

Discover Sri Lankan Experiences



Secrets of Ceylon Collection

Unique and boutique experiences



Secrets of Ceylon offers you individually owned and managed properties, run as a hotel, hosted by a butler (some by the owner) and we are brought together by the desire to share our creations with travellers. We offer authentic and home style cuisine, as well as unique locations and settings (as many have been in the family for over 100 years).

Each property also offers a unique experience (minimum stay of 2 nights), for example :

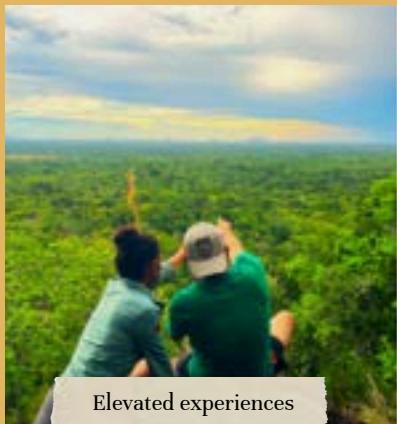
Villa Idal offers a free train ride to an isolated community and kavum cooking at a villagers home

Kulu Safaris offers an expert guide led experience in to Yala National Park as well as free kayaking or bird watching

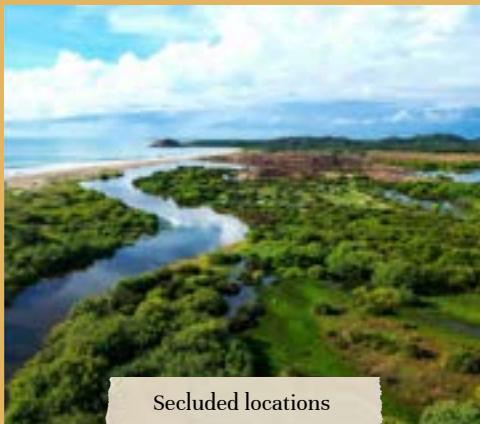
Ferncliff Bunaglow offers a free audio guided walking tour of Nuwara Eliya

There are twelve experiences across nine locations including : near the airport (Pannala), Sigiriya, near Kandy (Ramboda), Nuwara Eliya, Haputale, Idalgashinna, Arugam Bay, Yala, beach (Matara), & Colombo.

Visit www.SecretsofCeylonCollection.com



Elevated experiences



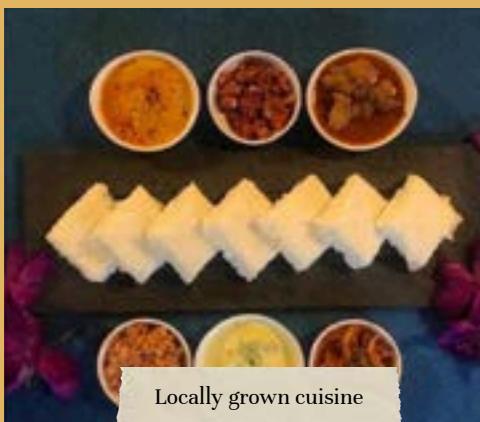
Secluded locations



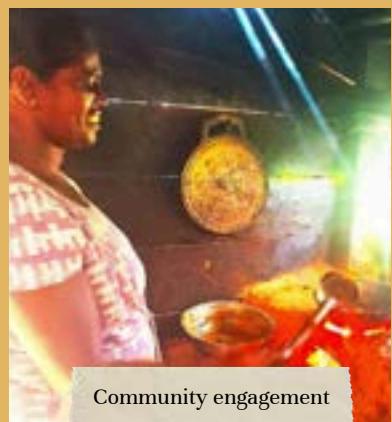
Magical moments



Personalized service



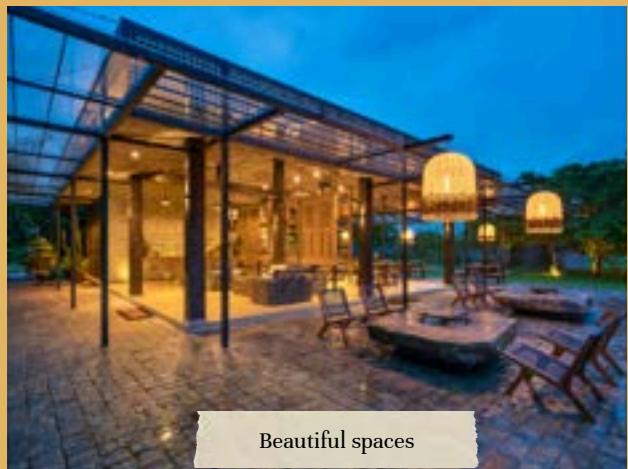
Locally grown cuisine



Community engagement



Touches of luxury



Beautiful spaces

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Peacock Hill - Sigiriya

Horathapola Coconut Estate - Pannala

BIA Airport

Zylan - Colombo

Forgotten Colombo on a Landy

Idal Villa - Idalgashinna

Floating Mountain Villa - Ramboda

Ferncliff Bungalow - Nuwara Eliya

Kudakalliya Beach Houses - Arugam Bay

Hapu Tales - Lower Haputale

Kulu Safaris - Yala

Wild Culture - Yala

3 Sisters Beach House - Matara

Reservations

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Horathapola Coconut Estate

Pannala



Highlights

Free Estate walking tour to learn about the coconut tree, cashew and coffee.

Large Garden | Spacious Swimming Pool | Jungle Jacuzzi | Reading Area | Several Dining Locations

2 Family Suites

3 Rooms

Sleeps 16 guests

Horathapola Coconut Estate is a 100-year-old family home set on a working coconut estate, providing a wonderful introduction to Sri Lankan rural life. Located just an hour from the airport, it's ideal for guests seeking a truly Sri Lankan experience as part of their orientation and welcome to the island. The gardens are lush, the lawn expansive, and the setting perfect to recover from your flight. Guests are invited to embark on a guided tour of the estate, discovering Sri Lanka's flora and fauna and the many uses of the coconut tree in Sri Lanka.

Experiences Beyond

Yapahuwa – Visit the ancient rock fortress of Yapahuwa, once a royal capital, and marvel at its impressive stone stairways and rich historical significance.

Anawilundawa Wetland – Immerse yourself in the tranquility of this Ramsar Wetland Sanctuary, home to a diverse array of bird species and vibrant aquatic life.

Anamaduwa Paramakanda Cave Temple – Discover the serene Paramakanda Cave Temple in Anamaduwa, a hidden gem offering a peaceful spiritual atmosphere and stunning natural surroundings.

Panduwasnuwara – Explore this ancient capital, a historic site linked to Yapahuwa, where you can discover centuries-old palace ruins, dagobas, and royal ponds. For those up for an adventure, cycling is an option.

Munneswaram Kovil – Explore this ancient and revered Hindu temple, known for its intricate architecture and deep spiritual significance.

Wilpattu National Park – Discover one of Sri Lanka's oldest and largest national parks, renowned unique landscape.

Fishing Villages of Negombo – Wander through the charming fishing villages along Negombo's coast, where you can witness the daily routines of local fishermen.







Peacock Hill

Sigiriya

Opening
Summer
2025



Highlights

Free afternoon tea and evening sunset drink.

View of Sigiriya Rock | Garden | Swimming Pool | Indoor & Outdoor Dining



Sleeps 8 guests

Peacock Hill is a refined three-room boutique experience, elegantly nestled on a hillside with breathtaking views of the iconic Sigiriya Rock, and bordered by the serene Wewala Lake. The peaceful, idyllic surroundings offer a perfect retreat for those wishing to explore the historic Sigiriya or simply bask in the tranquility of nature. With its intimate atmosphere and personalised service, this exquisite haven provides an ideal sanctuary for a restorative 2–3 night stay.

Experiences Beyond

Sigiriya – Explore this ancient rock fortress and gardens.

Dambulla – Explore the Dambulla Cave Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site adorned with ancient Buddhist murals and statues.

Enderagala – Trek to Enderagala, a serene rock formation offering solitude and scenic vistas, ideal for meditation and nature walks.

Polonnaruwa – Wander through the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, marveling at well-preserved ruins of palaces, temples, and statues from a bygone era.

Anuradhapura – Visit Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka's first capital,

to see the Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi tree and impressive stupas.

Pidurangala – Hike up for a breathtaking view of Sigiriya Rock and the lush surroundings. The sunrise from here is particularly breathtaking.

Minneriya and Elephant Gathering – Visit Minneriya National Park which is particularly popular during July to September to witness "The Gathering," where hundreds of elephants congregate near the reservoir.

Village Cooking Experience – Engage in a hands-on village cooking class to learn traditional Sri Lankan recipes, using fresh, local ingredients.

Thambilil Watte Farm – Tour the Thambilil Watte to learn about sustainable farming practices.







Floating Mountain Villa

Ramboda



Highlights

Butler service, free high tea and choose from one of the following; floating breakfast, cooking demonstration, sunset cocktail or hillside picnic - minimum 2 nights on half board (if booked through a travel agent).

Spectacular Views | Swimming Pool | 7 Dining Locations | Massage Pavilion



Tucked away in the lush hills of Ramboda, Floating Mountain Villa offers a serene retreat with unparalleled views of rolling tea plantations and the Kotmale Reservoir. Situated 50 metres from the 3rd stage of the renowned Pekoe Trail, the villa provides an ideal base for exploring Sri Lanka's scenic hill country, where you can discover cascading waterfalls, historical sites, and verdant landscapes. With personalised butler service, the villa promises a stay of utmost comfort, complemented by a delightful culinary experience. Enjoy high tea, savour local flavours, and choose from a range of activities. Offering a quieter, more intimate alternative to Kandy, Floating Mountain Villa is the perfect escape for those seeking an experience in nature's embrace.

Experiences Beyond

Pekoe Trail (3rd Stage) – Hike through tea-covered hills and villages on the picturesque 3rd or 4th stage of the Pekoe Trail, a window into rural Sri Lankan life.

Sri Baktha Hanuman Kovil – Discover the historical and spiritual significance of this revered Hindu temple, a key part of Sri Lanka's cultural heritage.

Ramboda Waterfall – A very accessible waterfall to experience natures power and meditate to the rhythm of the water.

Chariot Path / Sita Tear Pond – An area on top of a mountain range which forms part of the Ramayan trail blending Sri Lanka's natural beauty with its mythological roots of King Rawana.

Peacock Hill and Pusulpitiya Temple – Enjoy panoramic views from Peacock Hill and explore the Pusulpitiya Temple, where Prince Dutugemunu spent his formative years.

Kotmale Dam – Marvel at the engineering brilliance of Kotmale Dam, surrounded by stunning landscapes that invite exploration and reflection.







Ferncliff Bungalow

Nuwara Eliya



Highlights

Ferncliff provides you a rare glimpse in to a family property dating back to the 1870's. Free audio walking guide allows you to discover the unique town of Nuwara Eliya in her full splendour.

2.8 Acre Garden | Walking Tour | Clubhouse | Library | Summer Hut | Indoor & Outdoor Dining



Ferncliff Bungalow, a charming heritage retreat, invites guests to experience the timeless allure of Nuwara Eliya. This family-owned property, ideally located in the heart of the town, offers effortless access to landmarks such as the iconic Post Office, the Nuwara Eliya Golf Course, the verdant Queen Victoria Park and the majestic Piduruthalagala mountain range. Seamlessly blending the elegance of its colonial past with contemporary comforts, Ferncliff is an idyllic choice for those seeking relaxation, exploration, or a harmonious mix of both. For a deeper connection to the area, guests can embark on a self-guided audio tour of Nuwara Eliya using the Balamu app, with complimentary access via code 1234.

Experiences Beyond

Pekoe Trail (22nd Stage) – Hike a the famous last stage of the Pekoe Trail which is just a 45 minute walk from the property.

Lover's Leap Waterfall – A picturesque waterfall with a legend, accessed via a short hike, offering panoramic views of Nuwara Eliya.

Galway National Park – A small sanctuary perfect for birdwatching and enjoying the rich biodiversity of Sri Lanka.

Horton Plains National Park – Explore Sri Lanka's rich biodiversity and wildlife, hike to World's End and Baker Falls. If you are lucky you will see leopards.

Pedro Tea Estate – A working tea plantation where you can learn about tea production, and enjoy a fresh cup of tea.

Piduruthalagala Mountain – Embark on a hike to Sri Lanka's tallest peak or explore Kirigalpoththa for a quieter yet equally rewarding experience.

Moon Plains – A breathtaking plateau with panoramic mountain and valley views.

Hakgala Botanical Gardens – A lush garden with diverse flora, including exotic flowers and ferns, offering tranquility and vibrant colors. Believed to be the location where Ravana made for Seetha.







Highlights

Free train ride, remote train station tour and visit to a village home - minimum 2 nights. Hosted by an enchanting couple.

Views of Sunrise | Sauna & Cold Pool Therapy | Gym | Sports Massage



Tucked away in the tranquil hills of Sri Lanka, Idal Villa offers a truly immersive experience, where a secluded trail and scenic train ride offer a window into the charm of rural mountain life. This hosted villa stay is thoughtfully designed to connect guests with both the region's natural beauty and its local culture. For those staying two nights or more, a guided train journey and picnic breakfast lead to a village home, providing a rare opportunity to experience the warmth of local hospitality.

Nestled in the cool, mist-kissed climes of Idalgashinna, the villa boasts panoramic views and an atmosphere of calm, far from the bustle of more crowded tourist spots. Whether you're drawn to the crisp mountain air, the serene vistas, or the chance to engage with welcoming hosts, Idal Villa promises a refreshing and enriching stay in the heart of Sri Lanka's highlands.

Experiences Beyond

Idalgashinna Train Station – A quaint station nestled in the hills, perfect for scenic views and hikes.

Haputale Train Station – A picturesque train station offering easy access to Haputale town and surrounding tea estates.

Horton Plains National Park (Ohiya entrance) – A highland plateau with unique biodiversity, offering hiking trails to World's End and Baker's Falls.

Thangamale Bird Sanctuary – Close to Idalgashinna, this sanctuary's trails are perfect for spotting local and migratory

birds like the yellow-eared bulbul.

Bambarakanda Falls – Sri Lanka's tallest waterfall, an ideal picnic spot with nearby trails leading to refreshing views of the falls.

Devil's Staircase – For adventure seekers, this challenging hike with steep ascents and rugged paths rewards with awe-inspiring views and a thrilling experience.

Pekoe Trail (12th Stage) – This segment of the famed Pekoe Trail takes you through some of the most breathtaking parts of Sri Lanka's hill country.





Hapu Tales

Lower Haputale



Highlights

Soak in vast, breathtaking views, hosted by the gracious founder, and enjoy a complimentary cultural Thaal meal minimum 2 nights on half board.

Unmatched Views | Garden | Swimming Pool | Indoor & Outdoor Dining



Sleeps 10 guests

Nestled between Sri Lanka's tallest waterfalls, Bambarakanda and Diyaluma, Hapu Tales offers a peaceful retreat in the serene beauty of the island's hill country. Located just a short distance from Ella, it provides an excellent alternative in the lower reaches of Haputale. Set within lush gardens and surrounded by a working mini tea plantation, the villa features four uniquely designed rooms, panoramic mountain views, and an ensuite double jacuzzi with a breathtaking view for the ultimate in relaxation.

For those staying two nights or more on half-board basis, the Thaal cuisine experience offers a culinary journey rooted in traditional Bohra recipes, promising to delight and surprise the palate. Hapu Tales is the perfect destination for those seeking a tranquil retreat that honours both the natural beauty of Sri Lanka's hill country and its rich cultural heritage.

Experiences Beyond

Diyaluma Falls – Explore the spectacular Diyaluma Falls, perfect for a day of trekking to Upper Diyaluma and swimming in the rock pools.

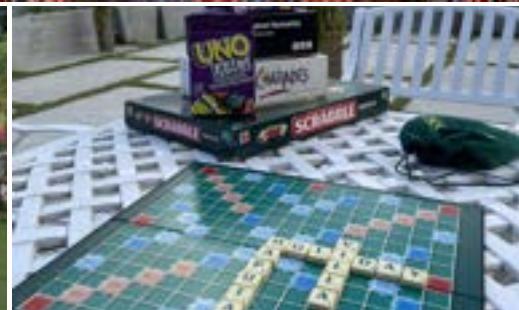
Beragala Town – Visit the local village for a glimpse into rural Sri Lankan life and access to small shops and markets.

Lipton's Seat – Climb to this viewpoint where Sir Thomas Lipton once admired his tea fields. The 360-degree views are stunning, perfect for photography.

Bambarakanda Falls – Discover Sri Lanka's highest waterfall, a 1-hour drive away, for a picturesque hike and scenic views.

Pekoe Trail (13th Stage) – Hapu Tales is ideally situated as your home base for Stage 13 (Haputale to St. Catherine) of this walking trail through the Central Highlands of Sri Lanka.

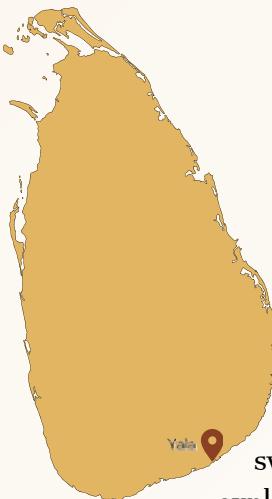
Buduragawala – Uncover ancient rock-carved serenity just a 1-hour drive away. Marvel at the towering 10th-century Buddha statues set against a tranquil forest backdrop.





Wild Culture

Yala



Highlights

Enjoy two pools, sunset fire lighting ceremony and dinner under the stars - minimum 2 nights on half board.

Spacious Garden | Two Swimming Pools | Indoor & Outdoor Dining | Archery Range | Basketball and Mini Golf



Situated in the residential area about 20 minutes from the Palatupana entrance of the Yala National Park, Wild Culture is an expansive retreat designed to provide a perfect balance of relaxation and adventure. With stunning views over lush paddy fields, two swimming pools, and vast garden spaces, this unique oasis offers a luxurious base for exploring Yala's wildlife or simply unwinding in serene natural surroundings. Catering especially well to families, Wild Culture includes engaging activities like archery, mini-golf, and basketball. The dedicated hosts, ensuring that every guest enjoys a memorable stay enriched by attentive service and authentic Sri Lankan hospitality.

Experiences Beyond

Yala National Park – Just 20 minutes away, the Palatupana entrance provides easy access to thrilling wildlife safaris in Yala National Park, home to leopards, elephants, and a diverse array of flora and fauna.

Udawalawe National Park – Renowned for elephant sightings, this park is a must-visit for wildlife enthusiasts.

Bundala National Park – A short drive away, this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is a haven for birdwatchers, with migratory species and wetland ecosystems to explore.

Kirinda Temple – A historic temple perched on coastal rocks,

offering stunning views and cultural significance.

Tissamaharama Temple – Explore this ancient Buddhist site, known for its towering stupa and serene atmosphere, offering a glimpse into Sri Lanka's rich history.

Kirivehera & Kataragama Temple – Visit this sacred multi-religious pilgrimage site, revered by Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims, and experience its vibrant rituals.

Kirinda Beach – Unwind at this picturesque beach, known for its scenic views and the historic Kirinda Temple perched on the rocks.

Tissa Wewa – Take a stroll around or boat ride in this tranquil reservoir, surrounded by lush greenery.

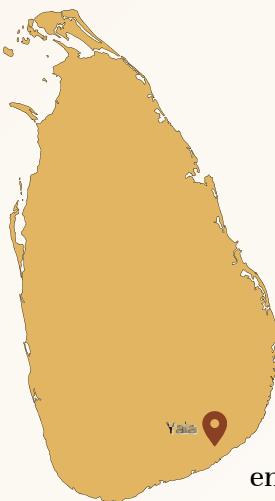






Kulu Safaris

Yala



Highlights

Your entire stay is curated by your expert guide who will take you on safari, bird watching, hillside walk and kayaking on the lake. Dine under the stars with drinks.

Expert Guides | Classic Canvas Tents | Safari in our own Land Cruiser | Numerous Dining Locations

2 Family Tents

4 Tents

Sleeps 20 guests

For those seeking an unrivalled safari adventure, Kulu operates its own fleet of specially equipped vehicles (Toyota Land Cruisers), guided by expert naturalists to ensure an immersive, personalised exploration of the jungle. Beyond safaris, Kulu Safaris guided birdwatching, kayaking on the tranquil lake, or a hillside nature walk, each designed to showcase the beauty of Sri Lanka's wild landscapes.

Kulu Safaris consists of six elevated, air-conditioned classic canvas tents that blend rustic charm with modern comforts. Featuring wooden decks, framed doors (as opposed to zips), spacious interiors, and large en-suite bathrooms with hot water, each tent is designed to provide a serene retreat amidst nature.

Dining at Kulu is as unforgettable as the setting, with private meals served on your tent's deck, by the lake, or in a one-of-a-kind treehouse. Each meal is a curated event, celebrating local flavours and the serene wilderness.

Dedicated to sustainable tourism, Kulu Safaris champions sustainability through renewable energy, water conservation, and environmentally friendly practices, ensuring a seamless harmony between comfortable living and the preservation of nature.







Kudakalliya Beach Houses

Arugam Bay



Highlights

Thrilling safaris by day, secluded beach bliss by afternoon, and quite retreat by night.

Private House | Proximity to Wildlife Parks | Spacious Verandas | Next to the River



3 Beach Houses



8 Rooms



Sleeps 32 guests

Tucked between a serene riverside and an untouched beach, Kudakalliya Beach Houses offers a tranquil escape just south of the lively surf town of Arugam Bay. Perfect for those seeking seclusion while remaining close to the town's vibrant energy, this retreat features three unique beach houses, providing an authentic, off-the-grid getaway.

Mornings can be spent on exhilarating safaris in nearby wildlife parks, followed by leisurely afternoons on the secluded beach. Seasonally (after the Maha and Yala cultivations), guests are treated to the enchanting sight of elephants bathing in the river beside the property—an experience that lingers long after the stay.

Experiences Beyond

National Parks – Explore **Kumana** (Yala East) and **Lahugala** with guided tours available most of the year, offering up-close encounters with Sri Lanka's wildlife.

Crocodile Rock – Spot native wildlife, including elephants (seasonally) and bird species, near the property's scenic riverside location. Spectacular sunsets and sunrises.

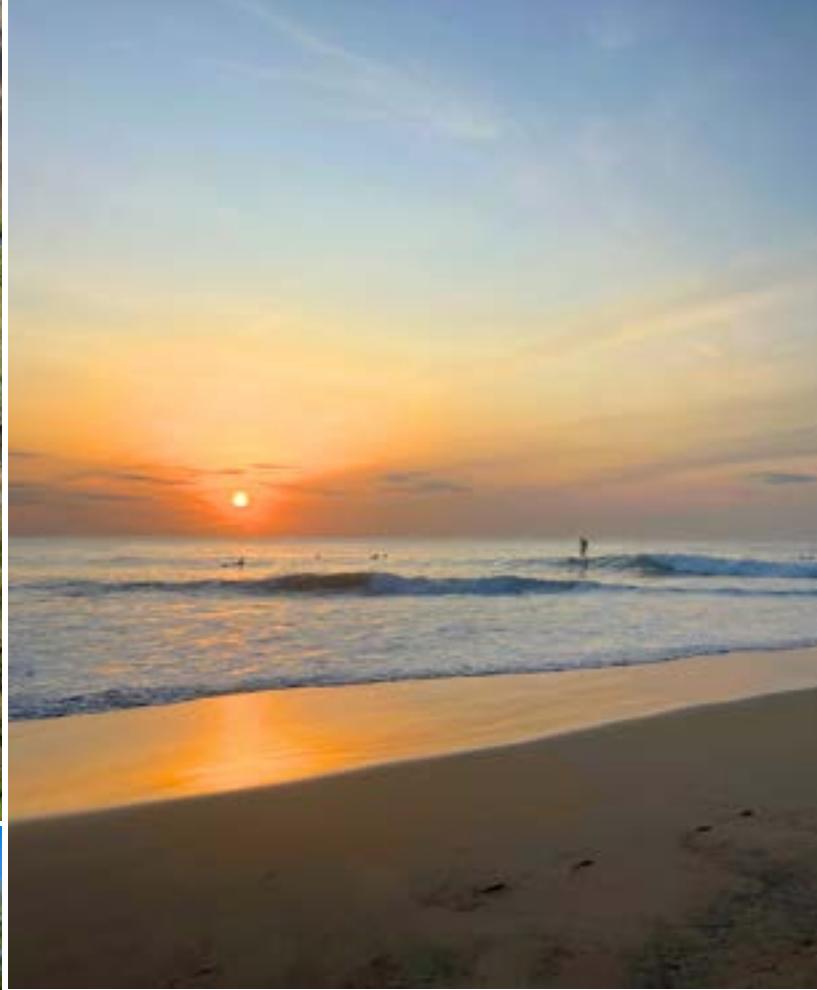
Beachside – There are several beaches nearby including Elephant Point, a less crowded beach, 20 minute walk south of the beach houses.

Surf Point Proximity – Most of the famous surf points like Main Point, Peanut Farm, Elephant Rock are close proximity.

Arugam Bay Town – 15 minutes tuk ride away.

Yoga & Surf Classes – available on request.

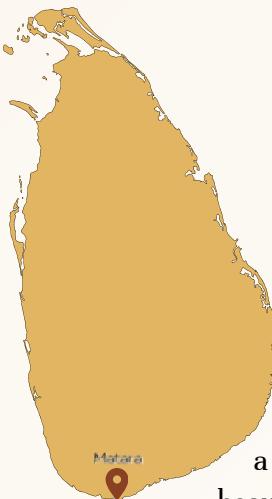






3 Sisters Beach House

Matara



Highlights

A private haven for families, friends, or honeymooners, with surf and history at your doorstep.

Quiet Beach | Garden | Swimming Pool | Exclusive Use | Indoor & Outdoor Dining



3 Sisters Beach House is a peaceful escape for those seeking exclusivity and tranquility. Far from large hotels and crowds, this beach house is a hidden gem ideal for surfing, swimming, or simply basking in the privacy of a quiet beach. Embraced by a lush garden, this villa offers the perfect blend of Dutch-inspired architecture, a beautiful pool, and exceptional service to create an intimate stay. Whether you're looking for a peaceful retreat with family, an exclusive getaway with friends, or a honeymoon, 3 Sisters offers it all.

Experiences Beyond

Mirissa, Weligama & Hiriketiya Beach – are all closeby offering many restaurants & bars.

Mirissa Harbour – for whale watching

Dondra Head Lighthouse – The tallest lighthouse in Sri Lanka, one of the tallest in South Asia in the southernmost point of Sri Lanka.

Weherahena Buddhist Temple – Renowned for its giant Buddha statue and colorful murals depicting Buddhist teachings.

Star Fort Matara – A small but well-preserved Dutch fort built in the shape of a star.

Matara Fort – Step into the colonial past at Matara Fort, a

historic Dutch stronghold by the ocean. Beyond its ramparts, discover a lively atmosphere with charming cafés and seafood restaurants, perfect for enjoying a meal with coastal views.

Hummanaya Blow Hole – Hummanaya Blowhole is thought to be the second largest blowhole in the world.

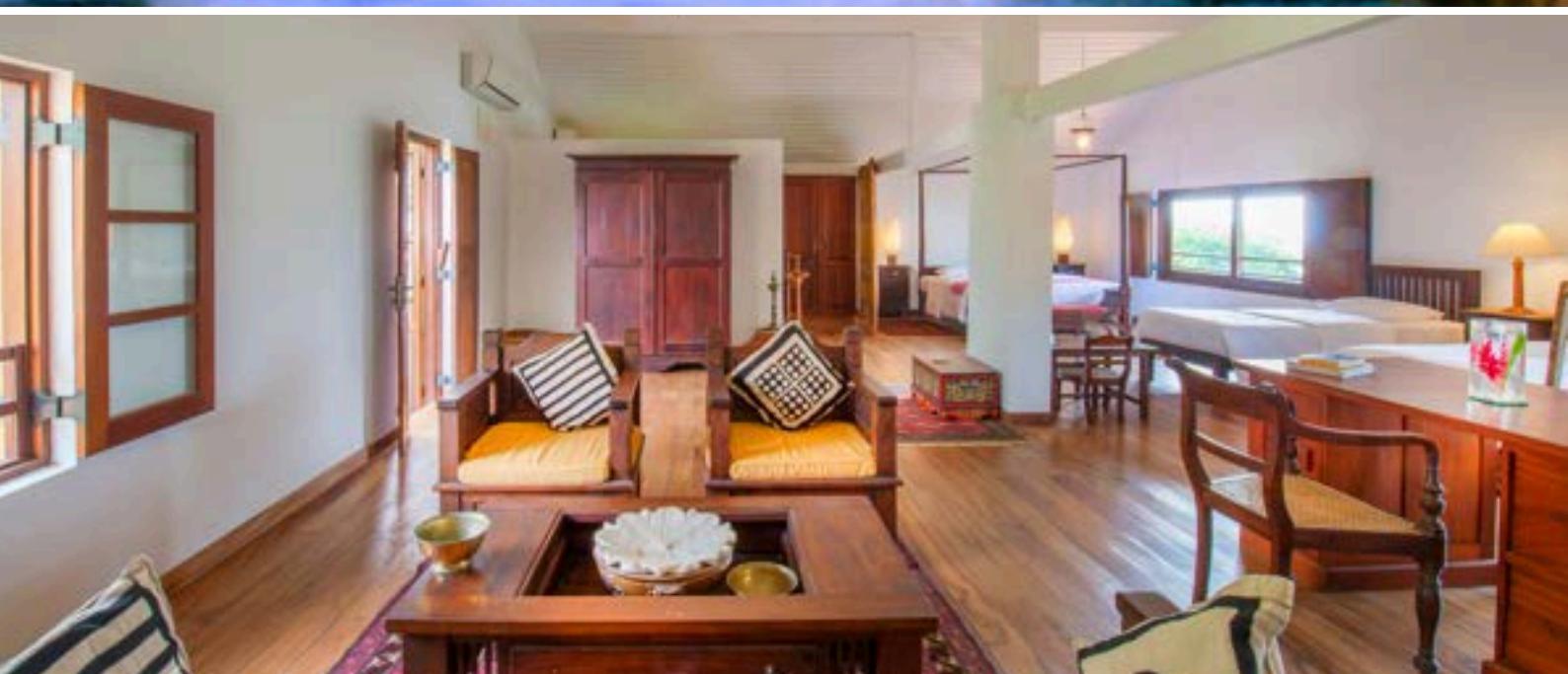
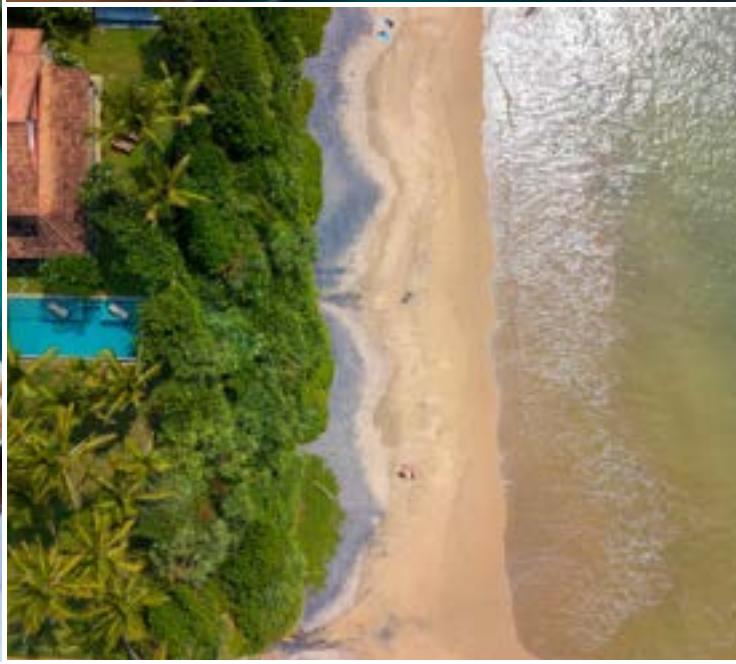
Kirala Kele Wetland – A peaceful retreat with walking trails, birdwatching, and lush greenery.

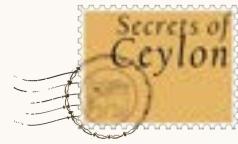
Kushtarajagala Statue (near Weligama) – An ancient rock carving believed to represent a Bodhisattva.

Handunugoda Tea Estate – Experience “tea by the sea” at this low-country plantation known for its virgin white tea.

Hiyare – A tranquil forest reserve and biodiversity hotspot surrounding a scenic reservoir, ideal for bird watching and peaceful nature walks.







Highlights

Close proximity to Golf Club, shops such as Odel and Paradise Road. Attractions such as Saskia's Gallery, Love Bar and Prana Lounge.

Roof Top Pool | Cafe | Zen Japanese Restaurant | Private Balcony

2 Suites

5 Rooms

Sleeps 15 guests

Located in the residential Colombo 7 area, Zylan offers a stylish retreat just steps away from the city's vibrant art galleries, shops, restaurants, and bars. Designed to feel like a hidden oasis within the capital, Zylan's rooftop pool, serene atmosphere, and on-site dining make it a perfect choice for travelers who want the best of Colombo within walking distance. With a mix of standard rooms, and two suites, this boutique hotel provides comfort and elegance at an exceptional value.

Experiences Beyond

Saskia Fernando Gallery – Discover contemporary Sri Lankan art just minutes from the hotel.

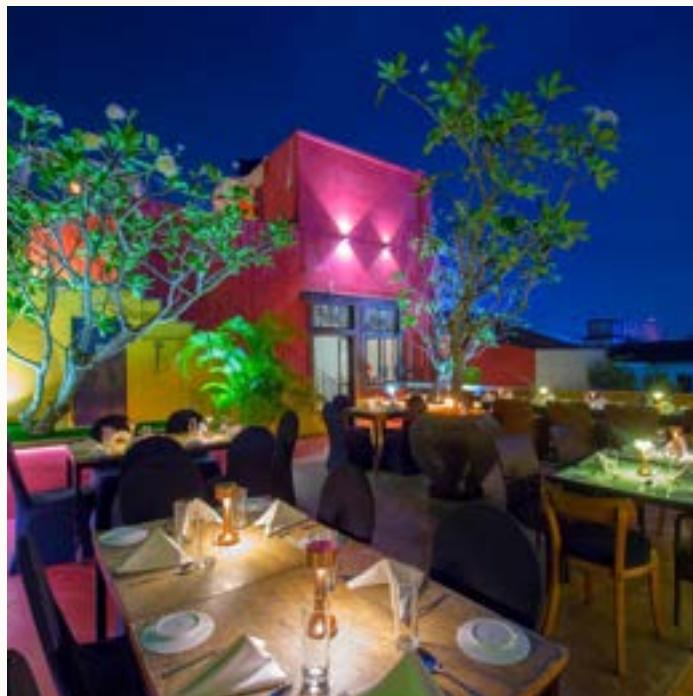
The Royal Colombo Golf Club – Established in 1879, the Royal Colombo Golf Club is Sri Lanka's oldest golf club. Notably, a functioning railway line runs through its course.

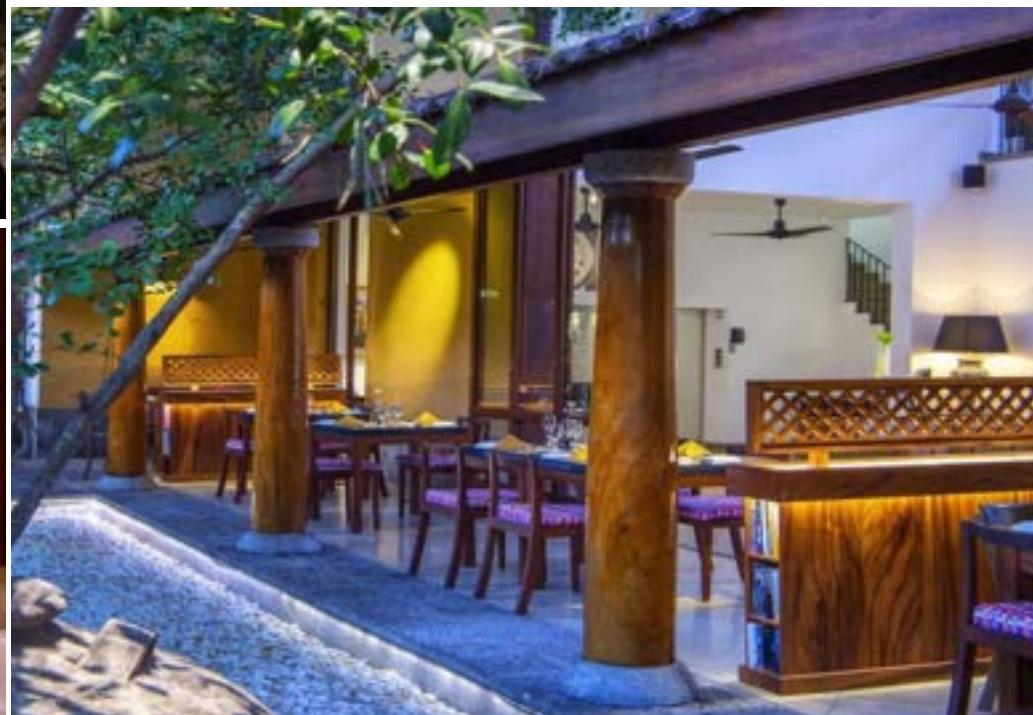
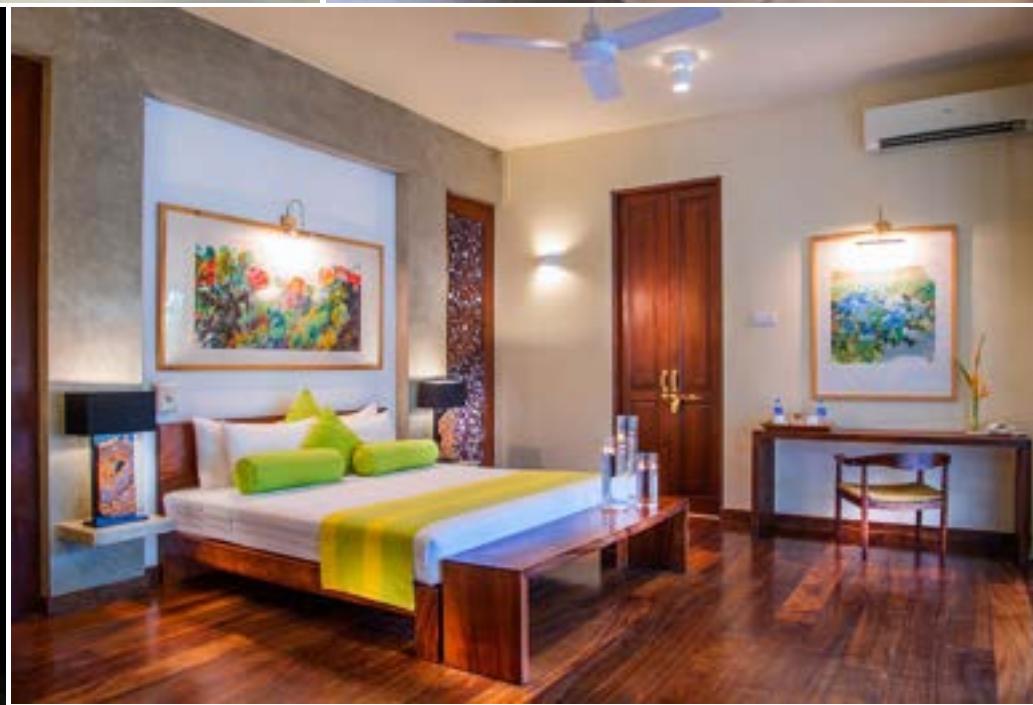
Various other shopping venues and local attractions are also easily accessible from Zylan, ensuring guests have a myriad of options to explore.

Love Bar – A popular rooftop bar known for its creative cocktails and vibrant atmosphere.

Prana Lounge – A serene wellness center offering yoga classes, massages, and holistic therapies.

Odel, House of Fashion & Paradise Road – Colombo's iconic stores, perfect for fashion, souvenirs, and more.







Forgotten Colombo on a Landy



Highlights

Explore hidden gems in a vintage Land Rover with chilled drinks in hand.

Unlimited Beers & Soft Drinks | Street food Sampling | Expert Guide | 3 Stops

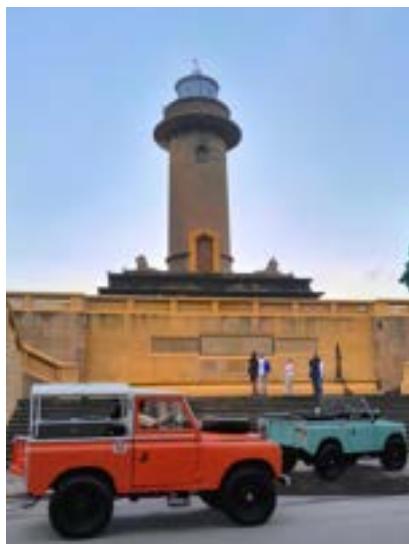


Embark on a fascinating 2 to 3-hour afternoon tour of Colombo's lesser-known treasures aboard a classic Land Rover. With chilled beers or refreshing soft drinks in hand, your expert guide will unveil the hidden stories behind the city's cultural landmarks and off-the-beaten-path gems. Whether you're a first-time visitor or a seasoned traveller, this immersive tour offers a unique perspective of Colombo, blending history, culture, and tradition into one unforgettable experience.

Forgotten Colombo offers a refreshing departure from the typical city tour, designed to uncover the rich history, culture, and local charm often overlooked by many travellers. Guided by an expert, you'll venture off the beaten path to explore the city's lesser-known treasures, from hidden colonial architecture to vibrant local haunts.

This immersive experience is made all the more memorable aboard a classic Land Rover, adding an adventurous flair to your journey through Sri Lanka's dynamic capital. Ideal for those seeking a truly authentic exploration, this tour offers a captivating and intimate view of Colombo.





PALK STRAIT

Scale 1:800,000

LEGEND

