

## ITINEARY- DISCOVER SOUTH

*Discover South of Sri Lanka at its most sultry and enticing: a glorious shoreline of dazzling white curves of sand set against emerald forested hills. Yes, you'll find the region a delight to explore, with each bend in the coastal highway revealing yet another idyllic cove to investigate*

### **DAY 01 – 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

Breakfast at Cinnamon Lakeside, Colombo – 7.00am – 7.0030am

Check out from Cinnamon Lakeside and travel to Kalutara Bodhiya – 8.00am – 9.00am

Visit Kalutara Bodhiya – 9.00am – 10.00am

*After breakfast Procceed to Beruwala en-route Visit Kaluthara Bodhiya.*

*The Kalutara Bodhiya is an ancient Bo tree which was identified as one of the 32 saplings of the original Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi planted during the reign of king Devanampiyatissa in*

*Anuradhapura during the 2nd century BC. It remains as a very important historical site to this day. According to history that the Bo tree at Kalutara*

*sprouted from a sapling of the Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi (The Great Resplendent Fig Tree Symbolising Victory) in Anuradhapura; which itself is a sapling of the very Bo Tree (Ficus religiosa) in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, India underneath which Buddha attained enlightenment.*



*Travel to Cinnamon Bey Beruwala – 10.00am – 11.00am*

*Lunch at Cinnamon Bey Beruwala – 12.00pm – 12.30pm*

*Downtime – 13.30pm – 15.00pm*

*After Lunch Proceed to Madu river boat Safari – 15.00 – 17.00pm*

*The biodiversity of the Madu River is of monumental signification when considering the wide ranges of aquatic and avian life as well as wetland dwelling amphibians, reptiles, mammals that inhabit the environs of this natural treasure. A total of 11 species of agnatic mollusks and 14 land dwelling mollusks are found in this system. 70 species of fish, 31 types of reptiles, and 50 kinds of butterflies are just some of colorful array of wildlife that inhabits this abundantly bustling eco-system. Bird watchers will be pleased to know that 111 species of bird have been identified in the mangrove formed environs of the river and has been known to host several types of migratory birds.*



**Pro Bar session with cultural act**

*Travel to Cinnamon Bey Beruwala – 17.00pm – 18.00pm*

*Dinner and Overnight at Cinnamon Bey Beruwala.*

## DAY 02 – 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020

*Breakfast at Cinnamon Bey Beruwala – 8.00am – 9.00am*

*After breakfast Proceed Bentota en route visit Barberyn Light house and Lunuganga estate. – 9.30am – 10.00am*



**Barberyn Light house-** *The Barberyn Lighthouse in Beruwala is located on Barberyn Island; approximately half a mile offshore from the little town of Beruwala. This tiny 8-acre tropical island has hosted the lighthouse for over a century. Today, Barberyn Lighthouse is one of only four international lighthouses in Sri Lanka. Barberyn Lighthouse was built by the British Colonials in 1889, to cope with the dangerous waters and underwater reefs in Beruwala that could rip out the bottoms of ships.*

*The lighthouse was managed by the British Imperial Lighthouse Service. After the country gained independence in 1948, the management was taken over by the Sri Lankan government.*

*Visit Lunuganga Estate – 10.30am – 12.00pm*



***Lunuganga estate-*** was a cinnamon plantation during the Dutch era and then a rubber plantation during the rule of the British. The estate had a small bungalow on site to accommodate the workers. Bawa, who had then been a newly appointed lawyer just called to the Bar at the Inner



Temple, saw the place in 1947 and fell in love with the expansive gardens. However he was unable to purchase it at the time. In 1948, the bungalow was rented out to a local tax collector. In 1949, Geoffrey Bawa achieved his dream of purchasing the estate in its entirety and planned to convert the bungalow into a weekend house and the rest of the estate into a tropical version of a European renaissance garden.

*Lunch at Bentota beach. – 12.30pm – 13.30pm*

*Travel to Ambalangoda – 14.00 – 15.00pm*

*after lunch proceed to Ambalangoda for mask painting experience – 15.00pm – 17.00pm*

**Masks** are a world-famous ornament and even in Sri Lanka, it is a famous art and tool used in stage-dramas, public events such as dances etc. The mask factory visit will give you access to learn the art where the crafts are made from the raw or dried wood. Mask making is a very difficult process that takes years to master. You can



witness this seeing the skilled staff taking their interest in doing a fantastic job making various types of masks. Related to the Sri Lankan folklore, Masks depict various characters from the ancient times such as the Village Head, the Doctor, the farmer, workers and also different types of demons that are considered to bring various types of diseases and disasters to the people. These are all beliefs, but quite interesting to learn the folklore and cultural value in the masks.

Then you will be taken to Batik factory, where you can see local artists designing batiks Ambalangoda. If you are interested, you can purchase your very own Batik garments and other artifacts at a reasonable price.

*Pro Bar Session – 19.30pm – 20.00pm*

*Dinner and Overnight at Cinnamon Bentota beach Bentota - 19.30pm – 21.00pm*

### **DAY 03 – 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

*Breakfast at Cinnamon Bentota Beach – 7.00am – 8.00am*

*After breakfast Travel to Hikkaduwa*

*Water sports at Bentota – 8.00am – 10.30am*

*Lunch at Hikka Tranz – 12.30pm – 13.30pm*

*After Lunch proceed to Galle –  
13.30pm – 14.00pm*

*Galle - Galle (pronounced Gawl in English and Gaar-le in Sinhala) is a living time capsule. It has a vibrant commercial district that's also shambolic and often charmless but passes through one of the Fort gates and you are transported back to the Dutch colonial era.*



*Built by the Dutch beginning in 1663, the 36-hectare Fort occupies most of the promontory that forms the older part of Galle. Described by the notoriously hard-to-please Paul Theroux as being 'garlanded with red hibiscus and smelling of the palm-scented ocean,' the Fort is an amazing collection of structures and culture dating back through the centuries. Just wandering the streets at random yields one architectural surprise after another. And be sure to take in the dramatic views of town and ocean from the encircling walls. UNESCO has recognized Fort as a World Heritage Site.*



*Travel to Koggola – 16.00pm – 16.30pm*

*Photo opportunity at Koggola – Beach – 16.30pm – 18.00pm*

*Dinner and Overnight at Hikka Tranz by Cinnamon – 20.00pm –  
21.00pm*

## **DAY 04 – 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

*Check out from Hikka Tranz by Cinnamon with Packed Breakfast - 6.00am*

*Mirissa Whale watching – 7.00am – 11.00am*

*Early Morning proceed to Mirissa Harbor approx. @ 0520 HRS. (Packed breakfast will be provided). Approx. @ 0630 HRS Boat leaves the Harbor for Whale watching with the Guidelines and briefing followed by the Guides. Approx. 4-5 Hours of excursion and return to Mirissa Harbor (Preferably On or Before 1st Week of March 15)*



*Mirissa Whale watching is the most ideal location and five different types of whales (blue whale, bryde's whale, sperm whale, killer whale & pilot whale) & four kind of dolphins (spinner dolphin, bottle nose dolphin, stripped dolphin, Risso's dolphin) have been spotted and mostly sperm Whales and blue Whales will be spotted at Mirissa.*

*Travel to Cinnamon Wild Yala - 11.00am – 15.00pm*

*Lunch in Tangalle*



### ***Sithulpawwa Rajamaha Viharaya***

*Sithulpawwa Rajamaha Viharaya is an ancient Buddhist monastery located in Hambantota District, South Eastern Sri Lanka. Situated 18 km east of the pilgrimage town Katharagama, it is believed to*



*have been built in the 2nd century B.C by king Kavantissa. Sithulpawwa Vihara can be reached by travelling 18 miles along the Tissamaharama-Yodhakandiya road towards the Yala National Park. The name Sithulpawwa is derived from the word "Chiththala Pabbatha", which means the hill of the quiet mind.*

*This ancient monastery with a history over 2200 years, was a place of worship for devotees as well as a center of Buddhist education for Buddhist monks. Paintings of the Anuradhapura era and the ruins of stone Buddha images, Bodhisattva images, Image Houses, Circular Relic Houses are spread throughout the monastery premises. The present chief incumbent of Sithulpawwa Rajamaha Vihara is Ven. Metaramba Hemarathana Nayake Thera.*

### ***Magul Maha Viharaya***

*Magul Maha Viharaya is an ancient Buddhist temple situated in Lahugala, Ampara District of Sri Lanka. The temple lies on the northern edge of the Lahugala National Park, about 22 km off from Siyambalanduwa town and about 11 km off Pottuvil town. Lahugala has been part of the Kingdom of Ruhuna in ancient Sri Lanka. The ruins of Magul Maha Vihara are one of the*





*major tourist attractions of the Eastern province. This temple is also an archaeologically protected monument of the country.*

*Dinner and Overnight at Cinnamon Wild Yala by Cinnamon – 20.00pm – 21.00pm*

## **DAY 05 – 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

*Meet at Lobby for early morning safari – 5.00am*

*Yala Safari (with breakfast) – 5.00am – 11.00am*

**Yala** – Sri Lanka's most known National Park is popular for Elephant, Leopard, Bear, Crocodile and Wild Boar. 97,800 hectares in extent, this is the second largest of Sri Lanka's National Parks. Its



open undulating terrain made it famous for elephants for many years, but recently the park has also received much fame through publicity by National Geographic and the Discovery TV channels, which focused on a leopard research/conservation and identification project. Claims have subsequently been made that Yala National Park has the world's highest concentration of leopard per square kilometer. Vegetation is primarily grassland and shrub jungle with patches of dense growth while several salt and fresh water lagoons are a haven for a large variety of resident and migrant birds. Areas popular with leopard are rock strewn hillocks with dense shrub in which the animals hide.

### **Dairy farm – 11.30am – 12.30pm**

*The Yala National Park is located amidst rural villages and its boundary has several hundred dairy farmers making a living.*

*The craftiest predator, the leopard, often flicks young cattle and thus revenge attacks by farmers often create conflict. Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts together with its team of in-house field naturalists deployed a conservation initiative namely,*

*'Project Leopard' to mitigate the issue. Thus far, over 55 steel pens have been donated to dairy farmers to keep their livestock safe at night. As part of our project we take you to meet a dairy farmer over a cup of Ceylon tea, assist him in his morning chores, help with the collection of milk and enjoy the time spent in the surrounding areas of the Yala National Park. If you are lucky, we may spot one or two elephants, leopards and other wildlife during the expedition.*

*Lunch at Cinnamon Wild – 12.30pm – 1.30pm*

*Check out and travel to Colombo – 14.30pm – 17.30pm*

*Check-in at Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo – 20.00pm – 21.00pm*

*Dinner at Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo – 21.00pm – 22.00pm*

### **Colombo City**

*We take a drive around the city, visiting its museum and impressive Parliament House, also designed by Geoffrey Bawa. Colombo is fascinating with a cozy mixture of the past and present and is the commercial center of the country.*



*Visit Sea Street – The Goldsmith's quarter in Pettah, The Bazaar Area, A Hindu temple, The Dutch Church of Wolfendhal dating back to 1794, the historical Devatagaha Mosque & the Gangarama Temple.*

*Also visit the Old Dutch Hospital, which has been impressively restored and now holds eateries, bars, boutique stores and spas. Constructed all of four centuries ago, the building is a resounding example of colonial Dutch architecture with high ceilings, thick walls, large wide windows and terracotta tiled floors. In the afternoon, see some of Sri Lanka's fine shopping at the Paradise Road, Odel, Water Sports -*

*Enjoy water sports in Bentota throughout the day.*

- *Water Skiing*
- *Wind Surfing*
- *Banana boat rides*
- *Tube rides*
- *Jet Ski*
- *Body Board*
- *Surfing*
- *Mono Skiing*
- *Wake BoardBarefoot and etc.*

