

ANTHARAALAYA ABHISHEKA SEVA (\$1,116 PER COUPLE)

Witnessing Sri Venkateswara Swami Abhishekam from Within the Arthamandapam

Please consider this a distinct privilege to be able to sign up for this pooja. It comes with a variety of requirements that you should consider carefully. You agree to all these conditions as part of this pooja. Delays by you for any reason or your inability to meet these conditions once poojas have started will require you both to move to the general hall and no further accommodation can be made. Infants and young children are not allowed. Courtesy of refunds or rescheduling to a later date will not be provided.

Notice of Requirements

A very special opportunity is available for up to two couples to attend and witness the Abhishekam for Sri Venkateswara Swami from within the Arthamandapam, or the small room just in front of the Lord's deity on a first come first served basis. This is a privilege that should be accessed as part of a prayer or offering by you to Lord Venkateswara and comes with a variety of requirements, appropriate behaviors, and accommodations on the part of the devotee. At any time during the Abhishekam, if the priests, pooja helpers, temple staff, or authorized volunteers find that these requirements are not being met, these devotees may be asked to respectfully and immediately exit from that location to the general prayer hall **without** expressed reason, discussion, or any debate. You agree to comply with such requests.

Swami's Abhishekam are pre-planned and scheduled events. There are a large variety of offerings, and Abhishekam and pooja materials that are staged in this anteroom. Various liquids such as water, milk, curds, or yogurt, diluted complex mixes of coconut water, turmeric, sandal paste among a large variety of other religious offerings that includes fruits, flowers, honey, and other offerings move through that small space. There are high risks of spills, contact with these materials in substantive quantities, and various agents of aromas and fragrances, that are further compounded with the use of combustible materials such as camphor, lit oil lamps, and incense sticks. Loud chanting or prayers is an auditory experience that you should be prepared for.

The attending devotee couple should have the following attributes:

1. Should have attended prior Abhishekam poojas to get familiar with the various actions, sequences, and associated actions. It is difficult to explain the various sequences in detail to someone who is unfamiliar with Abhishekams.
2. Should be present about 30 minutes prior to the start of the poojas. Late arrivals cannot be accommodated.
3. Reasonable fitness and capability to take instruction, sit or stand in a confined area in a manner that does not obstruct the view of devotees in the prayer hall, and manage themselves so as not to impede ongoing poojas.
4. Wear temple appropriate clothes (dhotis, sarees or other Indian wear) that could be subject to stains, wetness, or other damage.

5. Please adhere to Deeksha-like standards for that day. Bathing, prayers, fasting or eating appropriate foods, and other related practices are recommended.
6. Seating will be on a hard floor. No chairs, wooden stools, cushions, or other accommodations will be provided at this time.
7. Attending devotees shall not interact with priests or volunteers, take a role in the Abhishekam process, or impede actions by priests, helpers, or volunteers.
8. You are welcome to bring and provide whole milk, honey, flowers, and fruits as offerings to this very special pooja.
9. As always, no recordings (still, video or audio capture), or photography of any kind is allowed.

Please be assured that this is a very blessed and auspicious opportunity and a sensory experience to witness the Lord's Abhishekham at close quarters. Please consider these requirements carefully and only then sign up for this pooja participation.