

# Yelagiri – A Delightful Hill Station.

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*Abstract — Yelagiri is the most beautiful hill station located between the towns of Vaniyambadi and Jolarpet in Vellore district. It is elevated at a height of 3640 feet and extended up to an area of 30 square kilometres. The hill belongs to Zamindar family and after independence the Government of India has freed to public. The main tourism attractions are Lakes, Gardens, Waterfalls and Valley views. The hill provides a good number of trekking trails through thick reserved forests. Paragliding is another sport activity that is drawing number of visitors. Every year in the month of May, Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation organises summer festivals to attract the tourists from all over the state and other parts of country and make them to satisfy in a better way. The research is mainly focussing on details of tourism attractions, profile of tourists, and perception of tourists on tourism facilities, cost of facilities, Hotel services etc. Based on the research findings, suggestions have been provided for tourism development.*

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## INTRODUCTION

Yelagiri is one of most beautiful hill station in Tamil Nadu and it is located between the towns of Vaniyambadi and Jolarpet in Vellore district. Its coordinates are 12° 57' 10" N 78° 64' 73" E. The elevation of the hill is 3640 feet and the average temperature of this hill station during summer is 34 degree Celsius and in winter is 11 degree Celsius with subtropical high climate. The total extent of Yelagiri hill is 30 square kilometres and the highest point of elevation is located at Swamimalai hill at 4338 feet.

The human settlement started 200 to 300 years back. It is habited by 40 villages and their main activity is agriculture, horticulture and forestry. The whole hills was belongs to Zamindar family and after the independence, the government of India took over the property. The house of Yelagiri Zamindar still exists in a village called Reddiyur. Most of the people are called as Malayalis and they migrated from Kanjeeपुरam area. From the tourism perspective this hill is not like Ooty or Kodaikanal and it is an upcoming tourism destination and it is in development stage.