



TIRUPATI

Tirupati is a major pilgrimage and cultural city in the Chittoor district. It is the largest city in the Rayalaseema region. It is located at the foothills of the Eastern Ghats, 550 km south of Hyderabad, the capital of the state, 250 km east of Bangalore, 65 km from Chittoor, and 150 km north of Chennai.

Tirupati is famous for the richest temple Venkateswara Swamy temple dedicated to Lord Venkateswara, located about 20 km north west of Tirupati in the Tirumala hills at an elevation of 853 metres (2,799 ft). One of the most important pilgrimage centers in the World, the temple draws millions of pilgrims and is the busiest pilgrimage centre in the world. Tirupati City itself has several temples and is famous for its red wooden toys, copper and brass idols. Also, the city is a major economical and educational hub in the southern region of the state.



History: There is no clear history on the origin of the temple of Lord Venkateshwara, but it was maintained and upgraded by various kingdoms. These include the Pallava Kingdom around 9th Century AD, Chola Kingdom around 10th century AD and the latest one being Vijayanagara Empire around 14th to 15th century AD. It was during the rule of Vijayanagara Empire that the temple received increased contributions.

The site was an established center of Vaishnavism around 5th century A.D. during which Tirupati was praised by Alvars (Vaishnava saints); belonging to the Bhakti movement in Dravidian Land, who were known for their poems and literary works on Lord Venkateswara. Tirupati's significance in Southern Vaishnava tradition is next only to Srirangam, and the temple rites were formalized by the Vaishnavite saint Ramanujacharya himself, in the 11th century AD.



Formation of TTD: The Madras legislature passed a special act in 1933 whereby the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) committee was invested with powers of administration and control through a commissioner appointed by the Government of Madras. A Ryot Advisory Council was formed for the management of the estates of the TTD, and was assisted by a Religious Advisory Council with regard to religious matters

The first establishment of the City was near Kotturu, today's K.T. Road area. Later it was shifted near the temple of Govindaraja Swamy with the temple as the center of the city. It is today's railway station area. Now the city is expanded to nearby areas. **Most of the temples in Tirupati have been built using Dravidian architecture.**

Accommodation: Tirupati Commissionerate has a Guest House earmarked for the officers in Green Park Apartments, Tirupati.

TTD has over 5000 cottages, guest houses and choultries to accommodate the pilgrims up hill in Tirumala and down hill at Tirupati. In addition there are enough private lodges and hotels in Tirupati to serve the pilgrims.

HOW TO REACH: Tirupati is well connected by Air, Rail and Road.

Air: The Airport Authority of India runs daily services to Hyderabad, New Delhi and Visakhapatnam. In addition certain private operators also run their services.

Rail: Tirupati Railway station has got best connectivity to all parts of India like Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkatta, Bombay, Trivendrum, Pondicherry, New Delhi, Jaipur, Patna, Madhurai, Kanyakumari, Nasik, Jammu etc.

Road: The government bus services of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka run buses to almost every part of South India from Tirupati. Private Buses and Private Tour Operators also run buses to different places from here.

TEMPLE PROGRAMME OF SRI PADMAVATHI AMMAVARI, TIRUCHANUR

Name of the Seva	Cost of Seva	No.of Persons allowed	Time of the Seva	Bahumanams
Suprabhatam	25-00	01	05-00AM 03-30AM (on Fridays)	
SahasraNamarchana	25-00	01	05-00AM To 04-00AM (on Fridays)	
Padmavathi Parinayam (Kalyanotsavam)	500-00	05	10-30AM	One Upper cloth and one blouse piece and Anna Prasadams 2 laddus&2 Vadas
Unjal Seva	116-00	02	05-00PM	Darshan
Ekanta Seva	25-00	01	09-00PM	Darshan
Kumkumarchana	200-00	02	During Sarva Darshanam	2 Laddus (Tickets are issued subject

Besides the above there are Weekly, Annual and Permanent Sevas for which TTD official site may please be referred.



Religious & touring sites:



KodhandaRamaSwamy Temple: Elephants Welcoming Lord Srinivasa:ISKCON Temple: Waterfall on downhill



The water fall on the way down the hill and Tirumala

Museum in Tirumala

Other Places of Interest

- **Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park** is the second of its kind in the Andhra Pradesh. It has many species of animals and plants which are being conserved. Nearly 10 to 15 tigers are present in this zoo. [citation needed]
- **Regional Science Center** is a science center with a planetarium.

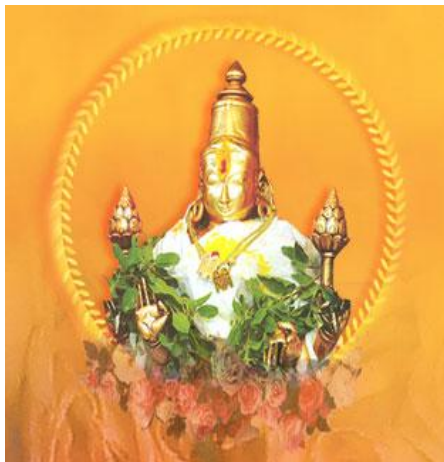
SV Zoological park is the Second largest zoo park in Asia. It has a Lion safari which has about 30 Lions.



TIRUPATI TEMPLES

Sri Padmavati Samovar Temple, Tiruchanoor

Tiruchanoor, also known as Alamelumangapuram, is about 5 km from Tirupati. The temple of Sri Padmavati Devi, the consort of Lord Sri Venkateshwara is situated here. It is said that a visit to Tirumala is fruitful only after visiting the Sri Padmavati Devi temple. You may wonder why Sri Padmavati Devi's temple is away from Lord Sri Venkateshwara's. Legend has it that the Lord (Sri Maha Vishnu, who later took on the incarnation of Sri Venkateshwara) showed his reverence towards the sage, Bhrgu Maharshi, even though the sage had insulted Vishnu by kicking Him on the chest. In anger, Sri Maha Lakshmi (the Lord's consort) reached Patala Loka, where she heard a divine voice stating that a pushkarini was dug on the banks of the river Swarnamukhi, and here She immersed herself in penance for 12 years. In the 13th year (during the month of Kartika, on Panchami day in the last fortnight, highlighted by the nakshathram Uttarashadha), Sri Padmavati emerged from a golden lotus. It is believed that Goddess Maha Lakshmi herself emerged as Sri Padmavati. Tirupati yatra is incomplete without a visit to this temple. Sri Padmavati is the divine consort of Lord Venkateshwara. 'Kalyanotsavam' is performed here as in Tirumala between 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon every day. Five members are allowed (Rs. 500/-). Special darshan (Rs. 5/-) is advisable. Darshan starts from 6.30 a.m. on Weekdays and from 8.00 a.m. on Fridays. Tiruchanoor (also known as Alarmelu Mangapuram) is 4 km from Tirupati



Sri Padmavathi Ammavaru



Govindaraja Swamy Temple

Sri Govindarajaswami Temple

Sri Govindarajaswami is the elder brother of Lord Balaji. His temple is the main landmark of Tirupati town. It has an imposing Gopuram that can be seen from a distance. Saint Ramanujacharya consecrated the temple in 1130 AD. The festivals and functions are similar to those conducted in the Sri Govindarajaswami is the elder brother of Lord Balaji. His temple is the main landmark of Tirupati town. It has an imposing Gopuram that can be seen from a distance. Saint Ramanujacharya consecrated the temple in 1130 AD. The festivals and functions are similar to those conducted in the Sri Venkateshwara temple. The annual Brahmotsavam in this temple is celebrated in the month of Vaisakha every year. Pilgrims must visit this temple without fail. This temple complex includes museum and a cluster of shrines like those of Sri Parthasarathy, Godadevi Aandal and Pundarikavalli. The principal deity is an impressive Sayanamurti (the Lord in a sleeping posture). Buy special Darshan tickets (Rs. 5/-) to avoid the long queue. The timings for Sarva Darshan are 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. to 8.45 p.m.



SRI KODANDARAMASWAMI TEMPLE

This temple is situated in the heart of Tirupati town. The presiding deities are Sita, Rama and Lakshmana. A Chola king built this temple during the tenth century AD. The temple of Anjaneyaswami, which is directly opposite, is a sub shrine of this temple. According to legend, this temple commemorates the visit of Sri Rama to Tirupati. The festivals of Ugadi and Sri Ramanavami are celebrated in this temple on a grand scale. Every year the temple celebrates the Brahmotsavams to the Lord Sri Rama.

SRI KAPILESHWARASWAMI TEMPLE

Sri Kapileshwaraswami Temple is the only temple dedicated to Lord Siva, in the pantheon of Vaishnava Temples in Tirupati. It is situated about 3 km to the north of Tirupati, at the foot of the Tirumala Hills. The sacred waterfall called Kapila Teertham (also known as Alwar Teertham) is located here. Annual Brahmotsavams and festivals like vinayaka Chavithi, Maha Shivaratri, Skhanda Shasti and Annabhishekam are performed in a grand manner. This is the only Siva Temple in Tirupati. The temple enshrines Sri Kapileshwaraswami. Waterfalls in this place are an attractive sight (especially in rainy season). One can enjoy the peaceful atmosphere, as this place is located a little away from the town. City buses and autos are a means of conveyance to reach the Kapila Teertham.



Kodandarama swamy Temple

Kalyana Venkateshwaraswami Temple

Sri Kapileswara Swamy Temple

SRI KALYANA VENKATESHWARASWAMI, SRINIVASA MANGAPURAM

Sri Kalyana Venkateshwaraswami temple is at Shrinivasa Mangapuram situated 12 km to the west of Tirupati. According to legend, Lord Venkateshwar stayed here after his marriage with Sri Padmavati Devi, before proceeding to Tirumala. Annual Brahmotsavam and Shakshatkara Vaibhavam are celebrated in grand manner. Sevas performed are and the fees mentioned here are per person, unless otherwise specified. Nithya Archana - permanent for Rs 542.00, Nithya Archana - one year for Rs 42.00, Abhishekam for Rs 100.00, Thomala Seva for Rs 10.00, Archana for Rs 10.00, Archana & Aarti for Rs 5.00, Abhisheka Darsanam for Rs 5.00, Vahanam Puja (for a 4-wheeler) for Rs 50.00, (for a 2-wheeler) for Rs 25.00, Kalyana Utsavam for Rs 500.00.



SRI VEDA NARAYANASWAMI TEMPLE, NAGALAPURAM

Sri Veda Narayanaswami temple is located in Nagalapuram, 70 km southeast of Tirupati. It is believed that Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, in the form of Matsya, killed the Rakshash (demon) Somakudu here, and retrieved the Vedas from the latter. The sanctum sanctorium houses an image of the Matsya form of Vishnu, with Shridevi and Bhudevi on either side. A peculiar feature of the idol is that it holds the Sudarshana Chakra in prayoga (ready for release). The temple was constructed by Sri Krishnadeva Raya, the Vijayanagara emperor, and is a fine specimen of the Vijayanagara style of architecture. The most important annual festivals in this temple are Brahmotsavam, and Surya Puja along with the Float festival, conducted on the 12th, 13th and 14th days of the month of Phalgun. During these three days, the sunrays fall on the main deity between 0600 hrs and 0615 hrs. On the first day, they fall on the feet, on the second - on the chest and on the third - on the forehead, depicting worship by Sri Surya Bhagavan himself. The annual Brahmotsavam is conducted in the month of Jyeshtha.



Sri Veda Narayanaswami Temple



Sri Venugopaswami Temple



Sri Prasanna Venkateswaraswami Temple

SRI VENUGOPALASWAMI TEMPLE, KARVETINAGARAM

Sri Venugopaswami temple is situated in Karvetinagaram, 58 km from Tirupati. The main deity of the temple is Sri Venugopaswami with His consorts - Sri Rukmini Ammavaru and Sri Satyabhama Ammavaru. There is a sub-temple with the idol Sri Sita Ramula Pattabhishekam.

SRI PRASANNA VENKATESHWARASWAMI TEMPLE, APPALAYANAGUNTA

Sri Prasanna Venkateshwaraswami temple is located in Appalayagunta, 14 km from Tirupati. It is believed that Sri Venkateshwaraswami, after marrying Sri Padmavati Ammavaru, blessed Sri Sidhdheshwara and other sages here. The temple, constructed by the Rajas of Karvetinagar, consists of a shrine for Anjaneyaswami. Devotees for relief from chronic diseases worship the imposing image of the wind-god. There are also idols of Goddess Padmavati and Sri Andal here. Brahmotsavam is celebrated once a year.

SRI KARIYAMANIKYASWAMI TEMPLE, NAGIRI

Sri Kariya Manikyaswami temple (also called Sri Perumala Swami temple) is located in Nagiri, 51 km from Tirupati. It is believed that Lord Sri Maha Vishnu killed Makara (a crocodile) and saved Gajendra (an elephant) at this place. This episode is referred to as the Gajendramoksham in the Mahabhagavatam.



SRI KALAYANA VENKATESWARASWAMI TEMPLE : NARAYANAVANAM



Sri Kalyana Venkateswaraswami temple at Narayanavanam is 40 km from Tirupati. Lord Sri Venkateswaraswami and Sri Padmavathi Ammavaru, daughter of Akasa Maharaja were married here. Sri Kalyana Venkateswaraswami is the main deity here.

SRI CHENNAKESHAVASWAMI TEMPLE, TALLAPAKA



Tallapaka Chennakesava Swamy

Sri Chennakeshavaswami Temple is located in Tallapaka village at a distance of 100 Kms. from Tirupati, which is the birthplace of Sri Annamacharya, the Sankeertana Acharyulu who was born to Sri Narayanasuri and Lakkamamba. According to legend, the temple was constructed and administered by the Matti Rajahs about 1000 years ago.

SRI ANNAPURNA SAMETA KASHI VISHWESHWARASWAMI TEMPLE, BUGGA AGRAHARAM:

Sri Annapurna Sameta Kashi Vishweshwaraswami Temple is located in the Bugga Agraharam village, 56 km from Tirupati. The temple is on the banks of Kushasthali River. The main deities are Sri Kashi Vishweshwara Swami, Sri Annapurna Ammavaru, Sri Kamakshi Ammavaru, and Sri Devi Bhudevi Sameta Sri Prayaga Madhava Swami. The important annual festivals in the temple are Maha Shivaratri and Kartika Somavaramu.

Festivals at Tirupati:

Tirupati celebrates most of Vaishnava festivals like Vaikunta Ekadasi, Rama Navami and Janmashtami with great splendor, while the **Brahmotsavam** celebrated every year during September is the most important festival in Tirumala when it receives millions of devotees over a short span of a week. Rathasapthami (Magha Shuddha Saptami) is another festival, celebrated during February, when Lord Venkateswara's idol is taken in a procession around the temple chariots.^[10]

Gangamma Jathra is also celebrated as a major local festival. The Goddess Gangamma is offered animal sacrifices and also pongal and other offerings by the devotees. She is considered the sister of Lord Govinda.