

# Meenmutty Falls, Location, Highest Waterfall of Kerala, Biodiversity

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**Meenmutty Falls of Wayanad** is one of the most important natural waterfalls in Kerala. It is among the highest waterfalls in the region. It is recognised as the largest waterfall in Wayanad, the second largest in Kerala and the highest (tallest) in Kerala. The Waterfall is located on the Banasura Hills amid the Western Ghats and flows through dense forests and rocky terrain which supports rich biodiversity and makes it an ecologically significant natural landscape.

## Meenmutty Falls

Meenmutty Falls combines remarkable natural geography, rich forest biodiversity, trekking routes and ecotourism importance within the Western Ghats **ecosystem**.

- **Location:** Meenmutty Falls is situated at Padinjara Thara in Wayanad district, Kerala, on the Banasura Hills. The waterfall lies within the **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** recognized Western Ghats landscape and is surrounded by dense forests and green tea plantations.
- **Height and Structure:** The waterfall descends from approximately 300 metres (around 1,000 feet) in three separate tiers, creating one of Kerala's tallest cascades. Each level offers a different landscape formed by

steep rocky cliffs and natural pools.

- **River System:** Meenmutty Falls is associated with the Kabini River system which is a major east flowing tributary of the **Cauvery River**. The waterfall contributes to an ecologically important river catchment supporting **biodiversity** and regional water resources of the **Western Ghats**.
- **Biodiversity:** The area nearby fall supports elephants, deer, langurs, butterflies and birds such as the Malabar grey hornbill, blue winged parakeet and crested serpent eagle, along with many medicinal plants.
- **Ecotourism Centre:** Developed as an Ecotourism Centre during 2015-2016, Meenmutty Falls has become a major attraction of the North Wayanad Division, recording the highest annual visitor footfall within the division.

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Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/meenmutty-falls/>

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