

EARTH ART

Duration	2 hours
Guided	Yes
Prior booking required	No, weekly once only

Pottery is one of the most ancient livelihoods of the kumbaran tribes of the nearby forests. Practised for generations, the art of fine moulding of mud into shapes and figures is a blessing as well a responsibility one has to be accountable for.

Mani, a native of the Karapuzha village practises pottery which was taught to him by his father at the age of 14. Since then, it has earned him his bread and butter. The mud for the pottery is initially obtained from loose paddy fields, after which it is grinded and strained to soft fine particles. According to the local belief, a potter in action practices a vow in which he abstains from drinking, smoking, eating non-vegetarian, physical relations and prays to his "kulladevatha" (family deity) regularly. As Mani says, the practise of the art, and its result is not his talent alone but the holy power which rests in him.



In the modern era of ceramics, plastic and glassware there are a few like Mani who still hangs on to their roots and try to pass it on. A fine art which needs ages of practise, we at After the Rains try to conserve and showcase it to the modern world. Every week you see Mani in action in the resort.