicat Lake from the Bay of Bengal.

The major attractions of Pulicat are the Pulicat beach, Pulicat Lake, the Dutch cemetery, an ancient Church and the bird sanctuary. The Lighthouse opposite the lake and the Mahimai Mikunnda Madha kovil (The Church of the Powerful Mary) are the other places of interest in the Pazhaverkadu town. Every year between October and March, thousands of migratory birds can be observed here. Wetland birds like Garganey, Marsh Sandpiper, Gadwall, Shoveler and Black-tailed Godwit and Flamingos can be seen here.

The Dutch cemetery which was built in 1656 AD, houses around seventy seven graves and five dome structures. Two are conical and three have hemispherical domes. There are cherubs and angles on the last one. The graves have been very well conserved by the ASI. The History of Pulicat is notable as the headquarters of Dutch Coromandel between 1616 and 1690 and 1782 to 1825. Worth a visit to AARDE



Pulicat Museum located in Kottai Kuppam road at Pazhaverkadu will give the detailed account on the history of Pulicat.

The Portuguese established a trading post in Pulicat in 1502 with the help of the Vijayanagar rulers. The Dutch occupied Pulicat fort in 1609. Pulicat was till 1690 the capital of Dutch Coromandel. It repeatedly changed possession, until finally occupied by the British in 1825. It became part of the Madras Presidency, which later became Madras state in independent India and renamed Tamil Nadu in 1968. The old lighthouse still stands at the opposite bank of the lake. The cemetery dating to 1622 has been taken under the wing of the Archaeological Survey of India and so has survived the passage of time. The grand, Dutch inscribed tombs and graves, carved with skeletons rather than the cross, have been quite well preserved.

Pulicat-Day is celebrated on World Wetland Day (2 February) at Pulicat by AARDE Foundation. Famous traditional catumaram competition and several competitions are held on this day. Pulicat Museum at Pazhaverkadu gives detailed information on Pulicat ecology and heritage.

A Cottage Craft with gentle Palmyra Leaves by Women, is mainly established at Pulicat. The local Palmyra Leaf Co-operative Society exports service and beautiful articles made from Palmyra leaves. Pulicat is also rich in seafood export center including White and Tiger prawns, jellyfish, finfish and live lagoon etc.

Poondi Reservoir

Poondi Reservoir (later named as Sathyamoorthy Sagar) was constructed in 1944 across the Kosathalaiyar River or Kotralai River in Thiruvallur district with a capacity of 2573 Mcft and placed in service for intercepting and storing Kosathalaiyar River water. Surplus water flows down the river which is again intercepted by Tamaraipakkam Anicut and diverted to Sholavaram Lake and Puzhal lake. (A lined canal known as Poondi Canal was later constructed in 1972 to convey water from Poondi Reservoir to Sholavaram Lake). Satyamurti who is remembered today as the political mentor of Kumaraswami Kamaraj, who was

TOURIST MAP OF THIRUVALLUR



the Chief Minister of the State between 1954-1963. Because of his strong devotion to Satyamurti, Kamaraj got the Poondi reservoir named after Satyamurti. It acts as the important water source for Chennai city which is 60 km away.

Pre Historic Museum – Poondi

The chain of discoveries had started off when Sir Robert Bruce Foote accidentally discovered stone tool at Pallavaram in the year 1863 CE, followed by the discovery of many number of artefacts in and around Poondi near Chennai.

This tremendous discovery in the field of Pre -historic archaeology pushed back the antiquity of man in Tamil Nadu



to more Palaeolithic Tool than half a million years ago and placed this region on the world map of pre historic culture.

The Department of Archaeology, Government of Tamil Nadu has its museum exclusively for the exhibits of the pre-historic artefacts found in and around Poondi and in other parts of Tamil Nadu. This Museum was established in the year 1985. Poondi is situated at 13 km from Tiruvallur Railway Station, in Tiruvallur District.

Antiquities on Display

Palaeolithic implements, Neolithic Celts, Sarcophagus (small and big), Megalithic Storage pots & cups, Fossilised Snail and wood, three legged Urn, Iron Spade & Axe and Terracotta pipes (Tuyeres) for iron smelting.

Visiting hours 10.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m, Friday- Holiday



Not to Scale