

Tamil Words for Waterbodies

1. *Agazhi* – A moat guarding a fort's surroundings
2. *Aruvi* – Waterfalls
3. *Aazhikkinaru* – A freshwater spring or well occurring near the seashore
4. *Aaru* – large river
5. *Aabagai* - river
6. *Ilangi* – a reservoir for drinking water and domestic use.
7. *Uraikinaru* – Ring well
8. *Ooruni* – tank for drinking water
9. *Ootru* – Spring
10. *Eri* – a manmade lake as a catchment for rainwater and irrigation, defined by a bund on three sides, and one side open for catchment.
11. *Enthal* – small waterbody holding only rainwater
12. *Odai* – Brook or small stream
13. *Kattunginakkinaru* – Built-in Well
14. *Kadal* - Sea
15. *Kanmaai* – another name for *Eri*, of Pandyan Origin. *Eri* with sluice holes (*Kan* – eye)
16. *Kalingu* – A traditional sluice-gate made of stones, wooden planks and sandbags, with several venturi.
17. *Kayam* – lake, perennial lake.
18. *Kazhimugam* – Estuary
19. *Kazhiveli* - Wetlands
20. *Kaal* – Water channel
21. *Kaal vaai* – channel/canal leading water to *Eris* and other waterbodies.
22. *Kaayal* - lagoon
23. *Kuttam* – large pond.
24. *Kuttai* – small pond. Sometimes the place where cattle is washed.
25. *Kundam* – small natural pool used for bathing
26. *Kundu* – large natural pool used for bathing
27. *Kumizhi* – a rock-cut well fed by a spring.
28. *Kumizhi Ootru* – Artesian fountain.
29. *Kumizhitthoombu* – A regulated sluice gate in an *Eri*.
30. *Kulam* – bathing tank near the village.
31. *Koovum* – a abnormal, strangely shaped well
32. *Kooval* – a well-like hollow
33. *Vaali* – stream fed by subterranean current, as an offshoot from a riverbed.
34. *Keni* – a large deep well
35. *Nadhi* - River
36. *Samutthiram* – Ocean
37. *Satthuppu* – Swamp.
38. *Sirai* – large reservoir
39. *Sunai* – a natural pool in the mountain.
40. *Sengai* – pond defined by duckweed.
41. *Thadam* – Aesthetically constructed bathing tank.
42. *Thalikkulam* – Lake surrounding a temple like a moat.

43. *Thangal* – a manmade reservoir for irrigation, often one protected by the community – for the functions it plays and/or the life it holds.
44. *Thirukkulam* – temple tank.
45. *Theppakkulam* – Temple tank with a paved path along the parapet.
46. *Thodu Kinaru* – a temporary dig-well in the river bed.
47. *Nadai Keni* – Large well with steps on one side.
48. *Neeravi* – Large tank with a resting place (Mandapam) in the middle.
49. *Pillaikinaru* – well dug in the lake bed.
50. *Pongukinaru* – Well fed by a bubbling spring.
51. *Poigai* – a lake defined by lotus and lilies, and general natural beauty.
52. *Madu* – A deep place in a river.
53. *Madai* – small sluice with a single venturi.
54. *Madhagu* – sluice with several venturi.
55. *Marukaal* – a channel dug for overflow water.
56. *Valayam* – a round tank.
57. *Valaikudaa* - Gulf
58. *Vaikaal* – small water course/canal dug for irrigation.
59. *Virikudaa* - Bay