

# THE BEST RESORT IN WAYANAD

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# **Dream and Dream Big...**

One should never forget their roots because it always has that positive connection lying deep within one. They say "What you sow is what you reap" and that is exactly what has happened with me too. Initially what started as a simple yet small journey, turned out to be an emotional and sentimental one. Everything seems like yesterday when I took that long stroll and stumbled upon this place in my neighborhood of Wayanad, Kerala. I believe I was destined to own this land. Buying this piece of land directly or indirectly was a blessing in disguise for me as well as my friend who sold it to me. No major plans were sketched out to transform this into anything, definitely not to a villa. The one thing that astounded and surprised me was the way in which this place drastically grew into. I wondered how and this caretaker that I appointed to take care of the land, vested all her efforts to ensure that she waters and takes care of the place with her heart and soul.

Taking this inspiration from her I decided to make things better by transforming this place into a dream project. Hurdles were always a constant thing but I love challenges. My vision was to recreate this place into a wonderful and amazing masterpiece. Frankly speaking, it consumed a lot of time and now, finally, it is ready to welcome people with both open arms. Abigail Villa is what it is called! In short, it is called - Ab's Villa. The time that I invested in bringing this dream project of mine into reality was, is, and forever will be worth every single penny. It's just that I have an emotional connection with this villa. The time I spent with my mother, my family members, and naming it after my daughter and everything has a close bond. It has that home touch in every nook and corner which will give you a soothing comfort throughout your stay. Now to the best part of the villa, it has amazing features and specifications that make it one of a kind villa. It is built within a vast area that is in the midst of nature's comfort zone. It has a serene touch of cool breeze and calmness which is far from all the buzz of city life. Silver Oak, Paddy Fields, Banana Trees, Areca nuts, coconut trees, and a wide range of other trees surround the villa. What matters to me as an individual who owns the property is that I want the people coming in to share their experiences and also leave the place with a sense of inner peace and satisfaction.

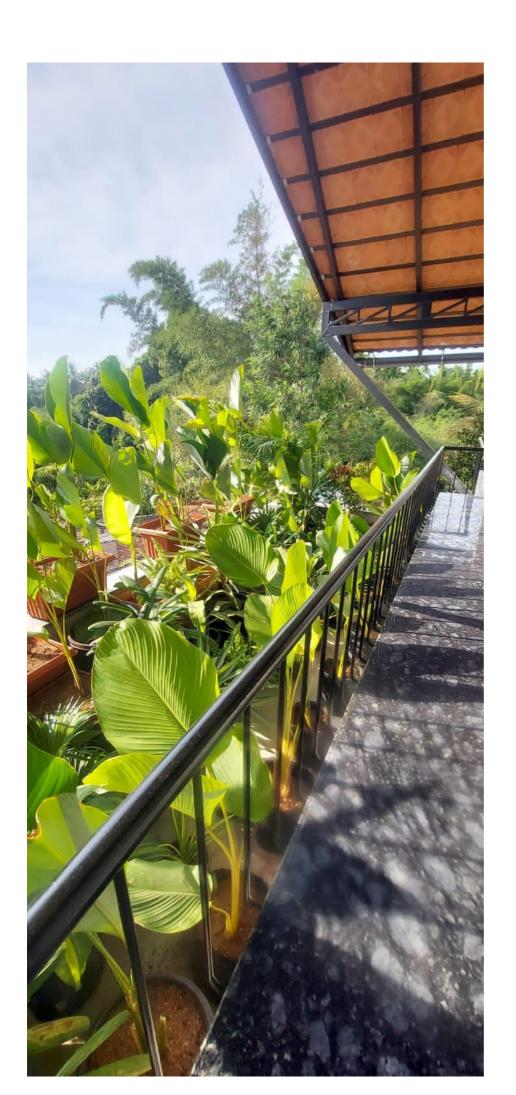


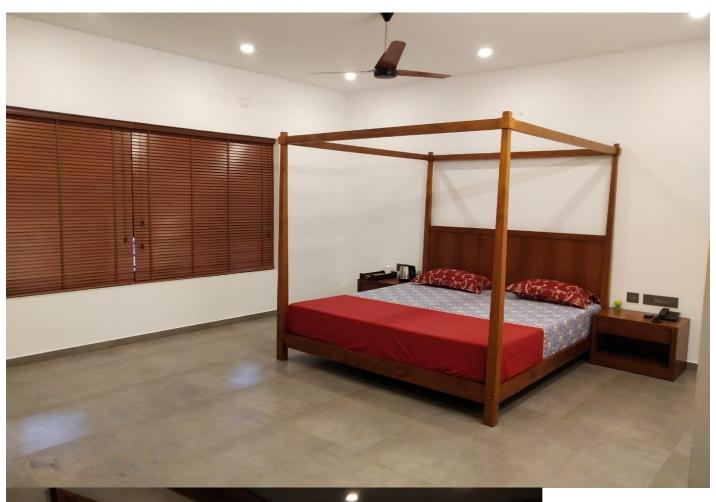
Villa composes of a splendid living room that displays a magnificent touch of technology. The living room also has a dining area and a modular kitchen setup that helps in cooking and preparing your dishes. This modular kitchen will give you all the required equipment to test your skills at preparing a master recipe at any time of the day. The villa also has two separate bedrooms with king-size beds where the cots are made up of teak wood. Speaking of teakwood, the furniture in the entire villa is carved out of teakwood. We want to safeguard nature and ensure that we in some manner contribute to nature. The Bedrooms boast attached restrooms and an open bathroom that gives you a unique feel of devolving in nature.

The villa also has a bar counter for guests to sit, relax and gulp down a few drinks. It has a dedicated library section for bookworms and a balcony that allows you to set your eyes on the beautiful sunset and sunrise. We have poured out our hearts and sweat to ensure that every minute detail is attended to. We believe that it should act out as a place to retreat rather than just to cater to your entertainment needs. Listening to the creaking sounds of nightlight while sitting and recalling the day's adventures besides the campfire is another amazing experience

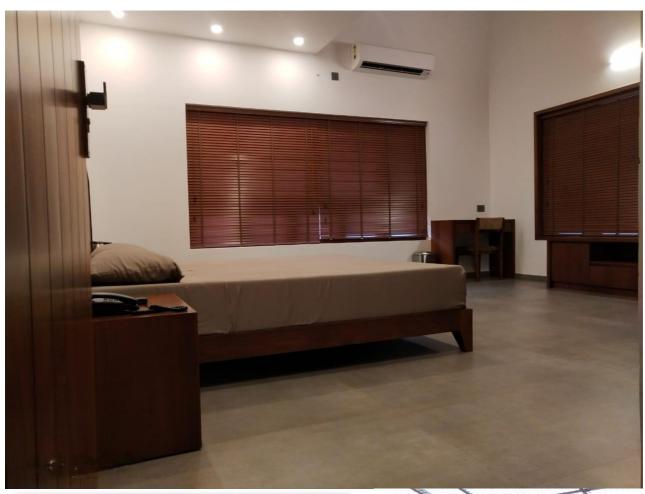
















## **Nearby Destinations**

### Muthanga



This area is renowned with having world's largest recorded population of Asian Elephants and Tigers. Both of these species, along with the Vulture are considered the flagship species of the Sanctuary. To this, we add Leopards, Jungle Cats, Leopard cats, spotted deer, Sambar deer, Gaur, Sloth bear, Wild dog, Wild boar, Indian pangolin, Stripe-necked mongoose and plethora of other mammals.

Its location plays a huge role in its importance to the local ecology, as it shares its borders with the other protected areas of Bandipur and Nagarhole Tiger Reserve in North-East side and Mudumalai Tiger Reserve of Tamil Nadu in the south-eastern side. These offer a natural corridor for the seasonal migration of animals.

- Jeep Safari Entry Time 7.00 to 10.00 am and 3.00 to 5.00pm (Daily)
- Duration of Visit 1.5 hours (maximum)
- Best Season July to March
- Sanctuary Closure Mid Feb to Mid-April
- Safari Jeep Rent: Rs. 725/- (Per Vehicle)
- Maximum 7 persons are allowed in a jeep.
- Vehicle entry fee of Rs.80/- per vehicle will be charged from the visitor.

Distance from Abs Villa: 51 KM

### **Tholpetty Wildlife Sanctuary**



Tholpetty Wildlife Sanctuary or Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is a beautiful destination located 20 km east of Mananthavady on the Kodagu Road. The jeep ride here offers brilliant opportunities to view various animal and bird species in their natural habitat. One gets to see herds of elephants, guars, deer, monkeys, tigers, leopards, bears and many species of reptiles, fishes, butterflies and birds including vultures. Visitors are restricted to the outer tourist zone. It gives one an excellent perspective on how we must strive to conserve these natural wonders.

Visiting Hours: 07:00 - 10:00 hrs. & 14:00 - 17:00 hrs

Distance from Abs Villa: 26KM

### **Edakkal Caves**



A trip to Edakkal Caves is like a journey into our forgotten past. Located 10 kms from Sulthan Bathery, they have provided historians with great information regarding the lives and habits of our ancestors. The caves are two natural rock formations believed to have been formed by a large split in a huge rock. The carvings inside are extremely beautiful. A trek up the majestic Ambukuthi Hills is required to reach these caves. The aroma of coffee stays with you the entire way. It is truly a surreal experience as we step into the palms of history.

### **Kuruva Island**



The lush greenery, the wild orchids and flowers and the fresh surroundings make up the Kuruva Island. Located in the Wayanad, **Kuruva Island** is the perfect getaway from the crazy city life. A visit to the island will refresh both your body and mind.

the trees here are evergreen in nature. The rich flora and fauna is a major reason why people from all parts of the country visit this place. You will find migratory birds, thick green trees and a myriad range of butterflies in the forest area. **Birds like parrots and hornbills can be spotted easily.** 

Shut during the monsoons, open during the months of October to May

Timing everyday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

### **Traveller Tips**

- Carrying plastics or plastic bottles is not allowed due to cleanliness issues. **Avoid littering** the place with any wrapper or food items that you might be carrying.
- Swimming or **bathing is strictly restricted** by the authorities. You will find boards everywhere giving you the necessary instructions.
- Avoid visiting the Kuruva Island if you sense rainfall. The whole experience will be ruined because it is very difficult to go about after there is rain.

- If you opt for boating, do not forget the safety jackets that you will be provided with.
- The place remains filled with tourists and so, if you are planning to **spend a night in the tree top rooms**, try booking them in advance.
- If you are planning to use a **camera** or a video camera, make sure that you buy a **coupon for that too**. The charges are fair.

### Things to Do

- The best way to spend time in the Kuruva Island is to **take a walk** around the entire area. It is very soothing and allows you to have a close look at Mother Nature.
- **Trekking** is also an option for the adventurous tourists. You can book a guide and set off in to the forest area.
- **Photography** is a good option in here. Click great snaps for keeping them as memories for a lifetime.
- Crossing the waterways to travel from one island to another, you will find **bamboo rafts**. Sail through the water and keep exploring.

Distance from Abs Villa: 14 KM

### **Karlad Lake**



A quiet retreat, Karlad Lake is a natural freshwater lake located around 8 kms from Vythiri and 3 kms away from Banasura Sagar Dam in Wayanad. The Wayanad Adventure Camp here offers a wide range of activities for the adventure enthusiasts out there. The activities organized involve Kayaking, Zipline, Rock climbing, Boating, Nature walk and Bamboo rafting. An all-season Swiss cottage tents here offer best accommodation facility for the travelers.

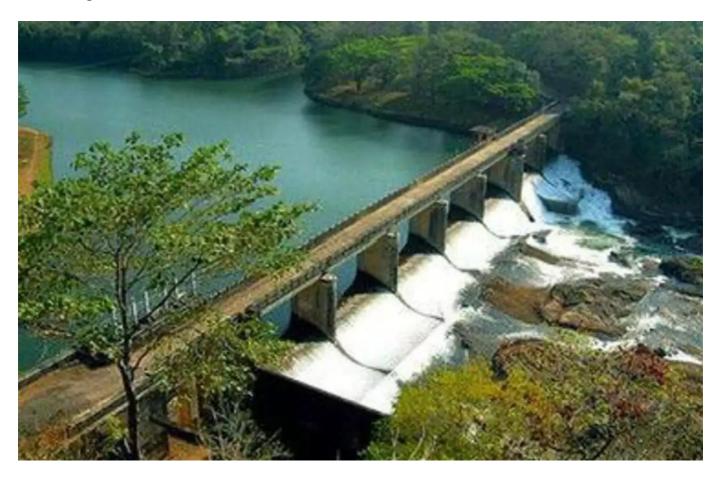
Visiting time: 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

### **Sentinel Rock or Soochipara Waterfalls**



The dense forest around you is increasingly vibrating, the birds flutter in anticipation and the steep, shaky path around you is slowly elevating you to a vantage point where they say you're going to encounter a sight only a few have truly witnessed. Your journey ends and a white stream is seen falling headfirst into sharp granite rocks that welcome it as old friends. This is Sentinel Rock or Soochipara Waterfalls, on an off-route from Wayanad near Kalpetta, a place where both the trek and visuals are surreal. People drive across tense terrains and walk a naturally rocky pathway to reach the summit. But they never complain about the end result. The next time you're near Wayanad, do remember to check out this natural masterpiece on the Kozhikode - Vythiri - Gudallur Highway.

### Banasura Sagar dam



The Banasura Sagar dam, which is the largest earthen dam in India and the second largest in Asia, impounds the waters of the Karamanathodu, a tributary of the Kabini river. The reservoir formed by the dam is dotted with tiny islands enveloped in thick foliage, and with the Banasura hill in the background, offers a magnificent view. one-km-long mud structure

Distance from Abs Villa: 22KM

### **Banasura Hills**



Banasura Hills one of the most famous spots for tourists due to the magnificent sights and breath-taking scenery. The whole destination looks like something that came out of a movie scene. Boating is an activity that comes highly recommended by travellers and is a fun experience to enjoy with your friends and family. So take this trip and be mesmerised by the grandeur and serenity of the place.

### **Banasura Hill Travel Tips**

- Carry sunglasses and comfortable clothes.
- Wear comfortable shoes.
- Banasura Hill Timing: 24-hrs
- Best time to visit Banasura Hill (preferred time): 10:00 am 05:00 pm
- Time required to visit Banasura Hill: 02:00 Hrs.

Distance from Abs Villa: 23KM

### Pookode Lake



The beautiful freshwater lake in Wayanad, Pookode Lake lays 15 kilometre away from Kalpetta. Nestled between evergreen forest and Western Ghats, the lake is spread over 13 acre and is 40 m deep. This is one of the most preferred tourist destinations in Wayanad.

The perennial freshwater lake has the shape of an Indian map. You can sight blue lotus and numerous fresh water fishes. Blue water lilies also can be seen scattered here and there in the water. The sight of wild animals and birds in the surrounding forest of the lake is another attraction of this destination. Plenty of monkeys are also seen here. Pethia Pookodensis is a species of cyprinid fish, which is said to be found here only. You can also make a visit to the nearby freshwater aquarium, children's park and shopping centre exclusively for handiwork and spices

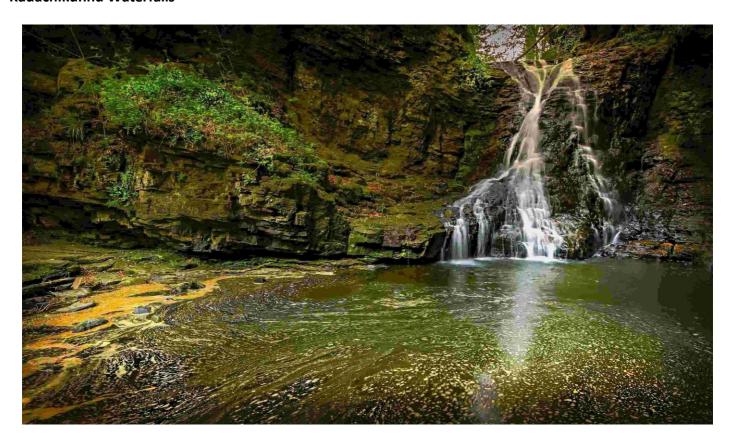
Distance from Abs Villa: 39KM

### Meenmutty Falls



Imagine water crashing onto the ground from over 1,000 ft. in three separate levels while an entire rainforest plays its role as the patient, supporting audience. This and much more await you at Meenmutty Falls, one among Wayanad's delightful treasures. It can be only accessed after an arduous 2 km jungle trek, the visuals on display at the summit are worth the effort. One has separate viewing points for each of the three decks of the waterfalls and due to its location, this is one of the few natural wonders in the world that can be experienced in near seclusion. You feel at ease, while the lush greenery gently washes away all that ails your soul, as the roaring water gently soothes your senses. A masterpiece, the waterfalls lie on the Ooty route in Wayanad.

### **Kadachikunnu Waterfalls**



The Kadachikunnu Waterfalls is **accessible from the Meppadi-Vaduvanchal Road**. The tourists have to trek for 2 km in the forest to reach this waterfall. The peak point of the trekking route offers stunning views of Nilambur Forest and Wayanad region.

Distance from Abs Villa: 47KM

### Kanthanpara waterfall



Kanthanpara is a quaint little waterfall in Wayanad which is famous for its secluded and serene vibe. The cool, sparkling waters at this lesser-known destination are sure to soothe all who wish to rejuvenate in a silent environment. Surrounded by beautiful greenery on all sides, it is worth spending a day picnicking in the calming embrace of nature.

Visiting hours: 09:00 hrs. to 17:00 hrs.

### Lakkidi view point/Churam view point

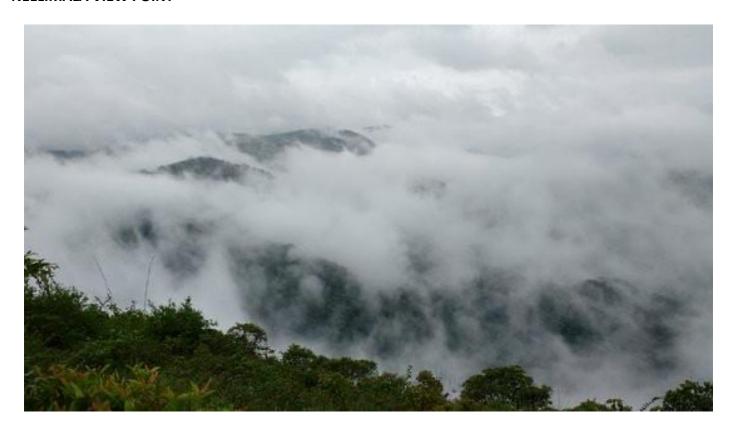


About 5km south of Vythiri town on the NH212 is the Lakkidi View point.

This is a popular picnic spot offers a fantastic view of the valley and the sneaking ghat road known as the 'Thamarassery Churam' that connect Wayanad with Calicut. Located 700m above sea level at a peculiar fold in the western ghats, Lakkidi gets about 600cm rainfall annually, making it one of the highest rainfall region in Kerala.

It's quite easy to get to Lakkidi. If you are driving from or to Calicut from Wayanad, you'll naturally pass this

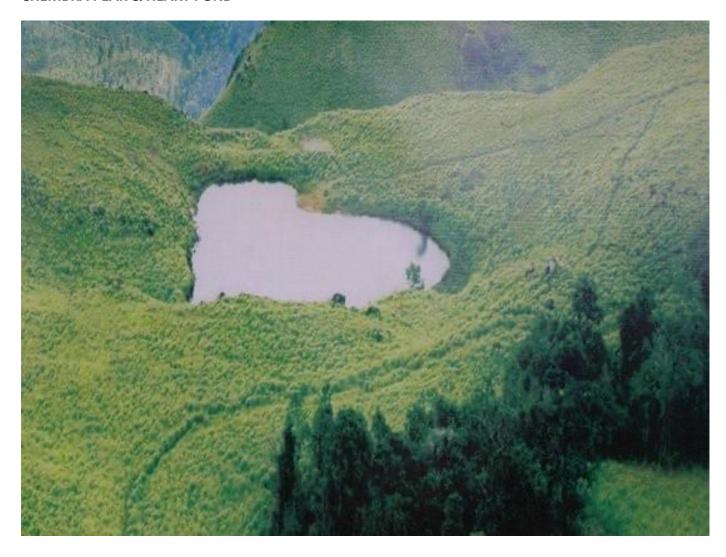
### **NEELIMALA VIEW POINT**



The Neelimala viewpoint is easily among the upper echelon in the district. Here, one gets a pristine view of the great Meenmutty Waterfalls, causing people to throng to this destination in large numbers. The trek up to the viewpoint is just as beautiful as the destination itself. You are surrounded by plants and flowers of all varieties and hues along, with the refreshing aroma of coffee giving you company the entire way. Small birds chirp merrily and urge you to the summit. Soon the setting changes and the mighty Western Ghats appear at their finest. The clouds seem closer and the valley appears to extend indefinitely from this point. From the mist covered slopes to the massive boulders in interesting formations around you, you get to choose whichever slice of nature you wish to explore.

This area is today a popular picnic spot. The aura of exclusivity and wonder surrounding the place is the perfect reason to make the trek. The white waters of Meenmutty crash into the ground with a deep roar that serenades every single visitor. It is a delightful feeling, as nature exists here in its purest form. A visit to Wayanad is incomplete without soaking in this magnificent sight.

### **CHEMBRA PEAK & HEART POND**



You need not have to spend a fortune, leave your family to set out on a long journey to watch the cloud-studded pond tucked somewhere in a distant continent. The place is well here, right in Wayanad in Northern Kerala, up the peak of Cembra, some 2100mts above sea level. People call the pond 'hridayasarassu' – heart-shaped pond.'

The trek uphill begins modestly along tea plantations, but then it gathers momentum and gravity. The mountain slowly rises under your feet, which you could feel in your calf muscles. Stop. Take a deep breath. Walk again. Your lungs are refreshed with the mountain air. Slowly the panoramic views of the valleys emerge out of the morning air to claim your rapt attention.

The heart-shaped pond: After an hour, with the gaped mouth, you stand on the banks of a pond laid carefully on a bed of crispy green meadow. Nature doesn't mince its symbols to tell you how much you're still loved, your eyes well up at the sight of the spectacular sight of the heart-shaped pond which you wanted to see all your life. It is around 3 km trek from the base camp. This is a full day package organized by the forest department. Best time to visit is during August-May.

Visiting Time: 7.00 AM to 5.00PM (those who wish to take trekking must reach before 02.00 pm)

Distance from Abs Villa: 48KM

### **KARAPUZHA DAM**



The Karapuzha Reservoir is the largest of its kind in India. This earth dam is built across the Karapuzha river and stands tall at 28 meters along a length of 625 meters. This whopping reservoir attracts tourists all year round, especially for a fun boating experience amidst the calm waters of the dam. Despite its initial purpose of irrigation, the dam, because of its fresh foliage, attracts birds and bird- watchers. The landscaped gardens make for an enjoyable picnic spot with family or friends, and a small children's park is built to cater to kids' needs. While there is no entry fee to access this mighty dam, it is advisable to visit between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This all-weather destination is best enjoyed with loved ones and a picnic basket.

Distance from Abs Villa: 33KM

### **SUNRISE VALLEY**



A viewpoint with mesmerizing views of the misty Western Ghat Mountains covered in thick green forest.

Sun Rise Valley Viewpoint in Wayanad District of Kerala State in Southern India is one of the most scenic places in Wayanad. What makes the viewpoint unique in the district is it's rocky projection which protrudes out to the void making it an adventure pinnacle for adrenaline junkies, although comes with the catch of falling down to the rocks and the forest deep down upon a misstep.

As the name suggests, Sun Rise Valley View Point is ideal to visit in the early mornings. The majestic rays of the sun shattering the darkness of the valley covered in thick forests and the river Chaliyar cutting the valley to three large blocks is a spectacular view to behold.

### Getting to Sun Rise Valley Viewpoint

Sunrise Valley Viewpoint is located in Muppainad village,7 km from Vaduvanchal town and 28 km from Kalpetta and 20 km from Sulthan Bathery. You can get buses till Meppadi from these places and then you will have to take a Rikshaw/ taxi from there if you are travelling by public transport. Nearest railway station is at Kozhikode from where there are buses towards Kalpetta and Sulthan Bathery.

Distance from Abs Villa: 31KM

### **PAKSHIPATHALAM**



Pakshipathalam in Wayanad district is among the finest trekking spots in the entire country. At Pakshipathalam, one gets to walk through a thick evergreen forest that provides a safe haven to some of the rarest avian species. Ornithologists consider it a location of great interest and value. At 1,700 m above sea level, it is among the most frequented locations in the State.

People who seek a challenging yet enriching trek shall find their wishes fulfilled at Pakshipathalam. A local tribal guide leads you on an exceptional trip that canvasses this unique forest area. The deep caves at the northern end give one a great view of the biodiversity of the locality. The range of bird species found here is unmatched. Herds of gaurs can be occasionally seen passing through the place while Giant Malabar Squirrels greet all who pass by. It is a wonderful way to spend a day in Wayanad while being embraced by nature from all sides.

Distance from Abs Villa: 26KM

### **CHAIN TREE**



The legendary Chain Tree of Lakkidi is a large Ficus tree standing by the wayside at this beautiful tourist spot in Wayanad around 15kms from Kalpetta. The tree, which stands at the end of the ghat section of the road that leads to Wayanad from Calicut, is bound by a chain and has an interesting story behind it.

# Changala Maram or Chain Tree is a major attraction for travellers who pass through the Calicut- Wayanad route.

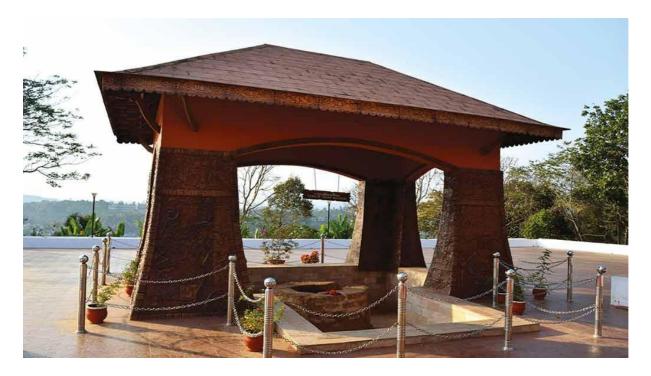
The myth of the tree is associated with the tribal chief Karinthandan, who lived between 1700-1750 AD. During the British colonial era, Wayanad didn't have any developed roads. Wayanad was blessed with dense forests and hills only the tribes knew the paths through these forests. Karinthandan belonged to the Paniya tribe, he was the chief of that tribal community.

He knew every path in the forest. So when the British Viceroy announced a reward for to those who find a way from Thamarassery to Wayanad to through the forest, a British engineer took the help of Karinthandan to find the route. After a lot of effort, the priest was able to chain the ghost to a Ficus tree, which is now known as the Changala Maram or Chain Tree.

A small temple built near the tree and started to worship Karinthandan.

Distance from Abs Villa: 42KM

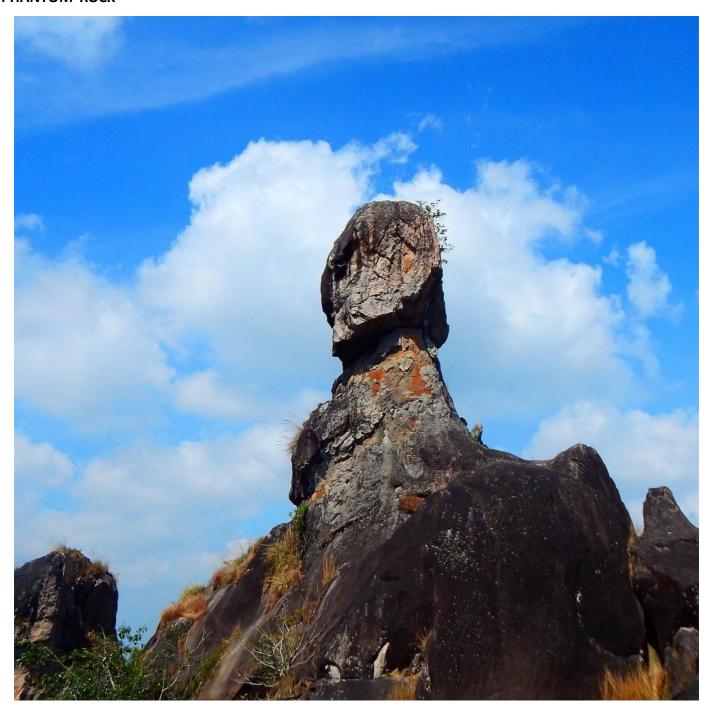
### PAZHASSI KUDEERAM



Pazhassikudeeram' is a project built in memorial of Kerala Varma Pazhassi Raja, also known as the 'Lion of Kerala'. This project, situated at Mananthavady in Wayanad district, is one of the main tourist destinations in Wayanad. Kerala Varma Pazhassi Raja orchestrated prolonged guerrilla warfare against the spread of dominance of the British East India Company in the region. A prince belonging to the local Kottayam royal family, he was very well supported by Kurichias, the tribal people. They formed the bulk of his army. The rebel prince caused a serious setback to the British. Removing him at any cost became a priority for them. It was declared as a protected monument by the Government of Kerala in the year 1980. The Pazhassi Museum was inaugurated in 2010. In the year 2013, the Pazhassikudeeram Museum was declared as the District Heritage Museum, Wayanad. By bribing someone in his inner circle they ultimately came to know about his whereabouts. Then the troops were able to surround him in the jungle. There are different opinions about how he died. Some say he poisoned himself to prevent capture while others say he was killed in combat. No matter how it happened, the person who is dubbed 'the lion of Kerala' met his death in the year 1805.

Distance from Abs Villa: 8.3KM

### **PHANTOM ROCK**



One of the most interesting sightseeing places in Wayanad, Phantom Rock is an archaeological structure that you should not miss out on your vacation.

It is famous for the rock that is shaped in the form of a phantom skull and thus derives the name of this tourist attraction. This place is an exciting spot for trekkers and hikers offering some amazing opportunities for photography.

Height: This rock is at height of 2600 feet above sea level.

Distance from Abs Villa: 32KM

### Muniyaras



Muniyaras are ancient burial vaults, which throw light on the ancient practices and lifestyle. They are also archaeologists' and historians' delight. Archaeologists conducted many excavations at various points around the foot of the Ambukuthi Hill in Wayanad district. They were able to unearth a distinctive series of ancient burial vaults and the remnants of Stone Age tools and pottery found in these cellars are now showcased at Wayanad Heritage Museum.

Distance from Abs Villa: 37KM

### **KADUVAKUZHY**



Kaduvakuzhi is a nice view point located near Karapuzha dam in Wayanad. It's located enroute to Karapuzha dam from Ambalavayal town. This place provides spectacular views and a chance to explore the cave near the viewpoint. Locals saying that there were tigers living inside in this cave and hence it named as Kaduvakuzhi. From this view point, you can see Karapuzha dam and its premises. You have to walk through the cliffs in order to reach there. It's a good place to hang out with your friends especially in the mornings and evenings. Recommended for travellers who are looking for a peaceful sunset in Wayanad.

Distance from Abs Villa: 33KM