

Pilavakkal Dam

Pilavakkal Dam (Vaithirairuppu - Watrap) is 90 kms from Madurai and 45 kms from Virudhnagar. The Dam is consisting of 2 division viz. Kovilar and Periyar Dam. The capacity of the Periyar Dam is 192 mft. and Kovilar Dam is 133



mft. During the period from October to December, the Dam will be full of water. It is one of the picnic spot of the Virudhunagr District. A children park is available with all facilities. The landscape of 14.5 area is very beautiful.

Golwarpatti Dam

Golwarpatti Dam is situated in Golwarpatti village, Virudhunagar Union at a distances of 20 km. from Virudhunagar in N.H. 7, 22 km. from Sivakasi and about 15 km from Sattur.

The present approach road to the Dam is 8 km from the National Highways. Local city bus facility is available from Virudhunagar.

Guhan Parai

Guhanparai is located on the road to Kalugumalai from Vembakkottai. It is 22 km. from Sattur town in Virudhunagar district and 80 kms. from Madurai, about 8 kms from Elayarampannai village. A small hillock to the west of the village is called Guhanparai and the village takes on the same nomenclature. There is a small natural cave at the foot of the hillock, which is believed to have been used as a shelter by jain monks. There was a damaged stone image of a Jain Thirthankara. A 10th century AD vatteluthu inscriptions on a rock of hillock states that a monastery Munnurru - Varperumpalli was established in the name of Maunnurruvar kovilpillaigal.



Important Telephone Numbers

The Collectorate	- 04562 - 252525
Health Department	- 04562 - 244722
Superintendent of Police	- 04562 - 252300
Government Musuem	- 04562 - 268681
Head Post Office	- 04562 - 243232
Central Telegraph Office	- 04562 - 244621
Government Hospital	- 04562 - 242017
Holy Cross Hospital	- 04562 - 245430

Hotels

Virudhunagar :	Hotel Nandha	- 04562 / 246007
	Government Guest House	- 244704
	Madhu Sini Lodge	- 244265 / 247419
	K.V.S. Mansion	- 243620
Sivakasi Town :	Bell Hotel	- 223343 / 225180
	Hotel Pandiyan	- 274464 / 90039 16985
Sathur :	Hotel Jayapriya	- 97003 46444
Srivilliputhur :	Hotel Ram Lodge	- 99440 44500
	Hotel Subam	- 260256 / 04563
Rajapalayam :	Hotel Anandas	- 04563 - 230501
	Hotel Amil	- 9442250108

FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

THIRUCHULI	Bhramotchavam	10 days	April/May
ARUPPUKOTTAI	Chokkanathaswamy Festival	13 days	June/July
WATRAP	Muthalamman Festival	10 days	Sep./Oct
VIRUDHUNAGAR	Mariamman Festival	13 days	March
SRIVILLIPUTHUR	Adipooram Car,	12 days	August
	Thiuppavai Festival, Float Festival	8 days 3 days	Dec/Jan, Jan/Feb
IRUKKANKUDI	Many important Festival		July/Aug/Jan
SATTUR	Brahmotsavam		June, Apr/May
	Chitra Pournami		

for further details contact :
Tourist office

Collectorate Complex, Ground Floor,
Virudhunagar - 626 002. Phone : 04562 - 25 25 98



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM
Government of Tamilnadu



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VIRUDHUNAGAR
TAMIL NADU - INDIA

Introduction

Virudhunagar is the headquarters of the Virudhunagar District. It is 48 Kms. South of Madurai, 26 Kms. north of Sattur and 24 Kms away from Sivakasi. Virudhunagar was known as Virudupatti. A warrior who was possessing a number of flags in token of having conquered many other, challenged the resident of this town. A resident of the town accepted this challenge and in the fight killed the warrior and seized his flags. From then the town known as Virudhukkalvetti. "Virudhukkal" in Tamil means banners and "Patti" in Tamil means hamlet.



The Railway station at this place was originally named as Virudhukkal Vetti, but subsequently in 1875, was altered into Virudhupatti. Virudhunagar is trading centre.

The principal trade is Cotton and Cotton Goods. Dried Chillies, Groundnut Oil, Coriander Seeds, Jaggery, Grains etc., are exported to other places.

There are wholesalers in Black and Red Gram, Gingelly, Coffee Seeds, Pepper, Chillies etc.

There is a commercial crop regulated market for Cotton, Chillies and Groundnut. This town is the birth place of Thiru.K.Kamaraj, former Chief Minister of Tamilnadu and eminent leader in National Congress.

General Information

Area	: 4243 Sq. Km.
Population	: 17,51,548 (2011 Census)
Altitude	: 100mts above sea level
Climate	: 36 Max; 20 Min
Rainfall	: 81 cms, Average
Local Language	: Tamil

Access

Air : Nearest Airport is Madurai, 47 Kms.

Train : Virudhunagar has a Railway Junction. It connects Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari, Sivakasi, Srivilliputhur, Tenkasi and Kollam.

Road : It connects with all important cities of South India.

Parasakthi Mariamman Temple

The Mariamman temple in the town was constructed in 1923. The panguni Uthiram celebrated in the month of panguni for 21 days at this temple, is the main festival of the town and its surroundings.



Kamarajar House

Kamarajar House



The house where the great leader Kamarajar was born has been converted into a memorial.

The rooms are adorned with photographs of the leader at every stage of his life. A few of his clothes, his watch also kept in this memorial.

Srivilliputhur Andal Temple

Sri Andal is a great Vaishnavite Saintess and her Pasurams are as popular in Tamilnadu as Meera Bai's Devotional songs in the North. It is located 74 kms away from Madurai and 45 kms away from Virudhunagar. Andal like a Seetha, is presumed to be not born out of mother's womb (Ayoni Sambhava). She left her mortal body and merged with Lord Renganatha, when she was 14 years old. Every vaishnavite temple in south has a sanctum sanctorum dedicated to Sri Andal. This temple is also dedicated to Lord Vishnu known as Vadapathrasayee. He was a principal deity of Srivilliputhur, before Andal was born.

The temple belongs to the 18th century A.D. testified by the inscriptions in it. Thirumalai Naick of Madurai and his sister have made intensive additions to the temple. The characteristic feature of the temple i.e. 192 feet high tower has 12 storeys. This tower is the Tamil Nadu Government Emblem. The massive wooden car which is several centuries old, has 9 huge wheels.



Thiruvannamalai

It is situated 3 kms north of old Srivilliputhur. Buses are available from Srivilliputhur. Nearest Railway station is at Srivilliputhur. The place is important for the Vishnu temple on a hillock at the northern end of the village. The village situated at the bottom of the hillock, was formerly known as Thirumalai meaning sacred hillock. This place is called South Tirupathi, legend has it that Tirupathi Venkatachalapathi came for a hunt and in order to give dharshan and to bless his devotees, he stayed in this temple on the hill here.



The hillock is about 200 feet height. The western Ghats, which are about 9kms away from this place from a beautiful background scenery. Koneri Tamarai Thirtham is at the foot of the hill where pilgrims take their bath before going up the hill.

Ayyanar Falls

Ayyanar falls is located at the bottom of the Ghats about 12 kms west of Rajapalayam, there is a temple to Ayyanar which is very popular as a picnic center. It is situated in the dense forest with its natural beauty and the small waterfalls dropping from a height of 15 feet, adds its attraction.



Sastha Falls

The forests are found on the eastern slopes of the western Ghats. Only 6.3% of total geographical area is under forests. Many rare and endemic varieties of flora and fauna along the mountain slopes. A wildlife sanctuary, spreadover 480 Sq.kms. was established in 1989 at Shenbagathopu in Srivilliputhur.



Aruppukottai

It is 45 kms South of Madurai and 18 kms. West of Virudhunagar on the Madurai - Thoothukudi Road. Manamadurai Railway line passes through this place was abundant in Jasmine buds and hence it was called Arumbukottai. In tamil "Arumbu" means buds of garden plant bearing fragrant flower and "Kottai" means fort. Aruppukottai is inhabited by weaves and this place is famous for handloom textiles. These are small scale industries such as Dying Factories, Oil Mills, Rice Mills, Straw Boards manufacturing factory, Ginning Factory, etc...

Nenmeni

It is situated 9 kms East of Sattur on the bank of river Vaipar. Nenmeni is correction of Nelmeni meaning paddy yield. Paddy stands foremost in the village. The public works department irrigation tank is paradise for the bird-watcher during the winter months. When the tank is full it will attract many visitors. Many beautiful birds from foreign countries like Australia and America are said to come here during seasm.

Mudhaliyar Oothu



It is situated 1km down the ridge on the Northern slope of Srivilliputhur reverse forest having a commanding view of Northern hills Sathur Zamin forests and also the beauty plains of Khansapuram, Watrap and Pudhupatti. The river Chitar runs to the north west of the side place having scene more impressive. Elephants are plentiful. Wild Pig,

Spotted Deer and Sambar are limited. Barking Deer and panthers are seen occasionally.

Satchiyapuram C.S.I. Church

It is 159 years old CSI Church. It was built by C.M.S. Missionaries in 1861. It is a famous Church in this area. It is situated at a distance of 3km West from Sivakasi.



Sathuragiri Temple

Sathuragiri Hills or Chathuragiri otherwise known as 'SUNDARA MAHALINGAM' is situated 10 km from Watrap (Wathirairuppu) near Srivilliputhur. The name Sathuragiri came from Chathur (4) Veda (Vedas) Giri (Hill), where all the four Vedas met and formed the hill. Another meaning is that the whole mountain is in square (Chaturam) in shape so the name Chathuragiri. Sathuragiri is the Abode of God. It is otherwise also called as Mahalingam Hill.

This is also called as "Siddargal Boomi". 18 Siddhas were used to live here, abode of god was bending position ..another god calls Santhana Mahalingam... up to 4km Periya Mahalingam statue in forest and rivers, Navagraga stone in top of hill...



Irukkankudi Mariamman Temple

It is situated 8 kms, East of Sattur, where there is a Mariamman Temple. Irukkankudi means the meeting place of two rivers i.e., Arjuna River and Vaipparu River join in front of the temple. It is situated between the two rivers and to reach it one has to cross the river Arjuna by foot. The temple was built 200 years ago by the forefathers of the present Poojaris. It is stated that a Poojari girl who was picking Cow-Dung placed her basket on the ground but could not remove it. She had a vision that a temple should be built there.



Sivakasi

It is situated 18 Kms West of Sattur and 18 Kms East of Srivilliputhur. It is 70 Kms South - West of Madurai. It has Railway Station. Bus services are available in all directions.

It is stated that Arikesari Parakrama Pandiyan (1420-1462) constructed a temple at Tenkasi and went to Banaras for taking a Lingam for installation at Tenkasi. On his return he was unavoidably detained at Sivakasi, which was a forest area. At the approach of the auspicious law, he installed the Lingam and constructed the temple at this place. This place take its name for this incident. During the period of Nayaks, Sivakasi was the seat of a Governor.

Sivakasi is an important industrial town. It is famous for lithographic and offset printing, Match and Fireworks industries. Next to Sivakasi Lithographic and Offset Printing is done only in Mumbai. In and around Sivakasi, there are fireworks manufacturing units, manufacturing crackers, sparklers, Chakkrams etc. Sivakasi is well equally known in the production of matches. Most of the fireworks consumed by Indians are supplied from Sivakasi.

Thiruthangal

Thiru Nindra Narayana Perumal Temple of Thiruthangal is a town in the outskirts of Sivakasi in Virudhunagar District near Sivakasi. This temple is dedicated to lord Vishnu (Nindra Narayana Perumal - Arunakamala Mahadevi) constructed in Dravidiyan style of architecture. The temple is one of 108 Divya Desams.

The temple in its present form was believed to have been built by Devendra Vallabha, a Pandya king. The temple has three inscriptions in its two rock-cut caves, two dating from the period of 8th century.

The temple is built on a granite hill 100 ft (30 m) tall and a granite wall surrounds the temple, enclosing all its shrines and bodies of water. Unlike other temples, this temple does not have a rajagopuram, temple's gateway tower. The later Pandya kings, Vijayanagar and Nayak kings in the region made significant additions to the temple. The temple is located on the other side of Karunellinathar temple, a famous shiva temple and can be reached from that temple on the hillock.



TOURIST MAP OF VIRUDHUNAGAR



Tharagumalai Madha Temple

Tharagumalai Madha Temple is a small church located on a hill near Thiruvanamalai and Srivilliputhur. There are no steps to reach this church only foot path and trail is available. The view of the town you get from there is very good. This is located at about 3kms from Srivilliputhur.

Tiruchuli



Tiruchuli is the birth place of Ramanamharishi. The famous saint of Tiruchuli Ramanamharishi's house where he was born is a place of pilgrimage. The great

savaite Sundara Moorthy Nayanar in the company of Cheraman Perumal worshipped Lord Shiva in the sacred place. Tiruchuli is the Railway station on Manamadurai Virudhunagar line. It is a distance of 32 kms. from Manamadurai. It is also connected by bus with Madurai, Virudhunagar etc. Sri Tirumeninathar Swamy Temple in the Place is one of the famous temple which has been managed well for long time by Raja's of Ramanathapuram. It is in an area of 43500 sqft. There are "Astalingas" i.e. 8 lingams in the Temple. There are as many as 10 theerthams in and around shrine.

Sattur Sri Venkatchalapaty Temple

Sattur is located 24 kms away from south of Virudhunagar, The name Sattur has been converted in to Sathur. It is located on the banks of river "Vaiparu" in sattur town, the 800 years old Vaishnavite temple commands as good view. The presiding deity of the temple popularly known as Sathurappan.

His devine consorts Sri Devi and Bhudevi are in 9 standing postures. Legend has it that this temple come into existence through the efforts of a devotee blind king, who ruled over the neighbouring place. He got back his power of vision miraculously by the grace of Lord, when he came here on his way to Thiruppathi and stayed for 20 days offering worship. Soon this shrine became popular and started attracting devotees from different parts of the district.