



## 04 ADISHAM BUNGALOW

This is well-known for its picturesque surrounding full of greenery which adds an astonishing view of the Uva valley. This bungalow was once the house of Sri Thomas Lester Villers who was a British planter, and now is a monastery owned by the Benedictine Monks. It is only open on the weekends and holidays for public visits.

### THINGS TO DO

- View the Orchards all around the bungalow.
- Visit the bungalow and get a closer look at the bungalow, the library, etc.
- Taste the natural jam and cordial prepared in the orchards themselves.
- Witness the magnificent nature and the bird sanctuary in the thick forest on the side of the bungalow.

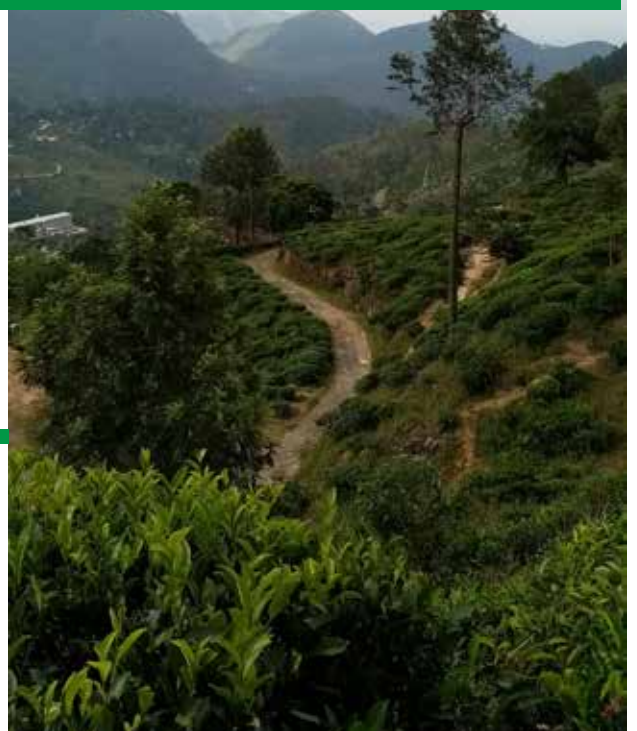


This backyard mountain is a dominant mountain in the Uva region and is located in the margin of the districts Badulla and Moneragala. The name 'Namunukula' is given as the mountain range consists of nine peaks. This mountain is one of the most popular among locals as well as tourists for hiking.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT MISS

- Watch the enchanting nature through the massive tea plantations while climbing the mountain.
- Enjoy the peaceful environment and the cool weather.
- Check out the small shines of Buddha, Vishnu, and Ganesh on the top of the plateau.

## 05 NAMUNUKULA MOUNTAIN





# 06

## MINI WORLD'S PEAK

This Mini Worlds End Madulsima is the second-best world's end located in the Knuckles Mountain Range. This is the best place to visit if you are looking for an adventurous hike. Feel comfortable to take breaks in the summer huts on the way to get rid of the tiredness.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT MISS

- Check out the enchanting waterfalls on the way.
- Watch the splendid sunset on the top of the mountain.
- Climb the mountain early to get a clear view before the surrounding gets foggy.
- Have a calmingly adventurous view on the deadly slope near the world's end.



# 07

## ELLA ROCK

Ella Rock is the best-known place among travelers in Badulla for its captivating surroundings which never make you tired of exploring. The hiking trail will lead you to the breathtaking Ella Rock peak.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT MISS

- Get a chance to visit the Nine Arches Bridge.
- Check out the charming waterfalls like Diyaluma, Babarakanda, Ravana Ella waterfalls on the way to the Ella Rock.
- Explore the countryside roads in Sri Lanka.
- Taste the perfectly burned corns on the way.
- Embrace the panoramic view of the sunrise in the dawn.







Lipton's Seat viewpoint was named after the Scottish businessman Thomas Lipton who collaborated in introducing tea gardens to the country. This is a must-visited vantage point in Badulla. You will be able to witness the Sabaragamuwa, Uva, Central, Eastern provinces from the viewpoint.

### WHAT YOU SHOULDN'T MISS

- Gaze into the sky and watch the dull mountains turn into a vibrant green.
- Try to visit in the early morning to watch the sunrise clearly without the mist.
- Check out the waterfalls on the way to the viewpoint.
- Get the best view in the early morning as the surroundings get wrapped by mist and fog by evenings.



# MONTE RAGALA





01

## ELLA WALA WATERFALL

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This waterfall is one of the waterfalls that are still untouched and unnoticed wonders of Sri Lanka located in the Moneragala district. It lies hidden in the jungle and to get into the fall you should walk a few hundred meters into the jungle. This is a well-known natural pool with cold water.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT MISS

- Get a chance to spend the night and enjoy the beauty of the surrounding.
- Have a cool bath in the charming surrounding.
- Have the best chance to relax your mind in the peaceful nature.



# SOUTHERN PROVINCE

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# SOUTHERN PROVINCE



## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE

The Southern Province is the 3rd most popular province of Sri Lanka, with a population of over 2.5 million people. This southern coastal belt, which stretches throughout the south coast of the island, is edged by Sabaragamuwa and Uva provinces to the north, the Eastern Province to the northeast, and the Western Province to the northwest while bordering the Indian Ocean to the south. The Southern Province is subdivided into three main districts: Galle, Matara, and Hambanthota, with Galle being the capital of the province.

The province is a stunningly diverse region with many attractions for tourists to explore. It is home to several beautiful beaches, and the wildlife here is plentiful and diverse. The important historic sites and religious monuments in the region make it much more worthwhile for visitors to visit and learn more about the history and culture of the island.

The province is mostly attracted by visitors for its natural trails and rainforests, which are also home to the unique Sri Lankan elephant and many other species of flora and fauna. Its abundance of beach destinations, which are ideal for many activities such as scuba diving, whale watching, and other water sports and wildlife adventures, mixed with its favorable climatic conditions, makes the tourist more interested in the region. There are also many interesting towns and villages in the region to explore, including ancient forts and other picturesque rural areas where visitors can immerse themselves in the local culture and experience traditional village life.

The region is popular for its wide range of attractions and the laid-back vibe that makes it a relaxing and pleasant place to enjoy your holiday. This eye-catching tourist hotspot is blessed with year-round warm temperatures and white sandy beaches in the southern coastal belt that are ideal for relaxing. The rich and lush agriculture of the region supports the bulk of the country's consistent production. The abundance of the vast coastal line also assists the country's fishing industry. Though the province is seemingly smaller than the other provinces, it owns a wide diversity of landmarks ranging from warm beaches, national parks, religious monuments, ancient architectural buildings, and colonial landmarks. Tourists who visit this province can get a whole package of mixed experiences by engaging in adventurous hiking activities, surfing, and diving activities while traveling through the stunning landmarks.

## A BIT OF HISTORY

The southern province has a rich history dating back to earlier days; however, most of the historical landmarks that still stand strong are from colonial times. The majority of the historic towns in the Galle and Matara districts were founded during colonial rule in the 18th and 19th centuries. Colonial landmarks such as forts and other sites built by the Portuguese, Dutch, and British that are preserved in the area can still be seen, attracting a large number of tourists. The Galle Fort, Old Dutch Hospital, Dutch Commissariat, Dutch warehouse in Galle, and the Star Fort in Matara are some of the evidence of the colonial eras of the island.



# CLIMATE

The climate in the southern province is generally hot and humid throughout the year, with monsoon rains occurring from October to January. Galle and Matara districts consist of a wet climate, while the Hambanthota district experiences a dry climate, as the region itself is called a semi-arid region. The Galle district, in particular, has a tropical wet climate with a significant amount of rainfall throughout the year and a short dry season. The annual rainfall is about 2307 mm. The southwest monsoon provides heavy rains for the Galle and Matara districts from May to September. Similarly, the Matara district experiences an equal amount of rainfall throughout the year with a short dry season. On the contrary, the Hambanthota district experiences hot temperatures and less rainfall, with an annual temperature of 27 °C (80.7 °F). The region contains harsh, dry climates because of its location close to the equator.



GALLE



MATHARA



HAMBANTHOTA





# GALLE





There's none other than Galle Fort that you must visit if you are in Sri Lanka. The Fort is initially built by the Portuguese and then by the Dutch in colonial times and is one of the ancient fortresses in Asia. It is recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site due to the iconic monuments and the blended ancient architecture. It is one of the top favorite colonial splendors among locals as well as tourists. You would love to roam around the fort either if you are traveling alone or with your partner as the evenings are overwhelming.

## WHAT YOU MUST NOT MISS

- The splendid sunset and the pink-ish-purple skies in the evenings.
- The romantic nights with warm streetlights and clean streets.
- Try the blended cultural dishes in the small restaurants on either side of the streets.
- Try out a Cocktail or whatever drink you like from cafes and restaurants.
- Explore the unique architecture and old buildings.
- Explore the several museums inside the fort for a very affordable price.
- Appreciate the warm ocean below the fort.
- Get souvenirs, clothes, jewelry from the shops on either side of the street.
- Have a romantic dinner night with loved ones in a nearby restaurant while enjoying the sunset.





# 02

## HIKKADUWA

Among the number of beaches Galle consists, Hikkaduwa beach is one of the popular beach-es around Galle. Hikkaduwa beach is famous for its crystal clear water, wonderful coral, and hot solar rays to calm you down.

### WHAT NOT TO MISS

- Explore the nightlife in Hikkaduwa town.
- Learn surfing for a very affordable price if you are a beginner in surfing.
- Enjoy surfing in the decent waves.
- Explore the underwater life snorkeling in the ocean.
- Have a sunbath in the evening in the warm waters.
- Watch the sunset laying on the sandy beach while having a cocktail.
- Have a boat ride and explore the coral gardens in the ocean.
- Swim with the sea turtles in the shallow sea.
- Have a dinner night with your partner at a nearby hotel enjoying the ocean breeze.

## 03 GALLE NATIONAL MUSEUM



This oldest national museum is located in the oldest Dutch building in Galle Fort. The museum consists of numerous collections of exhibits from the colonial times of the Portuguese, Dutch, and British periods.

### WHAT NOT TO MISS

- Explore all the three sections of galleries (historical and cultural heritage, colonial artifacts, and exhibits of Chinese and Sri Lankan relationships in the past.)
- Observe the unique architectural features of the old building.
- Have a walk around Galle Fort.





## 04 JUNGLE BEACH

Jungle Beach is another quiet place to relax your mind which is somewhat hidden from many people in a forest area. This isolated beach is located in Rumassa-la close to Unawatuna Beach. You can have a relaxing evening on the warm sandy beach enjoying a snack as this beach is never being crowded.

### WHAT NOT TO MISS

- Enjoy a relaxed evening on the sandy beach.
- Take a boat ride to experience the exotic aquatic life and corals underwater.
- Explore the marine life snorkeling.
- Go for a swim in the clear water.



## 05 SEA TURTLE HATCHERY



The Sea turtle Hatchery located in Hikkaduwa close to the Hikkaduwa beach gives you an extraordinary experience with sea turtles. It is a center that helps the sea turtles who require help. The place helps turtles to breed and offers them a safe place to lay their eggs while taking care of them.

### WHAT NOT TO MISS

- Explore all kinds of sea turtles ranging from new baby turtles to adult turtles.







06

## JAPANESE PEACE PAGODA

This is the best place for the people who won't mind away from chaos located in Unawatuna at the top of Rumassala hill.

- You can gaze into the board ocean and the thick jungle from above the temple.
- Get indulge in the unique aura and the exotic buildings in the temple.
- Have a quiet place to yourself and meditate.
- Visit the temple at 5:30 in the evening to witness the daily rituals in the temple.





07

## KOGGALA BEACH



Koggala beach located at Koggala, Galle is notable for its spectacular coastline view. This is interpreted as the longest beach of Sri Lanka which consists of numerous water sports as well.

### WHAT NOT TO MISS

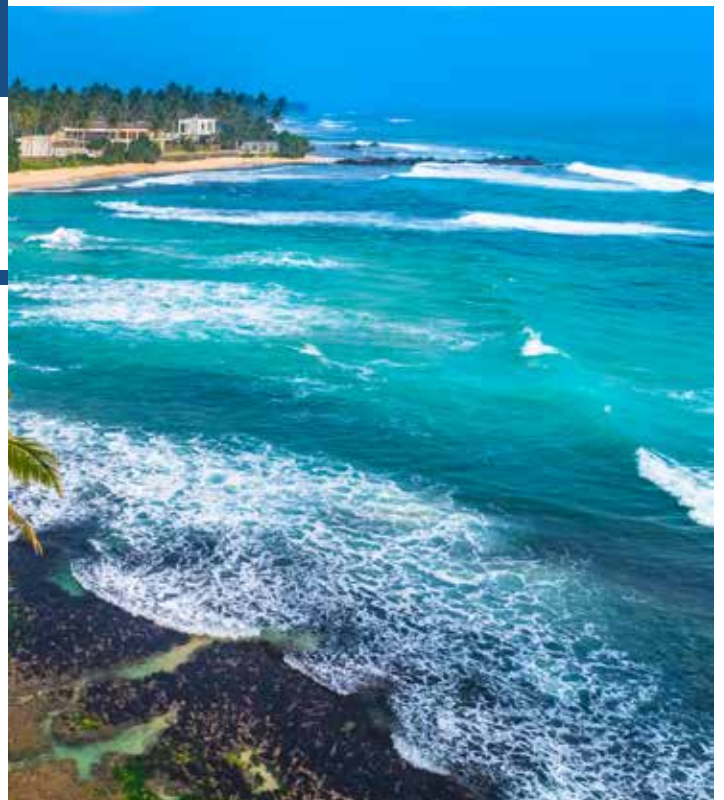
- Get surfing lessons if you are a beginner at surfing.
- Visit the nearby Koggala Lake.
- Go for a swim and dive into the warm water.
- Sit on the sandy beach and gaze at the spectacular ocean.
- Engage in watersports like surfing, snorkeling, diving.
- Watch silt fishermen fishing.
- Visit the Martin Wickramasinghe Folk art museum which is a few meters away.

08

## UNAWATUNA BEACH

A place with golden sand and a clear ocean might only be the Unawatuna beach. You are all invited to enjoy your day basking in the sun having a fantastic view of the ocean.

- Rent a sunbed and lay enjoying the sea breeze and the warmth in the evenings.
- Explore the cool bars and fancy hotels and spend a relaxing time having different drinks.
- Enjoy a relaxing spa in a hotel nearby.
- Explore other beautiful beaches like Mihiripenna beach, Jungle beach, Dalawella beach in your extra time.
- Complete your day enjoying the beach parties which happens often at night.
- Take a walk to the Japanese Peace Pagoda statue in Rumassala.





09

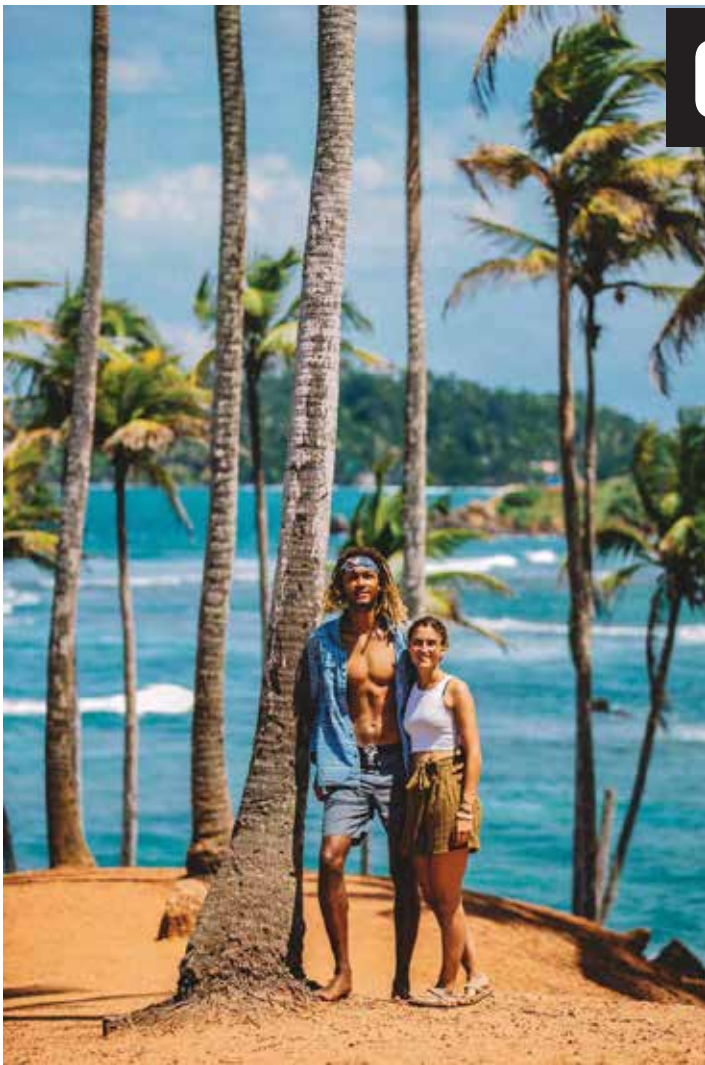
## MIRISSA BEACH



Mirissa beach is a unique charm surround-ed by palm trees among the other beaches which are located between Galle and Mathara. You can relax days in dozens of restaurants nearby if you visit the beach.

### WHAT NOT TO MISS

- Have a chance to go whale watching in the ocean.
- Take photos on the famous Coconut Tree Hill nearby the beach.
- Challenge yourself by learning to surf by the nearby surf schools.
- Sip on a fancy cocktail on the sandy beach in the evenings.
- Explore the life underwater diving.
- Relax in your leisure time having terrific massages in several spas.
- Have a cool smoothie or any dish at a nearby restaurant anytime.
- Spend the night in a cozy hotel.



## 10 UNDERWATER MUSEUM



The Galle underwater museum which is the first underwater museum in Sri Lanka is done by the Sri Lankan Navy.

- November to April are the recommended months to visit the museum.
- Explore the maritime sculpture at the bottom of the deep ocean.
- Witness the beauty of life underwater.
- Have a short swim with small groups of fish.



An aerial photograph of a lush, green tropical forest. A winding dirt road cuts through the dense canopy, leading towards a small stream that flows through the lower right portion of the image. Several small, rustic buildings are nestled within the forest, and a few palm trees are visible. The overall scene is vibrant and verdant.

# 11

## SINHARAJA FOREST

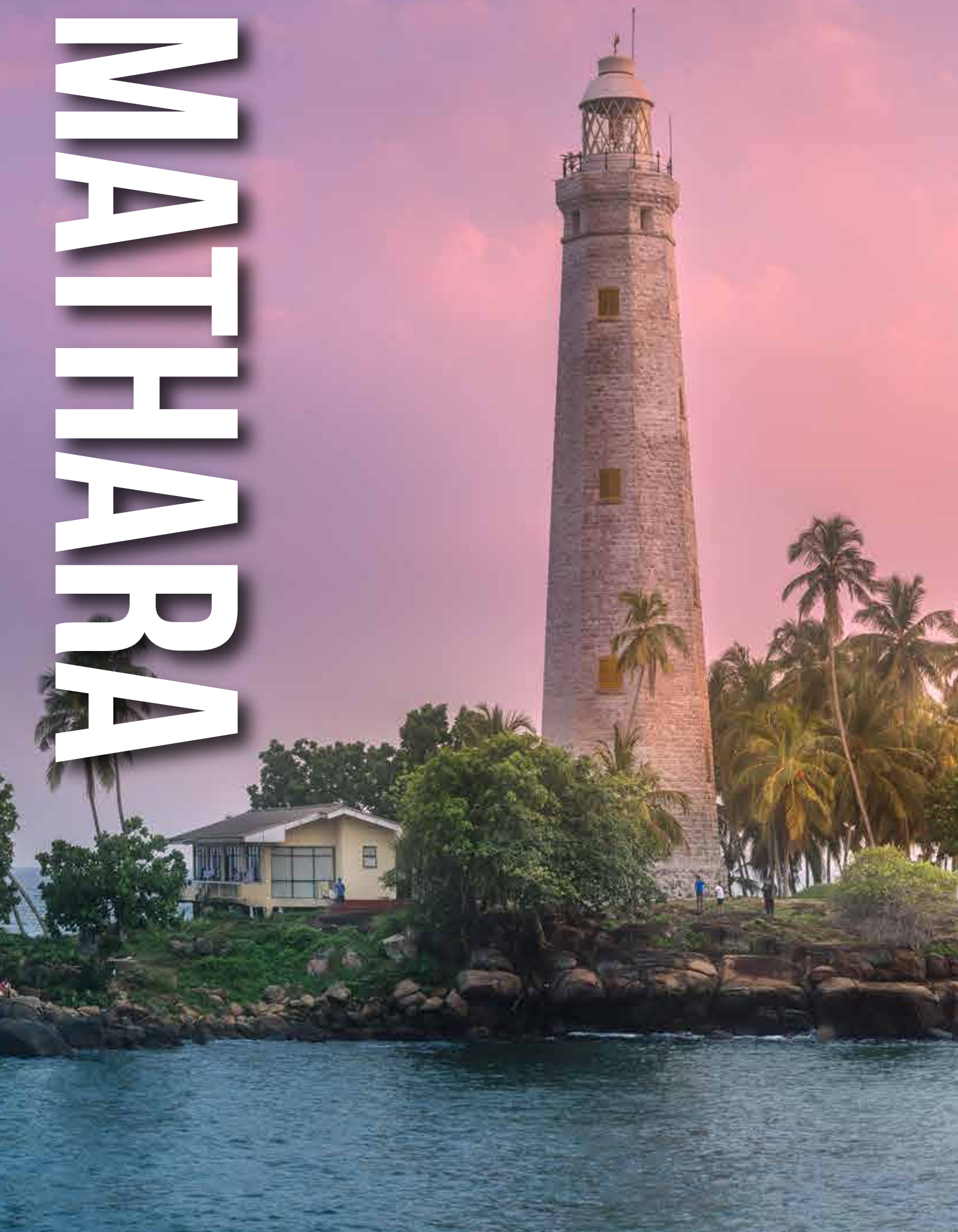
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This biodiversity hotspot is named a World Heritage by UNESCO due to the importance of the densely endemic flora and fauna and due to the scenic beauty.

- Visit all the natural waterfalls and have a cool bath or a short swim in the clear water.
- Relax your mind engaging in fish therapy by a waterfall.
- Rest or stay the night in one of the lodges for an outstanding experience.
- Walkthrough the woods to have an authentic jungle experience.
- Have salt or leach socks to get rid of leeches.



# MATTHARA





01

## DONDRA HEAD LIGHTHOUSE

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Dondra Head Lighthouse located in the southern tip of Sri Lanka is the tallest lighthouse in Sri Lanka. This was built by the British in the old colony days.

- Go upstairs in the spiral staircase to the topmost floor.
- Have a panoramic view of the sea from the lighthouse viewpoint.





## 02 POLHENA BEACH

A beach is well known among the locals and tourists. The only downside of this beach is it is hard to access as it is quite secluded from the open roads, yet worth visiting.

- Perfect place to watch the sunrise and the sunset with your partner.
- Perfect honeymoon destination.
- The most wanted weekend getaway for anyone stressed with work.
- Try delicious local seafood in the neighboring restaurants.



## 03 STAR FORT

A famous Dutch construction in colonial times to prevent attacks also consists of two prisons inside the fort.

- Dig into the ancient miseries and histories of Sri Lanka.
- Visit the museum and walk through the fort leisurely while having a snack.
- Witness the six-pointed stars with 12 large canons pointed in all directions.





04

## WELIGAMA BEACH

Weligama beach is an impeccable destination to enjoy all kinds of leisure activities. The place is blessed with all kinds of various attractions which definitely will make you want to revisit the place.

- Perfect place for learning surfing as it is benefitted from amazing waves.
- A popular scuba diving spot.
- Taste delicious local seafood.
- Enjoy the best ayurvedic spa after a tiresome day.
- See the turtle hatchery near the beach.
- Go whale watching.

## 05 PARAVI DUWA TEMPLE

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This incredible island is located in the Midigama village Mathara. It is well famous for its scenic beauty and tranquil environment.

- Visit the Paravi Duwa temple which is separated from the mainland by the ocean.
- Midigama beach is a perfect surfing spot that is hardly crowded.
- This is a perfect getaway from the rush and busy city to indulge peacefully.
- Enjoy swimming, snorkeling, and even watch fisherman fishing tilts from afar.
- Get together with friends and your partner in the small cozy restaurants to have a drink.



# HAAMB BANTHOTA





A close-up photograph of a leopard's head and paw resting on a tree branch. The leopard's head is on the left, with its eye partially visible. Its paw is resting on the branch in the foreground. The background is a blurred forest scene with green foliage and tree trunks.

01

## YALA NATIONAL PARK

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Visiting Yala will make you have a unique experience no matter how many times you visit it. The adventurous tour all around the national park with safari jeeps makes a highlight on the journey. It is the most visited second-largest park which is home to various endemic animals such as leopards, elephants, water buffalos.

- Famous for the high concentration of Leopards all around the world.
- Watch the huge dry forest cover, grasslands, and lagoons and admire nature.
- Have a fascinating ride on the open Safari jeeps and have a closer look.
- Visit the Yala coast.
- Stay up in a luxurious lodge in Yala.



02

## BUNDALA NATIONAL PARK

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Bundala is a kingdom along the Southern coastline of exotic migratory and local birds which was the first declared wetland as a Ramsar Site in Sri Lanka.

- Witness the larger flocks of greater flamingos which is a highlight of the tour.
- Enjoy the landscape full of marshes, lagoons, and sand dunes.
- Be lucky to see the elephants, other mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.



Kataragama is a paradise of blended cultures as it is a city of various religious places.

03

## KATARAGAMA

- Visit the ancient Buddhist monastery “Thissamaharama Raja Maha Viharaya”.
- Worship the Deity of Skanda Kumaraya in Sella Katharagama where thousands of people visit.
- Visit the ancient monastery Sithulpawwa Rock Temple and explore the diverse religions.
- Visit all kinds of Hindu temples and shrines and admire the distinct cultures.



04

## RIDIYAGAMA SAFARI PARK

This safari park is more like an open zoo where animals roam freely on the roads. The park consists of several zones for several types of animals ranging from carnivorous to herbivorous.

### WHAT YOU MUST NOT MISS

- Enjoy your ride on the bus or safari jeep while having a closer look at the animals.
- Meet Lions, Bengal Tigers, Elephants, Zebras, Ostriches, and all kinds of animals.
- Spend the night at a comfortable lodge in Ridiyagala and experience the authentic forest vibe.







Ussangoda is a popular archeological site located in Kataragama road which is a natural beauty. This is uniquely created of a meteor that has fallen into the location in the old days. The places where the meteor has fallen are of exotic red-colored soil where no grass is seen.

- Go around the 111hectares of plain which consists of valuable ayurvedic medical herbs.
- Visit the beach nearby and have some alone time in the super calm environment.
- Explore the ancient history and discover the exotic soil types.



## 05 USSANGODA NATIONAL PARK



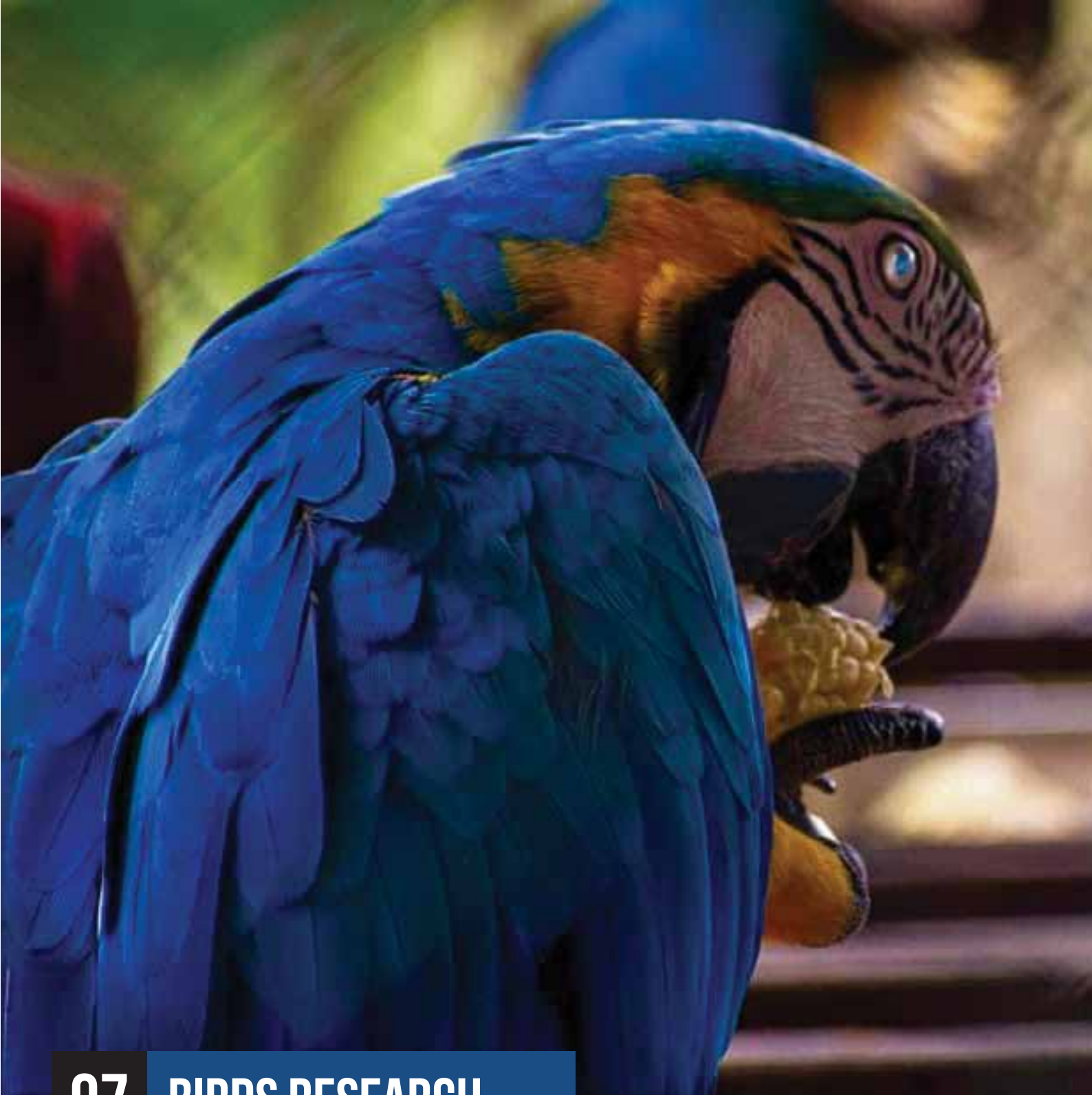
This is an important botanical garden that is in the dry zone of Sri Lanka yet consists of diverse endemic and exotic flora and fauna. It has been a fascinating destination for locals as well as foreigners in Sri Lanka.

### WHAT YOU MUST NOT MISS

- Located in the Colombo-Katharagama main road.
- Visit the Hambanthota Harbor and the International Airport if you have more time to explore.

## 06 MIRIJJAWILA BOTANICAL GARDEN





## 07 BIRDS RESEARCH CENTRE AND RESORT

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Enjoy the company of Asia's largest bird research center discovering endemic and exotic birds.

- Get the opportunity to interact with the feathered friends while feeding them.
- Collect adventurous photographs having the colorful bird friends by hand.
- Visit all the zones in the center such as Wetlands, Wings of Asia, Flightless birds Macaws and Cockatoos.







# **SABARAGAMUWA PROVINCE**

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# SABARAGAMUWA PROVINCE



## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE SABARAGAMUWA PROVINCE

The Sabaragamuwa province is home to two major districts: Ratnapura and Kegalle. The capital of the province is Ratnapura, which is known as the "City of Gems" and is the largest city in the province with a total area of 3,275 km<sup>2</sup>. The total land area of the province is 4,968 km<sup>2</sup>, with a total population of 1,918,880 according to the 2011 census.

The province helps to earn profits by producing a variety of crops through agriculture, such as rice, coconut, rubber, and tea, which are mainly used for exportation. The economy of the province depends on the hands of agricultural production, mainly paddy and other minor crops. With the total land area of the region, approximately 76% of the total area in the province is under agriculture. Apart from the agricultural sector, the province, mainly Ratnapura, is famous for the gem trade, which includes gem mining, gem cutting, and trading. The region is blessed with precious gemstones, including rubies, sapphires, moonstones, and other gems that are highly valuable.

The province is famous among tourists for its religious, cultural, and historical importance. The Sri Pada (Adam's Peak), national museums, and shrines are some examples. Apart from that, the visitors are guaranteed to encounter adventurous wildlife experiences through wildlife sanctuaries, have long hikes to see fascinating waterfalls and ancient caves and experience adventurous water activities mainly in Kitulgala. The calmness and the relaxed environment make it an ideal place for all visitors to take a break from their busy lives.

## A BIT OF HISTORY

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The province has a rich history dating back to the Stone Age. Especially in pre-colonial times, Kegalle was divided into three parts: Sathara Korale, Thun Korale, and Patha Bulathgama. Even during colonial times, Kegalle was subjected to the power of all three European colonial powers, which impacted the region's unique architecture. The city is also home to monuments and religious sites that were built by ancient kings and were affected by the Kandyan influence as well. The numerous caves of Alu Lena, Beli Lena, Dorawaka Lena, Batagala Lena, Beligal, Padavigampola, and others provide evidence for the hidden history of ancient civilization before 28,000 years ago. It was also stated that the name "Ratnapura" was derived from Sanskrit, which was brought out by north-eastern Indian Buddhist monks and later influenced the Sri Lankan local language.