

TREKS IN TAMIL NADU RESUME POST FIRE SEASON

Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Government of Tamil Nadu had initiated promotion of nature appreciation through its flagship programme 'Trek Tamil Nadu' launched by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin on October 24, 2024. In phase-I the Department has unveiled 40 curated trekking routes across the state's most scenic forest and wildlife landscapes. The official website, www.trektamilnadu.com was also inaugurated to facilitate registrations and provide information.

The initiative aims to promote responsible and sustainable trekking practices while fostering a deeper connection with nature. It encourages local engagement by providing training and employment opportunities to tribal and forest fringe villagers as trekking guides. As part of this effort, 200 individuals from local communities have been trained and engaged as trekking guides.

All trails have been carefully chosen prioritising the safety of participants (with mandatory insurance coverage) and ecological sensitivity.

During the first phase (November 01, 2024 to February 14, 2025), Trek Tamil Nadu has generated a revenue of Rs.63.43 lakh, out of which a sum of Rs.56.71 lakh have been paid to the local community as wages for trekking guides. 4,792 participants have successfully completed treks under this programme-making it a model for responsible nature-based tourism in India.

Resumption of treks after fire season

In accordance with the Tamil Nadu Forest and Wildlife Areas (Regulation of Trekking) Rules, 2018, trekking activities across the state are annually suspended from 15th February to 15th April as a precautionary measure during the forest fire season.

As the fire season comes to a close, Trek Tamil Nadu resumes operations from 16th April 2025. Currently 23 trek routes out of the 40 are opened for trekking in the state which primarily feature easy to moderate routes. The chosen routes have been thoughtfully curated to offer a safe, enjoyable, and educational experience for all ages.

Sl. No.	District	Trek route	Category
1	The Nilgiris	Longwood Shola	Easy
2		Karikaiyur- Porivarai Rock Painting	Moderate
3		Karikaiyur – Rangasamy Peak	Moderate
4		Parsons Valley Trekking Shed – Mukurthi Hut	Tough
5		Avalanche (Cauliflower Shola) - Kolaribetta	Moderate
6		Avalanche (Cauliflower Shola) - Devarbetta	Tough
7		Gene Pool	Easy
8		Rockwood Trail	Moderate
9	Coimbatore	Manambolly	Moderate
10	Tiruppur	Chinnar Checkpost - Kottar	Easy
11	Kanniyakumari	Kalikesam - Balamore	Moderate
12		Kalikesam - Maramalai	Moderate
13		Injikadavu	Moderate
14	Tirunelveli	Karaiyar - Moolakasam	Easy
15	Tenkasi	Theerthapara	Easy
16	Theni	Kurangani - Sambalaru	Easy
17	Dindigul	Kodaikanal - Vellagavi	Moderate
18	Krishnagiri	Guthirayan Peak	Tough
19		Biligundulu - Rasimanal	Moderate
20	Salem	Nagalur - Sanniyasimalai Peak	Easy
21	Tirupattur	Yelagiri – Swamimalai	Easy
22		Jalagamparai	Moderate
23	Tiruvallur	Gudiyam Caves Heritage Trail	Easy

The remaining trek routes will be opened shortly after complete assessment of forest fire situation on ground. Trek Tamil Nadu's relaunch is a step forward in its pursuit of innovation with an exclusive price range, inclusion of local / traditional cuisine in selected trek routes, provision of agent logins for trek bookings and e-certificates on trek completion for trekkers thereby enhancing the overall trekking experience. It also aims to revitalise trekking while minimising plastic usage and carbon footprint.

Issued By: - DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai – 9

For Latest Government News, Follow Us on :