

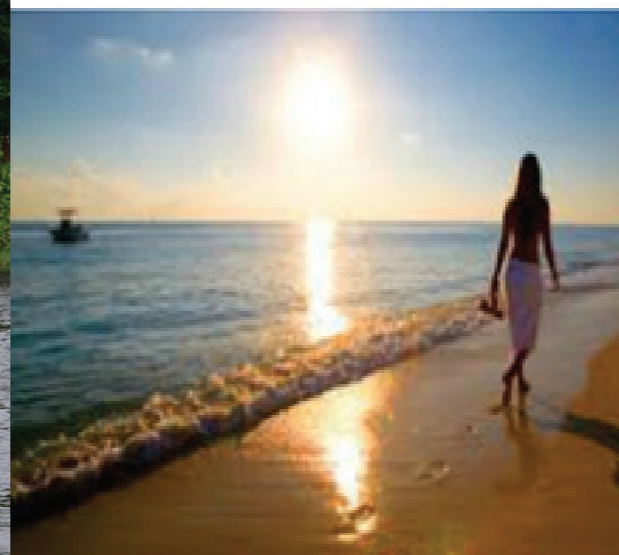
Nehru Trophy Boat Race, Kerala

Festival Celebration Date: Second Saturday of August Every Year



“The Nehru Trophy Boat Race” is a popular Vallam Kali held in the Punnamada Lake near Alappuzha, Kerala, India. Vallam Kali or Vallamkali literally means boat play/game, but can be translated to boat race in English. The most popular event of the race is the competition of Chundan Vallams or snake boats. Hence the race is also known as Snake Boat Race in English. Other types of boats which participate in various events of the race are Churulan Vallam, Iruttukuthy Vallam, Odi Vallam, Veppu Vallam, Vadakkanody Vallam and Kochu Vallam. The race conducted on the second Saturday of August every year is a major tourist attraction.

The water festival in Kuttanad is unique in its large number of participants in each racing boat, making it the only sport in the world to have such a large number in a single team. The characteristic synchronized way of rowing needs long and devoted training and inherent aptitude. Those who steer the vessel need thorough knowledge of water currents, elevated observation power, and an exhaustive understanding of the different aspects of boat racing. The most notable fact in the races of boats is that a single neglected act of a single participant will lead a boat to lose in the race. No other country in the world celebrates such festivities and the Nehru Trophy Boat Race is one site which must be witnessed by all.



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