

Tour Code No.55SI - B

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – KANYAKUMARI**TOUR PACKAGE (2011)****Thiruvananthapuram – Kanyakumari**

Tour Duration (No. of days)	Starting Day	Tour cost (with food)
2 days/ 1 Night	Every day from THIRUVANANTHAPURAM	Rs.2,000/=

Details of Programme

DAY – 1	Pick up from Trivandrum Airport/Railway Station. Sightseeing places: Padmanabhaswami temple, Pazhavangadi Ganapathi Temple, Padmanabhapuram Palace, Kovalam Beach and journey to Kanyakumari. Night rest in Kanyakumari.
DAY – 2	In Kanyakumari. After visiting Vivekananda Rocks, Thiruvalluvar Statue, Suchindram etc. leave for Thiruvananthapuram. Sightseeing at TVM – Zoo, Art Gallery, Shangumugham Beach, Veli etc. Tour ends.

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. Cost inclusions and exclusions

a) *Inclusions*

Vegetarian Food, accommodation, all sight seeing and Tour Guide.

b) *Exclusions:*

Entry tickets wherever necessary, any other personal expenses and whatever is not mentioned in the *inclusions*.

2. Booking and Payment

Booking should be done before 30 days of the starting date of the tour, at the Calicut Head Office, any of the branch office of the Company or any of its accredited Booking agencies by submitting the required Application Form (available at all the aforesaid offices) along with an advance of Rs...1,000/= in **cash** or a **Demand Draft** drawn in the name of ***Vivekananda Travels (P) Ltd.*** payable at Calicut. The balance amount could also be paid in the same manner on or before 10 days of the starting date of the tour.

Payment of the advance as well as the balance amount could also be done by depositing the required amount in any of our following Bank accounts:

Name of the Bank : Canara Bank, Calicut

Account No. : 2772201000262

Code : CNRB0002772

OR

Name of the Bank : Axis Bank Ltd., Calicut

Account No. : 910020036088153

Code : UTIB0000136

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3, Cancellation and refund etc.:

The Company will consider cancellation and refund if such a request in the prescribed form (available with the Company's Head Office and its branches at various locations as also with its Booking agencies) is received before 15 days from the starting date of the tour. If the company is satisfied with the genuineness of the reason for cancellation it will consider matter of a refund after deducting 50% towards administrative charges incurred. Cancellation requests received after the above period will not be eligible for any refund.

4. General :

A Tour Manager (Guide) will accompany the tour for properly guiding the guests. The Company expects the tourists to adhere to his instructions for a peaceful and comfortable tour.

If any one desires to have clarification or further information about the package, please contact the company at the following contact details:

Vivekananda Travels (P) Ltd.

Srikanteswara Complex,

S. K. Temple Road,

Calicut – 4

Phones; 0495-272 7100; 272 7800

E-mail: info@vivekanandatravelspltd.com

Thiruvananthapuram

Thiruvananthapuram, [formerly known as Trivandrum](#), is the capital of the Kerala State of the Indian Union and the headquarters of the [Thiruvananthapuram District](#). It is located on the west coast of [India](#) near the extreme south of the mainland. Referred to by [Mahatma Gandhi](#) as the "Evergreen city of India", the city is characterized by its terrain of low coastal hills and busy commercial valleys. It is the largest and most populous city in Kerala. Apart from being the [IT hub](#) of the state with over 80% of the state's software exports, Thiruvananthapuram is one of the top International tourist centres in Kerala State.

The city houses many [central](#) and state government offices and organizations. The city is the political nerve centre of [Kerala](#), and is also a major academic hub and home to several educational institutions including the [University of Kerala](#), and to many science and technology institutions.

Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple

Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple is one of the most famous Lord Vishnu Temples in Kerala State of the Indian Union. Also known as Sree Ananda Padmanabhaswamy Temple, this Mahavishnu Temple is located inside East Fort, in Thiruvananthapuram - the capital city of Kerala State. Lord Vishnu is enshrined here in the Ananathasayanam posture (in eternal sleep), lying on Sri Anantha, the hooded snake. According to traditions, Sree Padmanabhaswamy is believed to have been worshipped by Chandra (Moon God) and Lord Indra (the head of the Devas).

Significance of Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple

Sree Anantha Padmanabhaswamy Temple is one of the 108 Divya Desams of Lord Vishnu. Divya Desams are the holiest abodes of the Lord Mahavishnu that are mentioned in the works of the Tamil Azhvars (saints).

Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple is also one of the seven Parasurama kshetras (Temples) in Kerala. The city of Thiruvananthapuram is named after the Lord. The word Thiruvananthapuram literally means "The land of Sree Anantha Padmanabhaswamy".

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Importance of the Idol

The idol of Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple is made up of 12008 salagramams that compose the reclining lord. They are special because they are from Nepal, from the banks of river Gandhaki and they were brought to the temple with all pomp and gaiety on elephant top. On top of them "Katusarkara Yogam", Navaratnams, a special Ayurvedic mix, was used to give a plaster. Followers believe that the Lord has personally come in disguise and had saved many times the Travancore Kingdom from the clutches of enemies.

Kovalam Beach

Kovalam was brought to the attention of public by the [Maharaja of Travancore](#). The European guests of the then Travancore kingdom discovered the potential of Kovalam beach as a tourist destination in the 1930s. However, Kovalam shot into limelight in the early seventies with arrivals of the masses of [hippies](#). This exodus started the transformation of a casual fishing village of Kerala into one of the most important tourist destinations in all India.

Kovalam has three crescent shaped beaches with rocky outcroppings. Shallow waters stretching for hundreds of metres are ideal for swimming. The beaches have steep palm covered headlands and are lined with shops that offer all kinds of goods and services

The larger of the beaches is called Light House Beach because of its 35 metre high light house which towers over it atop Kurumkal hillock. The second largest one is Hawah Beach named thus for the topless European women who used to throng there. It was the first topless beach in India. However topless bathing is

banned now except in private resorts. Visitors frequent these two beaches. The northern part of the beach is known as Samudra Beach in tourism parlance. A large chunk of highland separates this part from the southern side. The local fishermen ply their trade on this part. The sands on the beaches in Kovalam are partially black in colour due to the presence of [ilmenite](#) and [thorazite](#).

There are a large number of beach resorts in and around Kovalam. The sea port of [Vizhinjam](#) is about 3 km away and famous for its special varieties of fish, old Hindu temples, big churches and a mosque. The Proposed International Trans shipment Terminal at [Vizhinjam](#) is also close to Kovalam. Kovalam was among the most prominent [tourist spots](#) in India during the [hippy](#) era. It still has a high status among tourists, who arrive mostly from [Europe](#) and Israel. Kovalam is finding a new significance in the light of several [Ayurvedic](#) salons, and recuperation and regeneration resorts which provide a wide variety of Ayurvedic treatments for tourists.

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Shanghumugham Beach

Shangumugham Beach in the city of Thiruvananthapuram is the soothing Beach in Kerala. It is a breathtakingly beautiful Beach. Tourists love to holiday here not only because of the beautiful location but also due to the availability of an indoor recreation Club coupled with the Mammoth Matsya Kanya Statue, Tourists are thrilled by watching this Statute. A children's traffic training park along with the majestic and imposing star shaped restaurant are the other delights of the place.

Veli Village

Veli Tourist Village in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, is a prime tourist destination in India. A prominent picnic spot, the Veli Tourist Village is constructed near the Veli lagoon area which is surrounded by lush greenery. Travel to Veli Tourist Village which is situated almost 8 kilometers from Thiruvananthapuram city is an excellent destination to relax.

An excursion to a breath-taking place like Veli Tourist Village is worth the while. The place offers travelers with exceptional boating opportunities. Speed boats are found in plenty in this region where one may indulge in a pleasurable ride to the nearest scenic destinations. Veli Tourist Village surrounded by the Veli lagoon and Arabian Sea which boasts of an ideal location for a perfect vacation retreat. A narrow sand bar further divides the Veli lagoon from the main sea.

Veli Tourist Village is an 18 acre waterfront park which comprises of a floating bridge that links the Shankhumukham beach to the village area. This landscaped garden is ideally suited for swimming, boating, that attracts innumerable travelers from round the city. The village is open for public access from 10 am to 8 pm.

Shanghumukham beach is one of the attractions near the Veli Tourist village, which gives visitors an excellent opportunity to view the breath-taking twilight. The indoor recreation club, the Matsya Kanyaka a 35 mtrs. long sculpture of a mermaid and a starfish restaurant are some of the attractive features of Veli Tourist Village.

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Thiruvananthapuram Art Gallery

Located near the Napier museum, the Sri Chitra Art Gallery of Trivandrum is an art lover's paradise. Only a true admirer of art will know the joy of visiting this beautiful art gallery that has some of the best paintings of famous painters of India. A very famous landmark in Kerala, Sri Chitra Art Gallery of Thiruvananthapuram has a vast collection of paintings not just from India, but from countries like Japan, China and Indonesia.

The section that attracts all visitors alike is the one that is dedicated to Raja Ravi Varma. This famous painter has carved a separate niche for himself in the world of art. His paintings look so real that it seems as if they speak. Raja Ravi Varma was fondly called as "Prince among painters and painter among princes". Apart from his paintings, one can find the works of Rabindranath Tagore, Jamini Roy and K.K. Hebar.

Apart from the works of these famous painters, one can find the famous Tanjore paintings here. These dazzling works of art never fail to amuse and enthrall onlookers. The paintings are encrusted with minute semi precious stones that lend an extraordinary look to the painting. Apart from this, the gallery has a collection of painting miniatures belonging to the Rajput and Mughal eras.

Zoo

Spread over 55 acres of land located in the heart of the Thiruvananthapuram City, this Zoo offers a wonderful opportunity for the visitors to experience and

enjoy the vivid collection of rare animals in an unparalleled picturesque and panoramic surroundings. The Zoo has 82 different species of animals from all over India and abroad. It has several species of animals and birds from Ethiopian and Australian Zoo geographic regions. While The Lion tailed Macaque, Nilgiri Langur, Nilgiri Tahr, One Horned Great Indian Rhino, Asiatic Lion, Royal Bengal Tiger are prominent among the indigenous endangered fauna, the Giraffe, Hippo, Zebra, Cap Buffello are the guests from the African region.

The Zoo is one of the oldest in the country. It was established as an addition to the Museum in 1857 by the erstwhile Maharaja of Travancore with an intent to attract more visitors. The typical iron barred, cement floored, dingy animal cages built in the past could still be seen as monuments of the royal style.

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Kanyakumari

The Land that is located at the southern tip of the Indian sub continent, where the three seas meet (The Arabean Sea, The Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean) is called Kanyakumari, or Cape Comerin. This name originated from the virgin Goddess – Kanyakumari Amman. As per Legend the Goddess Parvati under the disguise of Devi Kanniya did a penance in one of the rocks in this area to get the hand of Lord Shiva. This place is also a popular pilgrimage. The tourists who visit this southern most tip of India would certainly enjoy the scenes of the sunset and sunrise especially on full moon days. The sand in the beaches of Kanyakumari is unique as it is multicolored.

Lakhs of tourists, round the year are lured by the serene beauty of this place. Though sunrise can be viewed throughout the year, sunset is visible only from October 15 to March 15. However, one can view both sunrise and sunset throughout the year from atop a hill called Murugan Kundram which offers a panoramic view of Kanyakumari. The sunset and moonrise can be seen almost simultaneously on full moon days from the same spot. It is a unique spectacle.

Amidst the sea there are two rocks known as ‘twin rocks’ both contributing to the rich Indian heritage with the monuments of swamy Vivekananda and Saint Thiruvalluvar.

Kanyakumari and its surroundings are believed to be part of the land which was created by Parasurama, incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Folktales and mythological stories speak volumes about Kanyamymari.

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