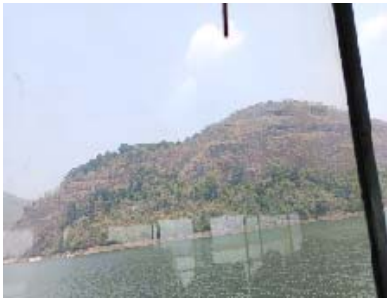


## Q M A Daycation Tour Report

On 28th February 2026, the **Quilon Management Association (QMA)** organized a memorable Daycation leisure tour to some of the most scenic and historically significant destinations in Kerala and Tamil Nadu — Thenmala Eco Tourism, Kuttalam Waterfalls, and Thirumalai Kovil.

A cheerful group of 24 QMA members along with their family members assembled at Poilakkada, Kollam, and began the journey at 7:10 a.m. in a comfortable 26-seater AC bus arranged by Sarayu Travelers. The pleasant morning weather and the enthusiasm of the participants set the tone for a wonderful day ahead.

After enjoying breakfast en route, the group proceeded towards Thenmala, Kerala's pride in eco-tourism.



Thenmala holds the distinction of being India's first planned eco-tourism project. Nestled in the foothills of the Western Ghats and near the Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Thenmala is known for its sustainable tourism model that harmoniously blends nature, adventure, and conservation.

The first stop was the breathtaking Thenmala View Point. The panoramic view of the lush Western Ghats, dense forests, and the shimmering reservoir was truly mesmerizing. The cool breeze and serene atmosphere provided a refreshing start to the sightseeing. Next, the group visited the Deer Park, where members enjoyed watching spotted deer and learning about local wildlife. The park reflects the ecological richness of the region and promotes awareness about wildlife conservation.

The visit to the historic Thenmala Dam, also known as the Parappan Dam, was one of the highlights. Built across the Kallada River, this dam is part of the Kallada Irrigation Project and plays a crucial role in irrigation and drinking water supply in the region. The scenic reservoir surrounded by hills offered a perfect backdrop for photography.

The Butterfly Park, a vibrant ecological zone, delighted everyone with its colorful species and natural landscaping. It emphasized the importance of biodiversity and environmental protection.

Boating in the calm waters of the Thenmala reservoir was a relaxing and enjoyable experience. Surrounded by forested hills, it created a sense of peace and connection with nature.

After completing the sightseeing at Thenmala, the group enjoyed a satisfying lunch before proceeding to the next destination.



The next stop was Kuttalam, popularly known as the “Spa of South India.” Situated in the Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu, Kuttalam is historically famous for its medicinal waterfalls. The water is believed to possess therapeutic properties due to the flow through forests rich in medicinal herbs.

However, it was disappointing that there was no water flow at the falls during the visit, and the group could not enjoy the much-anticipated waterfall experience. Nevertheless, the scenic beauty of the surrounding hills remained captivating.

The final destination was the revered hill temple of Thirumalai Kovil, dedicated to Lord Murugan. This ancient temple is situated atop a hill and is known for its serene spiritual ambiance and architectural beauty.



Thirumalai Kovil has historical significance dating back several centuries and is associated with regional rulers who contributed to its development. The temple's elevated location offers spectacular views of the surrounding valleys and mountains.

Members enjoyed the breathtaking mountain scenery and witnessed a beautiful sunset, which became one of the most memorable moments of the tour. The peaceful atmosphere of the temple provided spiritual solace and calmness after a long day of travel.

After completing the visit to Thirumalai Kovil, the group began the return journey to Kollam and safely reached Poilakkada at around 10:00 p.m., carrying back cherished memories of togetherness, laughter, and scenic beauty.

Though the tour was thoroughly enjoyable, I could not fully participate due to certain health issues. The timely advice and support of Dr. Jayasree Madhusoodanan greatly helped me gain relief and comfort during the journey. I also extend sincere thanks to Dr. Heera Ratnam for her kind assistance and support.

The QMA Daycation Tour 2026 was a wonderful blend of nature, history, spirituality, and fellowship under the leadership of Dr. Shaji. From the eco-conscious beauty of Thenmala to the historic and spiritual aura of Thirumalai Kovil, the trip strengthened bonds among members and offered a refreshing break from routine life.

Such initiatives by Quilon Management Association not only promote recreation but also encourage appreciation for our rich natural heritage and cultural history. All the members profusely thanked QMA, its office bearers especially Sri. K. V. Aravindakshan and Dr. A S Shaji for organising this wonderful trip.

The meticulous planning and flawless implementation of the tour is commendable. Thanks to fellow passengers for their sincere care, affection, love and co-operation extended to the group. The youngsters added vibrancy especially Dr. Dinesh and Ritujeet. A day well spent, memories well created, and bonds well strengthened.

