Kochi

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*This article is about the city in India. For other uses, see*[*Kochi (disambiguation)*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_(disambiguation))*.*

*"Cochin" redirects here. For other uses, see*[*Cochin (disambiguation)*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_(disambiguation))*.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Kochi Cochin** | |
| [**Metropolis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolis) | |
| [Clockwise from top: Marine Drive Skyline, Chinese Fishing Nets at Fort Kochi, Cochin Shipyard, Queen's Way, Hill Palace, InfoPark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Kochi_montage2.jpg)  Clockwise from top: [Marine Drive](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marine_Drive,_Kochi) Skyline, [Chinese Fishing Nets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_fishing_nets) at [Fort Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Kochi), [Cochin Shipyard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_Shipyard), [Queen's Way](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen%27s_Way,_Kochi), [Hill Palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hill_Palace,_Tripunithura), [InfoPark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/InfoPark,_Kochi" \o "InfoPark, Kochi) | |
| Nickname(s): **Queen of the Arabian Sea**[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-1)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-2) | |
| [Kochi is located in Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Kerala_location_map.svg)  Kochi  Kochi  Show map of KeralaShow map of IndiaShow all | |
| Coordinates: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[9.97°N 76.28°E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Kochi&params=9.97_N_76.28_E_type:city(601574)_region:IN-KL)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[9.97°N 76.28°E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Kochi&params=9.97_N_76.28_E_type:city(601574)_region:IN-KL) | |
| **Country** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/4/41/Flag_of_India.svg/23px-Flag_of_India.svg.png [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| **State** | [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) |
| [**District**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_of_India) | [Ernakulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernakulam_district) |
| **Formed** | 1 April 1958[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-ernakulam.nic.in-3) |
| **Government** | |
| **• Body** | [Kochi Municipal Corporation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_Municipal_Corporation) |
| **• Mayor** | Soumini Jain ([INC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_National_Congress)) |
| **• City Police Commissioner** | M.P.Dinesh IPS |
| **Area** | |
| **•**[**Metropolis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolis) | 94.88 km2 (36.63 sq mi) |
| **• Metro**[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-4) | 440 km2 (170 sq mi) |
| **Elevation** | 0 m (0 ft) |
| **Population**(2011)[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-Census_of_India_Provisional_Figures-5) | |
| **•**[**Metropolis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolis) | 601,574 |
| **• Density** | 6,340/km2 (16,400/sq mi) |
| **•**[**Metro**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan_area)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-6) | 2,119,724 |
| [**Demonym(s)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demonym) | Kochiite[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi" \l "cite_note-7) |
| **Languages** | |
| **• Official** | [Malayalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayalam_language), [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language) |
| [**Time zone**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time) ([UTC+5:30](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC%2B5:30)) |
| [**PIN code(s)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_Index_Number) | 682 XXX, 683 XXX |
| [**Area code(s)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telephone_numbering_plan) | [+91-484](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telephone_numbers_in_India) |
| [**Vehicle registration**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicle_registration_plate) | KL-7, KL-39, KL-41, KL-42, KL-43, KL-63 |
| **Judicial Capital** | High Court of Kerala |
| **Coastline** | 48 kilometres (30 mi) |
| [**Sex ratio**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_sex_ratio) | 1028 [♂](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Male)/[♀](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Female) |
| **Literacy** | 98.5% |
| **Development Agency** | [GCDA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greater_Cochin_Development_Authority), [GIDA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goshree_Islands_Development_Authority) |
| [**Climate**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_of_India) | [Am](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climatic_regions_of_India) ([Köppen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%C3%B6ppen_climate_classification" \o "Köppen climate classification)) |
| [**Precipitation**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Precipitation_(meteorology)) | 3,228.3 millimetres (127.10 in) |
| **Website** | [cochinmunicipalcorporation.kerala.gov.in](https://cochinmunicipalcorporation.kerala.gov.in/) |

**Kochi** ([[koˈtʃːi ]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/Malayalam) ([About this sound](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Kochi.ogg) [listen](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3e/Ml-Kochi.ogg))), also known as **Cochin** ([/ˈkoʊtʃɪn/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/English) [*KOH-chin*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Pronunciation_respelling_key)), is a major port city on the south-west coast of [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) bordering the [Laccadive Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laccadive_Sea). It is part of the [district of Ernakulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernakulam_district) in the state of [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) and is often referred to as [Ernakulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernakulam" \o "Ernakulam). The city has a corporation limit population of 612,343,[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-8) and a [metropolitan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_metropolitan_area) population of 2.1 million, making it the [largest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Kerala" \l "Most_populous_urban_agglomerations" \o "Demographics of Kerala)[urban agglomeration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_Metropolitan_Area) in Kerala. Kochi city is also part of the [Greater Cochin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greater_Cochin)region[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi" \l "cite_note-9)[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-10) and is classified as a Tier-II city by the Government of India. The civic body that governs the city is the [Kochi Municipal Corporation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_Municipal_Corporation), which was constituted in the year 1967, and the statutory bodies that oversee its development are the [Greater Cochin Development Authority](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greater_Cochin_Development_Authority)[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-11) (GCDA) and the [Goshree Islands Development Authority](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goshree_Islands_Development_Authority" \o "Goshree Islands Development Authority) (GIDA).[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-12)

Called the **Queen of the Arabian Sea**, Kochi was an important spice trading centre on the west coast of India from the 14th century onward, and maintained a trade network with Arab merchants from the pre-Islamic era. Occupied by the [Portuguese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portuguese_Empire) in 1503, Kochi was the first of the European colonies in [colonial India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonial_India). It remained the main seat of [Portuguese India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portuguese_India) until 1530, when [Goa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goa) was chosen instead. The city was later occupied by the [Dutch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dutch_Malabar) and the [British](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj), with the [Kingdom of Cochin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Cochin) becoming a [princely state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princely_state). Kochi ranks first in the total number of international and domestic tourist arrivals in Kerala.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-13)[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-Tourism_Statistics-14) Kochi has been ranked the sixth best tourist destination in India according to a survey conducted by the [Nielsen Company](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nielsen_Holdings)on behalf of the [Outlook Traveller magazine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outlook_(magazine)).[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-15) Kochi was one of the 28 Indian cities among the emerging 440 global cities that will contribute 50% of the world GDP by the year 2025, in a 2011 study done by the [McKinsey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/McKinsey_%26_Company" \o "McKinsey & Company)Global Institute.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-Urban_world:_Mapping_the_economic_power_of_cities-16)

Kochi is known as the financial,[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-Financial_Capital-17)[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-18) commercial[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-Commercial_Capital-19)[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-20) and industrial[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-21)[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-22)capital of Kerala. It is the home to [Southern Naval Command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Naval_Command) of the [Indian Navy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Navy) and the state headquarters[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-23)[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-24) of the [Indian Coast Guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Coast_Guard) with an attached [air squadron](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squadron_(aviation)), named *Air Squadron 747*.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-25) Commercial maritime facilities of the city include the [Port of Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_of_Kochi), an [International Container Transshipment Terminal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Container_Transshipment_Terminal,_Kochi), the [Cochin Shipyard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_Shipyard), offshore [SPM](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_buoy_mooring) of the [BPCL Kochi Refinery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_Refineries)[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-26) and the [Kochi Marina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_Marina). Kochi is also home for the [Cochin Stock Exchange](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_Stock_Exchange), [International Pepper Exchange](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Pepper_Exchange), companies like [HMT](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustan_Machine_Tools), Cyber City, Kinfra Hi-Tech Park, chemical companies like the [FACT](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fertilisers_and_Chemicals_Travancore), [TCC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore_Cochin_Chemicals), [IREL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Rare_Earths_Limited), [Petronet LNG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_LNG_Terminal" \o "Kochi LNG Terminal), [Merchem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merchem" \o "Merchem), [HOCL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustan_Organic_Chemicals_Ltd)[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-27) and [Kochi Refineries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_Refineries), electrical companies like TELK,[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-28) and industrial parks like the [Cochin Special Economic Zone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_Special_Economic_Zone), [Smart City](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SmartCity,_Kochi) and [Infopark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/InfoPark,_Kochi" \o "InfoPark, Kochi). Kochi is home for the [High Court of Kerala and Lakshadweep](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala_High_Court), [Naval physical and oceanographic laboratory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naval_Physical_and_Oceanographic_Laboratory)(NPOL), Indian Maritime University, Sree sankara Sanskrit University and the [Cochin University of Science and Technology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_University_of_Science_and_Technology). Kochi is also home to Kerala's [National Law School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Law_School), [The National University of Advanced Legal Studies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_University_of_Advanced_Legal_Studies). Kochi has been hosting India's first art biennale, the [Kochi-Muziris Biennale](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi-Muziris_Biennale), since 2012, which attracts international artists and tourists.[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi#cite_note-29)

# Munnar

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*For the 2009 film, see [Munnar (film)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar_(film)" \o "Munnar (film)).*

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| **Munnar** | |
| [**Hill station**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hill_station) | |
| [Munnar town](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:MunnarTown2.JPG)  Munnar town | |
| Nickname(s): The Kashmir of south India | |
| [Munnar is located in Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Kerala_location_map.svg)  Munnar  Munnar  Show map of KeralaShow map of IndiaShow all | |
| Coordinates: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[10°05′21″N 77°03′35″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Munnar&params=10_05_21_N_77_03_35_E_type:city(38471)_region:IN-KL)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[10°05′21″N 77°03′35″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Munnar&params=10_05_21_N_77_03_35_E_type:city(38471)_region:IN-KL) | |
| **Country** | [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| [**State**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_India) | [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) |
| [**District**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_of_India) | [Idukki](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Idukki_District) |
| [**Named for**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Namesake) | Tea plantations, cool climate |
| **Government** | |
| **• Type** | [Panchayath](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panchayath) |
| **• Body** | Munnar grama panchayath |
| **Area** | |
| **• Total** | 187 km2 (72 sq mi) |
| **Elevation**[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#cite_note-1) | 1,532 m (5,026 ft) |
| **Population**(2001) | |
| **• Total** | 38,471 |
| **• Density** | 210/km2 (530/sq mi) |
| **Languages** | |
| **• Official** | [Malayalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayalam_language), [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language) |
| [**Time zone**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time) ([UTC+5:30](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC%2B5:30)) |
| [**PIN**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_Index_Number) | 685612 |
| **Telephone code** | 04865 |
| [**Vehicle registration**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicle_registration_plate) | [KL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_RTO_districts_in_India#KL%E2%80%94Kerala)-68, [KL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_RTO_districts_in_India#KL%E2%80%94Kerala)-06 |
| [**Literacy**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literacy) | 76% |
| **Website** | [keralatourism.org/destination](http://keralatourism.org/destination) |

|  |
| --- |
| https://en.wikipedia.org/api/rest_v1/page/graph/png/Munnar/0/4933e4c1b63b32093a39cdebd91e7fb7de626f73.png  [[Full screen]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#/maplink/0) |

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Map_of_Kanan_Devan_Hills_Produce_tea_estates%E2%80%99_c1950s..jpg)

**Munnar** is a town and [hill station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hill_station) located in the [Idukki district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Idukki_district" \o "Idukki district) of the southwestern Indian state of [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala). Munnar is situated at around 1,600 metres (5,200 ft) above [mean sea level](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mean_sea_level),[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar" \l "cite_note-2) in the [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) mountain range. Munnar is called "Kashmir of South India" and known for Honeymoon Trip.

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* [2Location](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Location)
  + [2.1Road](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Road)
  + [2.2Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Railway)
  + [2.3Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Airport)
* [3Administration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Administration)
* [4Flora and fauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Flora_and_fauna)
* [5Endemic species](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Endemic_species)
* [6Land ownership](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Land_ownership)
* [7Places of interest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Places_of_interest)
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  + [7.2Thekkedy Direction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Thekkedy_Direction)
  + [7.3Adimaly Direction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Adimaly_Direction)
  + [7.4Coimbatore Direction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Coimbatore_Direction)
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* [9Gallery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#Gallery)
* [10See also](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#See_also)
* [11References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#References)
* [12External links](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#External_links)

## Etymology

The name Munnar is believed to mean "three rivers",[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar" \l "cite_note-3) referring to its location at the confluence of the Mudhirapuzha, Nallathanni and Kundaly rivers.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#cite_note-4)

## Location

Geographic coordinates of Munnar is [10°05′21″N 77°03′35″E](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system). Munnar town is situated on the Kannan Devan Hills village in [Devikulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devikulam" \o "Devikulam) taluk and is the largest panchayat in the Idukki district covering an area of nearly 557 square kilometres (215 sq mi).[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

### Road

Munnar KSRTC bus stand

Munnar is well connected by both National highways, state highways and rural roads. The town lies in the [Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi) - [Dhanushkodi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhanushkodi" \o "Dhanushkodi) National highway (N.H 49), about 130 km (81 mi) from Cochin, 31 km (19 mi) from [Adimali](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adimali" \o "Adimali), 85 km (53 mi) from Udumalpettu in [Tamil Nadu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_Nadu) and 60 km (37 mi) from [Neriyamangalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neriyamangalam" \o "Neriyamangalam).

Distance from major cities

* from Kochi - Ernakulam - 150 km

### Railway

The nearest major railway stations are at [Ernakulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernakulam" \o "Ernakulam) and [Aluva](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aluva" \o "Aluva)(approximately 140 kilometres (87 mi) by road). The Nearest Functioning Railway station is at [Udumalaipettai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Udumalaipettai" \o "Udumalaipettai).

### Airport

The nearest airport is [Cochin International Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin_International_Airport), which is 110 kilometres (68 mi) away. The [Coimbatore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coimbatore) and [Madurai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madurai" \o "Madurai)airports is [Template:Nowrap165 kilometres (103 mi)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Template:Nowrap165_kilometres_(103_mi)&action=edit&redlink=1) from Munnar.

## Administration

The panchayath of Munnar formed in 1961 January 24 is divided into 21 wards for administrative convenience. [Coimbatore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coimbatore) district lies in the north, Pallivasal in south, [Devikulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devikulam" \o "Devikulam) and [Marayoor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marayoor" \o "Marayoor) in east and [Mankulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mankulam_(Kerala)" \o "Mankulam (Kerala)), Kuttampuzha panchayaths in the west.

* Vaguvarai
* Chokkanad
* Iravikulam
* Kannimalai
* Periyavarai
* Munnar colony
* Ikkanagar
* Old Munnar
* Chatta Munnar
* Nallathanni
* Sivanmalai
* Munnar town
* Cholamalai
* Kadalar
* Rajamalai
* Kallar
* Lakkam
* Thalayar
* Lakshmi
* Nadayar
* Moolakkada

## Flora and fauna

Most of the native flora and fauna of Munnar have disappeared due to severe habitat fragmentation resultant from the creation of the plantations. However, some species continue to survive and thrive in several [protected areas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protected_areas_of_Kerala) nearby, including the new [Kurinjimala Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurinjimala_Sanctuary" \o "Kurinjimala Sanctuary) to the east, the [Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinnar_Wildlife_Sanctuary" \o "Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary), [Manjampatti Valley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manjampatti_Valley" \o "Manjampatti Valley)and the Amaravati reserve forest of [Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indira_Gandhi_National_Park" \o "Indira Gandhi National Park) to the north east, the [Eravikulam National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eravikulam_National_Park" \o "Eravikulam National Park) and [Anamudi Shola National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anamudi_Shola_National_Park" \o "Anamudi Shola National Park) to the north, the [Pampadum Shola National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pampadum_Shola_National_Park" \o "Pampadum Shola National Park) to the south and the proposed [Palani Hills National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palani_Hills_National_Park" \o "Palani Hills National Park) to the east.

## Endemic species

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Varayadu.JPG)

A Nilgiri tahr ([scientific name](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific_name):*Nilgiritragus hylocrius*) at Rajamalai near Munnar

These protected areas are especially known for several [threatened](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Threatened) and [endemic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endemism" \o "Endemism)species including [Nilgiri Thar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_Thar" \o "Nilgiri Thar), the [grizzled giant squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grizzled_giant_squirrel), the [Nilgiri wood-pigeon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_wood-pigeon" \o "Nilgiri wood-pigeon), [elephant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_elephant), the [gaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaur), the [Nilgiri langur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_langur" \o "Nilgiri langur), the [sambar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sambar_(deer)" \o "Sambar (deer)), and the [neelakurinji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neelakurinji" \o "Neelakurinji) (that blossoms only once in twelve years). [[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#cite_note-5)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#cite_note-6)

## Land ownership

There has been action to address the problems of property takeovers by the [land mafia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land_mafia) that have, according to successive governments, plagued the area. In 2011, the government estimated that 20,000 hectares of land had been illegally appropriated and launched a campaign of evictions that had first been mooted in 2007.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munnar#cite_note-7)

## Places of interest

There are four major directions are there in Munnar. Mattupatty Direction, Thekkedy Direction, Adimaly Direction and Coimbatore Direction. Climate and Tea Plantation is the base for Munnar Tourism.

### Mattupatty Direction

* [Subramanya Temple, Munnar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subramanya_Temple,_Munnar)

# Periyar National Park

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Periyar Wild life sanctuary പെരിയാർ ദേശിയ ഉദ്യാനം** | |
| [IUCN](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IUCN) category II ([national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park)) | |
| [Periyar National Park.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Periyar_National_Park.JPG) | |
| [Map showing the location of Periyar Wild life sanctuaryപെരിയാർ ദേശിയ ഉദ്യാനം](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Kerala_relief_map.png)  Map showing the location of Periyar Wild life sanctuaryപെരിയാർ ദേശിയ ഉദ്യാനം | |
| **Location** | [Idukki](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Idukki_district), [Kottayam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottayam_district" \o "Kottayam district) and [Pathanamthitta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathanamthitta_district" \o "Pathanamthitta district), [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) state, [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| **Nearest city** | [Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi_(India)), [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| **Coordinates** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[9°28′N 77°10′E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Periyar_National_Park&params=9_28_N_77_10_E_type:landmark_dim:17km)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[9°28′N 77°10′E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Periyar_National_Park&params=9_28_N_77_10_E_type:landmark_dim:17km) |
| **Area** | 305 km2 (118 sq mi) |
| **Established** | 1982 |
| **Visitors** | 180,000 (in 1986) |
| **Governing body** | Kerala Forest Department |

**Periyar National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary** (PNP) is a [protected area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protected_area)near [Thekkady](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thekkady" \o "Thekkady) in the districts of Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta in Kerala, India. It is notable as an [elephant reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Elephant) and a [tiger reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Tiger). The protected area covers an area of 925 km2 (357 sq mi). 305 km2 (118 sq mi) of the core zone was declared as the Periyar National Park in 1982. The park is a repository of rare, endemic and endangered flora and fauna and forms the major watershed of two important rivers of Kerala, the [Periyar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_River" \o "Periyar River) and the [Pamba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pamba_River" \o "Pamba River).

The park is often called the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary or Thekkady. It is located high in the [Cardamom Hills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardamom_Hills) and [Pandalam Hills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathanamthitta_district" \o "Pathanamthitta district) of the south [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) along the border with [Tamil Nadu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_Nadu). It is 4 km (2.5 mi) from [Kumily](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kumily" \o "Kumily), approximately 100 km (62 mi) east of [Kottayam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottayam" \o "Kottayam), 110 km (68 mi) west of [Madurai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madurai) and 120 km (75 mi) southeast of [Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi,_India).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-PTR-1)

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## History[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: History)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:PERIYAR_TIGER_RESERVE_ENTRANCE.jpg)

Entrance to the [tiger reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_reserve)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:LAKE_AT_PERIYAR_NATIONAL_PARK_AND_WILDLIFE_SANCTUARY.jpg)

Periyar Lake

first official action towards the conservation of wildlife and biodiversity in Kerala was taken in 1934 by the [Maharaja](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharaja) of [Travancore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore), [Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chithira_Thirunal_Balarama_Varma), by declaring the forests around Periyar lake as a [private game reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Private_protected_areas_of_India#From_the_Southern_princely_states) to stop the encroachment of tea plantations.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-2)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-3) It was founded as Nellikkampatty Game Reserve. It was consolidated as a wildlife sanctuary in 1950 after the political integration of India.

## Geography[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: Geography)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Periyar_National_Park_and_Wildlife_Sanctuary_Mountains.jpg)

The misty mountain ranges of the Periyar region

Periyar National Park lies in the middle of a mountainous area of the [Cardamom Hills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardamom_Hills). In the north and the east it is bounded by mountain ridges of over 1,700 m (5,600 ft) altitude and toward the west it expands into a 1,200 m (3,900 ft) high [plateau](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plateau). From this level the altitude drops steeply to the deepest point of the reserve, the 100 metre valley of the [Pamba River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pamba_River" \o "Pamba River). The highest peak in the park is the 2,019 m (6,624 ft) high [Kottamala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottamala" \o "Kottamala), the southernmost peak in India higher than 2,000 metres (6,562 ft). The [Periyar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_(river)" \o "Periyar (river)) and [Pamba Rivers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pamba_River" \o "Pamba River) originate in the forests of the reserve.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-PTR_catchment-4) The other prominent peaks within the park are Pachayarmala, Vellimala, Sunderamala, Chokkampetti mala and Karimala.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-KFRI2-5) The topography consists of steep and rolling hills which are thickly wooded. The sanctuary surrounds Periyar Lake, a reservoir measuring 26 km2(10 sq mi) which was formed when the [Mullaperiyar Dam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mullaperiyar_Dam" \o "Mullaperiyar Dam) was erected in 1895. The reservoir and the Periyar River meander around the contours of the wooded hills, providing a permanent source of water for the local wildlife.

## Climate[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=3" \o "Edit section: Climate)]

The temperature varies depending upon the altitude and it ranges between 15 °Celsius in December and January and 31 °Celsius in April and May. Annual [precipitation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Precipitation_(meteorology)) is between 2000 and 3000 mm, about two thirds occurring during the [southwest monsoon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southwest_monsoon) between June to September. Much of the rest occurs during the [northeast monsoon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northeast_monsoon) between October and December. Summers are warm with some precipitation in April and winters are cold.

## Boundaries[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=4" \o "Edit section: Boundaries)]

North: Peerumedu taluk South: Pathanamthitta district East: Theni, Thirunelveli & Ramnad District of Tamil Nadu West: Kottayam district

## Flora[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=5" \o "Edit section: Flora)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Cleome_(Spider_Flower)_in_Gavi.jpg)

[Spider flower](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cleome_hassleriana) (*Cleome hassleriana*) in the park

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Periyar_National_Park_02.jpg)

Submerged trees in Periyar Lake

The park is made up of [tropical evergreen and moist deciduous forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_moist_broadleaf_forests), [grasslands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grasslands), stands of [eucalyptus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus), and lake and river [ecosystems](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecosystem).[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-kt-6) There are many hundreds of [flowering plant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flowering_plant) taxa, including about 171 species of [grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grass) and 140 species of [orchids](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orchidaceae).[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-kt-6) The grasses are found in the open grasslands found on the edges of the water body where fire resistant vegetation grows and dense grasses like elephant grass are found. This is the common dining hall of various herbivores.

The forests contain deciduous and semi evergreen trees like [teak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teak), [rosewoods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosewood), [terminalias](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_(plant)), [sandalwoods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandalwood), [jacarandas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacaranda), [mangoes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mango), [jamun](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syzygium_cumini), [tamarind](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamarind), [banyans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banyan), [sacred fig](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficus_religiosa), [plumerias](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plumeria" \o "Plumeria), [royal poinciana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delonix_regia), [kino tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pterocarpus_marsupium" \o "Pterocarpus marsupium), [bamboos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bamboo), and the only South Indian [conifer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinophyta), *[Nageia wallichiana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nageia_wallichiana" \o "Nageia wallichiana)*.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-kt-6) The medicinal [gloriosa lily](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gloriosa_superba" \o "Gloriosa superba) grows in the park. The [endemic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endemism) flora includes *[Habenaria periyarensis](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Habenaria_periyarensis&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Habenaria periyarensis (page does not exist))* and *[Syzygium periyarensis](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Syzygium_periyarensis&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Syzygium periyarensis (page does not exist))*.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-kt-6)

The park is surrounded by agricultural regions, especially [plantations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plantation) of such crops as [tea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camellia_sinensis), [cardamom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardamom), and [coffee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coffea).[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-kt-6)

## Fauna[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=6" \o "Edit section: Fauna)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Gaur_(Indian_Bison)_at_Periyar_National_Park_%26_Wildlife_Sanctuary.jpg)

Herd of Indian bisons, [gaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaur), at the Periyar Lake.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:NILGIRI_LANGUR_Trachypithecus_johnii.jpg)

An adult [Nilgiri langur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_langur" \o "Nilgiri langur) in the Periyar National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary

### Mammals[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Periyar_National_Park&action=edit&section=7" \o "Edit section: Mammals)]

There are 35 species of [mammals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal) recorded in the park, including many threatened species. It is an important tiger and elephant reserve. A total of 24 [Bengal tigers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bengal_tiger) were counted across 640 square kilometers of the park in 2008.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-7) It is valuable for [Indian elephant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_elephant) and also for a few of [white tigers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_tiger)found here. Other mammals include the [gaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaur), [sambar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sambar_deer" \o "Sambar deer), [wild pig](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_boar), [Indian giant squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_giant_squirrel), [Travancore flying squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore_flying_squirrel), [jungle cat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jungle_cat), [sloth bear](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sloth_bear), [Nilgiri tahr](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_tahr" \o "Nilgiri tahr), [lion-tailed macaque](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lion-tailed_macaque), [Nilgiri langur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_langur" \o "Nilgiri langur), [Salim Ali's fruit bat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salim_Ali%27s_fruit_bat" \o "Salim Ali's fruit bat), [stripe-necked mongoose](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stripe-necked_mongoose), and [Nilgiri marten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_marten" \o "Nilgiri marten).[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periyar_National_Park#cite_note-8)

# Bandipur National Park

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bandipur Tiger Reserve** | |
| Bandipur National Park | |
| [IUCN](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IUCN) category II ([national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park)) | |
| [Tiger in Bandipur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:2012-bandipur-tiger.jpg)  [Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger) in Bandipur | |
| [Yukti.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_relief_location_map.jpg)  Yukti. | |
| **Location** | [Chamarajanagar district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chamarajanagar_district), [Karnataka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karnataka), India |
| **Nearest city** | [Chamarajanagar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chamarajanagar) 50 km from [Mysore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mysore) 80 kilometers (50 mi) |
| **Coordinates** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[11°39′42″N 76°37′38″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Bandipur_National_Park&params=11_39_42_N_76_37_38_E_type:landmark)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[11°39′42″N 76°37′38″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Bandipur_National_Park&params=11_39_42_N_76_37_38_E_type:landmark) |
| **Established** | 1974 |
| **Governing body** | [Ministry of Environment and Forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Environment_and_Forests), Karnataka Forest  Department |
| [bandipurtigerreserve.in](http://bandipurtigerreserve.in/) | |

**Bandipur National Park** established in 1974 as a tiger reserve under [Project Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Tiger), is a [national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park) located in the south Indian state of [Karnataka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karnataka), which is the state with the highest tiger population in India. It is one of the premier Tiger Reserves in the country along with the adjoining Nagarhole national park. It was once a private hunting reserve for the [Maharaja](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharaja) of the [Kingdom of Mysore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Mysore) but has now been upgraded to Bandipur Tiger Reserve.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#cite_note-1) Bandipur is known for its wildlife and has many types of [biomes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biomes), but [dry deciduous forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_dry_broadleaf_forests) is dominant.

The park spans an area of 874 square kilometers (337 sq mi), protecting several species of [India's endangered wildlife](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_endangered_animals_in_India). Together with the adjoining [Nagarhole National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nagarhole_National_Park" \o "Nagarhole National Park) (643 km2 (248 sq mi)), [Mudumalai National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park" \o "Mudumalai National Park)(320 km2 (120 sq mi)) and [Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wayanad_Wildlife_Sanctuary" \o "Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary) (344 km2(133 sq mi)), it is part of the [Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_Biosphere_Reserve" \o "Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve) totaling 2,183 km2(843 sq mi) making it the largest protected area in southern India and largest habitat of wild elephants in south Asia.

Bandipur is located in Gundlupet [taluq](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taluq" \o "Taluq) of [Chamarajanagar district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chamarajnagar_district" \o "Chamarajnagar district). It is about 80 kilometers (50 mi) from the city of [Mysore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mysore) on the route to a major tourist destination of [Ooty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ooty" \o "Ooty).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#cite_note-2) As a result, Bandipur sees a lot of tourist traffic and there are many wildlife fatalities caused by speeding vehicles that are reported each year.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#cite_note-3) There is a ban on traffic from 9 pm to 6 am of dusk to dawn to help bring down the death rate of wildlife.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#cite_note-4)

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* [3Biology and ecology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Biology_and_ecology)
  + [3.1Flora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Flora)
  + [3.2Fauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Fauna)
    - [3.2.1Mammals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Mammals)
    - [3.2.2Birds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Birds)
    - [3.2.3Other fauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Other_fauna)
* [4Conflicts and threats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Conflicts_and_threats)
* [5Gallery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#Gallery)
* [6See also](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#See_also)
* [7References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#References)
* [8External links](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#External_links)

## History[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bandipur_National_Park&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: History)]

The [Maharaja](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharaja) of the [Kingdom of Mysore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Mysore) created a [sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanctuary) of 90 km2 (35 sq mi) in 1931 and named it the Venugopala Wildlife Park. The Bandipur [Tiger Reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_Reserve) was established under [Project Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Tiger) in 1973 by adding nearly 800 km2 (310 sq mi) to the Venugopala Wildlife park.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipur_National_Park#cite_note-5)

## Geography[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bandipur_National_Park&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: Geography)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:2012-bandipur-moyar.jpg)

At the Moyar gorge with [Nilgiris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiris" \o "Nilgiris) in the background

Bandipur National Park located between 75° 12’ 17" E to 76° 51’ 32" E and 11° 35’ 34" N to 11° 57’ 02" N where the [Deccan Plateau](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deccan_Plateau) meets the [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) and the altitude of the park ranges from 680 meters (2,230 ft) to 1,454 meters (4,770 ft). As a result, the park has a variety of [biomes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biomes) including [dry deciduous forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_dry_broadleaf_forests), [moist deciduous forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_moist_broadleaf_forests) and [shrublands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_grasslands,_savannas,_and_shrublands" \o "Tropical and subtropical grasslands, savannas, and shrublands). The wide range of habitats help support a diverse range of organisms. The park is flanked by the [Kabini river](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kabini_River" \o "Kabini River) in the north and the [Moyar river](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moyar_River" \o "Moyar River) in the south. The Nugu river runs through the park. The highest point in the park is on a hill called Himavad Gopalaswamy Betta, where there is a [Hindu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu) temple at the summit. Bandipur has typical tropical climate with distinct wet and dry seasons. The dry and hot period usually begins in early March and can last till the arrival of the [monsoon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monsoon) rains in June.

## Biology and ecology[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bandipur_National_Park&action=edit&section=3" \o "Edit section: Biology and ecology)]

Bandipur National Park helps protect several species of [India's endangered wildlife](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_endangered_species_in_India) and also provides refuge to other [threatened](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Threatened_species) and [vulnerable](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vulnerable_species) species of flora and fauna.

### Flora[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bandipur_National_Park&action=edit&section=4" \o "Edit section: Flora)]

Bandipur supports a wide range of timber trees including: [teak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teak) (*Tectona grandis*), [rosewood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosewood) (*[Dalbergia latifolia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalbergia_latifolia" \o "Dalbergia latifolia)*), [sandalwood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandalwood)(*Santalum album* [V](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vulnerable_species)), [Indian-laurel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_tomentosa) (*Terminalia tomentosa*), [Indian kino tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pterocarpus_marsupium) (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), [giant clumping bamboo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dendrocalamus)(*Dendrocalamus strictus*), [clumping bamboo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bambusa) (*Bambusa arundinacea*) and *[Grewia tiliaefolia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grewia" \l "Selected_species" \o "Grewia)*.

There are also several notable flowering and fruiting trees and shrubs including: [kadam tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adina_cordifolia" \o "Adina cordifolia) (*Adina cordifolia*), [Indian gooseberry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emblica_officinalis) (*Emblica officinalis*), [crape-myrtle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crape-myrtle) (*Lagerstroemia lanceolata*), [axlewood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anogeissus_latifolia" \o "Anogeissus latifolia) (*Anogeissus latifolia*), [black myrobalan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_chebula)(*Terminalia chebula*), *Schleichera trijuga*, *Odina wodiar*, [flame of the forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butea_monosperma) (*Butea monosperma*), [golden shower tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_shower_tree) (*Cassia fistula*), [satinwood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chloroxylon) (*Chloroxylon swietenia*), [black cutch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acacia_catechu) (*Acacia catechu*), *[Shorea talura](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shorea_roxburghii" \o "Shorea roxburghii) (*[*E*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endangered_species)*)*, [indigoberry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Randia_(plant)" \o "Randia (plant)) (*Randia uliginosa*)

### Fauna

# Mudumalai National Park

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mudumalai National Park Mudumalai Tiger Reserve** | |
| **National Park** | |
| [Entrance to Mudumalai tiger reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mudumalai_Wildlife_Reserve_Nilgiris_TN_India_(1).jpg)  Entrance to Mudumalai tiger reserve | |
| [Mudumalai National Park is located in Tamil Nadu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Tamil_Nadu_location_map.svg)  Mudumalai National Park  Mudumalai National Park  Location in Tamil Nadu, India | |
| Coordinates: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[11°35′N 76°33′E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Mudumalai_National_Park&params=11_35_N_76_33_E_type:city_region:)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[11°35′N 76°33′E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Mudumalai_National_Park&params=11_35_N_76_33_E_type:city_region:) | |
| **Country** | {{}} |
| **State** | [Tamil Nadu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_Nadu) |
| [**District**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_of_India) | [**Nilgiri**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiris_district) |
| **Established** | 1940 |
| **Area** | |
| **• Total** | 321 km2 (124 sq mi) |
| **Elevation** | 1,266 m (4,154 ft) |
| **Languages** | |
| **• Official** | [Tamil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_language) |
| [**Time zone**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time) ([UTC+5:30](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC%2B5:30)) |
| **Nearest city** | [Gudalur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gudalur,_Nilgiris) 7 km (4.3 mi) |
| [**IUCN category**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IUCN_protected_area_categories) | II |
| **Core of the [Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_Biosphere_Reserve" \o "Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve)** | **Visitors Centre at**[Theppakadu](http://www.wikimapia.org/#lat=11.5801861&lon=76.5831184&z=16&l=0&m=b) |
| **Governing body** | [Tamil Nadu Forest Dept](https://web.archive.org/web/20131020195613/http:/www.forests.tn.nic.in/) |
| **Visitation 2008** | 163,610[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-1) |
| **Entry fee** | Rs.15 per adult  (No private vehicles allowed in the sanctuary) |
| [**Climate**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_of_India) | [Aw](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climatic_regions_of_India) ([Köppen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%C3%B6ppen_climate_classification" \o "Köppen climate classification)) |
| [**Precipitation**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Precipitation_(meteorology)) | 2,000 millimetres (79 in) |
| **Avg. summer temperature** | 33 °C (91 °F) |
| **Avg. winter temperature** | 14 °C (57 °F) |
| **Website** | [www.forests.tn.nic.in](http://www.forests.tn.nic.in/WildBiodiversity/np_mnp.html) |

The **Mudumalai National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary** also a declared [tiger reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_reserve), lies on the northwestern side of the [Nilgiri Hills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiris_(mountains)" \o "Nilgiris (mountains)) (Blue Mountains), in [Nilgiri District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_District" \o "Nilgiri District), about 150 kilometres (93 mi) north-west of [Coimbatore city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coimbatore) in [Tamil Nadu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_Nadu). It shares its boundaries with the states of [Karnataka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karnataka) and [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala). The sanctuary is divided into five ranges – Masinagudi, Thepakadu, Mudumalai, Kargudi and Nellakota.

The protected area is home to several [endangered](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endangered_species) and [vulnerable](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vulnerable_species) species including [Indian elephant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_elephant), [Bengal tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bengal_tiger), [gaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaur" \o "Gaur) and [Indian leopard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_leopard). There are at least 266 species of birds in the sanctuary, including [critically endangered](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critically_endangered)[Indian white-rumped vulture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_white-rumped_vulture) and [long-billed vulture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Long-billed_vulture).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-atree-2)

The [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) Nilgiri Sub-Cluster of 6,000 square kilometres (2,300 sq mi), including all of Mudumalai National Park, is under consideration by the [UNESCO](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO) [World Heritage Committee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Committee) for selection as a [World Heritage Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site).[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-UNESCO-3)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Masinagudi_-_mudumalai.jpg)

mudumalai tiger reserve

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  + [1.1History](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#History)
* [2Flora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Flora)
* [3Fauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Fauna)
* [4Avifauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Avifauna)
* [5Gallery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Gallery)
* [6Threats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Threats)
* [7Documentary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Documentary)
* [8See also](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#See_also)
* [9References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#References)
* [10Notes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#Notes)
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## Mudumalai Tiger Reserve[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Mudumalai_National_Park&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Mudumalai Tiger Reserve)]

There are 48 tigers in the Nilgiri Reserve across which tigers are free to roam.

### History[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Mudumalai_National_Park&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: History)]

In April 2007, the Tamil Nadu state government declared Mudumalai to be a tiger reserve, under section 38V of the [Wildlife Protection Act of 1972](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wildlife_Protection_Act_of_1972), in an effort to conserve the country's dwindling tiger populations. Subsequently, about 350 families living in the core area were evicted from the park and given INR 10 Lacs compensation. Those in the 5 km buffer area around the park fear they, too, will be evicted; nobody will be dislodged from the buffer zone. In fact, some people in this zone will become trackers and guides to enhance their income through [eco-tourism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eco-tourism).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-Thousands-4)

Continuance of 'Project Tiger' in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve for FY 2010/11, at the cost of INR 4 Crores was approved by the [National Tiger Conservation Authority](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Tiger_Conservation_Authority) on 16 September 2010.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-NTCA-5)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Tiger_Safari_in_Mudumalai_Tiger_Reserve,_Tamil_Nadu.JPG)

Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu

## Flora[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Mudumalai_National_Park&action=edit&section=3" \o "Edit section: Flora)]

There are three main types of forest in the sanctuary: [tropical moist deciduous](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_moist_broadleaf_forests) occur in the western Benne Block, where rainfall is higher than in the other blocks. [Tropical dry deciduous](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_and_subtropical_dry_broadleaf_forest) forest occurs in the middle and [southern tropical dry thorn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deccan_thorn_scrub_forests) forests are in the east.

In addition there are patches of tropical semi-evergreen forest in the southwest and western part of Mudumalai. The annual rainfall there exceeds 2,000 mm (79 in). Tree species in this habitat include *[Casseria ovoides](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Casseria_ovoides&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Casseria ovoides (page does not exist))*, *[Litsea mysorensis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Litsea_nigrescens" \o "Litsea nigrescens)*, *[Cinnamomum malabatrum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinnamomum_malabatrum" \o "Cinnamomum malabatrum)* and *[Olea dioca](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Olea_dioca&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Olea dioca (page does not exist))*. Climbers including [sneeze wort](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dregea_volubilis) (*Dregea volubilis*), *[Gnetum ula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gnetum" \o "Gnetum)* and *[Entada scandens](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Entada_scandens" \o "Entada scandens)* are also found in these semi-evergreen forests.

Moist bamboo [brakes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thicket) are found amidst dry deciduous, moist deciduous and semi-evergreen forests and along the fringes of riparian forests and swamps. There are two species of bamboo found in Mudumalai, the giant clumping bamboos: [Bambusa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bambusa" \o "Bambusa)(arundinacea) and *[Dendrocalamus strictus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dendrocalamus_strictus" \o "Dendrocalamus strictus)*. Elephants and gaur eat both species of bamboo. In all types of forest, a green strip of [riparian forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riparian_forest) is seen along the shore of dry seasonal and perennial streams. This type of forest remains green in all seasons. The plant species found here includes: *[Mangifera indica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mangifera_indica" \o "Mangifera indica)*, *[Pongamia glabra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pongamia_glabra" \o "Pongamia glabra)*, *[Terminalia arjuna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_arjuna" \o "Terminalia arjuna)*, *[Syzygium cumini](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syzygium_cumini" \o "Syzygium cumini)*, [Indian rosewood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalbergia) *Dalbergia latifolia* and the bamboos. Larger mammals such as elephant, gaur, sambar and tiger use riparian forest patches for feeding and resting.

This sanctuary is home to several species of wild relatives of cultivated plants including wild rice, wild ginger, turmeric, cinnamon, solanum, guava, mango and pepper that act as a reserve gene pool for the cultivated plants.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-Dogra-6) In places mixed vegetation types are present. The deciduous trees shed their green leaves during the summer, and adopt a floral garb while the arrival of the monsoons hails fruits and tender greens.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-SA-7)

## Fauna[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Mudumalai_National_Park&action=edit&section=4" \o "Edit section: Fauna)]

There is a high diversity of animal life in the sanctuary with about 50 species of fishes, 21 species of amphibians, 34 species of reptiles, 227 species of birds and 55 species of mammals. Mammal diversity is higher in the dry deciduous and dry thorn forests than in the other habitats. Thirteen percent of all mammal species in India are present in Mudumalai wildlife sanctuary.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mammal species**[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-Dogra-6) | **found in India** | **in Mudumalai** | **and their percentage in MWS** |
| [**Order**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_(biology)) | **# species in India** | **# species in MWS** | **% in MWS** |
| [Primates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primates) | 15 | 3 | 20.00 |
| [Even-toed ungulates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Even-toed_ungulates) (deer, gaur, pig) | 34 | 7 | 20.50 |
| [Proboscidea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proboscidea) (elephant) | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| [Carnivora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnivora) (tiger, leopard, sloth bear) | 58 | 19 | 32.70 |
| [Pholidota](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pholidota) (ant eater) | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| [Lagomorpha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagomorpha) (black-napped hare) | 11 | 1 | 9.09 |
| [Insectivora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insectivora) (shrew) | 3 | 2 | 66.66 |
| [Rodentia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodent) (rats, squirrel) | 102 | 14 | 13.73 |
| [Chiroptera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiroptera) (bats) | 113 | 7 | 6.19 |

Of 15 cat species in India, four live in Mudumalai: [Bengal tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bengal_tiger), [Indian leopard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_leopard), [jungle cat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jungle_cat) and [leopard cat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopard_cat). There are 44 to 80 tigers in the Mudumalai forest. The single largest tiger population in India (Mudumalai – Nagarhole – Wynad) includes the Mudumalai tigers. These tigers are a breeding source for populating the northern and eastern parts of the Western Ghats. This population exists at high density due to the high density of prey species thriving in its deciduous forests.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-status-8)

The [Indian leopard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_leopard) (*P. pardus fusca*) ([NT](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Near_threatened)) is most often seen in the Kargudi area. Other [carnivores](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnivore) include the [dhole](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhole" \o "Dhole) (*Cuon alpinus*) ([V](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vulnerable_species)), the [striped hyena](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Striped_hyena) (*Hyaena hyaena*) ([NT](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Near_threatened)), the [golden jackal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_jackal) (*Canis aureus*) and the [sloth bear](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sloth_bear) (*Melursus ursinus*) (V). The population of [Indian elephants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_elephant), *Elephas maximus indicus* (E), totals several hundred animals. Three [primates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primate) found here include the [gray langur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gray_langur) (*Semnopithecus priam*) and the [bonnet macaque](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonnet_macaque) (*Macaca radiata*). Important prey animals for large carnivores here are the [ungulates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ungulate) including the [gaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaur) (*Bos gaurus*) (V), the [sambar deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sambar_deer" \o "Sambar deer) (*Cervus unicolor*) (VU), the [chital deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chital_deer) (*Axis axis*), [Indian muntjac](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_muntjac) (*Muntiacus muntjak*), the [Indian spotted chevrotain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_spotted_chevrotain), *Moschiola indica*, and the [wild boar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_boar) (*Sus scrofa*), all of whom are common here. [Rodents](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodent) include the [Indian giant squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_giant_squirrel) (*Ratufa indica maxima*) and the [red giant flying squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_giant_flying_squirrel) (*Petaurista petaurista*).

Some [reptiles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reptile) found here are the [python](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Python_molurus), [flying lizard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draco_blanfordii), [spectacled cobra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_cobra), [krait](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_krait) and [Asian pit vipers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trimeresurus).[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mudumalai_National_Park#cite_note-MWSNP-9) The [monitor lizard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bengal_monitor) is the most regularly observed species.

# Alappuzha

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*This article is about the city in Kerala, India. For its namesake district, see [Alappuzha district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha_district" \o "Alappuzha district).*

*Not to be confused with*[*Aleppo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aleppo)*.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Alappuzha Alleppey** | |
| [**City**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City) | |
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| [Alappuzha is located in Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Kerala_location_map.svg)  Alappuzha  Alappuzha  Show map of KeralaShow map of IndiaShow all | |
| Coordinates: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[9.49°N 76.33°E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Alappuzha&params=9.49_N_76.33_E_type:city(174164)_region:IN-KL)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[9.49°N 76.33°E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Alappuzha&params=9.49_N_76.33_E_type:city(174164)_region:IN-KL) | |
| **Country** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/4/41/Flag_of_India.svg/23px-Flag_of_India.svg.png [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| [**State**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_India) | [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) |
| [**Region**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_regions_of_India) | Central Travancore |
| [**District**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_of_India) | [Alappuzha District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha_District) |
| **Government** | |
| **• District Collector** | Anupama IAS |
| **Area** | |
| **• Total** | 46.18 km2 (17.83 sq mi) |
| **Elevation** | 11 m (36 ft) |
| **Population**(2011) | |
| **• Total** | 174,164 |
| **• Rank** | 6th |
| **• Density** | 4,466/km2 (11,570/sq mi) |
| **Languages** | |
| **• Official** | [Malayalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayalam_language), [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language) |
| [**Time zone**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time) ([UTC+5:30](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC%2B5:30)) |
| [**PIN**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_Index_Number) | 688001 |
| **Telephone code** | 0477 |
| [**Vehicle registration**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicle_registration_plate) | [KL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_RTO_districts_in_India#KL.E2.80.94Kerala)-04 |
| [**Sex ratio**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_sex_ratio) | 1079 [♂](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Male)/[♀](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Female) |
| **Website** | [alappuzha.nic.in](http://alappuzha.nic.in/) |

**Alappuzha** ([About this sound](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Alappuzha.ogg) [pronunciation](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/26/Alappuzha.ogg) ([help](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Media_help" \o "Wikipedia:Media help)·[info](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Alappuzha.ogg))), also known as **Alleppey**, is the administrative headquarters of [Alappuzha District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha_District" \o "Alappuzha District) of [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) state of southern [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). Alappuzha is a city and a municipality in Kerala with an urban population of 174,164[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-1) and third among the districts having highest literacy rate in Kerala. In 2016, [Centre for Science and Environment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centre_for_Science_and_Environment) rated Alappuzha as the top cleanest town in India followed by [Mysuru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mysuru" \o "Mysuru) & [Panaji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panaji" \o "Panaji)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-2) Alappuzha is considered to be the oldest planned city in this region and the lighthouse built on the coast of the city is the first of its kind along the [Laccadive Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laccadive_Sea) coast (reference encyclopaedia of Kerala in Malayalam language).

The city is situated at a distance 28 km from [Changanacherry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Changanacherry" \o "Changanacherry), 46 km from [Kottayam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottayam" \o "Kottayam) and 53 from [Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi) and 155 kilometres (96 mi) north of [Trivandrum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trivandrum).[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-3) A town with picturesque [canals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canal), [backwaters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala_Backwaters), [beaches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha_Beach), and lagoons, it was described as the [one of the places](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_places_called_Venice_of_the_East) known as the "Venice of the East" by [Lord Curzon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_Curzon). Hence, it is known as the "Venetian Capital" of Kerala. [Malayalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayalam) is the most spoken language.

It is an important tourist destination in India.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-4) The [Backwaters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala_Backwaters) of Alappuzha are the most popular tourist attraction in Kerala. A houseboat cruise in these backwaters can be booked.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-5) It connects [Kumarakom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kumarakom" \o "Kumarakom) and Cochin to the North and [Quilon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quilon" \o "Quilon) to the South.

it is the access point for the annual [Nehru Trophy Boat Race](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nehru_Trophy_Boat_Race), held on the [Punnamada Lake](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punnamada_Lake" \o "Punnamada Lake), near Alappuzha, on the second Saturday of August every year. This is the most competitive and popular of the boat races in India.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-6) The mullackal chirap is also one of the attractions of Allapuzha which is the festive season held for ten days every year in December.

Other attractions in Alappuzha are [Alappuzha Beach](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha_Beach" \o "Alappuzha Beach), offering a views of the [Laccadive Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laccadive_Sea), [Pathiramanal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathiramanal" \o "Pathiramanal) , [Ambalappuzha Sri Krishna Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambalappuzha_Sri_Krishna_Temple" \o "Ambalappuzha Sri Krishna Temple), [St. Andrew's Basilica, Arthunkal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Andrew%27s_Basilica,_Arthunkal), [Mannarasala Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mannarasala_Temple" \o "Mannarasala Temple), [Chettikulangara Devi Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chettikulangara_Devi_Temple" \o "Chettikulangara Devi Temple), [Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haripad_Sree_Subrahmanya_Swamy_temple" \o "Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy temple), [Krishnapuram Palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Krishnapuram_Palace" \o "Krishnapuram Palace), [Thakazhy Sree Dharma Sastha Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thakazhy_Sree_Dharma_Sastha_Temple" \o "Thakazhy Sree Dharma Sastha Temple), [Mullakkal Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mullakkal_Temple" \o "Mullakkal Temple), [Padanilam Parabrahma Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padanilam_Parabrahma_Temple" \o "Padanilam Parabrahma Temple), [Edathua](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edathua" \o "Edathua) Church, Alappuzha [CSI](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_South_India) Christ Church (oldest [Anglican](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglican) church in Central Kerala) and [Champakulam Valia Palli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champakulam_Kalloorkadu_Church" \o "Champakulam Kalloorkadu Church).

Alappuzha is home to the [Punnapra-Vayalar uprising](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punnapra-Vayalar_uprising" \o "Punnapra-Vayalar uprising) against the British and also the revolt against the Feudal raj. Communist Party members were killed by the army of the diwan, 200 people at Punnapra on 24 October and more than 150 at Vayalar on 27 October. The total loss of life is allegedly estimated to be more than a thousand.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-7) [Coir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coir) is the most important commodity manufactured in Alappuzha.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-8) The Coir Board was established by the Central Government under the provisions of the Coir Industry Act, 1955. A Central Coir Research Institute is located at [Kalavoor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalavoor" \o "Kalavoor).[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-9)

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  + [3.1Climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#Climate)
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    - [7.1.2State Highways](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#State_Highways)
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## Etymology[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Alappuzha&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Etymology)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Buildiings_in_ALP_MC.png)

Alappuzha is the first [planned city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planned_city) in [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala).[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-Natarajan2008-10)

Carved out of the erstwhile [Kottayam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottayam" \o "Kottayam) and [Quilon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quilon" \o "Quilon) districts, Alappuzha district was formed on 17 August 1957 and consisted initially of seven [taluks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taluks" \o "Taluks), namely [Cherthala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherthala), [Ambalappuzha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambalappuzha), [Kuttanad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuttanad), [Thiruvalla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvalla), [Chengannur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chengannur), [Karthikappally](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karthikappally) and [Mavelikkara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mavelikkara).[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-11)

The name Ᾱlappuzha is a toponym. ‘Ᾱlam’ means ‘water’ and ‘puzha’ means ‘watercourse’ or ‘river’, according to Dr. Herman Gundert’s dictionary. The name refers to the network of waterways and backwaters that Alappuzha and surrounding areas are famous for.'Puzhai' in Tamil means gateway or window. This might have been the original meaning in ancient Malayalam too. The district is bounded on the north by [Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kochi) and Kanayannur taluks of [Ernakulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernakulam" \o "Ernakulam) district, on the east by [Vaikom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vaikom" \o "Vaikom), [Kottayam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottayam" \o "Kottayam) and [Changanassery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Changanassery" \o "Changanassery) taluks of [Kottayam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kottayam" \o "Kottayam)district and [Thiruvalla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvalla" \o "Thiruvalla) and [Kozhencherry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kozhencherry" \o "Kozhencherry) taluks of [Pathanamthitta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathanamthitta" \o "Pathanamthitta)district, on the South by [Kunnathur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kunnathur_(Kerala)" \o "Kunnathur (Kerala)) and [Karunagappally](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karunagappally" \o "Karunagappally) taluks of [Kollam district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kollam_district" \o "Kollam district) and on the west by [Laccadive Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laccadive_Sea).[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-12)

The present Alappuzha district comprises six taluks, namely Cherthala, Ambalappuzha, Kuttanad, Karthikappally, Chengannur and Mavelikkara.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-13) The area of the district is 1414sq.km. The district headquarters is located at Alappuzha.

## History[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Alappuzha&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: History)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Alleppey_canal.jpg)

Walkway in Commercial Canal

In the early first decade of the 20th century the [Viceroy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroy) of the Indian Empire, [Lord Curzon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_Curzon) made a visit in the State to Alleppey, now Alappuzha. Fascinated by the scenic beauty of the place, he exclaimed,

Here nature has spent up on the land her richest bounties. Alleppey, *the Venice of the East*.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-14)

[Kuttanad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuttanad), the [rice bowl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breadbasket) of Kerala, with its paddy fields, small streams and canals with lush green coconut palms, was well known even from the early periods of the [Sangam age](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sangam_age" \o "Sangam age).[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-15) History says Alappuzha had trade relations with [Greece](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greece) and Rome in the [Middle Ages](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_Ages).

The early [Cheras](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chera_Dynasty" \o "Chera Dynasty), who had their home in Kuttanad, were called `Kuttuvans`, so named after this place. Pliny and Ptolemy of the 1st and 2nd centuries had mentioned places like Purakkad or Barace in their classical works.

Literary works like "[Unnuneeli Sandesam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unnuneeli_Sandesam" \o "Unnuneeli Sandesam)" give some insight into the ancient period of this district. Archaeological antiquities, such as the stone inscriptions, historical monuments found in the temples, churches, and rock-cut caves, also emphasise the historic importance of Alappuzha District. Christianity had a foothold in this district, even from the 1st century AD. The church located at [Kokkamangalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kokkamangalam" \o "Kokkamangalam) was one of the seven churches founded by [St. Thomas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_the_Apostle),[*[citation needed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed" \o "Wikipedia:Citation needed)*] one of the twelve disciples of [Jesus Christ](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus_Christ). It is generally believed that he landed at [Maliankara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maliankara" \o "Maliankara) in [Muziris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muziris" \o "Muziris) Port, presently known as [Cranganore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cranganore" \o "Cranganore) or [Kodungallur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kodungallur" \o "Kodungallur), in 52 AD and preached Christianity in [South India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_India).

The district flourished in religion and culture under the second Chera Empire, during 9th to 12th centuries AD. The literary work, `Ascharya Choodamani`, a Sanskrit drama written by [Sakthibhadran](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sakthibhadran" \o "Sakthibhadran), a scholar of [Chengannur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chengannur" \o "Chengannur), enables us to know many pertinent facts. Further, the temple on Lord [Ayyappan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayyappan" \o "Ayyappan), in Mukkal vattam near Muhamma in Alappuzha District, is called [Cheerappanchira](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheerappanchira" \o "Cheerappanchira), for the Kalari from which Lord Ayyappa learnt his martial arts. A recent album by [P. Unni Krishnan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P._Unni_Krishnan) on Lord Ayyappa, titled 'Sabarimalai Va Charanam Solli Va', has songs illustrating the history of this temple and Lord Ayyappa's stay here before he went to conquer the Mahishi Demon.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-16)

Since landing in [Calicut](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kozhikode) in 1498, the [Portuguese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portugal) started playing an influential role in Alappuzha. They began by spreading Catholicism and converting already existing [Christians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Thomas_Christians) into Catholics. The famous [St. Andrew's Basilica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthunkal#St._Andrew's_Basilica,_Arthunkal) was built by them during this period.[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alappuzha#cite_note-17) In the 17th century, as the [Portuguese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portuguese_people) power declined, the [Dutch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dutch_people) gained a predominant position in the principalities of this district. They built many factories and warehouses for storing [pepper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_pepper) and [ginger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ginger), relying on several treaties signed between the Dutch and the [Rajas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajas) of [Purakkad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purakkad" \o "Purakkad), [Kayamkulam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kayamkulam" \o "Kayamkulam) and Karappuram. In course of time they also delved into the political and cultural affairs of the district. At that time Maharaja [Marthanda Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marthanda_Varma" \o "Marthanda Varma) (1706–1758), who was the 'Maker of modern [Travancore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore)', intervened in the political affairs of those princedoms.

Travancore [Dewan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dewan" \o "Dewan) [Ramayyan Dalawa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramayyan_Dalawa" \o "Ramayyan Dalawa) (d. 1756) resided in [Mavelikkara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mavelikkara" \o "Mavelikkara) where he had a palace built by Marthanda Varma. After the death of his wife, Ramayyan consorted with a Nair lady from Mavelikkara of the Edassery family (PGN Unnithan, a member of this family, later became the last Dewan of Travancore in 1947). After his death Ramayyan's descendants left Travancore to settle in [Pudukkottai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pudukkottai" \o "Pudukkottai) in Tamil Nadu. His Nair consort was given gifts and presents and special allowances from the Travancore government in recognition of his services to the state while his own descendants were bestowed with the honorific title of Dalawa.

In the 19th century the district saw progress in many spheres. One of the five subordinate courts opened in the state in connection with the reorganisation of the judicial system by Colonel [George Monro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Monro_(British_Army_officer)) was located at [Mavelikkara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mavelikkara" \o "Mavelikkara). The first post office and first telegraph office in the former Travancore state were established in this district. The first manufacturing factory for the [coir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coir) mats was established in 1859. In 1894 the city Improvement Committee was set up.

The district played a role in the freedom struggle of the country. The struggles of Punnapra and Vayalar in 1946 arrayed the people against Sir [C. P. Ramaswami Iyer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._P._Ramaswami_Iyer), who was Dewan of Travancore. This led to Ramaswami Iyer's exit from the political scene of Travancore. A popular Ministry was formed in Travancore on 24 March 1948 after India`s independence. Travancore and [Cochin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cochin) states were integrated on 1 July 1949. This arrangement continued until the formation of Kerala State on 1 November 1956, under the States Reorganization Act 1956. The district came into existence as a separate administrative unit on 1 August 1957.

# Thiruvananthapuram

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*This article is about the city. For the district, see [Thiruvananthapuram district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram_district" \o "Thiruvananthapuram district). For the urban agglomeration area of Thiruvananthapuram, see [Thiruvananthapuram metropolitan area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram_metropolitan_area" \o "Thiruvananthapuram metropolitan area).*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Thiruvananthapuram Trivandrum** | |
| [**Metropolis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolis) | |
| [Clockwise, from top: View of Kulathoor, Padmanabhaswamy Temple, Niyamasabha Mandiram, East Fort, Technopark, Kovalam Beach, Kanakakkunnu Palace, and Thiruvananthapuram Central](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Trivandrum_Montage.jpg)  Clockwise, from top: View of Kulathoor, [Padmanabhaswamy Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padmanabhaswamy_Temple" \o "Padmanabhaswamy Temple), [Niyamasabha Mandiram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niyamasabha_Mandiram" \o "Niyamasabha Mandiram), [East Fort](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Fort), [Technopark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technopark,_Trivandrum" \o "Technopark, Trivandrum), [Kovalam Beach](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kovalam_Beach" \o "Kovalam Beach), [Kanakakkunnu Palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kanakakkunnu_Palace" \o "Kanakakkunnu Palace), and [Thiruvananthapuram Central](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram_Central" \o "Thiruvananthapuram Central) | |
| |  | | --- | | [Official seal of Thiruvananthapuram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Seal_of_Corporation_of_Thiruvananthapuram.jpg) Seal | | |
| Nickname(s): **Evergreen City of India**[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-distcourthistory-1) | |
| [Thiruvananthapuram is located in Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Kerala_location_map.svg)  Thiruvananthapuram  Thiruvananthapuram  Show map of KeralaShow map of IndiaShow all | |
| Coordinates: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[08°29′15″N 76°57′9″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Thiruvananthapuram&params=08_29_15_N_76_57_9_E_type:city(957730)_region:IN-KL)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[08°29′15″N 76°57′9″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Thiruvananthapuram&params=08_29_15_N_76_57_9_E_type:city(957730)_region:IN-KL) | |
| **Country** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/4/41/Flag_of_India.svg/23px-Flag_of_India.svg.png [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| **State** | [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) |
| [**District**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_of_India) | [Thiruvananthapuram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram_district) |
| **Founded by** | [Marthanda Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marthanda_Varma) |
| **Government** | |
| **• Type** | Municipal Corporation |
| **• Body** | Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation |
| **• Mayor** | V K Prasanth[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram" \l "cite_note-mayortvm-2)  ([CPI(M)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communist_Party_of_India_(Marxist))) |
| **• Deputy Mayor** | Rakhi Ravikumar |
| **• Police chief Commissioner** | Lokhnath behra IPS[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-cptvm-3) |
| **• Member of Parliament** | [Shashi Tharoor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shashi_Tharoor) |
| **Area**[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-citygi-4) | |
| **•**[**Metropolis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolis) | 214 km2 (83 sq mi) |
| **• Metro** | 400 km2 (200 sq mi) |
| **Area rank** | 1st |
| **Elevation** | 10 m (30 ft) |
| **Population**(2011)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-citygi-4)[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-uapopulation-5) | |
| **•**[**Metropolis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolis) | 957,730 |
| **• Density** | 4,500/km2 (12,000/sq mi) |
| **•**[**Metro**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan_area) | 1,687,406 |
| [**Demonym(s)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demonym) | Trivians |
| **Languages** | |
| **• Official Language** | [Malayalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayalam_language), English[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-6) |
| [**Time zone**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time) ([UTC+5:30](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC%2B5:30)) |
| **Postal Index Number** | 695 XXX |
| [**Area code(s)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telephone_numbering_plan) | 0471 |
| [**Vehicle registration**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicle_registration_plate) | * KL-01**(**[**Trivandrum**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trivandrum)**city)** * KL-15(ForKSRTC-Regd in Trivandrum) * KL-16([Attingal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attingal" \o "Attingal)) * KL-19([Parassala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parassala" \o "Parassala)) * KL-20([Neyyattinkara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neyyattinkara" \o "Neyyattinkara)) * KL-21([Nedumangad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nedumangad" \o "Nedumangad)) * KL-22([Kazhakoottam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kazhakoottam" \o "Kazhakoottam)) * KL-74([Kattakkada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kattakkada" \o "Kattakkada)) * KL-75([Varkala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Varkala" \o "Varkala)) |
| [**HDI**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_Development_Index) | High |
| **Climate** | [Am/Aw](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climatic_regions_of_India) ([Köppen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%C3%B6ppen_climate_classification" \o "Köppen climate classification)) |
| **Website** | [www.corporationoftrivandrum.in](http://www.corporationoftrivandrum.in/) |

**Thiruvananthapuram** (IPA: [[t̪iruʋənən̪t̪əpurəm]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/Malayalam) ([About this sound](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Thiruvananthapuram-pronunciation.ogg) [listen](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7d/Thiruvananthapuram-pronunciation.ogg))), also known as **Trivandrum**, is the capital and the largest city of the Indian state of [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala).[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-7) The city has a population of 957,730 inhabitants and a metropolitan population of 1.68 million.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-8) Thiruvananthapuram is a major [Information Technology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_Technology) hub in [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India), and contributes 55% of Kerala's software exports as of 2015.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-stone-9) Thiruvananthapuram is located on the west coast of India near the extreme south of the mainland. Referred by Mahatma Gandhi as the "Evergreen city of India",[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram" \l "cite_note-10)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-distcourthistory-1) the city is characterised by its undulating terrain of low coastal hills.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-11) The city is classified as a [Tier-II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classification_of_Indian_cities) city by the government of India.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-12)

Thiruvananthapuram is a major academic hub, and is home to the [University of Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Kerala), [Kerala Technological University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala_Technological_University) the regional headquarters of [Indira Gandhi National Open University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indira_Gandhi_National_Open_University" \o "Indira Gandhi National Open University), and many other schools and colleges. Thiruvananthapuram is also home to research centers such as the [Indian Space Research Organisation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Space_Research_Organisation)'s [Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vikram_Sarabhai_Space_Centre" \o "Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre), the [Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Institute_of_Space_Science_and_Technology), and a campus of the [Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Institutes_of_Science_Education_and_Research).[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-13) The city is home to media institutions like [Toonz India Ltd](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toonz_India_Ltd" \o "Toonz India Ltd) and [Tata Elxsi Ltd](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Elxsi), and is also home to [Chitranjali Film Studio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chitranjali_Studio" \o "Chitranjali Studio), one of the first film studios in [Malayalam Cinema](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayalam_Cinema), and Kinfra Film and Video Park at Kazhakoottom, which is India's first Infotainment Industrial park.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-14)

Being India's largest city in the deep south, it is strategically prominent and hosts the [Southern Air Command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Air_Command_(India)) headquarters of the [Indian Air Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Air_Force), the [Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thumba_Equatorial_Rocket_Launching_Station" \o "Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station) and the upcoming [Vizhinjam International Deepwater Motherport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vizhinjam_International_Seaport" \o "Vizhinjam International Seaport). Thiruvananthapuram is a major tourist centre, known for the [Padmanabhaswamy Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padmanabhaswamy_Temple" \o "Padmanabhaswamy Temple), the beaches of [Kovalam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kovalam" \o "Kovalam) and [Varkala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Varkala" \o "Varkala), the backwaters of [Poovar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poovar" \o "Poovar) and [Anchuthengu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anchuthengu" \o "Anchuthengu) and its [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) tracts of [Ponmudi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ponmudi" \o "Ponmudi) and the [Agastyamala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agastya_Mala" \o "Agastya Mala).

The city is ranked among the best cities to live in India.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-15)[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-India_Today_survey-16)[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Thiruvananthapuram_Survey-17) The city is selected as the best governed city in India in the survey conducted by Janaagraha Centre for citizenship and democracy.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Best_Governed_City-18)

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## Etymology[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Thiruvananthapuram&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Etymology)]

The city gets its name from the Malayalam/Tamil word *thiru-anantha-puram* IPA: [[t̪iruʋənən̪t̪əpurəm]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/Malayalam) ([About this sound](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Thiruvananthapuram-pronunciation.ogg) [listen](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7d/Thiruvananthapuram-pronunciation.ogg)), meaning "The City of Lord Ananta",[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Meaning_of_name-19) referring to the deity of the [Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sri_Padmanabhaswamy_Temple)located in the city. Thiruvananthapuram is also known in literature and popular reference as *Ananthapuri* derived from the [Sanskrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit) word *Syanandurapuram*, meaning "The City of Bliss" in Carnatic kirtanas composed by [Swathi Thirunal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swathi_Thirunal" \o "Swathi Thirunal), erstwhile Maharaja of [Travancore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore).[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-20)The city was officially referred to as *Trivandrum* until 1991, (Trivandrum bieng the anglicised name of the town) when the government decided to reinstate the city's original name Thiruvananthapuram.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-21)

## History[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Thiruvananthapuram&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: History)]

*Main article:*[*History of Thiruvananthapuram*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Thiruvananthapuram)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Raja_ravivarma_painting_50_historic_meeting.jpg)

Painting by [Raja Ravi Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raja_Ravi_Varma)depicting [Richard Temple-Grenville, 3rd Duke of Buckingham and Chandos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Temple-Grenville,_3rd_Duke_of_Buckingham_and_Chandos)being greeted by [Visakham Thirunal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visakham_Thirunal" \o "Visakham Thirunal), with [Ayilyam Thirunal of Travancore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayilyam_Thirunal_of_Travancore" \o "Ayilyam Thirunal of Travancore)looking on, during Buckingham's visit to Thiruvananthapuram in early 1880

Thiruvananthapuram is an ancient region with trading traditions dating back to 1000 BCE.[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-22)[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-23) It is believed that the ships of [King Solomon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon)landed in a port called [Ophir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ophir" \o "Ophir)(now [Poovar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poovar" \o "Poovar)) in Thiruvananthapuram in 1036 BCE.[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-24)[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-25) The city was the trading post of [spices](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spices), [sandalwood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandalwood) and [ivory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivory).[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Ancient_Trade_in_Thiruvananthapuram-26)However, the ancient political and cultural history of the city was almost entirely independent from that of the rest of Kerala. The early rulers of the city were the [Ays](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ay_kingdom" \o "Ay kingdom). With their fall in the 10th century, the city was taken over by the rulers of [Venad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venad" \o "Venad).[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Venad_History-27)[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Sreedhara_Menon-28)

In the late 17th century, [Marthanda Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marthanda_Varma" \o "Marthanda Varma) who inherited the [Kingdom of Venad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venad) expanded the kingdom by conquering kingdoms of Attingal, Kollam, Kayamkulam, Kottarakara, Kottayam, Changanassery, Meenachil, Poonjar and Ambalapuzha. In 1729, [Marthanda Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marthanda_Varma" \o "Marthanda Varma) founded the princely state of [Thiruvithamkoor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore" \o "Travancore) and Thiruvananthapuram was made the capital in 1745 after shifting the capital from [Padmanabhapuram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padmanabhapuram" \o "Padmanabhapuram) in [Kanyakumari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kanyakumari" \o "Kanyakumari) district.[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-29) The kingdom of Travancore was dedicated by Marthanda Varma to the deity Sri. Padmanabha (Lord Vishnu). The rulers of Travancore ruled the kingdom as the servants of Sri. Padmanabha.[[30]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram" \l "cite_note-Trivandrum_District_Profile-30)

The city developed into a major intellectual and artistic centre during this period. The golden age in the city's history was during the mid 19th century under the reign of [Maharaja Swathi Thirunal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swathi_Thirunal_Rama_Varma) and [Maharaja Ayilyam Thirunal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayilyam_Thirunal). This era saw the establishment of the first English school (1834), the [Observatory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trivandrum_Observatory) (1837), the General Hospital (1839), [the Oriental Research Institute & Manuscripts Library](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Oriental_Research_Institute_%26_Manuscripts_Library) and the University College (1873). The first mental hospital in the state was started during the same period. [Sanskrit College](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit_College), Ayurveda College, [Law College](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_College) and a second grade college for women were started by [Moolam Thirunal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moolam_Thirunal" \o "Moolam Thirunal) (1885–1924).[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-History_of_Thiruvananthapuram-31)

The early 20th century was an age of tremendous political and social changes in the city. The Sree Moolam Assembly, established in 1904, was the first democratically elected legislative council in any Indian state.[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-32) Despite not being under direct control of the [British Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Empire) at any time, the city featured prominently in [India's freedom struggle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_independence_movement). The [Indian National Congress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_National_Congress) had a very active presence in Thiruvananthapuram. A meeting of the Indian National Congress presided by Dr. [Pattabhi Sitaramaiah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pattabhi_Sitaramaiah" \o "Pattabhi Sitaramaiah) was held here in 1938.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Palace_of_Trivandrum.jpg)

[Kowdiar Palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kowdiar_Palace) built in 1915 was the official residence of the [Travancore Royal Family](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore_Royal_Family).[[33]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Kowdiar-33)

The Thiruvananthapuram Municipality came into existence in 1920. The municipality was converted into a Corporation on 30 October 1940, during the period of [Chitra Thirunal Bala Rama Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chitra_Thirunal_Bala_Rama_Varma" \o "Chitra Thirunal Bala Rama Varma), who took over in 1931.[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-ThiruvananthapuramHistoryIntro-34) The city witnessed many-sided progress during his period. The promulgation of "[Temple Entry Proclamation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple_Entry_Proclamation)" (1936) was an act that underlined social emancipation. This era also saw the establishment of the [University of Travancore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala_University) in 1937, which later became [Kerala University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala_University).[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-University_of_Kerala_History-35)

With the end of the British rule in 1947, Travancore chose to join the Indian union. The first popular ministry headed by [Pattom Thanu Pillai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pattom_Thanu_Pillai" \o "Pattom Thanu Pillai) was installed in office on 24 March 1948. In 1949, Thiruvananthapuram became the capital of [Thiru-Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore-Cochin" \o "Travancore-Cochin), the state formed by the integration of Travancore with its northern neighbour [Kochi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Cochin).[[36]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-36)The king of [Travancore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore), [Chitra Thirunal Bala Rama Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chitra_Thirunal_Bala_Rama_Varma" \o "Chitra Thirunal Bala Rama Varma), became the [Rajpramukh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajpramukh" \o "Rajpramukh)of the [Travancore-Cochin Union](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travancore-Cochin) from 1 July 1949 until 31 October 1956. When the state of [Kerala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerala) was formed on 1 November 1956, Thiruvananthapuram became its capital.[[37]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-37)

With the establishment of [Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thumba_Equatorial_Rocket_Launching_Station" \o "Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station) (TERLS) in 1962, Thiruvananthapuram became the cradle of India's ambitious space programme. The first Indian space rocket was developed and launched from the [Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vikram_Sarabhai_Space_Centre" \o "Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre) (VSSC) in the outskirts of the city in 1963. Several establishments of the [Indian Space Research Organisation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Space_Research_Organisation) (ISRO) were later established in Thiruvananthapuram.[[38]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-VSSC_Thiruvananthapuram-38)

A major milestone in the city's recent history was the establishment of [Technopark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technopark_Kerala" \o "Technopark Kerala)—India's first IT park—in 1995.[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-Technopark_Thiruvananthapuram-39)Technopark has developed into the largest IT park in India in geographical area,[[40]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-40) employing around 40,000 people in 300 companies.[[41]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-About_Technopark,_Thiruvananthapuram-41)

## Geography and climate[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Thiruvananthapuram&action=edit&section=3" \o "Edit section: Geography and climate)]

### Geography[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Thiruvananthapuram&action=edit&section=4" \o "Edit section: Geography)]

*Main article:*[*Geography of Thiruvananthapuram*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Thiruvananthapuram)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pattom_Skyline_panoramo_02.jpg)

View of [Pattom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pattom" \o "Pattom), the north eastern part of the city. The [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) mountain range is seen in the background

Thiruvananthapuram is built on seven hills[[42]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-42) by the sea shore and is located at [8.5°N 76.9°E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Thiruvananthapuram&params=8.5_N_76.9_E_) on the west coast, near the southern tip of mainland India.[[43]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-43) The city situated on the west coast of India, and is bounded by [Laccadive Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laccadive_Sea) to its west and the [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats) to its east. The average elevation of the city is 16 ft (4.9 m) above sea level.[[44]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-44) The [Geological Survey of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geological_Survey_of_India) has identified Thiruvananthapuram as a moderately earthquake-prone urban centre and categorised the city in the Seismic III Zone.[[45]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-45) Thiruvananthapuram lies on the shores of [Karamana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karamana" \o "Karamana) and [Killi rivers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Killi_river" \o "Killi river). [Vellayani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vellayani_Lake" \o "Vellayani Lake), Thiruvallam and Aakulam backwaters lies in the city.[[46]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thiruvananthapuram#cite_note-46) The Soil type in the middle part of the city is dark brown loamy [laterite soil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laterite" \o "Laterite) high in phosphates. Laterisation is a result of the heavy rainfall and humid conditions. On western coastal regions of the city, [sandy loam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loam) soil is found and on eastern hilly parts of the district, rich dark bro