

# WAYANAD

WHERE JUNGLE MEETS COUNTRY



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The chronicle of the green paradise of Wayanad began with a rich history and heritage with the sprawling green masses of forests and mist-covered valleys and hills. Being the only district in Kerala that shares its boundaries with Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Wayanad has attracted plenty of tourists from both these regions. The pristine and hypnotizing allure of the land is mainly attributed to the plantations, forests and wildlife, which has swarmed the people into the area and the resulting demand for homestays in Wayanad.

With an invigorating climate throughout the year and blanketing mist that covers the deep valleys, the verdant hill station of Wayanad calls for trekking, wildlife tours and plantation visits that encapsulates the very gist of adventure and tranquillity. The quaint little town has supported many homestays as people gather to get a sneak peek into the tribal lifestyle and immerse themselves in the thrills of Wayanad.

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# CONTENTS

1. Pookode Lake	04-05
2. Lakkidi View Point	06-07
3. Banasura Sagar Dam	08-09
4. Karlad Lake	10-11
5. Soochipara Waterfalls	12-13
6. Edakkal Caves	14-15
7. Karapuzha Dam	16-17
8. Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary	18-19
9. Kanthanpara Waterfalls	20-21
10. Kuruva Island	22-23
11. Tholpetty Wildlife Sanctury	24-25
12. Sree Thirunelli Mahavishnu Temple	26-27
13. Jain Temple, Sulthan Bathery	28-29
14. Chembra Peak	30-31
15. Kurumbalakotta Hill	32-33





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# Pookode Lake



## POOKODE LAKE



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Nestled amidst the green forests and scenic mountain slopes lie the Pookode Lake at an altitude of about 770 metres. The Pookode Lake is a fresh water lake, the only one of its kind that has the shape of India's map. The lake is famous for the picturesque views of nature all around. Pookode Lake is located at about 15 km away from Kalpetta in the Wayanad district of Kerala. Sprawling across an area of 8.5 hectares, Pookode Lake has a depth of 6.5 metres.

*Pethia pookodensis*, a type of fish belonging to the Cyprinid fish species is believed to be found only in the Pookode Lake in India. The fish belonging to this species can grow up to a length of 4.3 centimetres. There are several other fish belonging to different species that can be found in the lake. The blue lotuses found in abundance in the lake add up the beauty of the lake.

The District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC) has arranged boating facilities which is one of the major activity/ attraction at Pookode Lake that draws the attention of many tourists. The boats arranged for the boating services are pedal boat and row boat. The place, including the lake and its surrounding areas are well-maintained, such that they resonate the unspoiled beauty of nature. The place also has an eatery and provisions for other necessary facilities. Other places of interest for tourists visiting the Pookode Lake include the aquarium, children's park and a shop that exclusively sells hand-made articles (articles made up of bamboo and coconut husk) and spices.

**VISITING TIME: BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM.**



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# *Lakkadi View Point*



## LAKKADI VIEW POINT



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Lakkadi is the gateway of Wayanad as it is located at the crest of the serpentine Thamarassery ghat pass. There are nine hairpin curves from Adivaram (Downhill) to Lakkadi through steep mountains and a journey through the serpentine ghat pass is worth an experience. It is about 2296 ft (700 m) above the sea level and the major town nearby is Vythiri which lies five km away.

The lush greenery of the hills, gorges and streams seen on both sides of the passage up the hill are sure to linger in the visitors' mind for a long time. Tourists often stop by Lakkidi View Point, the vantage point which offers dazzling views of the surrounding cliffs and valleys.

**OPEN 24 HOURS**

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# Banashura Sagar Dam



## BANASURA SAGAR DAM

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Located at the foot of Banasura hill, Banasura Sagar Dam encloses the water from Karamanathodu tributary of the Kabini River. This dam is located at about 21 km from Kalpetta in the Wayanad district of Kerala. The dam was a part of the Indian Banasurasagar Project which was started in 1979. The project consisted of a dam and a canal project. This project was undertaken with major goals like supporting the Kakkayam

Hydroelectric power project and also to satisfy the need of water for irrigation and drinking purposes. The area is well-known for water shortages during the dry season. Made up entirely using large stones and earth the Banasura Sagar Dam is an earth dam. The dam is the largest earth dam in India and the second largest in Asia.

The Banasura Sagar Dam – a kilometre long mud structure was named after the Banasura hills. The hills were named after Banasura, the son of Mahabali, the very well-known ruler of Kerala (who according to belief visits his subjects every year during the festival of Onam). As the story goes, Banasura undertook a severe penance atop the hill. The Banasura hill is third largest peak in the Western Ghats ranges

**VISITING : 9AM TO 5PM.**





# Karalad Lake



## KARALAD LAKE



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Karalad Lake is the second largest freshwater lake in Kerala. The lake is spread over an area of 7 acres. This lake is surrounded by thickly grown Bamboo grooves. The environment is quite calm and unpolluted. Boating in the lake is one of the major attractions here, and there are also steep trekking tracks near the lake for adventurous tourists.

**VISITING : 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**



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# *Soochipara Water Falls*



## SOOCHIPARA WATERFALLS

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Soochipara waterfall is a three tiered waterfall at Vellarimala in Wayanad. This waterfall, surrounded by dense green forest, is also known as Sentinel Rock Waterfall. A 20 minute drive from Meppadi in Wayanad will take you to this splendid waterfall. The name Soochipara derived from the words 'soochi' and 'para' means 'rock' and 'needle'. The name given is apt as you can see needle shaped rock here. You have to walk around 2 km to reach the waterfall, where vehicles can't move further. You have to pay a nominal fee for entrance and camera. From the entrance you need to descend down to reach the falls. The water here cascades down from a height of 100 to 200 ft and this waterfall is an ideal place for trekking and rock climbing. You can sight a pool beneath this falls and here you can go for swimming and bathing.

**VISITING : 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**





# Edakkal Caves



## EDAKKAL CAVES



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Edakkal are two natural caves at a remote location at Edakkal, which is 25 km from Kalpetta. They lie 1,200 meters above sea level on Ambukutty hill, beside an ancient trade route connecting the high mountains of Mysore to the ports of the Malabar Coast. Inside the caves are pictorial writings believed to date to at least 6,000 BC, from the Neolithic man, indicating the presence of a prehistoric civilization or settlement in this region. The Stone Age carvings of Edakkal are rare and are the only known examples from south India.

**MONDAYS ARE HOLIDAY**

**VISITING TIME: 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**



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# Karapuzha Dam



## KARAPUZHA DAM



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Karapuzha Dam is one of the biggest earth dams in India. Karapuzha Dam is located in the greenish and natural regions of Wayanad, on the Karapuzha River, a tributary of the Kabini River. Karapuzha Dam is one of the most stunning dams in the destination. The dam is known for its picturesque setting and skilful architecture. The dam sees a lot of tourism all year round because of the charming design and looks of the place. The scenic environs of Karapuzha Dam with its partly inundated hills and verdant islands are an ideal breeding ground for aquatic birds. It is an ideal place for watching aquatic birds that frequent the reservoir. The background of the gushing water from the dam against the luxuriant mountains makes it a charming spot. The water here is around 158 feet deep. Recreational adventure activities such as a tandem zip line, human sling shot using an all-terrain vehicle, human gyroscope, motorised bungee jumping, and a trampoline park have been set up at the site. The two-line 605 metre tandem zip line connecting the park and a nearby hill will be the longest in south India.

**VISITING TIME: 9:00 AM TO 6:00 PM**



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# Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary



## MUTHANGA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 🖱️

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Established in 1973, the Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary is contiguous to the protected area network of Nagarhole and Bandipur of Karnataka on the north east and Mudumalai of Tamil Nadu on the southeast. Rich in bio-diversity, the sanctuary is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. The management lays emphasis on scientific conservation with due consideration for the general lifestyle of the tribals and others who live in and around the forest region. The Sanctuary has a large population of pachyderms and has been declared a Project Elephant site.

Elephants roam freely here and tigers are sighted occasionally as well. Various species of deer, monkeys and birds also live here. The Reserve is also home to a profusion of birds, butterflies and insects. The trees and plants in the sanctuary are typical of the south Indian moist deciduous forests and semi-evergreen forests. A drive along the road to Muthanga and further, offers chances to watch these roaming animals.

**VISITING TIME: 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 3 PM TO 5 PM**



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# Kanthanpara waterfalls



## KANTHANPARA WATERFALLS



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Twenty two kilometers away from Kalpetta, you can find Kanthanpara waterfalls. The breathtaking attraction of the path leading to Kanthanpara waterfall seems to more beautiful than the fall itself. The waterfall is only 30 m high and comparatively, this is one is smaller than Meenmutty and Soochipara. This waterfall is very safe for children. They can enjoy here utmos

**VISITING TIME: 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM**



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# Kuruva Island



## KURUVA ISLAND



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Kuruvadweep is a 950 acre protected river delta on the Kabini River in the Wayanad district. Kuruvadweep is the only island surrounded with naturally purified water source in Kerala. These group of islands consists of dense and evergreen forest that is uninhabited and hence home to rare kinds of flora and fauna: endemic species of birds, orchids and herbs namely. The unique geographical characteristics of Kuruva Island make this place very calm and the forests are always evergreen. These mind blowing characteristics have made this place attractive to the tourists who are nature lovers or travelers who love silent atmosphere.

Other special characteristics of Kuruva islands are the bridges made of bamboo and rare species of trees. It is a must see destination for nature lovers and a popular picnic spot. A perfect destination for those wants to have a lazy walk through the shoreline of a river. Its unique geographical characteristics make it a place where not only the leaves but also silence is evergreen being away from cities and thus it has become a place of attraction.

**VISITING TIME: 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**



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# Tholpetty Wildlife Sanctuary



## THOLPETTY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



Tholpetty reserve, about 20 kms from Mananthavady, is one of the best places in Kerala for sighting wild elephants. Other than elephant herds, there is good chance to spot bison, deer, monkey, giant squirrel and a range of other animals. Tigers and leopards are present here. However, they are rarely seen in the peripheral zones where tourists are permitted.

**VISITING TIME: 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 3 PM TO 5 PM**



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# *Sree Thirunelli Mahavishnu Temple*



## SREE THIRUNELLI MAHAVISHNU TEMPLE 🖐️

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Temple is the only temple in the world where the devotees can perform all the rituals related to one's life, starting from birth to death and life after death. It is one of the most ancient temples in Kerala. It is believed that here the prathishta of Lord Vishnu was performed by Lord Brahma. It is also known as "Sahyamala Kshetram" and "Kashi of the South"

**VISITING TIME: 5:30 AM TO 12:00 PM, EVENING: 4:00 PM TO 8:00 PM**



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# Jain Temple Sulthan Bathery



## JAIN TEMPLE SULTHAN BATHERY



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Jain temple Wayanad is located near Sulthan Bathery. It is also known by the name Ananthanatha swami temple. This Jain temple Wayanad is dedicated to the great Jain saint by name Ananthanatha swami. Ananthanatha swami temple is located near Kalpetta at a distance of six Km from Kalpetta. This Jain temple Wayanad is generally referred to as Tippu's fort because King Tippusultan stored his ammunition in this fort during his reign.. Another name given to this Jain temple is Sultan's battery. Jain temple Wayanad is known to be constructed in the thirteenth century. This temple and its surroundings have served as an essential place for commercial developments. It is sad to note that the beautiful pillars of Ananthanatha swami temple are ruined due to several reasons.

**VISITING TIME 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**





# Chembra Peak



## CHEMBRA PEAK



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Chembra Peak is the highest peak in Wayanad, at 2,100 m above sea level. It is located eight kilometer south of Kalpetta, near to the town of Meppady . Chembra peak adjoins Nilgiri hills in Tamil Nadu and Vallarimala in Kozhikode. From the town of Meppady you can reach the peak through walking.

The peak is visible from almost all parts of Wayanad. It is an ideal place destination for trekking activities. You have to take prior permission from the Meppady forest office before going for a trek at Chembra Peak. The forest office will be open on all days. Over-night camping is not allowed at Chembra peak as there is a threat from wild animals. It will take at least 3 hours to reach the top point of Chembra peak. On the way to the peak, you can see a heart shaped lake, which is said to have never dried up. It is one of the topmost attractions of this peak. This lake is known as 'hridhayathadakam' , the name derived from two words Hridhayam and Thadakam. Meaning of hridhayam is heart and thadakam means lake.

**VISITING TIME: 7:00 AM TO 5:00 PM.**





# Kurumbalakotta



## KURUMBALAKOTTA



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Kurumbalakotta is a hill 20Km west of Kalpetta in Wayanad district. It is a monolith hillock in Kerala. It rises to 991 m above sea level. It is situated in the centre of Wayanad and also a part of Deccan plateau and the confluence of Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats. From the hill top, one can see the full scenery of Wayanad plateau. Misty mountains and valleys around the hill gives a pleasant atmosphere for trekkers.

The hill is located in Kottathara Panchayth of Vythiri Thaluk Wayanad district. Venniyode is the nearby small town. Tourists may reach by road from Kalpetta through Kamblakkad junction.

**VESITING TIME 4:00 AM TO 7:00 AM**