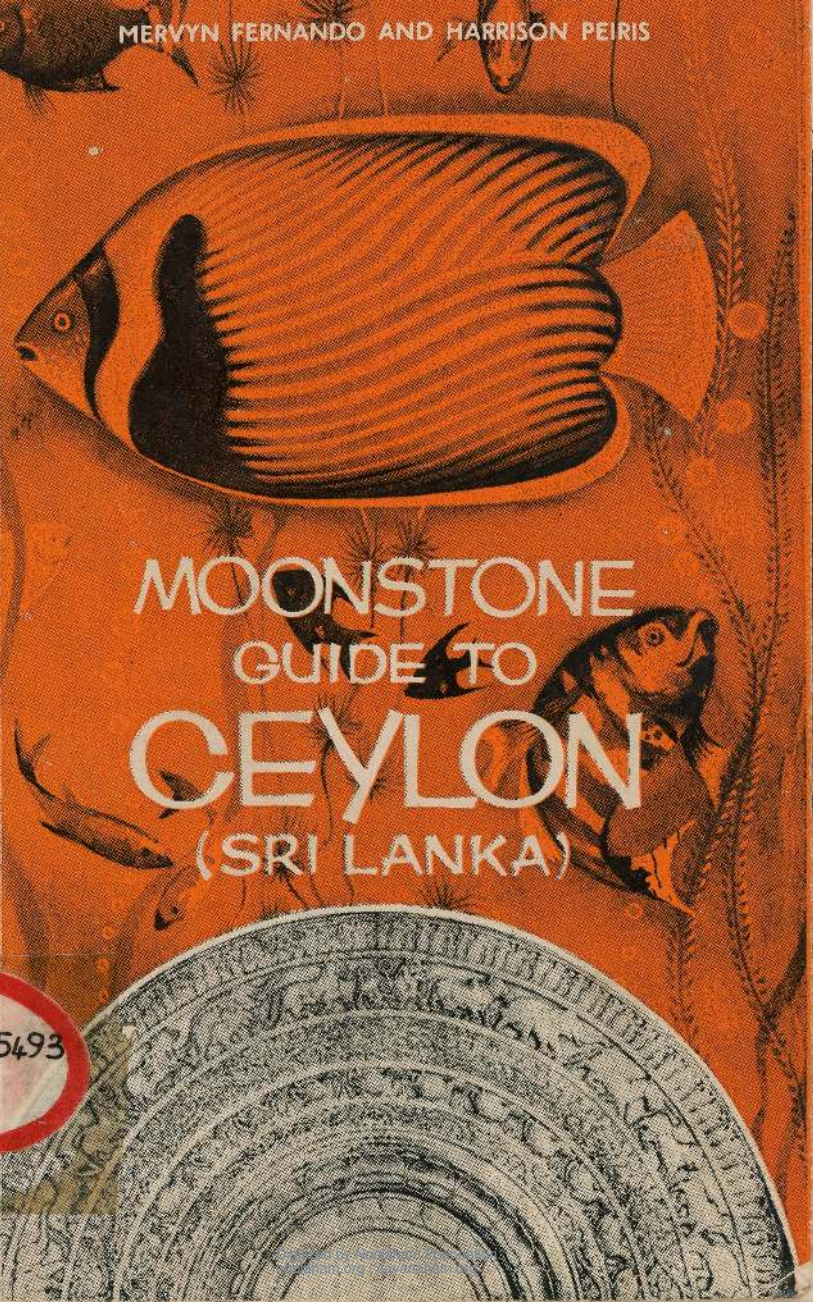


MERVYN FERNANDO AND HARRISON PEIRIS



MOONSTONE
GUIDE TO
CEYLON
(SRI LANKA)

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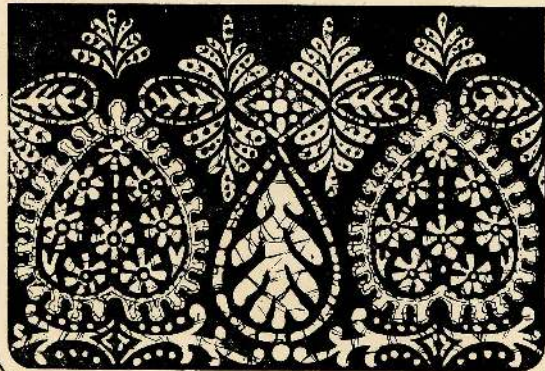
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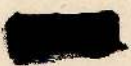


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Dedicated to

ARTHUR C. CLARKE

I came to Ceylon in 1956 intending to stay for six months and write one book about the exploration of the Island's coastal waters. Fourteen years and twenty books later I am still here and hope to remain for the rest of my life.

ARTHUR C. CLARKE
in Epilogue to
Island—Ceylon by Roloff Beny

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OF THE DIFFERENT NAMES OF THE ISLAND OF CEYLON

“*Ceylon* has, at various times, had various names. The Portuguese authors Juan De Barros and Diego De Couto inform us that it was first called *Lanca*, *Lancao* or *Lancas*, which signifies “the land of delight”, “the terrestrial Paradise”; that the Malabars afterwards named it *Illanare*, which means “the island kingdom” and that it was subsequently called *Tranata*, *Hibenaro*, and *Tenarisim*.

“Pliny and Ptolemy name this island *Simondi*, *Palai Simondi* and *Salike*, and its inhabitants *Salai*; but the three appellations by which it is best known are *Taprobane*, *Serendib*, or *Serendiul* or *Serendive* and *Ceylon* or *Zeylan*...

“Writers of the middle age, such as Ammianus Marcellinus, Cosmas the Hermit, and Eastern authors generally, call *Ceylon* *Serendib* or *Serendiul*; Cosmas calls it *Seilideba*, by changing the *R* into *L*, an alteration which easily takes place, even in conversation and I have no doubt that this was the origin of the name of *Zeylan*. Marco Polo and Ayton the Armenian are the two oldest authors whom I can ascertain to have employed that name.”

(from George Lee's translation of the French version of Juan Ribeyro's *History of Ceylon*)

OF THE DIFFERENT NAMES OF THE ISLAND OF CEYLON

Ceylon has, at various times, had various names. The Ptolemaic name was Taprobane, the name which the Greeks had in their first edition of the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea. The name of Taprobane is derived from the Sanskrit word Tapro, which signifies "the land of delight," the word bane, which signifies "the land of delight," the word bane, which signifies "the land of delight," and that it was never called Taprobane, but Ceylon.

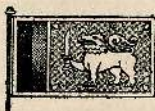
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CEYLON

The Land and the People



The 25,481 square miles of Island that is Ceylon is roughly the size of Belgium and Holland put together, or half the size of the State of New York. It is 270 miles from North to South, and 140 miles East to West, as the crow flies. Situated just below the tip of India, she lies a little north of the Equator between 5° and 10° latitudes. Hardly 30 miles of sea separate Ceylon from India.

Geography

For a small area Ceylon exhibits an unusually wide variety of terrain, landscape and climate. While the coastal, the Northern and North-central regions are flat, the South-central region is very mountainous, with some high peaks rising over 7000 feet, and the highest over 8000 feet. This hill-country, the home of Ceylon's famous tea, nurtures a lush tropical vegetation, assisted by generous rainfall (up to 175 inches per year). On the other hand the Northern and North-central areas, hardly 50 miles away, are dry and in some places near-desert.

Climate and Clothes

Being practically on the equator, Ceylon has no clearly demarcated seasons. The days and nights are almost equal in length throughout the year. The "seasons" are the dry season and the

monsoon (rain) season. The major monsoon is the South-west one which prevails during May-July. The North-east monsoon blows on the Eastern side of the Island from November to January.

In the flat, warmer parts of the country, day temperatures range from 74°F to 95°F. In the cooler, hill country normal temperatures run between 65°F and 80°F. Occasionally the mercury goes down towards the freezing point in some places. Hence light cotton dresses and light-weight suits would be the most suitable year round wear, with a couple of cardigans/pullovers and a light overcoat/raincoat thrown in for a stay in the hill-country. Those unaccustomed to the tropical sun should arm themselves with some kind of light headwear. Recommended footwear is sandals with or without light socks.

Culture and Language

Ceylon is presently inhabited by a little over twelve and a three-quarter million people. The two major ethnic groups among them are the Sinhalese or the Sinhala people (70%) and the Tamils (21%). The former are said to be of Aryan stock and the latter Dravidian. There are several minority groups: Moors (descendants of the Arabs), Burghers (of Dutch origin), Eurasians, Malays, small Indian communities such as Parsis, Borahs and Sindhis. The Veddhas are a forest-dwelling aboriginal group.

The two native languages spoken in the country are Sinhala (Sinhalese) and Tamil, according to ethnic division. Both are very old languages with rich literary traditions. Sinhala is spoken only in Ceylon, while Tamil is widely used in South India too.

Religion

Religion-wise, the large majority, 65%, is Buddhist. Today Ceylon is considered the home of

Theravada Buddhism. The Hindus comprise about 20% of the population. The Christians and the Moslems are about 9% and 5% respectively. Places of worship of these four major religions of the world can be seen all over the Island.

Economy

Rice is the staple food of the Ceylonese people, and its cultivation is the main occupation of the rural peasantry. The development of irrigation works in Ceylon from ancient times up to the present has been motivated by rice cultivation. The green carpets of paddy in the lowlands and the patches of terraced green in the hill country are a pretty sight. Still Ceylon does not grow sufficient rice for her own needs.

Ceylon's three major exports, which keep her economy going, are tea, rubber and coconut. In recent times there has been a drive for the diversification of exports into non-traditional areas, with some success. Ceylon tea is reputedly the world's best. The coconut tree is most visible in the low-country particularly along the south-western coast. Its export products are copra, desiccated coconut etc. The domestic uses of the tree are legion. Every part of the coconut tree, from root to bud, is made use of. Ceylon's "national" alcoholic drinks, **toddy** and **arrack**, are the extract of the coconut bud.

Socio-Political Situation

Ceylon became the world's youngest Republic under her old historic name of **Sri Lanka** on 22nd May 1972. As such her single legislative body will be the National State Assembly, whose members will be elected democratically by the people. Its head will be the President, and the chief executive, the Prime Minister.

Like most other countries in south-east Asia, Ceylon is feeling the impact of Technology, Industrialization

and Urbanisation. Traditional patterns of life, customs and mores built on a rural-agricultural base are breaking down rapidly, creating many psycho-social and socio-economic problems. Among the most acute are unemployment, poverty, serious inadequacy of foreign exchange and capital investment, mal-distribution of wealth and resources and the adverse effects of world trade and markets controlled by the Big Powers. Many feel that radical reforms in socio-economic structures are demanded for a reasonably quick alleviation of the great injustice, suffering and evil that these problems impose on large segments of the population.

Part of the country's economic problems are created by the consumption of resources in over-generous social services. Even developed countries cannot boast of free education from Kindergarten to University and free medical (hospital) services in addition to the usual services to the old, handicapped and socially under-privileged. On the other hand these have produced a very high rate of literacy (79% for males and 63% for females), a remarkable fall in infant mortality, increase of life expectation etc. But these in turn have created other problems such as a very high birth rate, the educated unemployed and sophisticated expectations beyond the socio-economic capacities of the country.

Enormous as these problems are, they are being attacked energetically in a democratic-socialistic political set-up. Every effort is being made to mobilise the growing political consciousness of the masses for national development. In foreign affairs Ceylon keeps in touch with East and West by a policy of non-alignment. In a world which is shrinking rapidly Ceylon's crucial struggle is to pull herself up to an acceptable level of human welfare for all her citizens on contemporary terms, without renouncing her peculiar spirit, genius and heritage.

CEYLON'S PAST In a Nutshell



The well-known German orientalist Wilhelm Geiger thought that "for hardly any part of the continent of India is there such an uninterrupted historical tradition as for the Island of Ceylon" (*Mahavamsa & Culavamsa*).

Sources

The student of Ceylon's history has a rich variety of sources to draw from — literary, epigraphical and archaeological. By far the most important is the dynastic and religious chronicle *Mahavamsa* together with its commentary, *Vansatthappakasini*, and its continuation, the *Culavamsa*. These three together record a continuous story beginning with the Indo-Aryan settlement of the Island in the 6th cent. B.C. up to the beginning of modern times, a time span of 22 centuries. An earlier chronicle is the *Dipavamsa* and possibly the *Sihalavatthu*, a recent discovery. The information contained in these chronicles can be checked by epigraphical sources. Up to date over 2500 rock inscriptions have been discovered, over 1000 of them belonging to the third, second and the first centuries B.C. The archaeological evidence of Ceylon's history is concentrated in the ancient capitals of Anuradhapura, with neighbouring Mihintale, Polonnaruwa and Sigiriya all in the North-central dry zone which cradled the early civilization of the country.

Early History

The recorded history of Ceylon begins with the legendary story of the landing of Prince Vijaya

and his 700 followers from a kingdom of North-Western India in the 6th cent. B.C. That the Sinhala people who today comprise 70% of the population are descendants of this Indian settlement is confirmed by the evidence of language. Historians surmise that the truth behind the legend is that Aryan settlements in Ceylon were established at that time by enterprising groups of merchants and traders. It is generally accepted that prior to these settlements there were no people in the country with an advanced civilisation. But some archaeologists and historians think otherwise. It is, however, certain that there were groups of people who may be described as aborigines. They were food-gatherers, using simple implements of quartz, wood and animal bones. The Veddhas of today are supposed to be a remnant of these people.

During the 5th and 4th centuries B.C. Ceylon was fairly extensively colonised by these Indo-Aryans. The chronology of Ceylon's history can be established firmly with the reign of King Devanampiya Tissa (250-210 B.C.) who was a contemporary of Emperor Asoka of India. One preceding King deserves mention — King Pandukhabaya who founded the city of Anuradhapura which was to be the royal capital for over a millennium.

Buddhism

The historic event which gave direction and form to the subsequent history and culture of the country was the introduction of Buddhism during the reign of King Devanampiya Tissa. The missionaries who brought Buddhism to Ceylon at the behest of Emperor Asoka himself were his son (or brother?), Mahinda and his sister Sanghamitta. With the King and the people embracing the new religion, Buddhism came to be established in the Island, and it provided the inspiration for a culture and a way of life which flourishes to this day.

South Indian Invasions

Soon after the establishment of Buddhism another series of events which played an important role in the socio-political history of the country began viz. the incursions of the Tamils from South India, mainly from the Chola and Pandyan Kingdoms. The Tamil people, speaking the Tamil language, are said to be of Dravidian stock. According to Ceylon chronicles Sena and Guttaka were the first Tamil rulers of Anuradhapura (early 2nd cent. B.C.). Elara was the most famous of the Tamil kings and his defeat at the hands of the Sinhala king, Dutugemunu, is an epic story of early Ceylon history. Subsequent periodic incursions and invasions of the Tamil people, with intermittent periods of hostility and friendship, and their gradual settlement in the northern parts of the Island made them and their culture part and parcel of the integral national identity of the country.

The Great Cities & Kings

Dutugemunu (161—137 B.C.) was the most illustrious of the Anuradhapura kings. The extant ruins (see under Anuradhapura) testify amply to his mighty deeds. The two over-riding preoccupations of Dutugemunu and of all Sinhala kings were Buddhism and Agriculture. Hence they directed the creative genius of the people to express itself in Buddhist religious art and architecture; their practical and scientific ability was channeled mainly into tank-building for the conservation of precious water for water-hungry paddy-fields which yielded the staple food of the people — rice. The complex system of inter-connected tanks, dams and canals which was constructed by the ancient kings evokes amazement in a modern engineer. Two of the great tank-building kings were Mahasena (276—303 A.D.) and Datusena (459 — 477 A.D.).

Even a capsule history of Ceylon cannot fail to mention King Kasyappa and his unique creation, the Rock-

Fortress of Sigiriya of the 5th cent. A.D. (see under Sigiriya).

Some pages of Ceylon's history bear ugly bloodstains of fratricidal struggle among the royalty for position and power. Partly as a result of this internecine warfare the whole country fell under the rule of the South Indian Chola Empire, for the first time, in 1017 A.D. Again, as with the case of Dutugemunu earlier, the resistance movement which ultimately drove out the invader began and gathered strength in the Ruhuna (Southern) region. The outstanding name is Vijaya Bahu who, after 17 years of warfare, succeeded in crushing Chola rule and entering Anuradhapura in triumph in 1070. Three years after his liberation of Ceylon Vijaya Bahu moved his capital to Polonnaruwa, 50 miles eastward, for reasons of security.

Polonnaruwa will always be associated with its greatest king, Parakrama Bahu (1153—1186 A.D.). After he had secured domination over the entire Island he devoted his time and energy to architectural and irrigation enterprises. Most of the extant ruins of Polonnaruwa are of his reign (see under Polonnaruwa). He also undertook military expeditions against Burma and the Pandyan kingdom.

Not long after the glorious era of Parakrama Bahu and of his successor Nissanka Malla the course of Ceylon's history entered another obscure and troubled period in which invasions by the Malays and Pandyans figure prominently. Forced on the defensive, the kings (most of them weak ones) kept retreating from place to place — Dambadeniya, Yapahuwa, Kurunegala, Gampola and Kotte. It was towards the close of the reign of king Parakrama Bahu VIII from Kotte that the Portuguese first arrived in Ceylon in 1505 A.D. This event opened a new era in the history of Ceylon — the gradual invasion of the Island by successive western colonial powers.

Western Colonisation

Within a few years of their arrival the Portuguese were in control of most of the coastal regions. Formal rule over these parts was assumed by them in 1597 A.D. The Portuguese were greatly facilitated and even encouraged in their attempts to establish themselves here by the internal dissensions between the fragmented Sinhala principalities. For example, they championed the cause of the Kotte kings against the Kandyans and thus secured for themselves allies within the country.

A notable event of the Portuguese period was the introduction of Roman Catholicism. The Portuguese left behind them many Roman Catholic communities and Churches. Most of the older Catholic Church buildings are of the Portuguese — Spanish style. Portuguese names too, such as Fernando, Silva, Perera, Dias and Fonseka, are very common particularly among the Christians of the low-country.

The Portuguese were displaced by the Dutch in 1658. Religion-wise, they introduced Protestantism and in the conflict which ensued Catholic communities suffered. Dutch rule in Ceylon saw the development of the cinnamon trade, the improvement of transport by a system of canals and the introduction of the Roman-Dutch legal system which still prevails as the common law of Ceylon. Today the descendants of the Dutch are known as the "Burghers". They have, in general, maintained a more western life-style than any other group in the country. Dutch dominion in Ceylon lasted almost as long as that of the Portuguese — about 140 years — until the British stepped in, in 1796.

The British became the first western colonial power to establish dominion over the entire country, when the last independent kingdom of Ceylon, in the hill-capital, Kandy, fell in 1815 and the king, Sri Wickrema Rajasinghe was taken captive. During their period of rule, trade expanded into new avenues — rubber, coffee,

later replaced by tea, and coconut products. An extensive network of roads and railways was laid out primarily for facilitating the transport of trade products from the interior to the ports. The parliamentary system of Government (pre-Republic), the English language and cricket are part of the British legacy to Ceylon.

Independence

Agitation for Independence began in the early part of this century in resonance with the angrier and louder cry in India. The Freedom Movement gathered strength in the 1930s. The colonial power yielded little by little and finally the goal was reached when Britain relinquished dominion over Ceylon in 1947. Officially Ceylon became an independent country once more on February 4, 1948. She became a Republic on May 22, 1972.

One of the most serious, unfortunate consequences of western colonial rule over Ceylon was the decline of the country's 2000-year-old culture and the semi-westernisation of a significant segment of the population. Sociologically this phenomenon gave rise to class distinctions in terms of education, employment and degree of westernisation. These factors are in large measure responsible for the socio-political unrest in contemporary Ceylon.

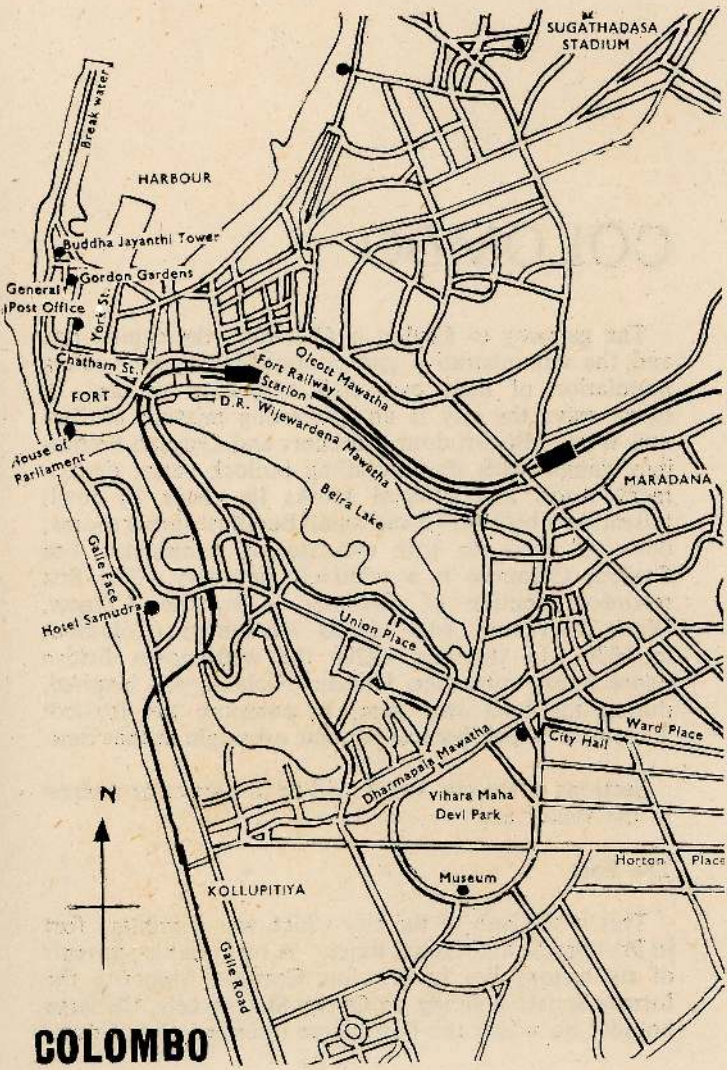
COLOMBO

The gateway to Ceylon is Colombo, the capital city and the administrative and commercial centre, with a population of little over half a million people. In many ways the city is an interesting mixture of East and West. British double-deckers and German limousines mingle with slow-trundling bullock carts; department stores and oriental kiosks lie cheek by jowl; tall modern buildings dwarf small Buddhist shrine rooms; colourful saris vie with eye-catching miniskirts. For Ceylon, Colombo is a relatively new city. The first recorded mention of Colombo is by the Chinese, Wang-Tai-Tonan, who visited Kaolan-pu (Colombo) in 1330. In the mid 1920s the well-known British dance music composer, Horatio Nicholls was inspired, during his brief stay here, to compose the fox-trot 'Colombo' which became popular overnight at that time.

Sections of the city which will be of particular interest to the visitor are:

The Fort

This is the hub of the city which was a military fort in Portuguese and Dutch times. A memorable souvenir of its history lies in Gordon Gardens (opposite the former Senate building on Queen St.), namely, the large boulder on which the Portuguese inscribed their Court-



COLOMBO

of-arms when they first landed here in 1505. Close by at the point where Church Road comes up to the sea and continues along the shore is the imposing Buddha Jayanthi Commemorative Tower (still under construction). One of the city's landmarks is the clock-tower, at the junction of Chatham and Queen Streets, which for nearly 100 years of its existence was a lighthouse — the only lighthouse in the world which stood in the middle of bustling traffic.

Most of the bigger shops, including **Laksala**, the State sponsored shop selling local handicrafts, Banks, Airline offices and Travel Agencies are located in this area of Colombo. The General Post Office, which runs a special Philately Bureau, is situated close to the former Senate Building and opposite "Queen's House", the residence of the President of the Republic.

The visitor can get a panoramic view of Colombo Harbour and of the restless sea on the other side, from the breakwater at the end of the protected Marine Drive, past the entrance to the Harbour Passenger Terminal. In good weather a night walk on the breakwater is an enjoyable experience. This area is closed for visitors during the monsoon seasons. (Temporarily the breakwater is not open to visitors).

The Pettah

This Anglo-Indian word stemming from the Tamil "pettai" literally means, 'outside the Fort'. This area lying east of the Fort teems with small shops and boutiques, distinctly oriental in character. The spine of Pettah is Main Street. The Fort Railway Station, the central station of the city is on its eastern border. At the junction of Main Street and 4th Cross Street stands a 225-year old Dutch belfry, a reminder of the more genteel character of this area in bygone days. Today this street is dirty, crowded, congested, the dread of motorists; but two hundred years ago it was the residential quarter of the Dutch foreigners.

The Galle Face

This is a delightful, sea-front open park space on the southern side of the Fort. In the evening it is crowded with people, promenading, absorbing the ozone-laden breeze, flying kites or just being there. Fortnightly, Sunday Prom Concerts are held here under the sponsorship of The Ceylon Tourist Board. At the Fort end of Galle Face is the House of the National State Assembly (formerly House of Parliament); at the southern end, the well-known Galle Face Hotel. In between, across the road is **Samudra** Hotel which houses the Tourist Reception Centre. The Ceylon Tourist Board has its Headquarters just behind **Samudra**.

Cinnamon Gardens

Originally cinnamon plantation land, today this area has the best-known concentration of Colombo's affluent society. It is popularly labelled "Colombo 7" by its postal zone number. A brief drive along, say, C. W. W. Kannangara Mawatha (Alexandra Place), Horton Place, and Edinburgh Crescent will provide the visitor with glimpses of the "home-and-garden" tastes of this social class.

Among the notable landmarks of this area of Colombo are the City Hall (white-domed), Vihara Maha Devi Park (opposite the City Hall), the Colombo Museum (at the junction of Edinburgh Crescent and C.W.W. Kannangara Mawatha), the Art Gallery on Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha (Green Path) and the War Memorial (at the junction of Dharmapala Mawatha (Turret Road) and C.W.W. Kannangara Mawatha. Cinnamon Gardens is specially beautiful in the months of March, April and May when all the tropical shrubs and trees are in full bloom.

Other Places of Interest

The Colombo Museum (at junction of C.W.W. Kannangara Mawatha and Edinburgh Crescent).

This is a general museum, with an excellent research library on Ceylonese history and culture, attached to it. It is best known for its collection of antiques, objects of historical importance such as the throne of the last king of Kandy, ola-leaf manuscripts dating from the earliest recorded history of the Island, and for its departments of natural history and anthropology.

Art Galleries

There are four galleries in Colombo. The **Art-Gallery** on Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha caters to exhibitions of more conventional painting. Facilities are available for short-duration exhibitions of the other arts (photography, sculpture, books etc.). The smaller one at the Lionel Wendt **Kala Kendra** (Art Centre) caters to contemporary tastes. The **Samudra** Gallery, at the Samudra Hotel, run by the Ceylon Tourist Board, organises bi-monthly exhibitions of the ancient and modern arts and crafts of Ceylon. The new **Kalagaraya**, at 54, Ward Place, Colombo 7 (Alliance Francaise), which is both a gallery and art dealer's shop, specialises in encouraging new talent.

Two excellent private collections may be seen by prior arrangement with Mr. Harry Peiris, 32/14, Barnes Place, Colombo 7 (Tel. 95731) and Mr. Anton Wickremasinghe, 220, Baudhdhaloka Mawatha, (Buller's Road), Colombo 7 (Tel. 79718).

On the outskirts of Colombo

The following places, on the immediate outskirts of Colombo, are well worth a visit even on a brief stay in the City:

Mount Lavinia

This beautiful seaside resort, only 7 miles from Colombo, is very popular with both foreigners and Ceylonese. The dominating landmark of the place is

the Mount Lavinia Hyatt (Hotel), originally a British Governor's Villa. The Hotel terrace commands a beautiful view of the blue bay, the bathing beach and the palm-fringed coastline stretching out towards Colombo. Close by are the Cabanas and the La Langousterie Restaurant.

The Dehiwala Zoo

This Zoo, five miles from the city, has the reputation of being one of the finest in the East, with perhaps the highest concentration of animals, bird and reptile species in any given area of land in the world. Quite a number of them are indigenous to the Island. The bird collection is particularly noteworthy. A not-to-be-missed event is the daily elephant circus at 5.15 p.m.

The Kelaniya Temple

The town of Kelaniya on the northern bank of the Kelani river is steeped in history. Legend has it that it was one of the three places in Ceylon visited by the Buddha. In the 16th cent. it was the residence of a Sinhala king, Bhuvaneka Bahu. Today its unique attraction is the Temple which houses numerous statues, guardstones, moonstones etc. Kelaniya is also the centre of the ancient pottery craft of the Island. Pottery products may be purchased from any of the pottery stalls in the vicinity of the Temple.

Bolgoda

The lake isles on the Bolgoda lagoon, 14 miles from Colombo, off Moratuwa, are now being tapped for their vacation-and-recreation potential. At present, dining, dancing and picnic-ing facilities are available on San Michele, the 'floating hotel'. The Ceylon Motor Yacht Club has its locus of operations on the lake. Bolgoda is also the chief venue of motor-boating and water-skiing in Ceylon.

Entertainment

Dancing

The Western type of night-club is practically unknown in Ceylon. The bigger hotels in Colombo, however, provide facilities for dancing: the **Blue Leopard**, Hotel Taprobane, Fort (daily, 9.00 p.m. to 1.30 a.m.); the **Little Hut**, and the **Regency Room**, Mt. Lavinia Hyatt, Mt. Lavinia (daily, 8.00 p.m. to 12.00 midnight); the **Mascarilla**, and the **Coconut Grove**, Galle Face Hotel, Colpetty (daily, 7.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.); the **10th floor Ballroom**, Ceylinco Hotel (Sundays only, 7.00 p.m. to 12.00 midnight); **La Langousterie**, the Cabanas, Mt. Lavinia (Weekdays 8.30 — 11.30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 8.30 p.m. — 2.00 a.m.)

Cinemas

English Language films from Gt. Britain, the U.S. and Europe are screened in the best Cinemas in Colombo and the bigger provincial towns. Sinhala, Tamil and Hindi films are popular with the large majority of the people, who do not speak English. The leading English Cinemas are: **Regal** (Parson's Road, Fort), **New Olympia** (Darley Road, Maradana), **Rio** (Kumaran Ratnam Road, Slave Island), **Liberty** (Dharmapala Mawatha, Colpetty), **Majestic** (Galle Road, Bambalapitiya, and **Savoy** (Galle Road, Wellawatte). Cinemas which regularly screen vernacular (Sinhala, Tamil and Hindi) films are **Ritz** and **Lido** (Borella) **Elphinstone** and **Gamini** (Maradana), **Sapphire**, **Roxy**, **Plaza** and **Eros** (Wellawatte). The new State-operated "People's Theatre" **Tharangani**, on Baudhaloka Mawatha screens both foreign and local films of outstanding merit. Showtimes and programmes are published in the English dailies. (Some of these Cinemas, particularly the vernacular ones, do not offer very comfortable and congenial accommodation).

Theatre

Both the English and Sinhala Theatre are popular in Colombo. The **Lionel Wendt Kala Kendra** (Art Centre) at 18, Guildford Crescent, Cinnamon Gardens, offers productions in both English and Sinhala. The recently built, more spacious, **Navarangahala**, at Race Course Ave. (premises of Royal College) is a part open-air theatre which is equipped to handle large productions. The **Lumbini Theatre**, Havelock Town, has been monopolised by the Sinhala theatre, which has been very much alive and kicking in recent years. The **Y.M.B.A. Hall**, Kanatte Road, Borella also stages Sinhala plays. Theatre programmes are announced in the English dailies.

Music

The Symphony Orchestra of Ceylon performs occasionally in Colombo. Some of its members often team up with amateur choral groups to produce light musical comedies and operettas. It is not seldom that Colombo hosts visiting chamber music groups, duets, small choirs, soloists from Europe and the U.S. For Pop fans there are regular beat shows and variety entertainment programmes featuring local beat groups and artists.

(The Ceylon Tourist Board monthly, **Welcome to Ceylon, the Resplendent Isle**, — available free to foreign visitors — contains an entertainment guide for the month: **What's on in Colombo**).

All places of entertainment are closed on the monthly full moon day (variable date), which is a public holiday in Ceylon.

Sports and Recreation

Weather conditions in Ceylon permit outdoor sports and recreation the year round. The most popular sports are soccer, volleyball, cricket and rugger. Basket-

ball, hockey and tennis also have a keen, if limited following. The facilities available for visitors are:

Golf

The Royal Colombo Golf Club, Model Farm Road, Colombo 8, (Tel. 95431) maintains an excellent 18 — hole course; it provides temporary facilities for tourists. Diana Agencies run a pro shop at the club where golfing equipment may be hired (Rs. 7.50 per full set per round of 18 holes).

Tennis

Many Clubs such as the Fort Tennis Club (Sir Chittampalam Gardiner Mawatha, Tel. 22357) the Ceylon Lawn Tennis Association (45, Edinburgh Crescent, Tel. 91425) and the Women's International Club (16, Guildford Crescent, Tel. 95072) offer facilities to tourists. Prior reservations are advisable.

Fishing

The Ceylon Anglers' Club, (Chaitya Road, Colombo 1) provides facilities to visitors for good inshore fishing. Aqua Sports Ltd hires out boats for deep-sea fishing off Hikkaduwa. (See under Skin-diving).

Swimming

The most convenient sea-bathing resort close to Colombo city is Mount Lavinia, near the hotel (7 miles south of Colombo, off Galle Road).

Private swimming clubs welcoming tourists and offering them temporary membership are: the Otter Aquatic Club, (380, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Tel. 95070); the Sinhalese Sports Club, (Maitland Place, Tel. 95362); the Colombo Swimming Club, (Storm Lodge, Galle Road, Colpetty, Tel. 21645). The Kinross Swimming and Life Saving Club, (10 Station Avenue, Wellawatte)

and the Surf Life Saving Association of Ceylon, (Siripala Road, Mount Lavinia) offer temporary membership and Club facilities for sea-bathing.

Skin Diving

The sea just off Colombo and some of the coastal towns, particularly Hikkaduwa, abound with rich coral reefs supporting beautiful coral communities. Skin-diving equipment may be purchased at Noordeen Hadjiars, Main St. Colombo 11 (Tel. 23026) and at Nimrods, Front St. Colombo 11 (Tel. 28114). Equipment is also available for hire at the Coral Gardens Hotel, Hikkaduwa.

Aqua Sports Ltd., P.O.Box 916, 14, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 1 (Tel. 29603) conducts underwater expeditions at Mount Lavinia and Hikkaduwa. Such expeditions are also undertaken (in different parts of the Island) by "Seadive Ceylon" (18, Tudella Road, Kurunduwatte, Jaala, Tel. 076-484); "Underwater Safaris", (47/5, Gregory's Road, Colombo 7, Tel. 94255) and Suncraft Ltd., (28, Upper Chatham St., Colombo 1, Tel. 26623). They also supply gear for underwater photography.

Water-Skiing

The most popular water-skiing resort is Bolgoda lake. Those interested should contact Dr. K. C. Fernando, 477, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 4 (Tel. 92353), or the Ceylon Ski Club, 95, Chatham St. Colombo 1 (Tel. 20112). Aqua Sports Ltd. and Suncraft, Ltd. (see above under Skin-diving) hire out boats and equipment for water-skiing.

Yachting

There are three active Yacht Clubs. The Royal Colombo Yacht Club operates in and outside Colombo harbour and its Club-house is on the waterfront at

Kochchikade (Tel. 34926). The Ceylon Motor Yacht Club operates on Bolgoda lake (see above); its Club-house is on the lake, at Indibedda, off Moratuwa, (Address: P.O. Box 1268, Colombo). In the hill-country, the man-made lake of the Castlereagh Dam, off Maskeliya, is the venue of the Darrowela Sailing Club's activities; the setting is picturesque. Further particulars about yachting in Ceylon may be had from The Secretary, C.Y.A., P.O.Box 256, Colombo.

Rowing and Boating

The Colombo Rowing Club at 51/1, Sir C. Gardiner Mawatha Colombo 2 (Tel. 33758) offers temporary membership for one month and club facilities to tourists.

The Powerboat Association of Ceylon provides visitors with an opportunity of cruising on the Bolgoda Lake (on the outskirts of Colombo) right up to the Kalu Ganga (river). A journey down the river offers a kaleidoscope of scenery; the banks abound with bird life. For particulars, contact: Mr. B. de Livera, President, Powerboat Association of Ceylon, 32/1, Castle St., Colombo 8 (Tel. 96636).

Places of Religious Devotion

Buddhist

- Kelaniya Raja Maha Vihara, Kelaniya, Tel. 075-505
- Kotte Raja Maha Vihara, Pitakotte, Kotte, Tel. 075-2759.
- Gotami Vihare, Gotami Road, Borella, Tel. 94138.
- Deepaduttaaramaya, Kotahena, Tel. 31662.
- Vajiraramaya, 14, Vajira Road, Bambalapitiya, Tel. 84202.
- Asokaramaya, Thimbirigasyaya, Issipathana Rd. Havelock Town, Tel. 86678

For Information:

Buddhist Information Centre, 50, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha (Green Path), Colombo 7. Tel. 23079.

Hindu

- Kadhiresan Temple, Sea Street, Pettah.
- Bambalapitiya Pillyar Kovil, Galle Road, Bambalapitiya.
- Wellawatte Pillyar Kovil, Galle Road, Wellawatte.

For Information:

Ramakrishna Mission, Ramakrishna Road,
Wellawatte, Tel. 88253.

Roman Catholic

- St. Philip Neri's Church, Olcott Mawatha, Pettah
Tel. 21367.
- St. Mary's Church, Lauries Road, Bambalapitiya,
Tel. 88745.
- All Saints' Church, Campbell Place, Borella,
Tel. 93051.
- St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, Tel. 32080.

For Information:

Information Centre, Archbishop's House, Borella,
Tel. 95471.

Protestant

- Christ Church, Galle Face, Colpetty, Tel. 25166.
- St. Paul's, Milagiriya (Bambalapitiya), Tel. 88712.
- St. Andrew's Scots Kirk, Galle Road, Colpetty,
Tel. 23765.
- Methodist Church, Galle Road, Colpetty, Tel. 23033
- Baptist Church, De Soysa Circus, Cinnamon
Gardens, Tel. 95153.
- St. Michael's and All Angels', St. Michael's Road,
Polwatte (Colpetty), Tel. 23660.
- Dutch Reformed Church, Galle Road, Bambala-
pitiya, Tel. 88814.

Moslem (Mosques)

- Grand Mosque, New Moor Street, Pettah.
- Devatagaha Mosque, De Soysa Circus, Cinnamon Gardens.
- Jumma Mosque, R. A. de Mel Mawatha, Colpetty.
- Maradana Mosque, Maradana Road, Maradana, Tel. 91921.

Shopping

Gems

Gems and Ceylon are almost synonymous. Legend has it that in the 6th cent. B.C. King Solomon's trading ships were in Ceylon's waters once every three years to purchase her famed precious stones for his consort Queen Sheba. Ptolemy of the 2nd century A.D. mentions beryl, sapphire and gold among Ceylon's products. From the 4th century onwards Chinese vessels called regularly in Ceylon for pearls, crystals and gems. The Italian traveller, Marco Polo speaks of a ruby in the possession of the King of Ceylon (12th century). "a span in length, without a flaw and brilliant beyond recognition".

Ceylon has supplied some of the most famous of the world's precious stones e.g. the "Star" sapphire (Star of India) now in the Pierpont Morgan collection in New York, the "Lord Nuffield" and the "Blue Belle of Asia". Recently a cat's eye of a record 3000 carats was unearthed.

Cat's eyes and moonstones are peculiar to Ceylon. According to gemmologists the true cat's eye is the chatoyant variety of chrysoberyl. The cat's eye effect depends both on the stone and on the cutting (*en cabochon*). Common cat's eyes colours are greenish yellow, honey yellow, and brownish yellow grading to dark brown. The black is very rare. The more common moonstone is a variety of felspar cut *en cabochon*

i.e. with a dome-shaped instrument, to produce a milky bluish opalescence which has been compared to moonlight. Ceylon sapphires (Corundum) particularly blue sapphires, enjoy a very high reputation. Among other stones available are, rubies, amethysts, aquamarines, zircons, garnets and topazes.

Ratnapura, literally "The City of Gems" (56 miles East of Colombo) is the heart of the gem mining region. The gem — containing gravel below the alluvial soil of this region is got at by mining in pits, tunnelling or dredging in river beds. The delicate task of gem-cutting is still carried on by hand-operated machines.

The All-Ceylon Co-operative Gem Society Ltd. operates a Tourist Sales Centre at Ratnapura at the People's Bank at Ratnapura and at the People's Bank branch at Ceylinco House, Queen's Street, Fort. There are also numerous reputable gem and jewellery shops in Colombo mostly in the Fort and along Galle Road in Colpetty and Bambalapitiya. The visitor should beware of touts. When in doubt he should consult a travel agent or the Tourist Reception Centre. The Ceylon Gem Corporation offers a gem-testing service at its showrooms at Macan Markar Building, 24, York Street, Fort, Colombo.

Clothes—Ceylon Style

There is hardly any aspect of Ceylonese life more cosmopolitan today than fashion. A veritable variety of all the fascinating costumes of the world can be met down a street in Colombo. In no part of the world is fashion more elegantly versatile than in Ceylon — a country, which for more than twenty centuries has also cherished its own graceful forms of national dress for both man and woman.

A love of colour predominates together with an accent on comfort. The sari drapes most gracefully round the female form; the sarong, cool and casual, affected by

men; and the *cloth*, a 2-1/2 yard rectangle of fabric wrapped round the waist and falling in smooth folds to the feet of women-wearers of this particular mode of dress, are the national costumes of the Ceylonese people. The sari and *cloth* are worn with a jacket, a fitted blouse-like garment above the waist, designed with or without sleeves. Sari wearers call it a *choli*, because it is brief and short and leaves about a span of body uncovered above the waist.

Of late the *cloth* is worn Burmese-style, with a sleeved-fitted jacket, reaching up to, and covering the hips. This assemblage is called a "lungi" and many women in the towns consider it a very suitable and comfortable style for daily wear. Made of rich materials, it is elegant enough for formal occasions.

For Women

No other mode of dress for women, however, can replace or outdo the sari in sheer grace and charm. It has the added advantage of disguising and concealing figure-flaws, while revealing to their best effect, every seductive, feminine curve. Even frock wearers — and today the western mini, midi and maxi are commonly worn for informal occasions — opt for sari for after-dark glamour.

Saris come in a profusion of kind, quality and price. The most precious are of Indian origin — e.g. the world famous exquisite, priceless Benares, Manipuri, Kanjeeveram and Mysore silks. These are yet available at fabulous prices (Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1,500/-). Women wear them for weddings, formal receptions and cocktail parties. Other Indian saris — silks and cottons from Kashmir, Bangalore and Decca are beautiful too, but less expensive (Rs. 100/- to Rs. 500/-). These are suitable for most times of day and informal evening wear. Saris for day-wear are the cheaper, lighter-weight, printed or plain cottons and attractive, bordered voiles. (Rs. 50/- and above). Nylons are increasingly

worn during the day, especially by career women, who desire to be band-box fresh all day.

In recent years Ceylon has been producing more and more of her own saris, especially in the synthetic-silks and handloom range. The fame of Ceylon synthetics has now spread very far afield. Special mention should be made of the exquisite fabrics created by Cyntex, J.B., and Ceysilk, among others, who produce a range of nylon silks, crepes, georgettes and brocades on their power looms.

Handloom saris of cotton, rayon and brocade are produced in large numbers, in original designs. They take their place with the most beautiful creations of other lands. Some of the patterns and colour combinations are strikingly attractive. (The prices range from Rs. 35/- to Rs. 800/-). Local cotton and voile saris are ideal for casual wear. The wealth of design and pattern executed on voile saris is bewilderingly beautiful. (These are cheaply priced at Rs. 25/- and above).

In Colombo, the Fort and Pettah abound with sari-shops. Main Street, Upper Chatham Street and York Street are all good sari-shopping places. Some of the premier sari-shops are to be found down these streets.

The sari is now also widely used by women who usually wear maxi or midi-length evening dresses. For these the heavy Ceylon brocade and silk saris are unsurpassable.

In the rural areas the *cloth-and-jacket* has been immemorially worn. A wide, lace-edged neckline and tiered-puff-sleeves edged with lace, reaching down to the elbow or the wrist is the traditional Kandyan version of the jacket worn with the *cloth*. The *lama* or half-sari, a draped sari-like garment worn without the shoulder-fall or drape, is another "old-fashioned" Kandyan dress met with in the remoter up-country areas. The *cloth-and-jacket* has now invaded the high-

fashion scene and society women wear it with grace, for many informal day and evening occasions. There is an undeniable attractiveness in the colourful *cloths* teamed with spotless white jackets.

For Men

The sarong is the traditional male attire. It is a long piece of material reaching from waist to ankle, stitched in barrel or tubular form. The upper end is knotted round the waist. The unwary foreigner must be warned that knotting a sarong securely is an art that has to be learned! More and more men, however, are now wearing the western slack or trousers and shirt for work and outdoors, especially in urban areas. The sarong is, however, the garment for relaxation. Any attractive cotton or rayon material of gay, colourful design is suitable. Specially woven sarongs of attractive stripes and checks are also popular. (Prices range from Rs. 12/- to Rs. 50/- per sarong).

The *cloth and banian* is another form of male attire. It is now known as the "national dress" for men. The popularity is due to its simplicity and durability. It consists of a white *cloth* (sarong) and a *banian*, a loose, long-sleeved, high-necked, bush-coat-like over-shirt, reaching below the waist. Rarely is the style copied in any other colour. Almost all dress shops stock sarongs and *cloth-and-banian* material.

Local Dress Material

Batiks have come into their own in Ceylon and the fame of Ceylon batiks has spread across many seas. Indeed, many of our loveliest batiks are being exported as fast as they are created. Batik is basically a cotton fabric which has been worked on by a laborious manual process to produce vivid and imaginative colour combinations and designs, often in traditional, indigenous motifs. The uses to which batiks are being put are increasing daily — saris, shirts, sarongs, skirts, table-

mats, wall-hangings, etc. (Lengths of batik, 2 - 3 yards, cost from about Rs. 40/- upwards).

Tie-and-dye fabrics are also becoming popular with both sari and frock wearers in Ceylon. This ancient process has been renewed with success. Cottons are dyed by a special method into eye-catching and original colour-combinations and designs. Tie-and-dye material is mostly used for dresses, skirts, sarongs, shifts, shirts and has also been successfully experimented upon (on silk) for saris. (Lengths of Tie-and-Dye fabrics are priced from Rs. 25/- upwards).

Ceylon laces created on power-looms are now flooding the market. Various textures are available and the patterns are both traditional and modern. However, the visitor would also do well to take a second look at the hand-made laces and crochet lengths, which serve for trimmings, borders, etc. The *beralu* lace made in the southern coastal districts is of exquisite texture and design, and each piece is an original.

The art of pillow lace has also been perfected, and crochet in a medley of attractive designs has come into its own. The pure hand-made lace is rather expensive, but narrow edgings and trimming are reasonably priced from Rs. 2/- per yard upwards. Embroidered laces, hand or machine-made, have now reached excellent standards. Saris made of this material are called *hacobas*: they are delicately attractive.

There are many dealers in Batik material in Colombo and the vicinity; some of the best known are "House" (Barbara Sansoni Fabrics Ltd) 15A, Anderson Road, Colombo 5; Ena de Silva's Gallery, 161, Kynsey Road, Colombo 8; C.T.C. Showrooms, 388, Galle Road, Colombo 3; Batik Export, 450, Galle Road, Colombo 3 and Shanthee Batiks, 15/1, Melbourne Ave., Colombo 4.

Handicrafts, Curios, Antiques

Ceylon has preserved very long traditions in a variety of handicrafts — woodcarving, pottery and terracotta,

weaving (mats, lace), shell, silver, brass and ivory work. Some of these which had been on the decline with the advent of the machine and mass-production, are being revived. There are many handicrafts and curio shops in Colombo. The largest is the State-run **Laksala** (York St., Fort), which offers a wide selection of handicrafts and curios. Direct shipping facilities are available there. **Laksala** has branches in Kandy, Galle, Matara, Hikkaduwa, Jaffna, Batticaloa, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura and Kegalle.

Two commercial galleries which display and sell contemporary arts and crafts products of Ceylon are the **Colombo Gallery**, 15A, Anderson Road, Havelock Town, and **Serendib Gallery**, 100, Galle Road, Bambalapitiya. The latter also stocks batiks, antiques and rare books on Ceylon. A pot-pourri of antiques and Ceyloniana is available at "**Treasure House**", 133, Cotta Road, Borella.

Miscellaneous

Colombo's large **Department Stores** are Cargills, Ltd., on York Street, Fort, and Apothecaries Ltd., Prince Street, Fort.

The leading **Bookshops** dealing mainly in English books are: K. V. G. de Silva & Sons, Main Street, Fort; Lake House Bookshop, Parson's Road, Fort; H. W. Cave & Co., Main Street, Fort; Cargills Ltd., York St., Fort; M. D. Gunasena & Co., Olcott Mawatha, Pettah; McCallum Book Depot, Olcott Mawatha, Pettah; and K. V. G. de Silva, Galle Road, Bambalapitiya.

Stamp — **Dealers** are on Baillie Street, York Street and Chatham St., all in the Fort. The Ceylon Philatelic Bureau is on the 4th floor of Ceylinco House, Queen's St. Fort (Tel. 25588).

Food (Ceylon style) and Dining

In Ceylon there is a delicious diversity of food to tempt and satisfy the most discriminating palate. And its cost is comparatively very low, even when the substance, flavour and presentation are of the best. Many races and cultures have merged to produce modern Ceylon, and naturally the food of such a people is rich, many-splendoured and delectable — a collection of dishes from many parts of the world to which have been imparted a distinct Ceylonese flavour.

The main traditional food of the Ceylonese is rice, served with a variety of savoury accompaniments, called curries. Curry is a Portuguese word and Rice-and-Curry acquired many interesting and satisfying changes when the Portuguese and Dutch culinary influences were brought to bear upon the Island's staple food. The Ceylonese always cooked rice for special occasions in ghee or clarified fat, but the Dutch and Portuguese enhanced this dish in several ways, by adding meats of different kinds to it and a variety of new vegetables. They tinted the rice yellow, cooked it in stock rather than in water, baked the rice with curries and all, in packets of plantain leaves. The latter dish, a real gourmet's delight, is known as *Lamprais* from the Dutch original. Yellow rice and ghee rice, garnished with potato fritters, nuts, raisins, hard-boiled eggs, raw tomatoes and shreds of lettuce are both dishes fit for kings.

Every type of meat is "curried" in a Ceylon kitchen. That is, it is cooked in coconut milk, enhanced with spices and condiments and fried in coconut oil. Of course, a curry is calory-filled, but no visitor can afford to resist it. Diverse vegetables, like the brinjal (egg plant) and ash plantain, as well as beans, leeks, potatoes, etc., are also curried. They are usually served with a special rice-dish. Visitors unused to curry dishes which are usually, but not always, "hot" on the palate, should be careful in trying them out.

The Ceylonese do specially wonderful things with fish. Tropical fish for the table is in itself full of rich flavour but the method of cooking is such as to retain and develop these flavours. The *piece-de-resistance* of rich dishes is a preparation which originated on the south coast; it is called *ambul thiyal* and translated means a "sour fish curry". Not that the translation does anything to promote the intrinsic desirability of this dish! In the south *ambul thiyal* is prepared with blood-fish, tuna. The fish is baked slowly in a thick, highly seasoned gravy, in a clay pot over glowing coals with another clay vessel containing live coals placed on top of it. The southerners "keep" it for a couple of days to reach perfection. Varieties of this, with less seasoning, are offered almost everywhere.

The Ceylonese breakfast is a comparatively light meal as most people concentrate on their lunch of rice-and-curry. But some of the traditional breakfast dishes are excellent. *String-hoppers*, a preparation of rice or wheat flour poured into a pouffe of "strings", as its name denotes, and steamed; *hoppers*, which are rice-flour muffins and sometimes have an egg soft-baked into the top to make *egg-hoppers*; *roti* or baked flat circles of a flour and grated coconut mixture and, *pittu* which is also a flour and coconut mixture poured into a long hollow bamboo mould and steamed — are all exciting to eat. These are served with appropriate *sambols* ("red-hot salads") and with curries of meat or fish. Milder *sambols* are also available.

"Courses" are western importations but beef-steak from the occident has taken on a special Ceylon flavour. A piping hot dish of beef-steak Ceylon-style, with boiled potatoes and onion rings is a treat — if one can tolerate a little extra sprinkling of black pepper powder and its exceptional sting! A Ceylon hot-pot with a mixture of boiled vegetables is also delicious and so is fish-and-chips when it consists of Ceylon fish.

Ceylon sweetmeats are part of the culinary treat in store for a visitor. These are numerous and of diverse

origins. Typical Ceylonese — or unadulterated Ceylonese sweetmeats — are made out of rice flour and palm treacle, spiced with nutmeg, cinnamon and cardamom. One of the prime favourites is called *kavun*, a batter cake fried in coconut oil. Sinhalese sweetmeats are collectively called *rasa-kavili* or “sweetfood”. One of the most delicious of the assortment is *aluva*, a type of fudge made of rice flour, palm treacle and cashew nuts; the secret of its flavour is in the combination of nuts and treacle in lavish quantities. Space will only allow mention of others, such as *aggala*, *thala-guli*, *lavariya*, curd-treacle, *dodol*, *asme* and *dosi*, which deserve mouth-watering descriptions.

Muslim dishes both sweet and savoury are highly spiced and flavoured and curd is used in the preparation of several curries. The traditional rice-dish of *buriyani* with chicken or mutton is a must; and not being lashed with chillies (red-pepper) is easily digested and greatly enjoyed by foreigners. The people of the North are Hindus and therefore, strictly vegetarian for the most part but one would hardly have partaken of Ceylonese cuisine, if one does not taste that treat the northerners call *kool*. It is a purely vegetable dish; a variety of vegetables are used; boiled and fried in oil and combined with flour made of young palmyrah shoots, dried in the sun. Some add fish to it to enhance the flavour.

No visitor to Ceylon could resist Ceylon fruits. The island is a veritable Paradise of tropical fruit. Apart from papaws, bananas, mangoes and pineapples, there are the less well known varieties that are even more delectable. Ripe *jak* fruit for instance eaten with a sprinkling of pepper and salt; the white sweet pulp of the red-red *rambutan*; the delicious white kernel of purple mangosteen; the custard apple, with its unique “milk”. The choice is both wide and wonderful.

Most of the good hotels and restaurants in Colombo and the provincial towns offer both western and Cey-

lonese cuisine. Some of the delicacies described above will probably be available to the visitor only through the hospitality of a private host.

Finally, a word about beverages. Of the many "natural" drinks the visitor should not miss *thambili* the water of the golden king-coconut, a nourishing thirst quencher and, if possible, *toddy* (an extract of the palm-bud) particularly of the palmyrah tree. The country's own popular alcoholic drink *arrack* is coconut *toddy* processed and refined.

Ceylon also produces her own brandy, gin and beer.

Dining (in Colombo)

Restaurants in Hotels

Harbour Room (overlooking Harbour) and
Bamboo Bar
Hotel Taprobane, York St., Fort. Colombo 1
(Western and Ceylonese; Bar; Air-conditioned)

Akasa-Kade (Roof-top Restaurant)
Ceylinco Hotel, 69 Queen St., Fort
(Western and Ceylonese; Bar.)

Samudra
25 Galle Face Centre Road, Colombo 3
(Western and Ceylonese; Bar.)

Coconut Grove Restaurant and
Stag's Head Beer Garden
Galle Face Hotel, Colombo 3
(Western and Ceylonese; Bar; Air-conditioned)

Mount Lavinia Hyatt,
Hotel Road, Mount Lavinia.
(Western and Ceylonese; Bar; Air-conditioned)

La Langousterie
Cabanas, De Saram Road, Mount Lavinia
(Western and Eastern; Bar)

Other Restaurants

Chinese Dragon Cafe
231, Galle Road, Colombo 4
(Chinese and Western)

Chinese Lotus Hotel
Isabel Court, Galle Road, Colombo 3
(Chinese and Western)

Chop Sticks
Chinese Victory Cafe, York St., Fort.
(Chinese and Western; Air-conditioned)

Fountain Cafe
199, Union Place, Colombo 2
(Western and Ceylonese, Light Refreshments,
Snacks)

Green Cabin Cafe
453, Galle Road, Colombo 3
(Western and Ceylonese, Cakes, Pastries)

Greenlands Hotel
3, Shrubbery Gardens, Colombo 4
(Indian and Vegetarian; Bar)

Hotel Metropole
Queen St., Fort Colombo 1
(Western and Ceylonese; Bar, Light Refreshments)

Hotel Nippon
123, Kumaran Rutnam Road, Colombo 2
(Japanese, Chinese and Western; Bar)

Kokos Restaurant
20, Thimbirigasyaya Road, Colombo 5.
(Ceylonese, Chinese and Western)

Kokos Restaurant
82, Chatham Street, Fort.
(Snacks, Pastries, "Take Away"
Meals, Light Meals; Air-conditioned)

Nanking Hotel
Chatham St., Fort
(Chinese and Western)

Nextdoor
1, Gitanjali Place, Colombo 3
(Ceylonese and Western).

Omar Khayyam,
1, Police Park Terrace, Colombo 5
(Western and Ceylonese)

Pagoda Tea Rooms
Chatham St., Colombo 1
(Western and Ceylonese, Light Refreshments)

Peiping Chinese Restaurant
100-102 Chatham St., Colombo 1
(Chinese and Western)

The Taj
11, Glen Aber Place, Colombo 4
(Oriental Specialities, Western only on prior
orders; "Take Away" meals; Air-conditioned)

Windmill
41, Galle Face Court, Colombo 3
(Light Meals, Snacks, Pastries, "Take Away" Meals)

Y.M.B.A. Cafeteria
New Y.M.B.A. Building, Colombo 1
(Ceylonese, Light Refreshments)

Y.M.C.A. Service Restaurant
Duke Street Colombo 1,
(Western and Ceylonese, Light Refreshments)

Light Refreshments Only

Maliban Cream House
380, Galle Road, Colombo 3
(Pastries, Ice-Cream)

Perera & Sons, Ltd.,
215, Galle Road, Colombo 3
(Pastries, Ice-Cream, Soda Fountain)

Piccadilly Cafe
45, Galle Road, Colombo 4
(Ice-Cream Parlour)

Zeller's Cafeteria
Galle Road, Colombo 4
(Light Refreshments).

TIPPING

Tipping in Ceylon is not *de rigueur* as in many other parts of the world. In Hotels and Restaurants a tip of about 10% of the bill is customary, if no service charge is included. Baggage boys at the Airport, Stations and Hotels will expect about Re. 1/- per piece of heavy baggage. There is no tipping in Cinemas, Theatres and Petrol (Gas) Stations. Taxi-drivers are not usually tipped by local customers; they may expect at least a token tip from foreign visitors.

UP-COUNTRY

The mountainous region of the south-central part of the Island is popularly known as the **Up-country**. The Florentine globe-trotter Francesco Carletti may have had the Up-country in mind when he wrote: "It (Ceylon) proved to be a delicious country, well formed of smiling, completely green hills that make as attractive a sight as that of any country that I ever have seen" (*My Voyage Around the World*). Some of the wild, thickly wooded mountain ranges such as the Knuckles still remain unexplored. Weather-wise, the Up-country provides a real cool contrast to the heat and humidity of many parts of the low-country. Everywhere rolling vistas of tea meet the eye.

KANDY

Encircled by hills and nestling beside a lovely lake, is **Kandy** or *Maha-Nuwara* (Great City), the last Capital of Sinhala royalty. Bishop Brooks of Boston wrote back to his sister Mary from Kandy: ".....I think it must be the most beautiful place in the world. I do not see how there could be one more beautiful" (*Letters of Travel*).

The 72-mile drive up to Kandy (1,600 feet above sea level) leads through a very representative cross-section of the country's luxuriant vegetation. Kandy is also easily reached by train. Kadugannawa, 12 miles before Kandy (from Colombo) gives the traveller, by road or

railway a taste of Ceylon's up-country landscape. The white tower is the memorial to Capt. W. F. Dawson "whose science and skill executed this road" It was erected in 1832.

Kandy is intimately and poignantly associated with the fall of the last King of Kandy, the last in a line of monarchs which went back 2,100 years — the longest recorded monarchy in the world. With the capture of King Sri Wickrema Rajasinghe by the British in 1815 the whole Island came totally under Western foreign rule for the first time.

The places of particular interest are:

Dalada Maligawa (The Temple of the Tooth)

This is Kandy's proudest treasure and its characteristic landmark. This temple houses the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha. It is said to have been brought to Ceylon from India, first to Anuradhapura and subsequently taken to several other royal cities according to the vicissitudes of history, until it came to the last, Kandy. The present structure comes chiefly from two kings, Vimala Dharma Suriya II (1687-1707) and Kirti Sri Rajasinghe (1747-1782). The Octagon, built by the last king of Kandy now houses a unique collection of ola-leaf (palm-leaf) manuscripts and other rare exhibits. It is the Oriental Library. The temple enclosure is open daily from dawn to the hour of evening service, about 5.30. Amateur, but reasonably knowledgeable, guides offer their services for a conducted tour to visitors, at the main entrance of the Temple. Usually it is worth the tip of Rs. 2.00 or Rs. 3.00 that they expect. Of course, seeing the Tooth Relic itself is out of the question. It is never exposed or taken out of its heavily guarded enclosure.

A noteworthy building within the Temple premises is the Royal Audience Hall. It exemplifies the Kandyan style of architecture and decoration (note the pillars). It is now used by the Supreme Court.

Between the Audience Hall and the *Maha Vishnu Devale*, behind the square, is the Kandy Museum. Part of it was the old-time palace of the King of Kandy.

The Kandy (Esala) Perahera

Kandy and the Temple of the Tooth cannot be dissociated from the annual *Esala* (July-August) *Perahera* or religious pageant. This is reputedly the most spectacular religious pageant in Asia. The grand procession is really a combination of five smaller ones. The *devales* (Hindu shrines) of *Natha*, *Maha Vishnu*, *Kataragama* and *Pattini* provide four of them, which join that of the *Dalada Maligawa* to compose the grand procession which takes to the streets of Kandy for nine consecutive nights. It grows in length and splendour from the first night to the last. So do the crowds which pack the city for this event.

The pageantry of the *Perahera* is concentrated, on the one hand in the teams of traditional dancers and massed drummers and the temple chiefs in ceremonial dress, and on the other, in the gaily caparisoned elephants. The rear of the *Maligawa* procession is brought up by the Temple tusker, who carries on his back the casket of relics (not the Tooth Relic).

Malwatte and Asgiriya Monasteries

These are the two best known Buddhist monasteries of Kandy, both of the Siamese sect. Their prestige lies in the fact that the high-priests of these two take precedence over all other Buddhist clergy of Ceylon. They also enjoy special privileges with regard to the administration of the Temple of the Tooth. *Malwatte* is across the lake from the Temple and *Asgiriya* is situated on a hill off Trincomalee Street.

Elephant Bathing

The Ceylon elephant is easily tamed. Tame elephants still do such chores as felling trees, carrying logs and

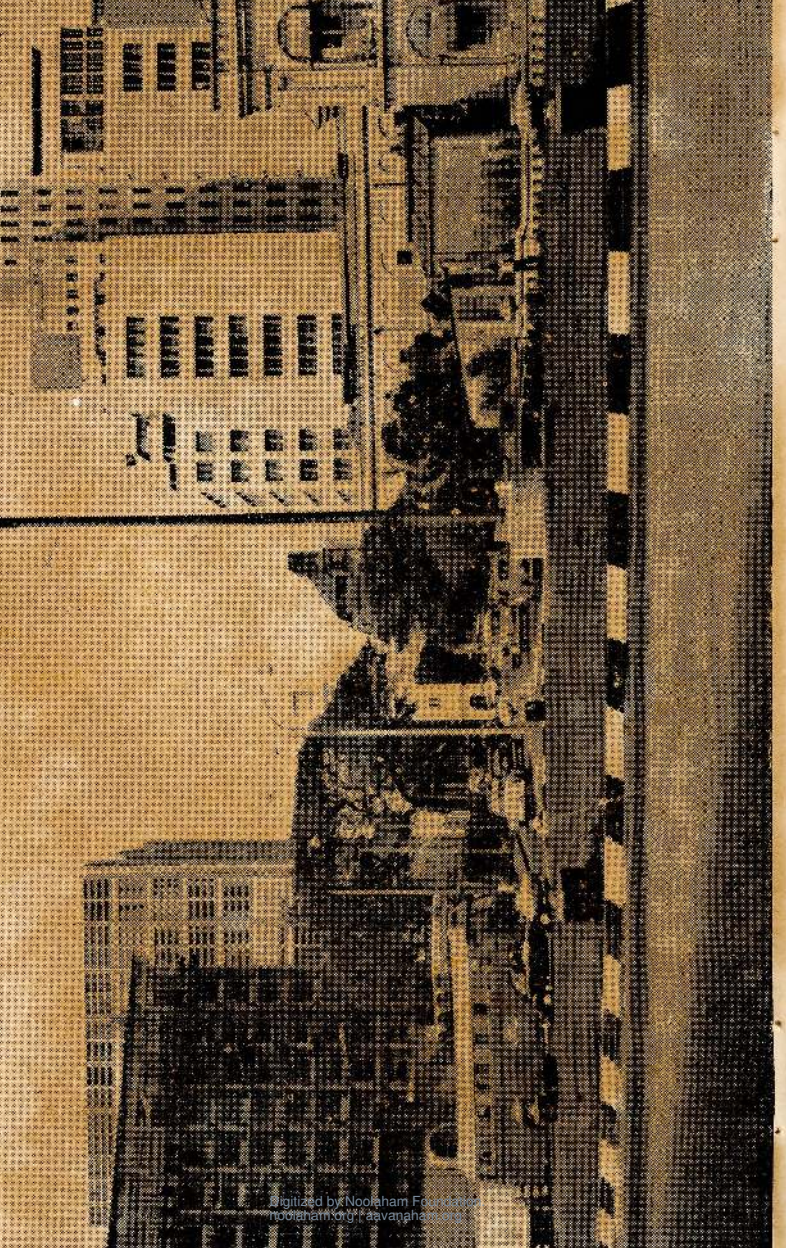
gracing festive occasions. Kandy and vicinity provide the most convenient opportunities to watch elephants in action, on the road or in the water. The most frequented elephant bathing spot is on the *Mahaveli Ganga* Ceylon's longest river, on Lady Macallum Drive, off the Kandy — Katugastota Road, about 3 miles from Kandy. Understandably the elephants prefer the warmer part of the day for bathing viz. mid-day and the early afternoon. At this spot one can not only watch them bathe but also get oneself perched on the knee, trunk or back of an elephant with the help of an obliging *mahout* (elephant-keeper). Some *mahouts* there may be out to make a fast buck. A tip of about Rs. 5.00 would be considered very reasonable for such a service.

Scenic Walks

Kandy can boast of a number of scenic, easy walks. Most of them are named after the wives of former British Governors — Lady Horton, Lady Blake etc. Lady Horton's drive, for example, runs on the wooded hill of *Udawattekele* (upper-garden-forest), which abounds in up-country birds. A bird's eye view of the city can be obtained at some points along Upper Lake Road, (Rajapihilla Mawatha) particularly at the small and cosy Royal Palace Park (formerly Wace Park), from where one literally looks down on the Lake and the City.

Arts and Crafts

The visitor interested in Kandyan Arts and Crafts should drop in at the Kandyan Arts and Crafts Association showroom where a good variety of lacquer work, brassware, mats etc., are on display as well as on sale. Some craftsmen can be seen at work too. This showroom is a little beyond the Kandy Museum (behind the Temple of the Tooth) along the lake. **Laksala**, the State-run Arts and Crafts shop, has a branch at Kandy.



Degaldoruwa (3 miles from Kandy on the *Teldeniya* road.

This is a cave temple which contains excellent wall paintings of *Jataka* tales (of the previous births of the Buddha) incorporating fascinating glimpses of daily social intercourse in Kandyan times. Of the 18th century.

NUWARA ELIYA

For the Ceylonese, **Nuwara Eliya** is synonymous with "Up-country holiday". 6,230 feet above sea-level, the town nestles at the foot of *Pidurutalagala* or Mt. Pedro (8,820 ft). the highest mountain in Ceylon. Dr. Werner Hoffmeister, the personal physician of Prince Waldemar of Prussia, the first German Prince to visit Nuwara Eliya, wrote in his *Letters from the East*: "This inviting spot, Nuwara Eliya, lies in an open plain, among moorlands, encircled on every side by craggy mountains, which in our climate would be clad in eternal snows; bold and lofty peaks tower to the very skies" It is therefore not without reason that Nuwara Eliya is known as the "Switzerland of the East".

The journey itself from Colombo to Nuwara Eliya, by road or rail is scenic enough to deserve mention in its own right. By train, the *Uda-Rata-Menike* (Up-country Belle) tortuously winds through lush tea country, by sparkling mountain streams, under massive crags, through rock tunnels and on awe-inspiring precipice edges, especially after it hits the mid-hill-country from Nawalapitiya onwards. St. Clair's Falls can be seen between Hatton and Talawakelle. Passengers to Nuwara Eliya get off at Nanu-Oya for the 6-mile bus or car ride to town.

By road the more usual route is via Peradeniya. The excitement of this route is packed into the Ramboda Pass stretch where the road rears itself up on to the range very steeply through a series of hair-pin bends.

The views from the upper reaches of the Pass towards the valley and the winding road below are magnificent. If one does not break journey at Kandy, the unobtrusive Resthouse at Pussellawa is conveniently situated for a good cup of tea (or a snack) and a little leg-stretching.

Another approach to Nuwara Eliya is via Ginigathena and Hatton. A trip on this route could also take in the Norton Bridge Hydro-electric scheme and the artificial Castlereagh Lake by a short detour to Maskeliya from Watawala.

Nuwara Eliya is not a big town; but physically, its wide open spaces, shady walks, ubiquitous streams and rivulets, the cool, bracing air (45°F—65°F) automatically puts one into holiday mood. The more noteworthy features of the town for the vacationer are:

The Park

Beautifully laid out and maintained, the Park is a riot of colour — lotus and lily, violet, orchid, rose, barbeton daisy, canna and the flaming rhododendron (better known here as Sita's flower) — during the season i.e., March-May and August-September. The open "greens" attract children for cricket and soccer. In season, when the heat-driven City-folk migrate to Nuwara Eliya, flower colour in the Park is rivalled by abundant sari-and-cardigan colour.

Pidurutalagala (Mt. Pedro)

The climb to the top of *Piduru* from Nuwara Eliya is not a demanding one even for middle-aged people of average health. It is a fairly broad pathway, which commences at the end of Keena Road (in the vicinity of the Roman Catholic Church) and narrows down to a footpath at certain points. At a steady pace the climb which is never steep, can be done in one and half hours. Here's W. T. Keble's experience: "I go to the foot of Pedro, and begin to climb up The path winds up

through shaggy moss — grown jungle where yellow-eared bulbuls call to one another as they drive through the tree-tops I pass a seat where two nuns with rosy apple cheeks are looking out of the broad valley of Nuwara Eliya and discussing the view in animated French. The path is easy and well-shaded. I pass the 7,500 feet stone and then the 8,000 feet stone. Two hundred and ninety-six feet to go. The trees become lower and lower as the wind has clipped them down nearer to the hill side, and flattened out their tops as a gardener levels off the top of a hedge. Then the jungle suddenly opens out along an edge of pale green patna and in a few steps I stand at the foot of a little cairn that marks the summit of the mountain. This is certainly one of the grandest and most mysterious of mountain tops. Other mountains owe their grandeur to naked rocks and the barrenness of eternal snows, but Peduru is clothed almost to the summit in a mantle of green jungle untouched and unfrequented since the world began A man can be alone on the top of *Pidurutalagala*, and feel his smallness and his greatness” (*Ceylon Beaten Track*)

The Lake

Gregory's lake is an integral part of Nuwara Eliya's landscape. The winding paths encircling it are ideal for strolling or jogging. Boating facilities are available.

Golf and Trout Streams

Nuwara Eliya is specially attractive to the golfer and the angler. The golf links — 18-hole course picturesquely sited at 6000 feet — have a reputation for beauty of landscape as well as for variety of terrain. The streams in and around Nuwara Eliya are famous for trout. The Nuwara Eliya Golf Club welcomes visitors to temporary membership; fishing facilities are available through the Ceylon Fishing Club, Hauteville Estate, Agrapatna (Tel. Agrapatna 19), and the Hill Club, Nuwara Eliya (Tel. Nuwara Eliya 231).

Hakgala Gardens

Six miles from Nuwara Eliya along the road to Welimada is **Hakgala Gardens**, a floral jewel stuck on the side of the towering Hakgala Rock. Legend has it that this rock was brought by *Hanuman* (mythical monkey) in his mouth from Gondurnam Prabhat in the Himalayas — hence the name “Jaw-rock.”

Though smaller in extent these gardens are almost as pretty as the better known Peradeniya Gardens. Hakgala specializes in Up-country flora. It has a remarkable collection of roses. The magnificent views towards Welimada and Badulla add to the enchantment of Hakgala.

The curious traveller may alight for a moment at Sita-Eliya, between Nuwara Eliya and Hakgala, at an inconspicuous way-side shrine which is known as *Sita Amman Kovil*. Standing on the bank of the stream the shrine is said to mark the site where Sita used to bathe daily after her prayers for her rescue from Ravana's clutches. A curious feature of the stream here is that the waters flow through an underground passage in this rock of about fifty feet. A floating object disappears into the rock at one end to reappear on the other side. It is believed still that if flowers thrown on the water above the rock with a wish reappear below on the other side, the wish will be fulfilled. The circular depressions on the rock are said to be the foot-prints of Ravana's elephant.

HORTON PLAINS

This is a high, wind-blown plateau at an elevation of 7000 feet — a place after the nature-lover's own heart. The streams of **Horton Plains** provide excellent fishing, specially trouting, prospects. The rhododendron is everywhere on the Plains. The possibilities for pleasant walks on undulating patna and grassland are unlimited. Some areas of this plateau are now being

used for potato cultivation. The unique attraction of Horton Plains is **World's End**, the sheer cliff, which drops near-vertically 2000 feet to the valley below. The sight is often mist-covered. The best chances of a clear view are at dawn and early morning.

Food and lodging on this high, lonely plateau are available at the solitary **Farr Inn**. Now Farr Inn may be reached either by the new road via Ohiya or through Diyagama Estate, Agrapatna. A jeep is available at Farr Inn for part of the 3-mile trip to World's End. The last stretch is not motorable at all. Two of Ceylon's highest peaks (after Pidurutalagala) rise on the western boundary of Horton Plains, viz., *Kirigalpotta* (7,832 feet) and *Totapolakanda* (7,746 feet).

BANDARAWELA AND ENVIRONS

Those who find Nuwara Eliya too cold and moist invariably favour **Bandarawela** (4000 feet) 35 miles from Nuwara Eliya via Welimada. The air here is drier; its mild and warmer climate appeals to convalescents and others who do not relish great differences in temperature. Bandarawela is one of the best fruit-growing districts in the Island. The well-known Bandarawela Tennis Club conducts its own annual Championship Meet, which attracts the best tennis players of the country.

Diyatalawa (4,200 feet) and **Haputale** (4,700 ft.) are two neighbouring resorts, four and seven miles away, respectively, which are popular with vacationers. The climate of Haputale is rated by experts to be among the best in the world, and its "Gap" a geological oddity, opens a panoramic vista of the southern region extending up to the sea coast 75 miles away, as the crow flies. All three are on the Main (railway) Line on which the *Uda-Rata-Menike* plies. The mortal remains of W. S. Senior (see Preface) lie in the graveyard of the Anglican Church atop the ridge just above the town.

DIYALUMA FALLS AND BELIHUL-OYA

Coming down by road Colombo-wards from Haputale, on the "Gap" side of the range, a short detour on the Wellawaya Road from Beragala junction will bring the visitor to **Diyaluma Falls**, Ceylon's highest water-fall (620 feet) — 3 miles beyond the township of Koslanda. Its appearance is aptly described by its popular appellation "Bride's Veil Falls".

Farther down on the Haputale-Colombo road at the 100th mile post is the Belihul-Oya Resthouse, practically straddling the stream of the same name. It is made to order for honey-mooners. The Wordsworthian setting induces relaxation and peace. Safe bathing in the stream is available behind the Resthouse at a spot where the waters form a natural pool.

BADULLA, ELLA AND DUNHINDA FALLS

The drive from Bandarawela to **Badulla** is a gradual descent, all 18 miles of it, through 1500 feet. The unhurried visitor could profitably spare an hour for Ella (7 miles from Bandarawela) — at the Resthouse — to drink in the panorama of the "Gap" (with a good cup of Uva tea) of which Tennent wrote: "Perhaps there is not a scene in the world, which combines sublimity and beauty in a more extraordinary degree than that which is presented at the Pass of Ella" (*Ceylon*).

Badulla itself nestles under the shadow of the lordly *Namunukula* (nine-peaked). As the capital of the Uva province, Badulla has always worn an air of provincial importance. From the hill-country Badulla is the gateway towards the East coast. The Church of St. Mark was built in memory of the legendary English Government Agent of the 19th century, Thomas William Rogers, who is said to have bagged at least 1500 elephants in his hunting exploits: he died, not in the jungle, but in the verandah of the Haputale Resthouse struck by lightning! Ceylon's most awe-inspiring waterfall,

Dunhinda, is close at hand; but it is accessible only by a one-and-half-mile long foot path. The trek is not difficult. A picnic lunch on the rocks at the foot of the Falls is a memorable experience.

ADAM'S PEAK

On this sacred mountain of Ceylon, conflict unites. The Buddhists claim that the foot-print on its summit is that of the Buddha. Saivite Hindus believe it to be that of God Siva. For the Moslems it is the foot-print of Adam, and if the Christians do not want to be left out, the Portuguese writer Do Couto insists that it is the foot-print of St. Thomas, the Apostle of the East. So all religions in Ceylon unite in pilgrimage on *Sri-Pada* (the glorius foot-print) or **Adam's Peak**. It is also popularly called *Samanala-k nda* after God Saman with whom the Vishnuite Hindus associate the mountain. Little wonder that John Still thought that "the peak must be one of the vastest and most widely revered cathedrals of the human race" (*Jungle Tide*).

The peak, rising cone-shaped to a height of 7,353 feet, is visible from many parts of the country and even more so from out at sea. On the summit is a rock, now enclosed by a shrine-structure, which bears on its surface a large (5 feet, 7 inches by 2 feet, 7 inches) foot-print-shaped depression. One tradition says that this is an artificial print made to the order of a Sinhala King; the real foot-print of natural size lies underneath this rock, on a huge sapphire. According to the Arab tradition, when Adam was expelled from Eden, God put him on this peak to make the shock less terrible since Ceylon was the place most like Eden on earth. Of all travellers, Marignolli the Italian friar (14th century) seems to have been the most fascinated by Adam's Peak. After thanking God for having given him a glimpse of the mountain (which he apparently never climbed), he says: "And from Seyllan to Paradise, according to what the natives say after the tradition of their fathers, is a distance of forty Italian miles; so

that 'tis said, the sound of the waters falling from the fountain of Paradise is heard there And straightaway the Angel took Adam by the arm and set him down beyond the lake on the Mountain of Seyllan where I stopped for four months. And by chance Adam planted his right foot upon a stone which is there still, and straightaway by a divine miracle the form of the sole of his foot was imprinted on the marble, and there it is to this very day" (From Hulugalle's *Ceylon of the Early Travellers*).

King Valagam Bahu (1st century B.C.) is supposed to have discovered the foot-print. But it does not seem to have become a centre of pilgrimage till much later. King Parakrama Bahu of Polonnaruwa (12th cent. A.D.) had a shrine built there for the God Saman; his successor King Nissanka Malla is the first King who made a royal pilgrimage to the sacred footprint.

Today, Adam's Peak is perhaps the most popular pilgrim shrine in Ceylon — despite the rigours of the journey.

The usual pilgrim route is via Hatton and Maskeliya. The climb by foot commences near the Dalhousie Tea Factory. The first stages of the climb are easy; higher up on the cone proper, it is steep and tiring. But the thousands of steps, railings and chains have eliminated all risk and danger, making the climb safe even for the feeble and aged. There are also several resting places en route where light refreshments are available. At a steady, fast pace the climb can be done in three hours. Most pilgrims do it by night (thanks to electric lighting all the way) to reach the top just before dawn. Climbers are warned that they should protect themselves from exposure to chills, especially at the top, with adequate warm clothing.

The other more difficult route up Adam's Peak is via Ratnapura, from Carney Estate at Gilimale.

The great sight on the top at dawn, in clear weather, is the cone-shaped shadow stretching across the land. Woolf describes it thus: "To those waiting for the dawn on the summit of the peak, the sun takes a long while to rise.

"It is bitterly cold. Below lies a drift of snowy cloud pierced by dark peaks, a mysterious No-Man's Land. Slowly the clouds — turned to gold and rose pink — roll away, the sun comes up like a golden ball, and mile upon mile of mountain and plains is revealed. As soon as the sun is up the famous shadow of the Peak appears to westward. It is like a huge dark cone across the country — sometimes of a blue so vivid that no word describes the intensity of the colour. As soon as the sun rises higher it fades away. It is an extraordinary apparition — a fitting climax to a night spent on the Peak". (*How to See Ceylon*).

CEYLON TEA

Ceylon is perhaps best known abroad for her tea, "the cup of a thousand virtues" according to a Chinese legend. Tea is, however, not indigenous to Ceylon. It was introduced into the Island just over hundred years ago, after the coffee blight. The first commercial tea-planting venture began on James Taylor's pioneer *Loolecondera* Estate, 18 miles south-east of Kandy in 1867. Today Ceylon is the largest supplier of tea to the world market.

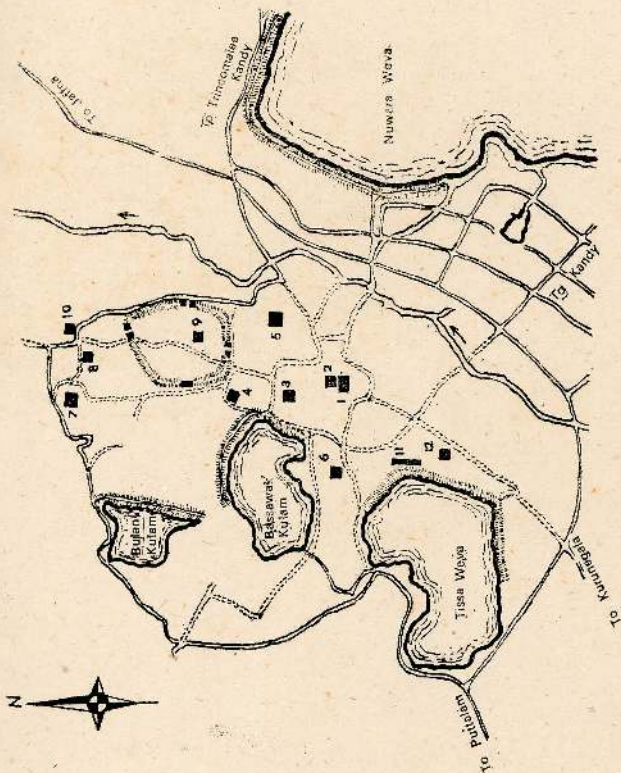
The tea plant thrives best at high elevations. Ceylon's tea is categorised as (a) low-grown — up to 2000 feet above sea level, (b) mid-grown, between 2000 feet and 4000 feet, and (c) high-grown, above 4000 feet. The high-grown tea gives the best flavour. Thick green carpets of tea cover the mountain slopes in and around the major tea-centres of the hill-country — Hatton, Talawakelle, Pussellawa, Nuwara Eliya, Bandarawela and Haputale. There is a total acreage of about 600,000 acres under tea. The Ceylon tea bush is related

to the *camellia*. It would grow up to a height of 20 - 30 feet if not kept pruned to 3 - 4 feet.

Tea manufacture, from green leaf to packaged black tea, is both an art and a science. The green leaf, — two leaves and a bud — is hand-picked by teams of tea-pluckers. At the factory, the green leaf is readied for manufacture by the elimination of gross impurities such as stems, coarse leaf. The process begins with what is termed “withering” i.e. extracting moisture from the leaf. This is done by spreading the leaf on tiers of jute hussein tats through which temperature — controlled air is blown. All the upper-storeys of the traditional multi-storeyed tea-factory are used for this process. Very modern factories use the new process of blowing hot air through troughs; this does away with the need for a large surface area. At the second stage the withered leaf is crushed in the rotary action of heavy rollers. This crushing starts a process of fermentation, which goes on for some hours (on fermentation trays). The leaf changes colour from green to a coppery black. This is a crucial stage which has an important bearing on flavour; over-fermentation is destructive of flavour. Thereafter, the product is dried by being run through driers. Then winnowers and electro-static stalk extractors purify the tea of fluff and residual stalk. Finally the tea is graded according to particle size and packed in aluminium foil-lined ply-wood chests.

Recently Ceylon has been experimenting with the manufacture of Instant Tea from the green leaf itself.

Any tea-factory will usually oblige visitors with a short guided tour.



ANURADHAPURA

1. Sri Maha Bodhi Tree
2. Brazen Palace
3. Ruvanwelisaya Dagoba
4. Thuparama Dagoba
5. Jetayanarama Dagoba
6. Mirisaveti Dagoba
7. Abhayagiri Dagoba
8. Samadhi Statue
9. Dalada Maligawa
10. Kuttam Pokuna
11. Royal Pleasure Garden
12. Isurumuniya

THE RUINED CITIES

The remains of the ancient civilisations of Egypt and Greece are well-known and frequented. Those of Ceylon of comparable antiquity, excavated from the earth and jungle during the latter part of the last century, still remain to be "discovered" by the world. This "discovery" could be a pleasant surprise, as it was to Roloff Beny: "Considering the wealth of architectural masterpieces that waited to be photographed on that voyage (Japan, Cambodia, Thailand, Burma, India), I feared that the lost cities of Anuradhapura, Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa might prove an anti-climax, but quite the contrary" (*Island-Ceylon*). Mitton's personal impressions were: "It is worthwhile going out East to visit the Ceylon ruins alone, and especially to see the exquisitely carved moonstones The mighty monuments of Egypt left me cold, the many attractions of Burma amused and interested me superficially, in Ceylon from the first moment I was at home" (*The Lost Cities of Ceylon*).

ANURADHAPURA

Keyserling opens his chapter on **Anuradhapura** thus: "What wonderful men the old kings who erected the gigantic monuments of Ceylon must have been. These buildings are not memorials to idle riches, nor the whimsical creations of an uncontrolled imagination. They exhale severe and simple greatness which in the midst of tropical luxury, seems almost unnatural"

(*Travel Diary of a Philosopher*). The achievements of the ancient Sinhala kings are best exemplified in this city which saw the reign of ninety monarchs through a time-span of nearly eleven centuries. The culture which it portrays is one inspired and nurtured through and through by Buddhism which became the religion of the Sinhala people ever since King Devanampiya Tissa (3rd century B.C.) embraced it at the hands of Mahinda and Sanghamitta the missionaries sent to Ceylon by the Buddhist Emperor Asoka of India.

The visitor can get some idea of the royal city that was Anuradhapura fifteen to twenty centuries ago by visiting the more striking ruins:

Sri Maha Bodhi Tree (Sacred Bo-Tree)

This is a branch of the Bo-Tree (*ficus religiosa*) under which the Buddha received Enlightenment at Buddhagaya (North India), brought to Ceylon and planted here by Sanghamitta during the reign of King Devanampiya Tissa. It is the oldest historically authenticated tree in the world (2,200 years). The steps leading to it, flanked by two typical guardstones, are about 18 centuries old. The golden fence is a very recent addition.

The Brazen Palace

Within sight of the sacred Bo-Tree, across the road, is a forest of 1,600 pillars, the remains of the *Lohaprasada* Palace, which was actually a luxuriously appointed Monastery. It was built by King Dutugemunu (2nd century B.C.) the greatest of the Anuradhapura Kings. It is called "brazen" because its roof was supposed to have been made of polished brass. The pillars supported an elaborately ornamented nine-storey structure of 1,000 rooms for monks and their attendants. "Twelve cartloads of crushed pearl, they say, or was it really mother-of-pearl perhaps, went into the mortar of this royal abode; feet of elephants were protected with bandages while the animals trod out metal thin enough

to coat roofs and floors (Norah Burke, *Eleven Leopards: A Journey Through the Jungles of Ceylon*). This Palace was destroyed by fire only 15 years later. It was rebuilt several times, but less and less elaborately during the following centuries. The final substantial restoration was made by King Parakrama Bahu (12th century A.D.).

Ruvanvelisaya Dagoba

Speaking of the three great dagobas of Anuradhapura, Harry Williams says: "..... these gigantic examples of man's toil, energy and reverence are at least the equal of the Pyramids. Beyond the great Pyramid of Cleops, I saw none other in Egypt comparable to the three huge dagobas of the Sacred City" (*Ceylon: Pearl of the Orient*).

A *dagoba* is essentially a monument built over the relics of a saint. The *Ruvanvelisaya* is the most striking and the best known, though not the oldest. It was the last great creation of King Dutugemunu but he did live to see it completed. "When Dutugemunu lay at the point of death Ruvanveli Dagoba was still uncompleted. But to satisfy the King's great desire to see the monument entire, Tissa his brother caused a false spire to be made of bamboo stems covered with white cloth painted to resemble the finished work. Thus the King feasted his eyes on what was the greatest Buddhist edifice, and was content" (John Still, *Ancient Capitals of Ceylon*).

The diameter of the dome is 254 feet, and its height 178 feet. The dome which originally was supposed to resemble a bubble or a drop of water later came to be modelled on a conventional heap of paddy. Of the four large upright statues at the base, the tallest is said to be that of Dutugemunu.

Thuparama Dagoba

This Dagoba, in the neighbourhood of *Ruvanvelisaya*, is the oldest and perhaps the most graceful. In his

Handbook to Architecture, Fergusson declares this to be "older than any monument now existing on the continent of India". It was built by King Devanampiya Tissa to enshrine the collar bone of the Buddha. Three concentric circles of slender monolithic pillars of diminishing height surround the Dagoba; very probably they supported a domical roof.

Jetavanarama Dagoba

This one was, till recently, mis-named *Abhayagiri* and vice versa. It was built by King Valagam Bahu around 88 B.C. The *Mahavamsa*, Ceylon's oldest chronicle, records that this Dagoba was 400 feet in height — the highest of all.

Mirisaveti Dagoba

The vast dome-shape mass of brickwork, west of the sacred Bo-tree, was once the *Mirisaveti* Dagoba, the first to be constructed by King Dutugemunu. The legend connected with its origin goes thus: One day soon after his accession to the throne the King went with his attendants to bathe in the *Tissawewa* (Tissa lake) While the King was bathing his attendants stuck his sceptre, in which relics were encased, on the ground close by. When the king was ready to depart they went to fetch it, but it would not come off the ground; it was immovably rooted. When the king realised the extraordinary nature of the happening he decided to build a dagoba over the sceptre which rooted itself to the ground.

Abhayagiri Dagoba

This one (till recently mis-named *Jetavanarama*) was constructed by King Mahasena (3rd-4th century A.D.). Its pinnacle is said to have been studded with jewels. The Chinese Buddhist monk Fa Hien, who spent two years in Ceylon mostly at Anuradhapura between 399 A.D. and 414 A.D. has recorded that he was told

by the monks of Abhayagiri temple that it had been built over the footprint of the Buddha himself.

The Samadhi Statue

This statue of the Buddha in meditation from the 4th cent. A.D., is universally acknowledged as a masterpiece of stone sculpture. It has a strangely magnetic influence on its beholders. It is probably one of four statues which surrounded a Bo-Tree.

The Dalada Maligawa (The Temple of the Tooth)

Close to the *Thuparama* Dagoba, on the east side, are the ruins of the original Temple of the Tooth (see under Kandy) in which the sacred Tooth Relic was housed when it was first brought to Ceylon in 313 A.D. Bhikkhu Fa Hien describes at length the ceremonies of the exhibition of the relic.

Kuttam Pokuna (The Twin Bathing Pools)

This *Pokuna* was probably constructed for the use of the monks of Abhayagiri Monastery. Of the many bathing pools of the ancient city this is the most artistic. The "twins" are beautifully matched although they are unlike in size and design. The water which enters the smaller pool by a *makara* (dragon-gargoyle) mouth flows into the larger one through an underground pipe. Both pools are emptied by an outlet on the floor of the smaller pool.

The Royal Pleasure Garden

One can imagine what this Garden situated below the *Tissawewa* (which very probably supplied its water) would have been. Worthy of special note are the two rock bathing rooms with their adjoining ante-chambers (changing rooms). Legend has it that Prince Saliya, the son of King Dutugemunu met Asokamala in this garden. (Prince Saliya renounced his right to the throne to marry Asokamala, a girl of very low caste).

The Lakes (or Tanks)

There are three lakes or tanks (originally constructed for irrigation purposes) in Anuradhapura:

(a) *Bassawak Kulama*

(*Kulam* in Tamil means "tank"), 300 acres in extent, it is the oldest tank, built by King Pandhukhabaya, the founder of the city in the 4th century, B.C. In ancient times it was known as *Abhaya-wewa*.

(b) *Tissaweve*

400 acres, originates from the time of King Devanampiya Tissa. On its eastern bank is the famous Isurumuniya rock Temple (see below).

(c) *Nuwaraweve*

the largest (3000 acres), was probably done about 20 B.C. The new town of Anuradhapura has been built on its banks. It is now the town's reservoir.

Isurumuniya Rock Temple

In the still primitive village of *Isurumuniya*, on the banks of the *Tissawewa*, a precious nugget of gold lies hidden — the sculpture-filled rock temple. Raven-Hart in *Ceylon: History in Stone*, writes: "Fortunately, for the memory of King Tissa, another of his foundations, the Isurumuniya rock temple, is quite the loveliest spot in Anuradhapura, in spite of modern uninspiring buildings".

Built by King Devanampiya Tissa in the 3rd century B.C. the original temple was much larger than the present one. The seated Buddha inside the temple is part of the natural rock.

The peculiar charm of *Isurumuniya* is the little square pool (fed by the *Tissaweve*) and its sculptured back-drop. The almost casually, yet expertly, carved figures of the elephants, the horse and rider (*Kapila*) are unique.

Lawrence Binyon, the English poet's comment on *Kapila* was: "The rock-carved *Kapila* is a tremendous work impossible to forget when once seen."

The best known piece of sculpture here is, of course, the "*Isurumuniya Lovers*". It is on a comparatively small panel to the left of the terrace. The figures remain unidentified.

Besides the major ruins described above there are a number of other smaller ones and fragments scattered all over Anuradhapura. The archaeology-history-minded visitor may seek the assistance of the Archaeology Museum at Anuradhapura for detailed exploration.

MIHINTALE

Anuradhapura nourished the Buddhism that was born in Ceylon at **Mihintale**. It was on this wooded hill, 8 miles off Anuradhapura, that King Devanampiya Tissa encountered Mahinda, the Apostle of Buddhism, sent by King Asoka of India, and embraced the teaching of the Buddha expounded by the missionary. For Keyserling, "the wonder of wonders of Ceylon is Mihintale.No one but a King could have chosen such an eyrie for his residence. It is impossible to spend even the briefest hour in this place without progressing inwardly."

Because of the nature of the terrain the visitor has to explore and "discover" the ruins for himself with the sweat of his brow. Besides the discovered ruins there are probably many others in this area waiting to see the light of day.

To proceed systematically:

The Rock Stairway

The Mihintale journey gets off to a grand start — on a grand stairway of 1840 granite steps "a stairway

leading to heaven! Just such a vision must that have been seen by Jacob" (Mitton, *The Lost Cities of Ceylon*). The first flight consists of about 350 steps in a very gentle gradient. The stairway becomes steeper and narrower higher up. It was probably built by King Devanampiya Tissa.

The Kantaka Cetiya

This is the truncated dagoba on the hill to the right at the first landing on the stairway. Its chief glory is the brilliantly executed altar-piece panels at the four cardinal points. For Raven-Hart these are the best things at Mihintale "quite magnificent, far better than most of the work which we shall see at Anuradhapura itself. Dwarfs play the energetic fool on them, and there are friezes of sacred geese, and niches and pilasters foliage and figures are interwoven on them with sure feeling for balance and design" (*Ceylon: History in Stone*). This dagoba was built before 60 B.C. It is 425 feet in circumference and, as it stands, 40 feet in height.

Monks' Refectory and Inscription Slabs

Continuing the climb up two other flights of steps, one arrives at the third landing. At this point the visitor can notice the remains of what must have been the Refectory of the monks (of the monastery), with huge stone receptacles for the food (alms).

Close by are the two stone slabs on which are inscribed in detail the arrangements, rules and regulations which were in force for the proper functioning of the monastery. These inscriptions are from the time of King Mahinda IV (10th century A.D.).

Sinha Pokuna (The Lion Bathing-pool)

A narrow path leading off the last flight of steps leads to one of the wonders of Mihintale — a carved

open-air bathing pool with a rampant lion against the stone-work. Bell thinks that this is "perhaps the best executed piece of spirited animal sculpture in the round to be seen anywhere in the Island" (*Archaeological Reports*, 1907). The figure is 7 feet 4 inches in height. The lion's share of the visitor's attention should not distract him from enjoying the delightfully carved bas reliefs, especially the panel of boxers.

Naga Pokuna (The Snake Bathing-pool)

From the last landing there is a flight of steps almost at right angles to the main path. At the top of this flight a scenic path leads away on the right along the hillside to the *Naga-Pokuna*. The name is from the huge five-headed cobra cut in low, gentle relief on the rock face, lowering over the water. Its body and tail are said to continue down to the bottom of the pool. It is possibly from the time of King Aggabodhi I (6th century A.D.)

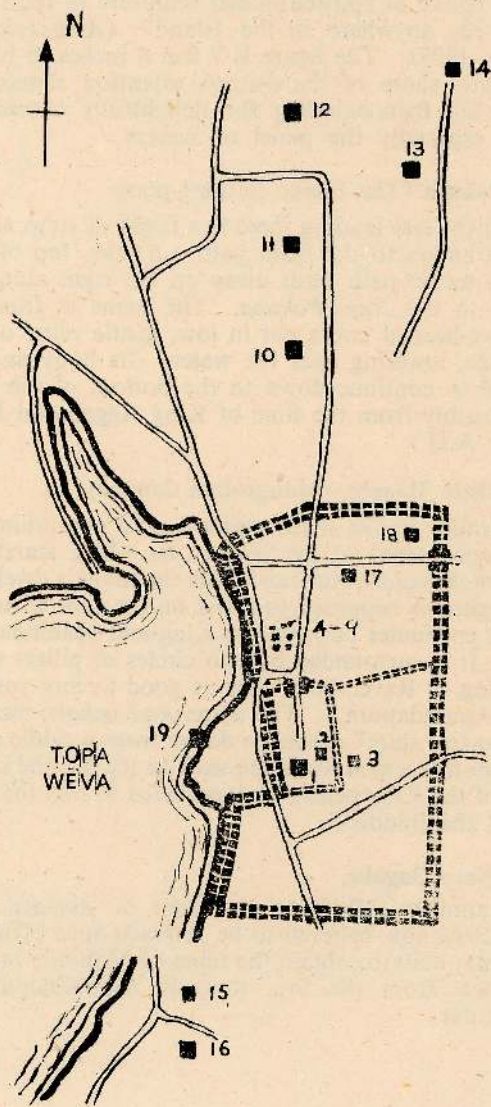
Ambasthale Dagoba (Mango-tree dagoba)

Returning to the main pathway and continuing the climb one arrives at the plateau on which stands the *Ambasthale dagoba* surrounded by the monk's dwellings. The dagoba is supposed to stand on the spot where the historic encounter between the King and Mahinda took place. It is surrounded by two circles of pillars which according to Raven-Hart "are as good as any you will see in Anuradapura." The name *Ambasthale*, meaning "mango-tree spire" is said to derive from a riddle about a mango-tree which Mahinda used to try out the intelligence of the King before he expounded to him the doctrine of the Buddha.

Maha Seya Dagoba

Up another hillock to the right of *Ambasthale* is *Maha Seya* now believed to be *Mihindu Seya* (Tomb of Mahinda) built to contain the relics of Mahinda himself. The view from the top, towards Anuradhapura, is spectacular.

POLONNARUWA



The visitor who has a little reserve of energy and time may profitably walk southwards from the bazaar along the main road past the ruins of *Indi Katu Vihare* (Needle or Date-thorn Dagoba) towards the mysterious caves under the boulders of *Raja-giri-lene-kanda* (Royal Cave Hill). Stone steps lead to high cave dwellings — an unbeatable site for a peaceful hermitage. Further on, a small path to the left leads to the *Kahu Diya Pokuna* (Black water bathing-pool) an artificial pool which looks very much like a natural one.

POLONNARUWA

64 miles to the East of Anuradhapura (via Habarana) is the second royal city of medieval times — **Polonnaruwa**. (This name is of recent and uncertain origin; in the *Mahavamsa* Chronicle, it is *Pulatthi* or *Pulasthipura*).

Polonnaruwa had been used as an occasional royal residence by some of the Anuradhapura kings from the 7th century onwards. In the 11th century the Cholas of South India destroyed the ancient kingdom of Anuradhapura, conquered the greater part of Ceylon and established their centre of Government at Polonnaruwa.

When the Sinhala King Vijaya Bahu I (1111-1132 A.D.) defeated the Chola invaders he made Polonnaruwa the permanent royal residence. The city saw its hey-day under the successors of Vijaya Bahu, namely, Parakrama Bahu I (1153-1186) and Nissanka Malla (1187-1196).

The old walled city was about a mile long (North-South) and a half mile wide with the inner Citadel, including the King's Palace, in the southwestern area. The eminently visit-worthy ruins are:

1. Palace area
2. Council Chamber
3. Bathing Pool
4. Siva Devale No. 1
5. Thuparama
6. Watadage
7. Sat Mahal Prasada
8. Gal-Pota
9. Nissanka Lata Mandapaya
10. Rankot Vihare
11. Jetawanarama (Lankatilaka)
12. Gal Vihare
13. Lotus Pool
14. Tivanka Pilimage
15. Rock-Cut Figure
16. Pot-Gul Monastery
17. Pabulu Vihare
18. Siva Devale No. 2
19. Rest House

The Royal Palace (and environs)

The Palace stands among a scattered collection of smaller buildings within the Citadel (directly eastwards from the Rest House). It was built by Parakrama Bahu and probably altered by Nissanka Malla. Judging from what remains it must have been an impressive structure of at least three storeys, even if we dismiss as an exaggeration the tradition which gives it seven storeys and a thousand chambers. The Hall on the ground floor is 102 feet by 42 feet; 30 columns supported the roof over it. There is a second smaller Hall and over 50 small rooms. The staircase is in a good state of preservation. Commenting on the Palace in general, Mitton says: "From what we can see the ideas on the subject of housing royalty in the twelfth century in Ceylon were very much in advance of those in England at the same period" (*The Lost Cities of Ceylon*).

The Council Chamber or Pavilion to the east of the Palace is a pretty piece of architecture, particularly remarkable for the life-like elephants in panels on the lowest platform. The second platform is decorated with conventional lions and the third with little dwarfs. The granite pillars are richly carved.

To the south-east of this Pavilion is the *Kumara-Pokuna* (Prince's Bathing Pool), with a small shrine beside it. Water came into it through spouts in the shape of crocodile mouths one of which still remains.

Siva Devale No. 1.

Polonnaruwa had a number of Hindu temples for the use of its South India population, mostly devotees of the Gods Siva and Vishnu. This one is notable for its superlative stonework; the stones are socketed into each other without any binding material. The beautiful bronzes found here when the site was cleared in 1907 are in the Colombo Museum.

Thuparama

The finest example of this type of architecture, this temple is completely Hindu in design; but it betrays Buddhist influence in its simplicity and lack of ornate decorations. The walls are extraordinarily thick. There is a stairway from the outer chamber to the parapet and the roof of the inner shrine which contains several images of the Buddha. The summit gives a magnificent view of the surrounding country.

Wata-dage

The word literally means "Circular Relic-Chamber". Some think that this was a repository of the Tooth Relic for some time. The building rises by successive circular platforms or terraces, one on top of the other. The second terrace wall which has four entrances with guardstones, moonstones and railings is richly decorated. "Of the beauty of some of this work it is impossible to speak too highly" (Mitton). The moonstone at the north entrance is particularly noteworthy. The four entrances lead up to the four seated Buddhas of the central dagoba. Opposite the *Wata-dage* is the *Hata-dage* (7-relic chamber) which is supposed to have been built in one day.

Gal-Pota (Stone-book)

Just east of the *Hata-dage*, this is a massive stone in the shape of a gigantic *Ola-Book* (palm-leaf book). It is 27 feet long, 4 feet 7 inches broad and varies in depth from 1 foot 4 inches to 2 feet 2 inches. The inscription of King Nissanka Malla records his virtues and achievements. Part of the inscription says that this stone, which weighs about 25 tons, was brought from Mihintale 60 miles away!

Sat-Mahal Prasada

This seven (now six) storeyed building which seems to be in Cambodian style, is still an enigma. What

is it? What was its use? Nobody has an answer. Although it appears large from the outside the inside is all filled up without any usable space.

Nissanka Lata Mandapaya (Floral Altar)

Mitton ends a chapter on Polonnaruwa thus: "It is safe to say that if all other of the Polonnaruwa monuments fade from the memory of those who have seen them, the Floral Altar and the Wata-dage can never be forgotten." This creation consists of an outer stone fence with an entrance of four stone pillars supporting a roof-slab. Within this fence there is a large marble platform on which are planted stone pillars in the form of lotus stalks, bearing unopened lotus buds. At the centre of this platform stands a small dagoba. There is no reason to doubt the attribution of this masterpiece to King Nissanka Malla.

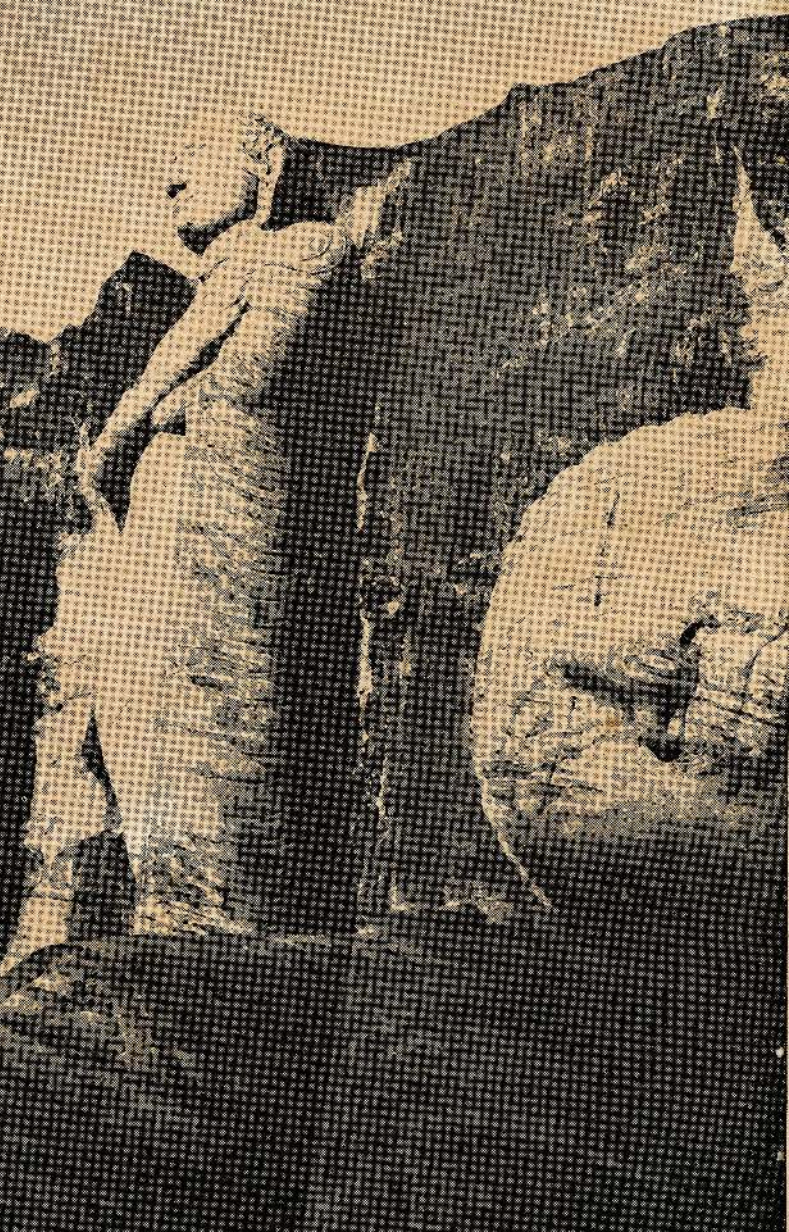
Rankot Vihare

This was also built by King Nissanka Malla modelled on those of Anuradhapura. Its height is 180 feet and the circumference at the base, 550 feet — the fourth largest in size after *Ruvanveli*, *Abhayagiri*, and *Jetawanarama* of Anuradhapura. It is supposed to have been topped by a golden stupa.

Jetawanarama (Lankatilaka)

To the north of *Rankot Vihare* lies the imposing ruin known as *Jetawanarama* or more correctly, *Lankatilaka*, a work of Parakrama Bahu later restored by Vijaya Bahu IV (1275 A.D.) The main structure is the *Buddha-Sima-Prasada* (House of the Elder) furnished with four decorated stair-entrances. The stately walls and pillars with the headless figure of the Buddha at the end of the aisle give it a cathedral-like air.

Just opposite the main entrance is a little *Mandapaya* or pavilion — a raised platform, decorated with pillars.



“It stands for one of the most perfect pieces of open lithic structure extant in Ceylon, so far as regards moulded stereobate and surface carved columns” (*Ceylon Archaeological Survey Report 1907*).

Gal Vihare (Stone-Temple)

A path leading north-westwards from *Kiri-Vehera* leads to the most remarkable of Polonnaruwa's treasures — *Gal Vihare* — a group of four statues of the Buddha, all cut in a row from a single, long escarpment of granite. Many consider this to be the high point of rock-sculpture of medieval times. Beny says that they could be taken as subtly distinguished studies of contemplation (*Island-Ceylon*). It appears that originally each of these statues had its own image house. The remains of one are still recognisable.

The recumbent Buddha is 44 feet in length. The pillow (note gentle depression under head) is decorated with the sun-wheel symbol. The standing Buddha, 22 feet tall, is the best of the group, the work of a master-hand. The facial expression of this figure has attracted much attention. It has sometimes been erroneously identified as Ananda, the beloved disciple of the Buddha, sorrowing over the death of his master. The posture of the arms is not a common one. The third figure of the sedent Buddha, in the cave-shrine is surrounded by rich carvings of figures, including another of the Buddha at the back, in a niche of the rock. This figure appears to be the work of a less skilled artist. The fourth figure on the other side of the cave is larger than the one inside.

The Lotus Bathing Pool

About a mile north east of *Gal-Vihare* is a jewel of a conception in stone, a bathing pool hewn out of rock in the conventionalised shape of a full-blown lotus of eight petals. 24 feet 9 inches across at the top, the bottom of the pool, 4 feet 6 inches below, is reached by descending the steps of five concentric rings (petals)

Gal Vihare (Courtesy: *Ceylon Tourist Board*)

of decreasing diameter. A remark that Mitton makes about Ceylonese stonework, in describing this Lotus pool, is worth quoting: "It is a strange feature of Cinghalese stonework that it always seems alive. The workmen had some curious power of vitalising that which their hands wrought. In contrast with the awesome but stern dead temples and statues of Egypt, the temples and statues of Ceylon seem radiantly alive."

Tivanka-Pilimage (Northern Temple)

A little further north past another *Wata-dage*-like ruin, stands a great dagoba, similar in plan to the *Jetawanarama* and the *Thuparama*. This dagoba is popularly mis-called the *Demala Maha-seya*. Inside stands a huge statue of the Buddha in a damaged condition. What is unique here is the fresco paintings which illustrate the *Jataka* stories (stories of the Buddha's previous births). These rival some of the best in the cave temples at Ajantha. The stucco reliefs of dwarfs (*ganas*) on the outer wall are specially noteworthy. Experts assign this Dagoba to the time of Wijaya Bahu I, the grandfather of Parakrama Bahu.

Topawewa (Sea of Parakrama)

This large tank of about 6000 acres was built by King Parakrama Bahu. It was supplied with water by means of a ten mile long canal which connected it with the *Amban* river ((*Amban-ganga*). The present Rest House is perched on the bund of the *Weva* overlooking its vast expanse of water.

Poth-Gul (Library) Monastery and Rock-cut figure

Southwards from the Rest House the bund goes over the ancient spill-water of the *Weva*. Further on the path which leads away from the lake meanders into an open glade. Here, on the northern side, is a rock-

hewn statue of a bearded man holding a scroll in his hands. Though popularly identified as Parakrama Bahu, it is really the representation of an unknown *guru* or sage.

On the left of this figure is a small dagoba the summit of which affords a good view of the surrounding jungle. Straight ahead of the statue is the *Poth-Gul Vihare* (Library—Monastery). The most noteworthy feature of this structure is the circular room, 20 feet 6 inches in diameter, its wall is extraordinarily thick, about 15 feet at ground level. Tradition has it that valuable scrolls were stored here.

Around this monastery there are four small dagobas and ruins of monks' cells, which were symmetrically arranged.

Among other scattered ruins worth mentioning are *Pabula vihare*, a dagoba, and *Siva Devale* No. 2, very similar to No. 1, and considered by some to be even a more perfect work. Both are a little north-east of the *Sat-Mahal-Prasada*.

The visitor interested in more information could consult the Archaeological Museum at Polonnaruwa.

MINNERIYA

Twelve miles before Polonnaruwa on the Habarana-Polonnaruwa Road looms **Minneriya**, stark and placid, — the historic tank or lake, covering no less than 4560 acres when full. The sight made W. T. Keble exclaim: "There is no grander sight to be seen in Ceylon than the first view of Minneriya tank It seems incredible that man conceived and made Minneriya, the loveliest of lakes, so rich in all that is beautiful, so savage and untamed, a true refuge from civilisation" (*Ceylon Beaten Track*).

Minneriya is the master-work of King Mahasena (276-303 A.D.) The ancient Sinhala chronicle *Rajavaliya*

records that the King "employed the labour of demons at night and of men in the daytime to construct this tank".

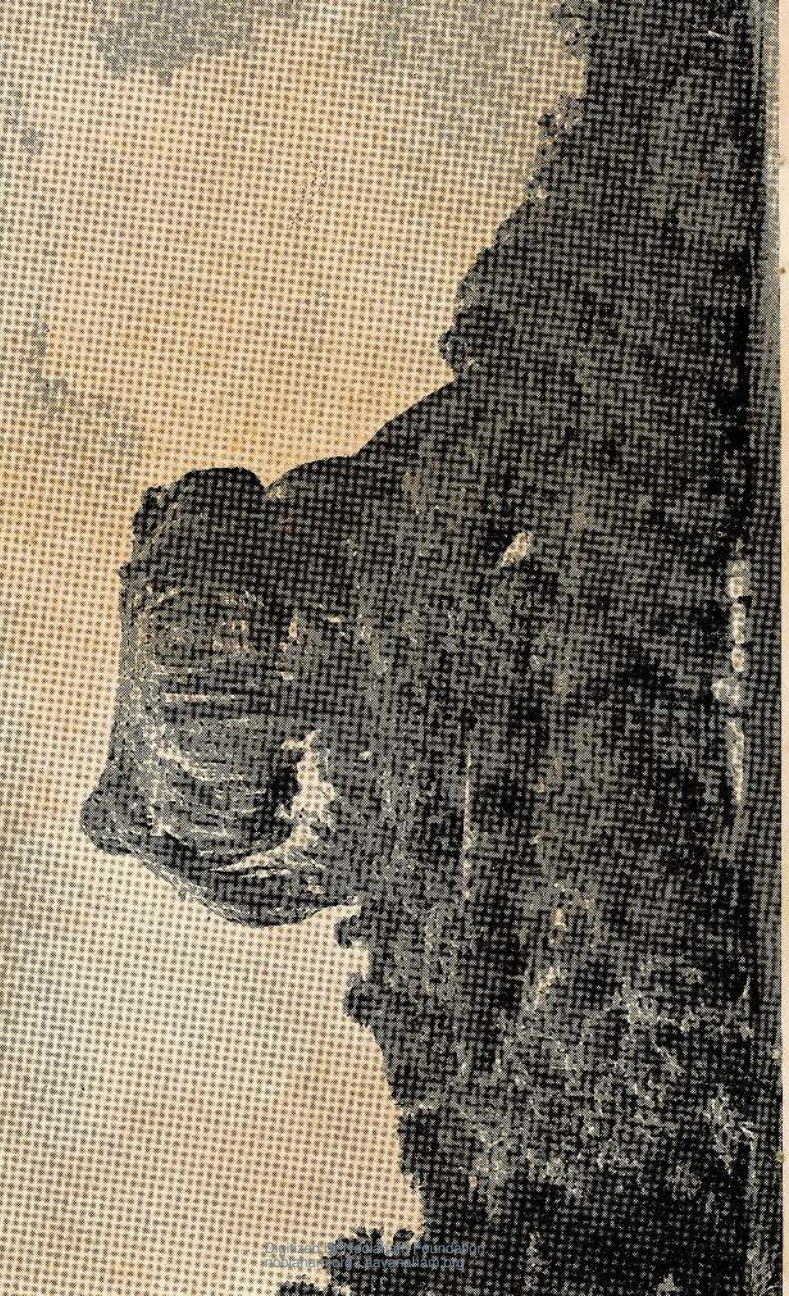
The bund of the tank teems with bird life — bee-eaters, kingfishers, golden orioles, blue jays, hawks, swallows, whistling *batagoiyas* and jungle crows.

MEDIRIGIRIYA

Fifteen miles north of Polonnaruwa is **Medirigiriya** whose only monument, the *Watadage*, H. C. P. Bell Ceylon's pioneer Archaeologist described as "an architectural gem". Three concentric circles of octagonal monolithic pillars with good capitals surround the central *dagoba*. The innermost circle has 16 pillars, the second 20 and the outermost 32. Four huge Buddha images in meditation pose are placed at the four cardinal points. The entrance is by way of a monumental stairway on the northern side. "In its dimensions as well as in the number and disposition of its stone pillars, the *Watadage* of Medirigiriya is identical with its namesake at Polonnaruwa. But the commanding position which it occupies and the imposing flight of steps through which it is approached, impart to the latter a majesty and a grandeur far beyond that which its actual dimensions warrant" (Senerat Paranavitana, *Medirigiriya: The Discovery of an Architectural Gem*.) The structure is of the 7th century, A.D., of the reign of King Aggabodhi IV. A shrine room in the vicinity and its Buddha icons date back to the third century.

SIGIRIYA

Of Ceylon's historic rock-city **Sigiriya**, (**Sinha-giri**: Lion-Rock) 100 miles from Colombo, five miles off Inamaluwa, on the Dambulla-Habarana Road, Keyserling wrote: "By the side of the rocky fortress of Sigiri... the Castles of Europe seem like the toys of children." This 5th century feat of engineering which surprises modern science, evoked this comment from C. Maxwell-



must be looked at from below, where worshippers stand: foreshortening has been allowed for". (*Ceylon: History in Stone*).

The site of this work is located 2-1/2 miles from the *Kala Weva Tank* (4,400 acres), which was constructed by the great tank-building king, *Dhatusena* (5th century A.D.) The turn-off to this tank is at *Kekirawa* on the *Kandy-Anuradhapura* road.

Buduruvagala

This statue is less known, and of later date — about the 10th century A.D. In size it is the largest, standing nearly 51 feet in height. Unlike the others this statue is flanked by attendant figures carved on the same rock. From these figures it is clear that the whole group draws its inspiration from Mahayana Buddhism which flourished in Ceylon for a short period between the 1st and 5th centuries. The central figure of the three on each side of the Buddha is a Bodhisatva. The one on the right-hand side of the Buddha is thought to be *Avalokitesvara*, the favourite Bodhisatva of Mahayana Buddhism. He is indentified by the figure of the sedent Buddha in his head-dress.

The 2-1/2 mile unpaved road which leads to the **Buduruvagala** rock turns off the *Wellawaya-Tissamaharāma* Road about three miles south of *Wellawaya*.

HISTORIC ROCK TEMPLES

Aluvihare

Declared a sacred city in 1971, **Aluvihare's** historic temple is two miles north of *Matale* on the *Trincomalee* road. (*Matale* is 88 miles from *Colombo*, via *Kandy*).

The origins of the temple date back to King *Devanampiya Tissa* (3rd century B.C.). One of the most

significant events in the annals of Buddhism, the 4th Buddhist Convention, at which 500 monks gathered from all parts of the Buddhist world and committed to writing the doctrine of the Buddha to produce the Buddhist Scriptures, took place here in 88 B.C. (Recently some doubt has been cast on the traditional date and location of this Convention).

One of the temple's great treasures is the 30 feet long statue of the recumbent Buddha of excellent workmanship. One of the caves is dedicated to the great Pali scholar from India, Buddhagosa, who spent a few years here. A Bo-Tree near the dagoba is said to be over 2000 years old.

Dambulla

The origins of the use of the **Dambulla** caves as Buddhist shrines are lost in the mists of antiquity. King Valagam Bahu of the 1st century, B.C., took refuge in them when he was driven out of his capital, Anuradhapura, and later, on his return to the throne, endowed them as temples. Later kings must certainly have had a hand in their development as places of worship.

The gentle curve of the dark grey gneiss rock has been justly compared to the back of a mammoth sea animal. The caves themselves are 350 - 500 feet above the road. The largest one is 172 feet long, 75 feet wide and 20 feet high. They are crowded with statues and paintings, mostly medieval and modern, and generally not of great artistic merit. Some of the wall paintings in the second cave, particularly the row of lotus-bearing elephants down near the floor are, however, exceptionally good. The biggest of the statues is the 47 feet rock-cut figure of the recumbent Buddha.

Yapahuwa

Yapahuwa enjoyed only a brief period of glory as the Capital of Ceylon in the reign of King Bhuvaneka

Bahu I (1272-1284 A.D.) Did it make up in intensity what it lacked in duration? The architectural remains suggest that thought, especially the granite stairway which leads up the massive rock. Raven-Hart's description cannot be improved: "The stairway starts simply, boldly, like a chorale theme on which variations will be embroidered, starting with demons' heads on the side walls, and those nice lions, and frenetic combinations of lion and elephant. As you go on upwards the decorations work up to their climax, in a frieze of musicians and dancers suggesting the great yearly procession at Kandy; its waist-slung finger-played drums are there and the little hand-held hour-glass ones, and the oboe-pipe that pecks at your ear-drums.....there are nearly naked can-can girls and a very male acrobat walking on his hands The pierced stone windows of this porch are famous; one is broken, one is in the Colombo Museum... India also has filigree-stone windows; but here it is not mere geometrical stone work here figures are interwoven; grotesques, dancing girls, lions, elephant-lions, geese..... Perhaps the whole thing is too Indian, too restless, too over-loaded; but what fun!" (*Ceylon: History in Stone*).

On top of the rock is a *Chaitya*, a modern construction. Surrounding two pools of water are 137 drip-edged caves, some of them as high as 500 ft. It is believed that the *Tripitaka* (Buddhist Scriptures) written on gold leaves, and a number of other Buddhist manuscripts are hidden in one of those caves.

That a Chinese mission did come to Ceylon in the Yapahuwa period was put beyond doubt by the recent discovery of 1300 Chinese coins there of the Tang dynasty. They are now in the Anuradhapura Museum.

BEACH RESORTS

SOUTH-WEST COAST

Hikkaduwa

61 miles from Colombo down South, **Hikkaduwa** is the resort with the most exotic attractions. Besides the golden sands, blue waters, a limitless horizon and very modern hotels providing convenient accommodation and delicious sea food, Hikkaduwa displays a veritable "Disney land" of coral gardens inhabited by shoals of fish of every colour, shape and size — Angels, Blue Angels, Butterfly — fishes, Damsel fishes, Lion and Scorpion fish, Jade Corals, Unicorns, Moorish Idols, Koran fish, Parrot fish etc. The water is so crystal clear that the visitor can enjoy this under-water Eden from the comfort of a glass-bottomed boat. But those who care to may enter this garden with skin-diving equipment. It is also an underwater photographer's paradise. Spear-Fishing is allowed only beyond the area which has been declared a Sanctuary. The Barracuda and Giant Trompers are readily encountered. There are also Pompana, Horse mackerel and Yellow Fins. The visitor who has not brought his own equipment with him can hire them out at the Coral Gardens Hotel, which caters to all visitors' needs.

The beaches of Hikkaduwa also abound in a variety of sea shells, including such collectors' items as Mill-



pores and Madrapores. Green and brown and wine-red seaweed are also found in abundance.

Ambalangoda

Before reaching Hikkaduwa, a stop-over at **Ambalangoda** (53 miles from Colombo), is well worth the trouble. Unlike its more famous neighbour, Ambalangoda's beauty is subdued and rustic. The palmy coastline may be enjoyed from the small Rest House. Safe bathing is available.

This little town enjoys a high reputation for its puppet players and masked dancers.

Bentota

Today **Bentota** sports a complete self-contained tourist complex fully equipped to meet all needs: three modern hotels, post-office, railway station, shopping centre etc. The interior decoration of the hotels is in striking traditional Ceylonese motifs. In the stage-coach days Bentota was the halfway stop between Galle and Colombo. Bentota's excellent sea-food is much in demand. Good swimming and sun-bathing are other attractions.

Three miles up the Bentota river is the 600-year old *Galpota* Buddhist Temple reputed for its fine stonework. The river itself abounds in crocodiles.

A detour from the river gives one an opportunity to see Ceylon's primeval rain-forest, the *Sinha Raja Adawiya*. It rains there nearly every day (annual average 150 to 200 inches). From time immemorial strange tales of demons, evil-spirits, demi-gods, vampires and other mythic animals have been woven around the *Sinha Raja Adawiya*.

Beruwala

Beruwala, 38 miles from Colombo, is probably the first Moorish settlement in Ceylon. The principal

landmark in the town, which surrounds a beautiful bay, is the *Kitchimalai* Mosque, which stands, according to tradition, on the spot where the first Moorish immigrants landed.

Beruwala is popularly connected with the lighthouse on an islet a mile off the coast. It can be reached by a row-boat on a calm sea. The top of the lighthouse affords a panoramic view of the coast, from Panadura to Balapitiya.

Kalutara

Sited on the mouth of the *Kalu-ganga* (black river) **Kalutara** is one of the larger towns on the south-western coast. The lure of Kalutara lies not in its beaches or sea-bathing facilities, but in a variety of other specialities. It is the centre of the *toddy* and *arrack*-distilling industry. Kalutara is also famed for its basketware, straw hats and mangosteens. Major Raven-Hart thought that no other fruit in the world could beat a mangosteen: "It would be worth walking the 26 miles from Colombo for a good mangosteen It tastes like Heaven". (*Travels in Ceylon*).

Negombo

Situated 23 miles North of Colombo, and only two miles from the International Airport, **Negombo** has always been associated with the sea and fishermen. Its Sinhala name, *Meegomuwa*, however means "hive of bees". At one time it was the centre of the world's finest cinnamon — "the very best cinnamon in the whole world" was the Dutch chronicler Valentyn's verdict. Today coconut has supplanted cinnamon.

Negombo preserves still the traditional scenes of Ceylon's age-old fishing occupation — slender sailing catamarans battling the breakers, the larger net-carrying boats being dragged ashore, hauling in of nets, the live-fish filled *Wadiya* surrounded by fishermen and pros-

pective buyers, the auction sheds on the beach, fishermen's huts etc. Negombo's blue lagoon yields some of the best crab, lobster and prawn in Ceylon.

Negombo is associated with both Portuguese and Dutch colonisation. The Dutch yielded to the British without a fight. Vestiges of Dutch occupation are the Dutch Church, the canal and the Fort.

The high percentage of Roman Catholics in Negombo probably justifies the appellation "little Rome".

EAST COAST

Some of Ceylon's best, still unspoilt, sea-bathing resorts are on the East coast. About 20 miles south of Batticaloa there is **Kalkudah**. The bathing beach is conveniently situated in front of the Rest House.

Perhaps the finest and the quietest is **Pasikudah**, three miles away from Kalkudah. Even more than elsewhere the sea here is shallow allowing even the non-swimmer to go safely far out into the water, without the water-level rising above the chest. Beach cottages, a hotel and other tourist facilities will soon change the character of this beach.

Arugam Bay further south is of another sort. The sea here is more breaker-laden and more challenging.

The other charming bathing spot on the East coast is **Nilaveli**, 10 miles north of Trincomalee. Its combination of fine white sand and placid blue waters is unsurpassable.

THE SOUTH

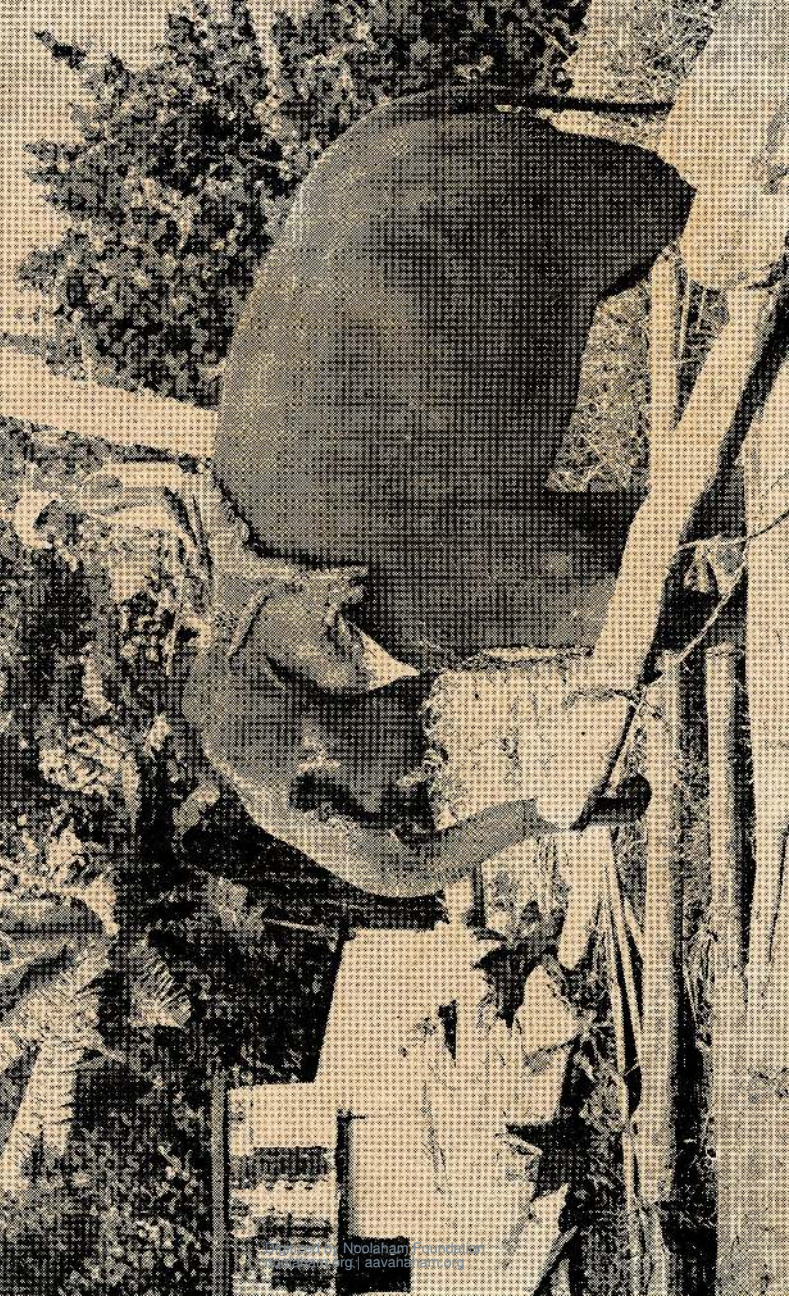
GALLE

This old-world, picturesque town, 72 miles from Colombo, had been in ancient times one of Ceylon's busiest ports. Historians say it is the Tarshish of the Bible, the eastern emporium which supplied King Solomon with spices, gems and peacocks.

In his monumental work on Ceylon, Sir Emerson Tennent believes that Galle is the *Kalah* of Haroun Al Raschid. Interestingly enough, to this day, the Moors, who are probably the descendants of the Arabs of those distant days, call it *Kaleh*.

Modern Galle is characterised by the remains of three distinct colonisations, Portuguese, Dutch, and British. But the most visible today are those of the Dutch. The outstanding feature of the town, the ramparts of the Fort, are of Dutch provenance. "To pass under the great gate, grooved for a portcullis, is to leave the modern world behind and go back three hundred years into an old-world city that has forgotten to run after the times" (W. T. Keble, *Ceylon Beaten Track*). The old Dutch gateway leading to the pier was once used by the Dutch to embark their bales of cinnamon.

The Fort ramparts are over a mile long; today they are a popular evening promenade. Other points of interest are the Lighthouse, the little Cloosenberg Bay



(a charming bathing spot with excellent facilities, the Butterfly Bridge across the old Dutch canal, the Park, the Town Hall and the coastline which extends towards *Rhumassalakanda*, of which the projection *Buona Vista* provides a beautiful view of the harbour.

Galle's special industries still flourishing are tortoise-shell ornaments, lace-making, gem-cutting and coir-making.

WELIGAMA

A pleasant village taking its name from the Sinhala words *Weli* and *gama* (sandy-village), 18 miles further south. The bay which is now used by small fishing vessels was a larger port in ancient times. Its particular curiosity is the *Kusta Raja* — a stone figure cut in the rock. It is said to represent the King who introduced the coconut to Ceylon. Others think that it represents a king who was cured of leprosy. Most likely the statue is *Avalokitesvara* the popular *Bodhisatva* of *Mahayana* Buddhism. The statue appears to belong with the *Buduruvagala* group (see p. 81).

MATARA

Exactly 100 miles from Colombo along the coast, this unsophisticated town was another Dutch stronghold. The two Dutch forts are very much part of the town's landscape—the star Fort, which has an unusual gateway, and the larger fort by the sea, which encloses the greater part of the town's administration. The southern railway line terminates at Matara. The Rest House which overlooks the sea, is supposed to be the former site of elephant stables, where captured elephants were tended prior to export. Matara's thick white buffalo-curd with *kitul* (palmyrah) honey is a real delicacy. The town is also known for its "Matara diamonds" (white zircons). Something of exotic interest is Matara's hidden coral treasures at *Polhena*, a beach of rare loveliness.

DONDRA

Ceylon's southernmost point, Dondra (3-1/2 miles from Matara) is also called *Devi Nuwara*, (city of the gods). Dondra, (or *Devun-dara* or *Devi-Nuwara*), was known to Ptolemy as *Dagana* (sacred to the Moon). To Ibn Batuta, it was *Dinewar* and to the Chinese, *Tenaverai*, and to the Portuguese, *Tanaverem*. In its hey-day in the 15th century, Dondra was a flourishing sea-port.

Now Dondra is better known for its Temple dedicated to the Hindu deity, Vishnu, which has always been, and is, a popular pilgrim shrine. King Nissanka Malla of Polonnaruwa paid a visit to this shrine in the 12th century. The original richly-ornamented Temple was raided and ruthlessly sacked by the Portuguese.

Dondra is also known for its lighthouse.

TANGALLE

This is the next note-worthy town further along the southern coast. The Tangalle Rest House was formerly the residence of the Dutch administrator. Safe and pleasant sea-bathing is available here.

The visitor interested in Buddhist ruins will find the short detour to the *Mulkirigala* temple very worthwhile. It may be reached either through Beliatta or Wiraketiya. The temple is perched on an isolated rock. The surrounding caves are associated with King Dutugemunu, who spent the early part of his life in these southern regions. The library contains rare books and manuscripts.

HAMBANTOTA

Hambantota (148 miles from Colombo) is the centre of the salt industry. Salt pans i.e. large, shallow depressions which retain sea-water, are to be seen every-

where. When the sea-water evaporates, the pure salt left behind is collected. Rice is also extensively cultivated in the Hambantota district.

In the town itself the most prominent structure is the new Rest House, beautifully situated on a promontory overlooking the sea.

TISSAMAHARAMA

To the north-east of Hambantota, 25 miles away, is the ancient town of Tissa. The tank, *Tissaweve* is believed to have been constructed by King Maha Naga, the brother of King Devanampiya Tissa, in the 3rd century, B.C. Today *Tissaweve* swarms with rich bird life (see under Wildlife). The restored *Tissamaharama Dagoba* is attributed to King Kavantissa, the father of King Dutugemunu, (2nd century, B.C.). The Rest House is ideally situated by the *Tissaweve*.

KATARAGAMA

10 miles from Tissa (or 176 miles from Colombo) is Kataragama, which Paul Wirz, calls "the holiest place in Ceylon" (*Kataragama: the holiest place in Ceylon*). This forest shrine and temple attracts pilgrims from all over the Island, be they Buddhist or Hindu, Sinhala or Tamil. The origin of this shrine, dedicated to the God Skanda, is attributed to King Dutugemunu (2nd century B.C.) who, supposedly, built it in fulfilment of a martial vow. The pilgrimage season is *Esala* (July — August) when Kataragama becomes a kaleidoscope of religious rituals. The more spectacular of these are the fire-walking ceremonies and the "torture penances". In the former, devotees walk unscathed on a pit of red-hot embers; in the latter, they are hung up by large iron hooks, without apparent injury or bleeding. These phenomena can be seen at some other shrines too, during festival times.

THE EAST COAST

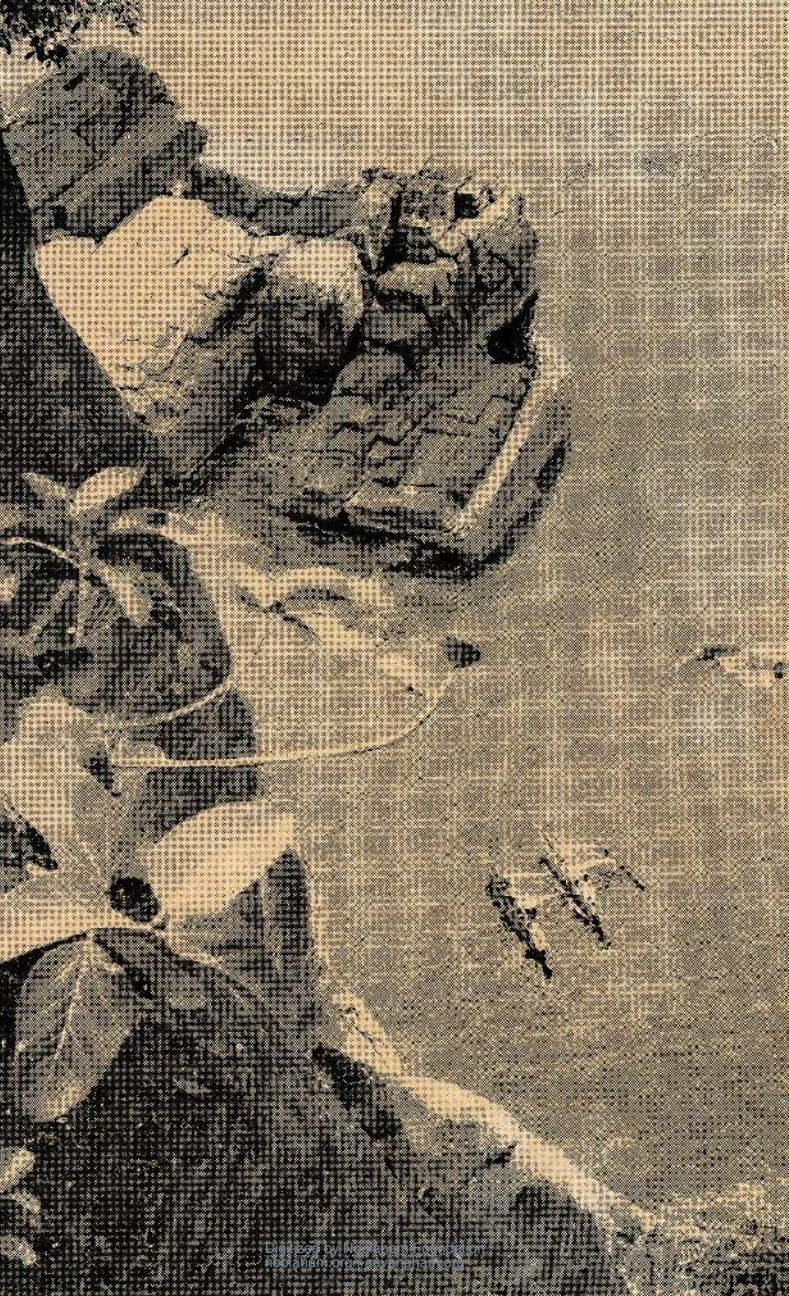
Tranquility and enchantment are the words that sum up the lure of the East Coast. Lord Holden was so fascinated by its charms that he dared to say: "The East Coast of Ceylon is, in my opinion, the most attractive part of the Island" (*Ceylon*).

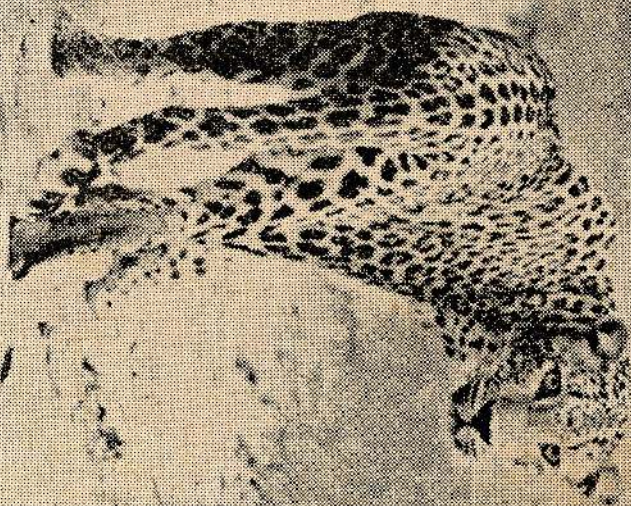
TRINCOMALEE

The East Coast's best known town — soon to be developed into a major port in the Indian Ocean — is Trincomalee. It can be reached by road (165 miles), rail or by air, from Colombo. Trincomalee has been compared to an alluring woman who never reveals herself to a casual observer; but to those who woo her longingly she disrobes, and what charms are unveiled...!

Considerable speculation exists with regard to the origins of her name. Some scholars attribute it to the topographical situation. The three surrounding hills (*malai*) constitute a triangle (*tri-kona*), and hence *Tri-kona-malai*. Ptolemy, in his *Geography*, calls Trincomalee, *Gokanna-tittha* or *Gonagamaka*, a term of uncertain origin.

Trinco is identified with its famous harbour which according to Lord Nelson (who was there in the 1770's as a Midshipman on H. M. S. *Seahorse*.) is "the finest harbour in the world." The beauty of the harbour is matched by its strategic location. One Dutch General





remarked, "Give me Trincomalee and I shall rule the East". With 33 miles of shoreline, many lovely blue lagoons, turquoise coves and islets, it offers an attractive variety of possibilities for swimming, boating, fishing and picnic-ing. Game fishing facilities are available through the Sea-Angler Club, Clappenburg, China Bay. Of the harbour's many islands, Sober Island is a much sought-after resort for picnics.

A stay in Trinco should include a visit to *Swami* Rock, rising up 400 feet from the sea below, like a watch-tower. Once the site of a Hindu Temple with a thousand pillars, legend recalls how in early times a Prince from the Coromandel Coast in South India came here and caused the temple to be built. Its glory, it is said, was reflected far over the blue waters of the sea. But *Swami* Rock is more popularly connected with a legend of tragic romance. A beautiful love-lorn Dutch damsel, Francina Van Rhode, flung herself to death from the rock when she saw her espoused lover sailing away from her. Her memory lives now in a monument.

Fort Frederick with a fragmentary inscription engraved below an emblem of the Pandya double fish on a stone built into its gate is also of considerable historical interest. So are Dutch Point and Ostenburg Point. Chapel Hill affords a beautiful view of the town and harbour. The climb is well worth the trouble.

Kanniyayi Hot Springs

Only 5 miles off Trinco, these hot springs (wells) are a great natural curiosity. They are seven in number and their temperatures vary from warm to near-hot. The water is believed to possess curative properties. Tradition says that they got their name from *Kanniyayi*, the mother of Ravana, the demon-king. Very recently another hot spring has been discovered at *Komarankaduvela*, about 20 miles from Trincomalee on the Anuradhapura Road.

BATTICALOA

The next town of importance on the East Coast is Batticaloa where the sun shines brighter than in the old Kentucky home! Edward Sullivan in *The Bungalow and the Tent* maintains that the eastern part of Ceylon experiences a longer duration of fine weather than any other part. Batticaloa enjoys bright sunshine for nine months of the year. Batticaloa was the point at which the Dutch first landed in Ceylon in 1602, and was one of the oldest Dutch towns in the country.

The phenomenon unique to Batticaloa — the so-called **singing-fish** — has drawn world-wide attention. The secret still continues to baffle scientists. On clear full-moon nights the melodious music wafts up from the depths of the lagoon. As early as 1848 Emerson Tennent wrote of Batticaloa's singing-fish: "I distantly heard the sounds in question. They came up from the water like gentle trills of a musical chord or the faint vibration of a wine glass when its rim is rubbed by a moistened finger. It was not one sustained note but a multitude of tiny sounds, each clear and distinct in itself, the sweetest tremble mingling with the lowest basses." (*Ceylon*)

GAL-OYA VALLEY

Driving inland from Kalmunai through wide expanses of fertile paddy fields one comes to Gal-Oya Valley, the location of Ceylon's first post-Independence Multi-Purpose Agricultural Scheme. The Gal-Oya has been dammed at Inginiyagala to form a huge reservoir or tank. *Senanayake Samudra*, of 30 square miles, capable of irrigating 120,000 acres of land. The Scheme also provides hydro-electric power. Bird life abounds in the lake area which has been declared protected. **Amparai** is the chief town in the valley. Colonization has produced a rapid development of the area during the last two decades. A number of industries too are sustained by the Gal-Oya Scheme. Gal-Oya can also

be reached by air from Colombo. The Airport is at Uhana, the administrative centre of the valley. Gal-Oya's National Park, less developed than those of Yala and Wilpattu, is renowned for its elephant population.

MAHIYANGANA

Between the Gal-Oya Valley and Kandy lies Mahiyangana or *Ahutnuwara* (New City), on the banks of the Mahaveli Ganga. Mahiyangana was a city of great renown in ancient times — perhaps the rival of Anuradhapura. It is supposedly one of the places visited by the Buddha. Because Mahiyangana was on the route between the North and the South, it finds frequent mention in the history of the country particularly in connection with troop movements from the South to fight Northern invaders.

Today there are practically no traces of Mahiyangana's earlier glory. Its one claim to attention is the Dagoba erected by King Devanampiya Tissa (3rd century B.C.) and restored recently. The four bronze horsemen-statuettes discovered in the relic chamber (of the 11th century) are now in the Colombo Museum.

WILD LIFE

Ceylon offers the wild life enthusiast or the simple nature lover a wide panorama of bird and beast, including a goodly collection of reptiles and exotic aquatic fauna in river and coral reef.

In the National Parks or the Game Sanctuaries the visitor can get right into the middle of it all and become a neighbour to bird and beast in a kind of primitive Eden. Norah Burke in *Eleven Leopards* says: "It was a sunlit landscape from the beginning of the world, before man arrived to destroy it. Here were the animals of the Pleistocene, bird and beast, as they were created in teeming multitudes. By these waters, in these glades, they lived as they had done, for unknown centuries, and if Ceylon does not whittle away her priceless treasure so they may live for centuries yet to come".

RUHUNA (YALA) NATIONAL PARK

Commonly known as *Yala* this is the most popular of the game sanctuaries. Its 112 square miles lie on the banks of the sacred river, Menik Ganga, on the south-eastern coast of the Island. It may be reached either through the Up-Country via Haputale and Wellawaya or along the coast via Galle, Matara and Hambantota. The turn-off to the Park is on the Tissamaharama-Kirinda Road, 6 miles from Tissamaharama. Entrance formalities (permit and guide) will be handled expeditiously at the Gate-office at Palatupana. The guide

will ride in the car, directing the tour; walking is not permitted, for safety reasons. With some luck one should be able to see elephant, leopard, sambhur, deer, elk and wild-boar of the bigger animals. These are more in evidence during the rainy season (October—December). Since most of the Park animals are nocturnal in habit, early morning or late evening will provide the best chances of encounter. Numerous water birds abound in the lakes and lagoons. Photographs may be taken only from the car.

For the visitor who desires a more leisurely look, accommodation is available in two bungalows within the park. The one at Buttuwa is on the sea coast. The other, the Yala Bungalow, is on the right bank of the Menik Ganga. Both bungalows are furnished to accommodate 10 persons each. A bungalow-keeper-cum-cook is provided, but visitors must bring their own linen and food. Reservations for the occupation of these bungalows should be made in advance at the Wild Life Department Office at 29, Gregory's Road, Colombo 7 (Tel. 94653). Charges are Rs. 4/- per day for accommodation only. (A larger area of the Park is being opened up to visitors together with more accommodation and other facilities).

WILPATTU NATIONAL PARK

This park, the biggest in extent (252 square miles) is situated on the North-eastern coast between the Modaragam river and the Kala Oya. The turn off to the Park is at Thimbiriwewa on the Puttalam-Anuradhapura road at the 27th mile post. The 14 miles to the Park entrance is only a jeep track.

The western half of the park is mostly undulating, sandy tract. The low contours (100 feet — 300 feet) form numerous shallow pans or *villus* which hold monsoonal rains to become small inland lakes. H.C.P. Bell waxed poetic about them; "The calm beauty of the inland lakes is indescribable. The bright blue of still water, the ring of white sand fringed with grass and

forest mingled greens and browns....." Some of these lakes attract a wide variety of aquatic birds.

The more wooded eastern section is washed by many streams. A number of ruins testify that this region had been inhabited in ancient times. Wilpattu Park is particularly strong in leopard and bear.

The Park has 170 miles of motorable (by jeep) roads. The visitor's permit provides a guide as well. Here too accommodation is available in two furnished bungalows; the one at Maradanmaduwa will accommodate 8 persons; the one at Kalivillu 6 persons. As at Yala, the bungalows are provided with cooks, but visitors have to bring their own food and linen. Foreign visitors will be provided with linen at extra charge. Normal charges as at Yala. (More accomodation and facilities are being set up now).

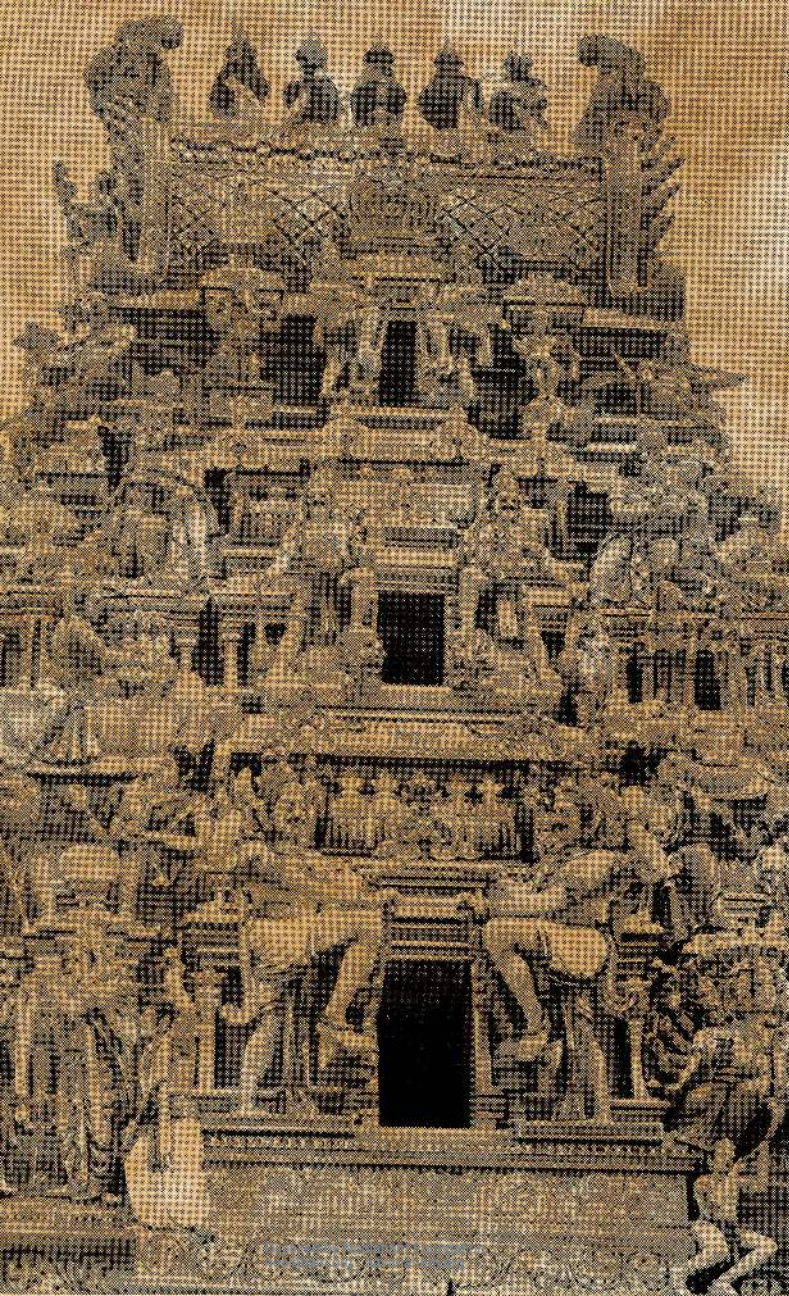
In this Park there are special photographic sites which may be reserved at a charge of Rs. 5.00 per day. Permit holders are allowed to alight from the vehicle at these sites.

Reservations should be made in advance at the Wild Life Department Office.

BIRD SANCTUARIES

The richest of the bird sanctuaries is **Kumana**. Its heart is a vast lake fed by the *Kumbukkan* river and bounded by scrub jungle and swamp vegetation. It is, however, not easily accessible. But the visitor who will brave a rugged ride in a four-wheel drive vehicle, 32 miles off Potuvil on the south-eastern coast, will be abundantly rewarded — pelicans, painted storks, ibis, spoonbills, pink famingoes, purple coot, jacana etc.

The other sanctuary is **Wirawila-Tissa**. This is a cluster of large irrigation tanks in the vicinity of *Tissa-maharama* which give refuge and protection to thousands of aquatic birds. On *Tissa* tank there is a little island which is seasonally colonised by breeding groups of herons, egrets. etc.



JAFFNA

The Northern Peninsula

The northern peninsula of Jaffna, with its provincial capital of the same name, is a perfect complement to the rest of Ceylon. The south is prodigal and lush in vegetation, the north, dry and sparse; the palm of the south is the coconut, of the north, the palmyrah; the Sinhala people of the south are out-going, care-free and indolent, the Tamils of the north, dour, thrifty and industrious; the south is preeminantly Sinhala and Buddhists, the north, Tamil and Hindu.

Historical Landmarks

The political, social and religious features of this part of the Island have been moulded by its proximity to South India. As was noted earlier (Ceylon's Past — in a Nutshell) Jaffna and the north central province had been for many centuries a battle-ground and melting-pot of the Sinhala and Tamil peoples. Later, with the advent of the westerner, Jaffna became successively a stronghold of both Portuguese and Dutch power in the Island. Some of their forts are still in an excellent state of preservation. The best are (a) *the Jaffna Fort*, probably the finest of Dutch forts (built over the earlier Portuguese one), which in its day was considered a classic of military architecture; it is star-shaped and covers an

area of 55 acres; (b) *Fort Hammenhiel* (the heel of the ham) off Kayts, at the entrance to the harbour; it makes the little island on which it is built an entire fortification. This fort may be visited in the company of the Caretaker, resident at Kayts, who will arrange for a boat.

The colonial powers left their mark in Jaffna in other forms too. At *Chankanai* and *Myliddy* there are remains of Portuguese churches. At *Atchuvely* and *Vadukkodai* are ruins of two Dutch kirks, Two Dutch toll-gates can be seen in Point Pedro. Within the town on Jaffna, the Archaeological Museum building, the Dutch house and the Residency are outstanding examples of colonial architecture

Temples

The ancient Hindu temples of Jaffna did not survive Portuguese zeal. Even the most venerated and popular *kovils* are not very old — some of them rebuilt on the site of those destroyed. Among the more famous are: *Kandaswamy Kovil*, Mavidappuram (about ten miles from town), dedicated to the god Skanda; its annual festival in July is most colourful and protracted; the festival cart (a characteristic feature of Hindu processions) is a treasure of intricate wood-carvings; *Nagapooshani Ammal Kovil* of the Island Nainativu is the centre of another colourful festival; the carved wooden panels of its cart depict the story of the temple's founding; *Nagathambiram Kovil*, Nargarkovil, is among sand dunes and its festival re-enacts a battle between the Portuguese and a serpent-god. The festival of *Sella-sannathi Kovil* includes the ritual of fire-walking.

The Islands

The peninsula is strewn with islands, a few of which are inhabited. Some are connected to the mainland by motorable causeways e.g. Kayts and Pungudutivu. The Island of Nainativu is famous for its two temples, one Hindu and the other Buddhist, Nagadipa Vihare,

which is supposed to mark the site of one of Buddha's visits to Ceylon. The largest of the Islands is *Delft* (Neduntivu) about 50 miles off-shore. The island is noted for its good palmyrah *toddy* and it is associated with ponies although there aren't many left now. It was the Portuguese who imported Arab horses to Delft. Philip Baldeus says that "horses were brought into this isle, which, multiplying in time, produced a certain kind of horse that are very small but hardy and fit to travel on stony and rocky ground". (*A Description of the Empire of Ceylon*) During British times, the Irish lieutenant, Nolan, ruled the Island like a feudal lord, his "castle" being the old Dutch Residency. Keble says that when Nolan retired in 1924 "he left behind him a legacy of Irish blue eyes among the islanders which may be traced among them to this day" (*Ceylon Beaten Track*). 6,000 people eke out a meagre existence on this remote island.

Characteristic Sights

The *palmyrah tree* is almost a symbol of the northern peninsula. Like the coconut it is put to innumerable uses. The *toddy* tapped from its flower is a pleasant, mildly alcoholic drink which is supposed to be a health-enhancing tonic. Jaffna used to be jocularly called "the land of the cadjan curtain", from the high *cadjan* (woven coconut or palmyrah branch) fences which surrounded the houses, for reasons of privacy. Today with modern housing, the *cadjan* fence is not so much in evidence.

The landscape of the North is, as a contemporary writer aptly described it, "bleakly beautiful". But even a Ceylonese from the south would be surprised by real desert stretches such as *Manalkadu* — a miniature Sahara — which is well worth a special trip.

The Jaffna farmer is, perhaps of necessity, very hard-working. His main crops are tobacco, chillies and vegetables. In some places water for irrigating the

plantations is drawn from the well by a swinging crossbar (between uprights) which is worked by men walking along it from side to side.

Curiosities

The entire region being basically a limestone shelf, it is not surprising to find limestone caverns such as those of *Sinna* and *Periya Mandapam* at Kerudavil, in which underground galleries run to a distance of about half-a-mile. (Unfortunately the entrances to these caverns are at the moment artificially blocked). Then there are *tidal wells* whose "tides", though regular, are "out of step" with the sea-tides. The biggest of these is at Neerveli, 145 feet deep; the water on the surface is sweet, at depth, salty. The large pools of fresh water on the very beaches, at Keerimalai, are a popular bathing-spot; the water here is believed to possess curative properties. A botanical curiosity of this region is the giant *baobab*; a particularly fine specimen is found on the island of Delft.

Sea-Bathing

Jaffna has no sea-bathing resorts which enjoy the popularity of those on the south-western and east coasts. Those beaches which do offer pleasant and safe bathing are comparatively unknown and unfrequented. During the north-east monsoon, *Kalmunai Point* off Jaffna remains calm and inviting; the beach has fresh water springs beneath the sand. During the south-west monsoon more beaches become available e.g. *Casuarina beach*, Karainagar, *Castle beach* on Delft Island, and the beaches at *Senthankulam* and *Thondaimanna*. All these beaches can be used safely during the inter-monsoonal periods. The waters off the outer islands should be rich, untapped territory for adventurous skin-divers.

INFORMATION APPENDIX

GETTING TO CEYLON

By Air

Ceylon is linked by international flight to the world's major cities. The following Airlines operate international services through Colombo; Air Ceylon, BOAC, UTA, TWA, Qantas, Aeroflot, Swissair, Garuda, India Air Lines, PIA, and Singapore Airlines. A number of major international Travel Agencies operate holiday charter flights at very attractive fares between Europe and Ceylon.

All international and regional flights arrive at the Bandaranaike International Airport at Katunayake, 19 miles north of Colombo. This modern Airport, built with Canadian aid, is named after the late Prime Minister Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike.

By Sea

Ceylon is strategically placed on the sea routes between the Middle East and

the Far East. Closure of the Suez Canal adversely affected shipping through Ceylon. At present, passenger and passenger-cum-cargo lines serving Ceylon are American President, Holland/America, American Export — Isbrandtsen, Bank Line, Bibby, Hansa, P and O, Blue Funnel, Cunard, Brocklebank and V.N.S.

Colombo is Ceylon's chief port; some vessels call at Trincomalee and Galle too.

Overland

For travellers by train or automobile via India a ferry-steamer service is available from Rameswaram in South India to Talaimannar in North-West Ceylon. The ferry operates from Rameswaram to Talaimannar on Mondays and Thursdays at 2.00 p.m., and the return on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10.00 a.m. The journey lasts about 3

hours. The ferry service does not operate usually in

November and December owing to the monsoon.

ENTRY AND DEPARTURE FORMALITIES

(Subject to change without notice)

Visa

Nationals of the following countries coming to Ceylon as *bona fide* tourists i.e. for any legitimate non-immigrant purpose such as touring, recreation, sports, health, family reasons, study, pilgrimage, business, do not require a visa;

— for six months' stay:

Britain and colonies, Canada, Ireland, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore

— for a month's stay:

Australia, Austria, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, U.S.A.

These visitors should have a visa for the country to which they are proceeding from Ceylon, if such is necessary. Even nationals of these countries require a visa if they are coming to Ceylon not as *bona fide* tourists, but for other purposes such as gainful employment.

Nationals of all, other countries require a visa for entry into Ceylon.

Visit Visas are issued for a stay up to a maximum of six months and are normally valid for single entry into Ceylon. A double entry visa is granted without addi-

tional payment on request of applicant.

Transit Visas are issued to passengers desiring to disembark in Ceylon in order to continue their journey by a different ship or aircraft. Such visas are not required by passengers coming ashore during a ship's stay in port, or those continuing their journey on the same aircraft. A transit visa may be issued for a period not exceeding one month.

Residence Visas are issued for a stay exceeding six months or for employment. These are handled only by the Controller of Immigration and Emigration, Galle Buck, Colombo 1.

Visit and transit visas are issued by Ceylon Embassies and Consulates abroad. (See list on p.....) Two photographs should be attached to the visa application form.

Customs

For Customs purposes a "tourist" is a person who enters Ceylon for a stay of not less than 24 hours and not more than six months in the course of any 12-month period, for legitimate, non-immigrant purposes. Tourists are generally required to make an oral declaration of baggage. Unaccompanied baggage arriving in advance can be held in bond and cleared when the passenger arrives.

The following items are allowed duty-free per passenger: 200 cigarettes or, 50 cigars or, 12 ozs. tobacco or, an assortment of them not exceeding 12 ozs. in total weight; 2 bottles spirits; 2 bottles wine; 1/2 pint toilet water and a small quantity of perfume.

The following articles may be brought in duty free as **personal effects**, if they are the property of, or are in the personal use of the passenger or member of his family travelling with him: 2 still cameras with 24 rolls of film; 1 miniature movie camera with 10 reels of film; 1 pair of binoculars; 1 portable musical instrument; 1 portable record-player with 10 records; 1 portable sound-recording apparatus; 1 portable radio; 1 portable typewriter; 1 perambulator; 1 tent and other camping equipment; Sports equipment including, 1 fishing outfit; 1 non-powered bicycle; 1 canoe or kayak not exceeding 18 ft. in length; 2 tennis racquets & similar articles.

A tourist will be allowed to import in transit without a temporary importation permit, **travel souvenirs** not exceeding £ 100 in value, if such souvenirs are carried on the person of, or in the luggage accompanying the tourist and if they are not intended for commercial use.

Motor Vehicles

Those imported under the Carnet/Triptyque, issued by

any internationally recognized Automobile Association, are allowed duty free entry for a period of six months. Otherwise the tourist will have to pay the full duty on it, which sum, however will be refunded to him if the vehicle is taken out of the country within one year.

Third party insurance is compulsory in Ceylon. Insurance facilities are available at the Ceylon Insurance Corporation, Gaffoor Building, Main Street, Colombo 1.

Traffic is on the left in Ceylon. A driver must possess a domestic or an international driving licence. The latter should be endorsed by the Commissioner of Motor Traffic, Narahenpitiya, Colombo 5. For a Carnet/Triptyque vehicle the owner may ask for assistance in all these matters from the Automobile Association of Ceylon, 40, Sir Macan Markar Mawatha, Galle Face, Colombo 3. (Tel. 21523).

Pets

A dog may be brought in as a pet on the payment of a duty of Rs. 225. An additional fee of Rs. 5 (male), Rs. 7.50 (female) has to be paid for a dog licence. The owner of the dog must have a valid health certificate for the animal.

Bond Facilities

Any dutiable article imported by a passenger as baggage may be left in bond

with the Customs authorities pending re-export at departure. These articles may be kept at the Customs warehouse at a rental of 25 cents per day. Or the visitor may make use of private warehouse or storage facilities. Inquiries may be made from any travel agency.

Prohibited Articles

The import of certain articles such as dangerous drugs, indecent or seditious pictures and publications and lottery tickets are absolutely prohibited, and should be declared and surrendered to the Customs:

On Departure

A reasonable quantity of purchase made in Ceylon can be exported duty free, with the following restrictions.

Tea — 5 lbs. free. From 6 to 14 lbs. a duty of 50 cents per lb.

Gems—Up to any value provided there is proof that sufficient foreign currency was brought in to cover their purchase. Visitors are therefore advised to retain the receipts of gem purchases. An export permit obtainable from The Controller of Imports and Exports, 5th floor Y.M.B.A. Building, Colombo 1, is required for gifted gems.

Antiques—Antiques (for Customs) are objects more than 100 years old. To ascertain

the antiquity of the object as well as to obtain an export permit, the relevant authority is: The Dept. of National Museums Edinburgh Crescent, Colombo 7 (Tel. 94767).

Animal Skins & Ivory—The export of the skins of any protected fauna such as leopard, deer, and crocodile and ivory is prohibited by law.

Currency

All visitors are required to fill in the Currency Declaration form D on arrival and this has to be certified by the Customs Officer. All foreign Exchange transactions (including travellers' cheques) made in the country, should be recorded on this Form which has to be surrendered to the Customs at departure.

The import of Ceylon, Indian and Pakistan currency is not allowed and any such currency will be retained by the Customs and returned to the tourist at departure.

There are no restrictions on the import of other currencies or other forms of money. They should, however, be declared in the D Form.

Foreign Currency in any form may be changed only at a Bank. Bills may be paid in foreign currency to hotels, travel agencies or shops authorised by the Controller of Exchange. As stated above these transactions should be recorded on the D Form.

Cashing foreign currency with unauthorised persons is an offence.

Unspent Ceylon rupees may be re-converted into foreign exchange, at a Bank, up to a maximum of Rs. 300.

Any currency and other forms of money brought into Ceylon and declared on Form D, if remaining unspent may, naturally, be taken out of Ceylon. Undeclared currency may not be taken out without a permit from the Controller of Exchange, Central Bank Building, Queen St., Colombo 1.

An Exchange Control permit is required to take out any money earned in Ceylon. But if the income of a non-resident (stay in Ceylon not exceeding six months) is from services rendered e.g. cabaret artistes, or from business transacted in Ceylon, and does not exceed Rs. 1,000, it is exempted from tax.

In Ceylon, tourists enjoy the privilege of an enhanced rate of exchange, (FEECs), as shown below. (The rates are subject to change).

	Rs.
Australia (dollar) ...	12.87
Canada (dollar) ...	10.97
Denmark (krone) ...	1.30
France (Franc) ...	2.12
Hong Kong (dollar) ...	1.89
Italy (100 Lire) ...	17.18
Malaysia (dollar) ...	3.89
Netherlands (florin) ...	3.37
Switzerland (Franc) ...	2.85
Sweden (krone) ...	2.27
U.K. (Sterling) ...	25.24
U.S.A. (dollar) ...	10.72
W. Germany (Mark) ...	3.36

Health

Every visitor to Ceylon should be in possession of a valid vaccination certificate against small-pox.

A visitor arriving from an area which has been declared "infected" in respect of Cholera or Yellow fever should possess in addition, a valid inoculation certificate against the infection in question. He may even be placed under medical surveillance at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.

Embarkation/Disembarkation Card (E/D)

All passengers are required to fill in this card, usually given on board the aircraft/ship, and hand it over to the Officer-in-Charge both on arrival and departure. At departure, the visitor has to pay an embarkation tax of Rs. 10 at the Bandaranaike International Airport, of Rs. 5 at the Ratmalana and Palaly airports, of Rs. 2.50 at any other airport and at the Colombo Harbour.

Registration

A national of a non-commonwealth country who intends to stay in Ceylon for more than a month, is required to report at his earliest convenience within a period of 30 days at the Aliens Bureau. 5th floor, New Secretariat, Colombo 1.

TOURIST FACILITIES

Reception and Information

The Ceylon Tourist Board maintains a Travel Information Centre at Hotel Samudra, 25, Galle Face Centre Road, Colombo 1. It is open daily 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. including holidays. Tel. 32178, 36161 or 36162.

The Tourist Board also maintains Information Desks at the Bandaranaike International Airport at Katunayake (Tel. 048) and at the Passenger Terminal of the Port of Colombo (Tel. 21807). There is also an Information Office at Kandy, at United Services Library, Dalada Veediya (Tel. 661).

Tourist Introduction Card

The Tourist Board issues a Tourist Introduction Card which entitles the Holder to a number of facilities and temporary membership of various clubs in Colombo and elsewhere.

These Cards are issued at the Information Centre at Hotel Samudra, depending on the availability of facilities at the Institutions offering them.

Tourist Police

This unit of the Police Force specially detailed for Tourist services is at Echelon Square, Lotus Road, in the Fort, Tel. 26941, 21111.

Person-to-Person Hospitality

This Scheme operated by the Ceylon Tourist Board

provides tourists with an opportunity of meeting the people of the country more personally. Information about this Scheme will be supplied by the Travel Information Centre at Hotel Samudra.

Guide Lecturers

The services of guide lecturers trained by the Tourist Board are available. They could be engaged either through the Travel Information Centre or through Travel Agents. All Guide Lecturers carry with them an Identity Card which indicates the approved charges for their services.

Permits for Photography and Filming

To photograph and film archaeological monuments at Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya and other sites, it is necessary to obtain a permit from the Archaeological Commissioner at Marcus Fernando Mawatha Colombo 7, or from the Officer-in-charge at the Polonnaruwa or Sigiriya Archaeological Offices.

To photograph and film monuments at Anuradhapura and Mihintale, a permit has to be obtained from the Anuradhapura Preservation Board at the Town Hall, Anuradhapura. The rates are as follows:—

	<i>Rs.</i>
For Still photography	1.00
For 8 mm (Cine) ...	5.00
For 16 mm (Cine) ...	10.00
For 35 mm (Cine) ...	50.00

This permit could also be obtained from the Sunahatha Pilgrims' Rest (near Tissa-

wewa Resthouse) — at Anuradhapura

INLAND TRAVEL

Air

Air Ceylon, the National Airline, operates domestic services between Colombo and some provincial towns: Jaffna Amparai (Gal-Oya), Batticaloa and Trincomalee

Charter flights can be arranged to Anuradhapura, Gal-Oya, Jaffna, Batticaloa, Trincomalee and Wirawila. Bookings should be made well in advance

For flight bookings and further information, Air Ceylon Offices are at Lower Chatham St. Fort, Colombo 1 Tel. 33371.

Air Charter Tours (12-15 passengers) to the Ruined Cities, to a Veddah Village, and to Ruhunu (Yala) National Park are operated by Rapid Air Transport, Ltd., Colombo Airport, Ratmalana (Tel. 20727).

The Royal Ceylon Air Force operates Helicopter and other Charter Tours as follows:

Helicopters (4 passengers)

2-day Tours

1. Colombo, Hikkaduwa, Yala, Central Hills, Nuwara Eliya, Kandy, Colombo. (Night stop Amaduwa, Yala).

2. Colombo, Hikkaduwa, Yala, Central Hills, Nuwara Eliya, Colombo. (Night stop Amaduwa, Yala).

3. Colombo, Hikkaduwa, Yala, Colombo via Ratnapura. (Night stop Amaduwa, Yala).

4. Colombo, Sigiriya via Aukana, Polonnaruwa, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, Wilpattu, Colombo. (Night stop China Bay, Trincomalee).

Day Excursion

5. Colombo, Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura.

6. Colombo, Anuradhapura, Wilpattu.

7. Colombo, Wilpattu.

8. Colombo, Kandy.

Heron (15 passengers)
Riley (10/12 passengers)

2-day Tours

9. Colombo, Polonnaruwa, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, Colombo.

10. Colombo, Jaffna, Colombo.

11. Colombo, Male, Colombo

Day Excursion

12. Colombo, Amparai, Colombo.

Information at Sir C. Gar, diner Mawatha, Colombo 2 Tel. 31584.

Rail

The Ceylon Government Railway operates a network of services connecting most of the principal towns. Two classes of accommodation are available on all long-distance trains, 2nd and 3rd Class. 1st Class accommodation is available only on trains with sleeping berths. Air-conditioned coaches and observation saloons are attached to the *Udarata Menike* (Up-Country Belle) which plies on the Main Line (Colombo — Badulla), the *Mahanuwara Express* (Great City Express) to Kandy and the *Ruhunu Kumari* (Princess of the South) which plies on the Southern Line (Colombo — Matara). Seat reservation charge Rs. 5/- (in addition to fare).

The Ceylon Government Railway operates 22 package tours in its luxury air-conditioned trains.

Of the 21 tours, 6 are day tours and 15 are combinations of round trips with nights out. Some tours are by train and by plane.

Each of these tours includes transport from hotels to Railway station and back, all meals and professional guides to accompany visitors.

For information and bookings: Tourist Information Desk, Fort Railway Station, Olcott Mawatha, Colombo 11, Tel. 35838. Bookings may also be made at the Railway Office at the Bandaranaike International Airport (Tel. 0789 — 260).

Road

Ceylon has a wide network of metalled roads which reaches even remote villages. Most of them are, however, narrow (2 lane). Traffic moves on the left, as in Gt. Britain. Visitors unaccustomed to driving in the East are warned against hazards from stray animals, usually dogs and cattle, on the roads. Road maps and information pertaining to routes, road conditions and driving licences can be obtained from the Automobile Association of Ceylon 40, Sir Macan Markar Mawatha, Galle Face, Colombo 3. Tel. 21528.

Self-drive cars are available with a few travel agents. Rates range between Rs. 60/- and Rs. 100/- per day for a maximum of 50 miles. Excess mileage is payable at rates ranging from 90 cents to Rs. 1/20 per mile. These cars are also available at a weekly rate of Rs. 300/- to Rs. 500/- for a maximum of 250 miles, and a monthly rate of Rs. 1,200/- to Rs. 2,000/- for a maximum of 1000 miles. Petrol and oil are at the customer's expense. These agencies require a refundable deposit against accident, damage or loss of

Rs. 1000/- The credit card system is operative. Airline and Travel staff get 20% discount.

Hiring Cars are available at rates starting from Rs. 1/75 per mile depending on model of car and seating capacity. For airconditioned station-wagons, it is Rs. 2/50 per mile. Coaches can be hired at rates of Rs. 3.00 per mile and above. Chauffeur's allowance is payable from Rs. 7/50 to Rs. 15/- per day for each day out of Colombo.

Taxis are available in most towns. They are identifiable by a red on white number (registration) plate and a yellow hood (roof). The minimum fare is -/50 cents and the rate per mile Rs. 1/- to Rs. 1/20. Most taxi drivers understand English even if they don't speak it; however, it might be advisable to make sure that the driver has understood the

destination. At the commencement of the journey the meter is turned "down" to -/50 cents at the fare-window.

Bus Services: The Ceylon Transport Board (CTB) runs a far-flung system of bus services. There are regular express buses from Colombo to all major towns such as Kandy, Galle, Kurunggala, Badulla, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Kataragama. Besides these regular services the CTB also operates coaches at special rates. For information: The Central Bus Station, Olcott Mawatha, Pettah, Colombo 11. Tel. 29604.

Travel Agencies: The visitor will find it most convenient to engage the services of a Travel Agency for his tour of Ceylon. Travel Agencies offer a wide choice of private and group tours, with the services of guides.

APPROVED TRAVEL AGENCIES

Aitken Spence Eoustours Ltd.,
P. O. Box 1422,
Lloyds Building,
Prince Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 27861-Cable "EUSTOURS"

Arthur Lovers Tourist Agency,
P & O Building, P.O.Box 1478
11, Victoria Arcade Colombo 1
Tel. 23073-Cable: "TRAVEL".

American Lloyd (Cey.) Ltd.,
P.O.Box 1275, W4, 5th Floor,
Ceylinco House, Colombo 1.
Tel. 29806-26911
Cable: "AMERLOYD"

Bobby Arnold & Co, Ltd.,
No. 7, York Street,
P.O.Box 945, Colombo 1.
Tel. 22641.
Cable: "MACTRAVEL"

Broughams Travel Department
P.O. Box 75,
3rd Floor, Macan Markar
Bldg, Prince Street, Col. 1.
Tel. 25246, 25845.
Cable: "BROUGHAMS"

Browns Tours Ltd.,
P.O. Box 200.
Darley Road, Colombo 10,
Tel. 91171 (8 lines) 92534.
Cable: "THAINTER" Colombo

Ceylon Carriers Limited
P.O. Box 230, Bank of Ceylon
Bldg, 20A, York St., Col. 1.
Tel. 25101; Cable: 'CARRIERS'

Ceylon Express,
126, Y.M.B.A. Building,
Colombo 1, Tel. 20020.
Cable: "EXPRESS", Mt. Lavinia

Ceylon Safari Tours Ltd.,
29, Bristol Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 85923 & 26450.
Cable: "TOUR SAFARI"

Ceylon Tours Ltd.,
47, Sir Chittampalam A.
Gardiner Mawatha (Parsons
Road), Colombo 2.
Tel. 33404 33963 & 32012.
Cable: "TOURSCO"

Ceylon and World Tours Ltd.,
Lake House,
D. R. Wijewardena Mawatha,
Colombo 1.
Tel. 32961.
Cable: "WORLD TOURS"

**Dains Tourist & Travel Ser-
vices, Ltd.,**
75/1, York Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 25055.
Cable: "DAINSTOURS"

Ebert Silva Touring Co. Ltd.,
11, Malwatte Road, Dehiwala,
Tel. Mt. Lavinia 335.
Cable: "EBERTTOURS"

Finco Tours Ltd.,
49/16 Iceland Building,
Galle Face, Colombo 3.

Gemco Travel Agency,
12, Baillie Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 23251
Cable: "GEMPIT"

Hermes International Ltd.,
Bank of Ceylon Building,
6, York Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 24431.
Cable: "HERMESINT"

Hilda Travels Ltd.,
3, Consistory Building,
Front Street, Colombo 11.
Tel. 25322.
Cable: "HILTRA"

International Tours,
177, Deans Road, Colombo 10
Tel. 94154

**International Travel Aides,
(Cey.) Ltd.,**
30-31, Bristol Hotel, Building,
York Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 22821.
Cable: "SIGHTSEE"

Lanka Travel Operators,
32, Y. M. B. A. Building,
Colombo 1. — Tel. 26664.
Cable: "TINKELBELL"

Mercantile Tours (Cey.) Ltd.,
23, York Arcade, Colombo 1,
Tel. 23431, 22261.
Cable: "MERCONTOUR"
Telex: 1138, "VAVALEX"
Colombo.

Muller Travel Service Ltd.,
61 Iceland Building, Galle Rd,
Colombo 3, Tel. 26100.
Cable: "SUNSHINE"

**Overseas Travel Service (Cey.)
Ltd.,**
56, Galle Road, Colombo 3.
Tel. 25021,
Cable: "SEECEYLON"

Pilgrimways Tours, Ltd.,
255, Galle Road, Colombo 4,
Tel. 83982,
Cable: "PILGRIMWAYS",

Quickshaw Travel Service Ltd.,
Bank of Ceylon Building,
8, York Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 25997-28411.
Cable: "QUICKSHAWS"

Quickshaws Ltd.,
3, Kalinga Place, Colombo 5.
Tel. 83133-35,
Cable: "QUICKSHAWS"

Shaw Wallace & Hedges, Ltd.,
(Travel Department)
363, Galle Road, Colombo 3,
Tel. 20671-7,
Cable: "SHAWLACE"

Sun and Fun Tours,
32, Bristol Hotel, Colombo 1.
Tel. 24977.
Cable: "FUNTOURS"

Travel Services (Cey.) Ltd.,
56, Galle Road, Colombo 3,
Tel. 25021.
Cable: "TRAVELALL"

Thomas Cook & Sons,
(Continental & Overseas Ltd)
P.O. Box 36, 15, Sir Baron
Jayatilleke Mawatha, Col. 1.
Tel. 22511-12-13.
Cable: "COUPON"

Travel Bureau,
Ceylon Hotels Corporation,
50, Chatham Street, Fort.
Colombo 1.
Tel. 23501 & 23504.
Cable: "HOTELS"
Tourist Halt Travelways,
94, York Street, Fort,
Colombo 1. — Tel. 25508.
Cable: "TOURFUN"
V. I. P. Tours,
P. O. Box 1065.
27, York Arcade, Colombo 1
Tel. 24532.
Cable: "VISITOR"

Walkers Tours & Travels
(Cey.) Ltd.,
11-19, Main Street, Fort,
Colombo 1.
Tel. 24855-26039.
Cable: "WALKERS"
Zarook Travel Service,
8A, Bank of Ceylon Building,
York Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 24317.
Cable: "SERENE"

TOURIST INFORMATION ABROAD

Tourist Information and sales aids are available at the following overseas offices:

Australia
High Commission of the
Republic of Sri Lanka (Cey-
lon), 35, Empire Circuit,
Forrest, Canberra,
A.C.T. 2603.

Trade Commission, of the Re-
public of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Rooms 414 & 415,
"The Wales House"
66, Pitt Street, Sydney,
N.S.W.

F. P. Leonard
Advertising Pty. Ltd., Box E.9
St. James P.O., Sydney, 2000.

Burma
Embassy of the Republic of
Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
34, Fraser Road,
P.O. Box 1150, Rangoon.

Canada
High Commission of the
Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Suites 102-104,
85, Range Road,
Ottawa 2. Ontario.

China
Embassy of the Republic of
Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
3, Jian Hua Lua East City,
Peking,

Czechoslovakia

Trade Commissioner of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon), 8, Nad Stalou, Prague 7.

Denmark

Consulate-General of Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) C/o The Ceylon Tea Centre, Vimmelskaftet, Copenhagen.

Federal Republic of Germany

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) 53 Bonn
Bad Godesberg,
Rolandstrasse 52.

Ceylon Tourist Board
Information Office,
6, Frankfurt/Main,
Wiesenhuttenplatz 39.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in Hamburg,
Schellsvig Holstein,
2 Hamburg 19,
Osterstrasse 36.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in Berlin West,
1, Berlin 19 West,
Tanmendergallee 28.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in Munich,
8, Munich 13 F,
Razgosefstrasse 15,
Gortenhouse.

France

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon),
2nd Floor,
61, Quai d' Orsay,
Paris VII^E

Ghana

High Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) P.O. Box 6517, Accra North.

India

High Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) 27, Kautilya Marg,
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 21.

Sri Lanka House,
3, Shafee Mohamed Road,
Rutland Gate, Madras 6.

Trade Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) Sri Lanka House,
Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay 1.

Italy

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Via Guiseppe Cuboni 6-8,
Rome. 00197

Ceylon Tourist Board Information Office
Via Bissolati 54, Rome.

Indonesia

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
35, Djalan Diponegori,
Djakarta.

Iraq

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
10/b/6/12, Alwiyah, Baghdad.

Japan

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
1-14-1, Akasaka
Minato-ku
Toyko.
Messrs AMO
Matsuda Building,
18, Tomoecho,
Minato-ku, Tokyo.

Kenya

High Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
8th Floor,
International Life House,
P.O. Box 8145, Nairobi.

Malaysia

High Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
303, A.I.A. Building,
3rd Floor, Jalan Ampang,
Kuala Lumpur.

New Zeland

Trade Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
3rd Floor,
Huddart Parker Building,
P.O. Box 1238, Wellington.

Pakistan

High Commission for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
468, F Sector Ramsia 6/4,
Islamabad.

Trade Commission for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
44/E, Razi Road, Bl. 6.
Pechs, Karachi-29.

Philippines

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
507, Buendia Avenue,
Ext: North Forbes Park,
Makati, Rizal.

Singapore

Trade Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
C/o M/S. U.S. de Silva & Sons,
Nos. 12-13, Collier Quay,
Singapore.

Sweden

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Strandvagen 39,
P.O. Box 14053,
104, 40 Stockholm

Switzerland

Consulate General of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
56, rue de Moillebeau,
1211, Geneva 19.

Thailand

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
28, Soi Asoke, Bangkok.

U.A.R.

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
8, Sharia Yehiya Ebrahim,
Zamalek, Cairo.

U. K.

High Commission of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
13, Hyde Park Gardens,
London W. 2.

Marketing Services

(Travel & Tourism Ltd.,)
52, High Holborn.
London W.C. 1.

U. S. A.

Embassy of the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
2148, Wyoming Avenue,
Northwest,
Washington 8, D.C. 20008.

Ceylon Tourist Board Information Office,
Suite 308,

609 Fifth Avenue,
New York, NY 10017.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in Chicago,
11, South La Fallen Street.
Chicago, Ill. 60603.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in Seattle,
1300, Northern Life Tower,
Seattle, Washington 9801.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in
New Orleans,
601, Carondelet Street,
P.O. Box 52493.
New Orleans,
Louisiana 70150.

Hony. Consul for the Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) in
Los Angeles,
Velten Becket & Associates
Santa Monica Building,
Los Angeles,
California 90025.

U. S. S. R.

Embassy of the Republic of
Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Ulitzha Shephkhina 24,
Moscow.

YUGOSLAVIA

Embassy of the Republic of
Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Lepenicka 10,
Belgrade, 1100.

CHARTER OPERATORS SERVICING CEYLON

Foreign
Charter Operator

Local
Handling Agent

1. Kuoni Travel Ltd.,
P.O. Box 8021,
Zurich,
Switzerland.
2. Kuoni Challis & Benson
Ltd.,
133, New Bond Street,
London,
United Kingdom.
3. Touropa/Scharnow Inter-
continental Travel Organi-
zation,
P.O. Box 239,
8031, Zurich,
Switzerland.
4. Hotelplan-International
Travel Organization,
P.O. Box 239,
8031, Zurich,
Switzerland.
5. Neckermann und Reisen,
6, Frankfurt am Main 8,
Federal Republic of
Germany.
6. Tjaereborg Rejser A/s,
6731, Tjaereborg,
Denmark.

Travel Services (Cey.) Ltd.,
"Dons Court"
131, Galle Road,
Dehiwala.

Browns Tours Ltd.,
481, Darley Road,
Colombo 10,

Overseas Travel Service,
(Ceylon) Ltd.,
131, Galle Road,
Dehiwala.

Walkers Tours & Travels
(Ceylon) Ltd.,
P. O. Box 166,
Colombo.

7. **Paneuropa, Dr. Trommer & Botzenhardt KG,**
8, Munchen 2,
Federal Republic of
Germany.

Overseas Travel Service,
(Ceylon) Ltd.,
131, Galle Road,
Dehiwala.

AIRLINE REPRESENTATION

Aeroflot Soviet Airlines
25, Gaffoor Building,
Main Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 25580.

Air Ceylon Ltd.
63, Queen Street, Colombo 1.
International Reservations:
Tel. 27731. Flight Informa-
tion: Tel. 27564.

Air France
12, Sir Baron Jayatilaka
Mawatha, (Prince Street),
Colombo 1.
Tel. 21323.

Air India
Y.M.B.A. Building,
Main Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 22249, 25832.

Alitalia
12, Sir Baron Jayatilaka
Mawatha (Prince Street),
Colombo 1.
Tel. 23396 (Area Manager)

General Sales Agent:
Messageries Maritimes,
Tel. 21323, 25887 and 25888.

B.O.A.C. and Qantas
General Sales Agent
Ceylon Hotels Corporation,
63, Queens Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 20231-4, 23457 and
23563. Flight Inquiries:
Tel. 25042.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.
Coconut Board Building
11, Duke Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 23048.

Czechoslovak Airlines
M/s. Hermes International
Ltd.
6, York St., Colombo 1
Tel. 24431

Garuda Indonesian Airlines
C/o Carson Cumberbatch and
Co. Ltd.,
61, Queen Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 20658.

Indian Airlines Corporation
27, Main Street,
Gaffoor Building,
Colombo 1.
Tel. 23136, 29838.

K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines
61, Queen Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 25984 and 26359.

Lufthansa German Airlines
12, Sir Baron Jayatilaka
Mawatha (Prince Street),
Colombo 1.
Tel. 21323.

SAS
Browns Tours Ltd.
481 Darley Road
Colombo 10
Tel. 91171

Swissair
C/o A. Baur and Co. Ltd.,
5, Upper Chatham Street,
Colombo 1,
Tel. 20551.

Pan American World Airways
363, Colpetty Road,
Colombo 3.
Tel. 26359.

Malaysian Singapore Airlines
15 A, Sir Baron Jayatilaka
Mawatha, Colombo 1.
Tel. 24181 and 24148.

**Thai Airways International
Ltd.**
Browns Tours Ltd.,
481, Darley Road,
Colombo 10.
Tel. 91171.

**Pakistan International Air-
lines**
32 YMBA Bldg.
Main St. Colombo 1
Tel. 24661, 26664

U.T.A. French Airlines
10, Sir Baron Jayatilaka
Mawatha (Prince Street),
Colombo 1.
Tel. 20633, 27605.

TWA
8-10 Leyden Bastian Road,
Colombo 1.
Tel. 27506, 27911.

SHIPPING LINE REPRESENTATION

**American Export Isdrandtsen
Lines**
McLaren & Co. (Ceylon) Ltd.,
363, Galle Road, Colombo 3.
Tel. 27206.

Holland/America Line
Aitken Spence & Co. Ltd.,
Sir Baron Jayatilaka Mawatha
(Prince Street), Colombo 1.
Tel. 27861.

American President Lines
Whittall Boustead Ltd.,
147, Vauxhall Street,
Colombo 2.
Tel. 29161, 29681.

Messageries Maritimes
12, Sir Baron Jayatilaka
Mawatha, (Prince Street),
Colombo 1.
Tel. 25887, 25888

Bibby Line
Carson Cumberbatch & Co,
Ltd.,— 3rd Floor,
Chartered Bank Building,
Queens Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 25984.

P & O Orient Lines
Mckinnon Mackenzie & Co.
(Ceylon) Ltd.,
York Street, Colombo 1.
Tel. 29881.

Hansa Line
McLaren & Co. (Ceylon) Ltd.,
363, Galle Road, Colombo 3.
Tel. 27160.

V.N.S. Line
Hayleys Ltd.,
400, Deans Road, Colombo 10
Tel. 91741. and 96333
Flagstaff Tel. 27160.

FOREIGN MISSIONS IN CEYLON

Australia

High Commission
3, Cambridge Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 96464.

Belgium

Embassy,
100/3A, Horton Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 94521.

Britain

High Commission,
Galle Road, Colombo 3.
Tel. 27611.

Brazil

Embassy,
10, Flower Road, Colombo 7.
Tel. 92753.

Burma

Embassy,
53, Rosmead Place,
Colombo 7. Tel. 91964, 94077.

Canada

High Commission,
6, Gregory's Road,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 95841.

China, People's Republic of

Embassy,
191, Dharmapala Mawatha,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 96459,

Czechoslovakia

Embassy,
47, Horton Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 94766.

Denmark

Consulate,
Prince Building,
Sir Baron Jayatilleke Mawatha
Colombo 1. — Tel. 26605.

Dominican Republic

Consulate,
108, Barnes Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 94771.

El-Salvador

Consulate,
C/o Jonaliver & Co.
26, Reclamation Road,
Colombo 11. — Tel. 26404

France

Embassy,
89, Rosmead Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 93615

Federal Republic of Germany,

Embassy,
16, Barnes Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 95814.

German Democratic Republic

Embassy,
101, Rosmead Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 93753.

Hungary, People's Republic of

Embassy,
48, Vajira Road,
Colombo 5. — Tel. 84027.

India

High Commission,
3rd Floor, State Bank of India
Building, Sir Baron Jayatilleke
Mawatha, Colombo 1.
Tel. 21604-5, 22788-9

Indonesia

Embassy,
23, Alfred Place,
Colombo 3. — Tel. 34813.

Iraq

Embassy,
21 Abdul Gaffoor Mawatha,
Colombo 3. Tel. 25827

Italy

Embassy,
586, Galle Road.,
Colombo 3. — Tel. 88622.

- Japan**
Embassy,
10, Ward Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 93831.
- Liberia**
Consulate,
110 1/3, First Floor, Negri
Bldg, York Street,
Colombo 1. — Tel. 31181.
- Malaysia**
High Commission,
63 A, Ward Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 92518,
- Maldiv Islands**
Embassy,
25, Melbourne Avenue,
Colombo 4. — Tel. 82301,
- The Netherlands**
Embassy,
27, Gregory's Road,
Colombo 7. — Tel: 94261,
- Norway**
Consulate,
Hong Kong Bank Building,
Colombo 1. — Tel: 28849,
- Pakistan**
Embassy,
17, Sir Ernest de Silva
Mawatha, Colombo 7.
Tel: 96301.
- Peru**
Consulate,
101, Vinayalankara Mawatha
Colombo 10. — Tel: 93361.
- Philippines**
Embassy,
23, Havelock Road,
Colombo 5. — Tel: 88746.
- Poland, People's Republic**
Embassy,
137, New Bullers Road,
Colombo 7. — Tel: 81903,
- Portugal**
Legation,
22, Maitland Crescent,
Colombo 7. — Tel: 94612,
- Rumania, Socialist Republic of**
Embassy,
34, Ward Place,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 95946.
- Spain**
Consulate,
25, Layards Road,
Colombo 5. — Tel. 88098.
- Sweden**
Consulate,
40, Church Street, Fort,
Colombo 1. — Tel. 23636.
- Switzerland**
Embassy,
No. 7, Baur's Building,
Upper Chatham Street,
Colombo 1. — Tel. 29403.
- Thailand**
Embassy,
69, Sir Ernest de Silva
Mawatha,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 95280.
- United Arab Republic**
Embassy,
15, McCarthy Road,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 93843,
- United States of America**
Embassy,
44, Galle Road,
Colombo 3. — Tel. 26211.
- Union of Soviet Socialist Re-
publics —**
Embassy,
62, Sir Ernest de Silva
Mawatha,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 26262,
- Vietnam, Democratic Republic
of —**
Embassy,
106, Havelock Road,
Colombo 5. — Tel.
- Yugoslavia**
Embassy,
20, Albert Crescent,
Colombo 7. — Tel. 92624,

WHERE TO STAY: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO ACCOMMODATION

(Places in Alphabetical Order after Colombo)

Abbreviations:

b & b	—	bed & breakfast
AP	—	American Plan
EP	—	European Plan

Colombo and Suburbs

Hotels and Guest Houses

Hotel Taprobane in the heart of the Fort, overlooking the harbour; Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 90/- to Rs. 130/- double, EP; Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 140/- to Rs. 180/- double, AP; Rs. 69/50 single, Rs. 59/- to Rs. 139/- double, b & b. Tel. 20391 (63 rooms).

Ceylinco Hotel at the southern end of the Fort, with a magnificent view of the sea; Rs. 46/- to Rs. 57/50 single, Rs. 69/- to Rs. 155/25 double, EP; Tel. 20431 (14 rooms).

Galle Face Hotel at the southern end of the Galle Face Green, overlooking the sea; Rs. 60/- to Rs. 175/- double, EP; Rs. 250/- Special Suite; Tel. 28211 (146 rooms).

Renuka Hotel, 328, Galle Road, Colombo 3. Rs. 76/50 single, Rs. 100/- double EP; Rs. 106/50 single, Rs. 160/- double AP; Tel. 26901 (44 rooms).

Pegasus Reef Hotel, Rs. 125/- single, Rs. 165/- double, EP; Rs. 170/- single, Rs. 225/- double, AP; Rs. 250/- suite; Tel. 070-205, (144 rooms).

Hotel Samudra run by the Tourist Board, facing the Galle Face Green and the sea; Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 75/- double, b & b; Tel. 36161 or 36162 (10 rooms).

Harendra Hotel, 8, 42nd Lane, Colombo 6; Rs. 60/- double EP; Rs. 110/- double, AP; Tel. 83143 (49 rooms).

Sea View Hotel, 15, Sea View Avenue, Colombo 3; Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 60/- double, b & b; Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 85/- double, AP; Tel. 26516; (23 rooms).

Havelock Tourinn, 20, Dickman's Road, Colombo 5; Rs. 70/- single, Rs. 120/- to Rs. 130/- double, b & b; Tel. 85251 (34 rooms).

World Trade and Tourist Centre, 237, Galle Road, Colombo 4; Rs. 40/- to Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 60/- to Rs. 80/- double, b & b; Rs. 70/- to Rs. 80/- single, Rs. 100/- to Rs. 120/- double, AP; Tel. 83372 & 83345, (12 rooms).

Elephant Walk, 401, Galle Road, Colombo 4; Rs. 32/- to Rs. 42/- single, Rs. 44/- to Rs. 69/- double, EP; Rs. 48/50 to Rs. 58/50 single, Rs. 77/- to Rs. 102/- double, AP; Tel. 85617 (22 rooms).

Green Pastures, 67, Castle Street, Colombo 8, Rs. 10/- to Rs. 12/- single, Rs. 20/- to Rs. 22/- double, EP; Tel. 94024 (8 rooms)

Sun Island Tourist Lodge, 22 Shrubbery Gardens, Colombo 4, Rs. 27/50 to Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 70/- double, EP; Tel. 82729 (6 rooms).

Smiths, 36, Galle Face Court 2, Colombo 3; Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 80/- double, EP; Tel. 27319 (7 rooms).

Colombo Tours Guesthouse, 45, Galle Road, Colombo 6; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 55/- double, EP; Tel. 88856 (9 rooms).

Orchid Guesthouse, 10, Torrington Place, Colombo 7; Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 85/- double, b & b, Rs. 75/- single, Rs. 100/- double, AP; Tel. 95568. (10 rooms).

Vajira Tourist Guesthouse, 34, Vajira Road, Colombo 4; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 75/- double, b & b; Tel. 86365; (10 rooms).

Abbotsleigh Tourist Court, 39, Horton Place, Colombo 7; Rs. 27/50 single, Rs. 50/- double, b & b; Tel. 91811; (3 rooms).

Lake Lodge, 20, Alvis Terrace, off Alvis Place, Colombo 3, Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 60/- double, b & b; Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 90/- double, AP; Tel. 26443; (16 rooms).

Park Rest Guesthouse, 40/18, Park Road, Havelock Town, Colombo 5; Rs. 10/- to 15/- single, Rs. 20/- to 30/- double, EP; Breakfast Rs. 2/- to Rs. 5/-; Meals Rs. 4/- to Rs. 8/- per person; Tel. 84416; (14 rooms).

Colombo Guest House, 15, Bawa Place, Colombo 8; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, b & b; Tel. 96592 or 91867; (6 rooms).

Seabreeze Guesthouse, 37, Campbell Place, Dehiwala; Rs. 50/- to Rs. 70/- double, EP; Rs. 75/- to Rs. 95/- double, AP; (3 rooms).

"Ceylon Inns" Guest House, 501/1A, Galle Road, Colombo 6; Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 70/- double, EP; Rs. 70/- single, Rs. 110/- double, AP; Contact Phone: 82388 and 82489 (20 rooms).

Raj Neh Lank Inn, 16/4, Alfred Place, Colombo 3; (Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 60/- double, Rs. 75/- to Rs. 180/- suites EP; Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 100/- double, AP; Tel. 22583 (25 rooms).

“Sesatha” Tourist Guesthouse, 236, Havelock Road, Colombo 5; Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 88/- double, EP; Rs. 88/- single, Rs. 154/- double, AP; Tel. 84698 (14 rooms).

Mount Lavinia Hyatt Hotel is excellently located overlooking the famous bay; Rs. 97/- single, Rs. 145/- double, EP; Rs. 130/- single Rs. 210/- double, AP; Tel. 071-221; (110 rooms).

Cabanas, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 46/50 single, Rs. 83/- double, b & b; Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 120/- double, AP; Tel. 071-7786, (28 rooms).

Thambapani, 34/1, De Saram Road, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 22/50 single, Rs. 50/- double, EP; Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 100/- double, AP; full board and lodging, Rs. 35/- to Rs. 60/-; Tel. 071-7374 (14 rooms).

Bamboo Inn, 37, De Saram Road, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 80/- double, b & b; Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 120/- double, AP; Contact Colombo Tel. 88080 (4 rooms).

Van Diemen’s Guesthouse, 255, Galle Road, Ratmalana; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 55/- double, EP; Rs. 33/50 single, Rs. 62/- double, b & b; Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 90/- double AP; Tel. 071-7000; (7 rooms).

Holiday Inn, 17, De Saram Road, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 50/- double, b & b; Rs. 40/- to Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 80/- to Rs. 95/- double, AP; Tel. 071-7187 (6 rooms).

Lavinia Beach Inn, 22, Barnes Avenue, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 45/- double, EP; Rs. 32.50 single, Rs. 50/- double, b & b; (3 rooms).

Marina Niwasa, 30, Sri Dharmapala Road, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 35/- single Rs. 70/- double b & b; Tel. 071-7337 (11 rooms).

Paying Guest Accommodation

For those who are interested in a more informal atmosphere paying guest accommodation is available in a number of private houses in Colombo, Kandy and Galle. In addition similar accommodation is also available in a few estate bungalows both in the hill country and the low country areas where visitors will be able to spend a holiday in a tea or rubber estate. In addition to the informal atmosphere visitors staying in private homes have the advantage of living with and meeting people in their own surroundings and thereby getting a better insight into their customs and habits. Rates quoted are for bed and breakfast only.

Mrs. D. Britto, 15/1, Alfred House Gardens, Colombo 3; Tel. 86659 — Rs. 30/- single; Rs. 60/- double (2 rooms).

CAFI Paying Guest Accommodation, 10, Simon Hewavitharana Road, Colombo 3. (Opposite Vogue Jewellers, Galle Road, Kollupitiya). Tel. 28715; — Rs. 15/- to Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 20/- to Rs. 60/- double (3 rooms).

Mrs. C. de Soysa, 6, Inner Bagatelle Road, Colombo 3, Tel. 88017; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 55/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. D. Fernando, 26, Charles Place, Colombo 3, Tel. 33402; Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 75/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. T. A. Jafferjee, 11, Bagatelle Road, Colombo 3, Tel. 83463; Rs. 80/- single, Rs. 150/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. P. Nanayakkara, 20, Chelsea Gardens, Colombo 3, Tel. 20942, Rs. 25/- single, (1 room).

Dr. (Mrs.) E. D. C. Pereira, Sunningdale, 6, 19th Lane, Colombo 3. Tel. 24164 — Rs. 25/- to Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 50/- to Rs. 70/- double, (7 rooms).

Mr. Devar Suriya Sena, 10, Alvis Place, Colombo 3, Tel. 25922; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. G. H. F. Welikala, 55, 5th Lane, Colombo 3. Tel. 22866; Rs. 25/- single, Rs. 37/50 double, (4 rooms).

Mrs. George Fernando, 23/1, Jaya Road, Colombo 4, Tel. 83753; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 55/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. Mignon Jansen, 12, Castle Lane, Colombo 4, Tel. 32779; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).

Mr. F. Jayasinghe, 285, Galle Road, Colombo 4, Tel. 84201; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, (3 rooms).

Mrs. L. Church, 81/3, Issipathana Mawatha Colombo 5, Tel. 85573 Rs. 55/- double, (1 room).

Dr. H. C. H. de Soysa, 19 Bethesda Place, Colombo 5, Tel. 84303; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (4 rooms).

Mrs. A. H. Esufally, 7, Jawatta Avenue, Colombo 5, Tel. 83689; Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. J. M. V. Samaraweera, 1-1/1, Stubbs Place, Dickman's Road Colombo 5, Tel. 88080; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, (2 rooms).

Mr. H. A. V. Soysa, 8, De Fonseka Place, Colombo 5, Tel. 88342; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).

- Mrs. N. J. Wickremasinghe**, 3, Arethusa Lane, Colombo 6, Tel. 86279; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, (1 room).
- Mrs. M. Abeysekera**, 17/1, Longden Terrace, Colombo 7, Tel. 84235
Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 65/- double, (2 rooms).
- Mr. F. A. Abeywardena**, 46, Ward Place, Colombo 7, Tel. 94843;
Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 55/- double, (1 room).
- Dr. B. P. Billimoria**, 72, Ward Place, Colombo 7, Tel. 95056;
Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 70/- double, (1 room).
- Mrs. R. David**, 53/4, Gregory's Road, Colombo 7, Tel. 95954;
Residence 34355 Office; Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 75/- double, (1 room).
- Mrs. N. de Alwis**, 15, Maitland Crescent, Colombo 7, Tel. 95137
Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).
- Mrs. D. S. Jayawickrema**, 42/3, Horton Place, Colombo 7, Tel
94537; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 55/- double, (1 room).
- Mr. K. M. D. Jayanetti**, 11, Bambalapitiya Terrace, Colombo 4,
Tel. 88553; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).
- Mrs. Carmen Gunasekera**, 85, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 7,
Tel. 93010 or 93511; Rs. 50/- per person, (1 room).
- Mr. H. E. R. de Silva**, 19, Kinross Avenue, Colombo 4; Rs. 35/-
single, Rs. 65/- double, (2 rooms).
- Mrs. M. Jeevunjee**, 7, Adamaly Place, Colombo 4, Tel. 88669;
(Rs. 50/- double, Rs. 30/- single, (2 rooms).
- Mrs. J. Rodrigues**, 220/2, Torrington Avenue, Colombo 7; Rs. 25/-
single, (1 room).
- Mrs. E. R. Weerakoon**, 69, Hotel Road, Mt. Lavinia; Rs. 35/-
single; Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).
- Miss K. M. Wickremanayake**, 37/2, Beach Road, Mt. Lavinia,
Tel. 071-436; Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (4 rooms).
- Mr. E. F. Edirisinghe**, 30 Siripala Road, Mt. Lavinia Tel. 071-507;
Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 70/- double, (3 rooms).
- Mrs. E. A. Lawrence**, 19/1, Beach Road, Mt. Lavinia, Tel. 071-7339;
Re. 40/- single, Rs. 70/- double, (2 rooms).
- Mr. Neville Perera**, 4, De Sampayo Road, Off Allen Avenue
Dehiwala; Rs. 30/- per person, (2 rooms).

Mrs. W. Altendorff, 35, Beach Road, Mt. Lavinia, Rs. 20/- per person, (2 rooms).

Dr. R. L. Amarasinghe, 17/2 Barnes Avenue, Mt. Lavinia, Tel. 071-7982; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, (1 room).

Mrs. N. E. Wijesooriya, 16, Barnes Avenue, Off Hotel Road, Mt. Lavinia, Tel. 071-7898; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, (1 room).

Youth Hostels

Youth organizations such as the Youth Hostels Association, YMCA, YWCA and the Young Men's Buddhist Association provide inexpensive accommodation for the young and those travelling on a budget. Details of such accommodation are available at the Tourist Board's Travel Information Centre.

Youth Council Hostel, 30, Elibank Road, Colombo 5, Tel. 81028 National Headquarters (30 beds).

Boy Scouts Hostel, Nos. 131 and 151, Lower Lake Road, Colombo 3 Tel. 33131 (6 beds).

Girl Guides Headquarters Hostel, No. 10 Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha, Colombo 7, (women only) Tel. 95720 (4 beds).

Youth Council Training Centre Hostel, Talangama (6 miles from Colombo), Tel. 81028. (25 beds).

Y.M.C.A., 39, Bristol Street, Colombo, Tel. 25252, (58 beds)

Ambalangoda

Rest-House, Ambalangoda; (Rs. 11/- single, Rs. 22/- double, EP Tel. Ambalangoda 228 (6 rooms).

Paying Guest Accommodation: Miss Charminie Fernando, "Brooklyn" Patabadeimulla Ambalangoda — Colombo — Galle Road; single Rs. 30/-, double Rs. 50/-, (2 rooms); Tel. Ambalangoda 359.

Ambepussa

Rest-House; (Rs. 27/50 to Rs. 37/50 single, Rs. 45/- to Rs. 65/- double, AP; Rs. 15/- single, Rs. 20/- double, EP; Tel. Warakapola 544, Contact Tel. Colombo 23501, (1 room).

Anuradhapura

Hotels and Guest Houses

Tissawewa Hotel; Rs. 15/- to Rs. 25/- single, Rs. 20/- to Rs. 45/- double, EP; Rs. 50/- to Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 90/- to Rs. 115/- double, AP; Tel. Anuradhapura 522, Contact Tel. Colombo 83133 (25 rooms).

Nuwarawewa Rest-House: Rs. 25/- to Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 40/- double, EP; Rs. 60/- to 65/- single, Rs. 110/- double, AP; Tel. A'pura 565. Contact Tel. Colombo 83133. (20 rooms).

Miridiya Hotel: (Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 60/- double, EP; Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 110/- double, AP; Tel. A'pura 212 (22 rooms).

Railway Retiring Rooms: Rs. 10/- single; Rs. 20/- double—room only; Contact Tel. 35838 (Colombo) 13 rooms).

Youth Hostel

Travellers' Halt, 15, Jaffna Junction. Tel. A'pura 290. (5 beds).

Avissawella

Rest-House: Rs. 3/50 to Rs. 4/50 single, Rs. 7/- to 9/- double EP Tel. Avissawella 257 (6 rooms).

Youth Hostel, Boy Scouts Headquarters (2 beds.)

Badulla

Youth Hostel, Badulla Y.M.C.A.

9 Bandarawela Road, (5 beds).

Bandarawela

Bandarawela Hotel: Rs. 62/- single, Rs. 114/- to Rs. 124/- double, AP; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- to Rs. 60/- double, EP; Tel. Bandarawela 6, (36 rooms).

Orient Tourist Inns: Rs. 20/- to Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, EP; Rs. 55/- to Rs. 75/- single, Rs. 110/- to Rs. 130/- double, AP; Tel. Bandarawela 407 (32 rooms).

Ideal Resort, Welimada Road; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, AP; Rs. 20/- single, Rs. 30/- double, EP; Tel. Bandarawela 476. Contact Tel. Colombo 86055 (6 rooms)

Youth Hostels Bandarawela Y.M.C.A.,

Welimada Road, Near Church of the Ascension (8 beds).

Batticaloa

Hotel Orient, 87, Trincomalee Road; Rs. 17/50 single, Rs. 35/- double, EP; 37/50 single, Rs. 75/- double, AP; Tel. Batticaloa 270 (12 rooms).

Belihuloya

Rest-House: Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, AP; Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 15/- double, EP; Rs. 5/- extra for rooms in the new wing. Tel. Belihuloya 2. Contact Tel Colombo 23501 (11 rooms).

Bentota

Bentota Beach Hotel, Rs. 170/- to Rs. 195/- single, Rs. 200/- to Rs. 225/- double, AP; Tel. Bentota 214. (66 rooms).

Lihiniya Surf Hotel, Rs. 145/- single, Rs. 175/- double, AP; Tel. Bentota 226 (40 rooms).

Hopper and Snack Bar, National Holiday Resort (Restaurant)

Serendib Hotel, Rs. 110/- single, Rs. 120/- double, EP; Rs. 130/- single, Rs. 160/- double, AP; Tel. Bentota 248. (51 rooms).

Beruwela

Barberyn Reef Hotel, Beruwela: (Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 60/- to Rs. 95/- double, b & b; Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 90/- to Rs. 125/- double, AP; (22 rooms).

Confifi Beach Hotel, Rs. 80/- single, Rs. 95/- double, b & b; Rs. 120/- single, Rs. 144/- double, AP; Contact Tel. Colombo 94444 (28 rooms) Tel. Beruwela 07.

Dambulla

Rest-House, Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 15/- double, EP; Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, AP; Tel. Dambulla 15. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501 (4 rooms).

Dickoya

Upper Glencairn: Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 75/- double AP; Rs. 20/- single, Rs. 40/- double, b & b; Tel. Dickoya 9 1971(5 rooms).

Elehera

Greenwoods Guest-House, Rs. 20/- single, Rs. 35/- double, EP; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 70/- double, AP; (3 rooms).

Diyatalawa

St. Ives Guest-House; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 60/- double, AP; Rs. 15/- single, Rs. 30/- double, EP; (3 rooms).

Ella

Ella Rest-House: Rs. 37/50 single, Rs. 65/- double, AP; Rs. 20/- single, Rs. 30/- double, EP; Tel. Ella 806. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501. (6 rooms).

Galle

Hotels and Guest Houses

New Oriental Hotel, Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 70/- to Rs. 80/- double b & b; Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 110/- to Rs. 120/- double, AP; Tel. Galle 259 (24 rooms).

Closenburg Hotel, Rs. 15/- to Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 60/- double, EP; Rs. 35/- to Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 62/50 to Rs. 100/- double AP; Tel. Galle 473. (8 rooms).

Railway Retiring Rooms, Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 20/- double-room only. Contact Tel. 35838 (11 rooms).

Youth Hostels Galle Y.M.C.A.
Pedlar Street, Fort, (2 beds).

Kataluwa Youth Hostel, Atadahewatte, Maha Walauwa, Kataluwa Ahangama (8 beds).

Paying Guest Accommodation

Mr. Vernon Dias Abeysinghe, 35, Dickson Road, Galle: Rs. 25/- single, Rs. 45/- double, (1 room).

Dr. D. N. Perera, 22, Dickson Road; Galle, Tel. Galle 282 - Rs. 25/- single, Rs. 50/- double. (1 room).

Gal Oya Sanctuary

Inginiyagala Rest-House; Rs. 7/50 to Rs. 17.50 single, Rs. 15/- to Rs. 25/- double, EP; Tel. Inginiyagala 27. (18 rooms).

Habarana

Rest-House; Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/ double, AP; Rs. 10/- single Rs. 15/- double, EP; Tel. Habarana 4- Contact Tel. Colombo 23501. (5 rooms).

Hambantota

Rest-House, Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 20/- double, EP; Rs. 37/50 single, Rs. 75/- double, AP; Tel. Hambantota 805. (15 rooms).

Hanguranketa

Rest-House: Rs. 3/- single, Rs. 6/- double EP; Tel. Hanguranketa 3 (3 rooms).

Hanwella

Rest-House: Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, AP; Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 15/- double E,P; Tel. Hanwella 2, Contact Phone: Colombo 23501. (3 rooms).

Haputale

Monamaya Holidays: Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 90/- double all inclusive; Rs. 47/50 single and Rs. 85/- double, dinner, b & b; Tel. Haputale 271. (6 rooms).

Hikkaduwa

Coral Gardens Hotel: Rs. 114/- single, Rs. 125/- double, b & b; Rs. 135/- single, Rs. 160/- double, AP; Tel. Hikkaduwa 891 (45 rooms).

Blue Coral Hotel Rs. 45/- to Rs. 67/50 single, Rs. 62/- to Rs. 82/50 double, b & b; Rs. 67/- to Rs. 85/- single, Rs. 90/- to Rs. 100/- double, AP; Contact Tel. Moratuwa 575. (8 rooms)

Horana

Rest-House: Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- double, AP; Rs. 4/50 single, Rs. 9/- double, EP; Tel. Horana 275. (7 rooms).

Horton Plains

Farr Inn: Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 80/- double, AP; Tel. Nuwara Eliya 426. Contact Phone: (Colombo) 88379. (7 rooms).

Jaffna

Palm Court; 202, Main Street: Rs. 36/- to Rs. 51/- single, Rs. 69/- to Rs. 124/- double, AP; Rs. 14/- to Rs. 29/- single, Rs. 25/- to Rs. 80/- double, EP; Tel. Jaffna 628. (18 rooms).

Subhas Tourist Hotel, 15, Victoria Road: Rs. 8/- to Rs. 15/- single, Rs. 15/- to Rs. 75/- double, EP; Tel. Jaffna 7228. (33 rooms).

Palm Beach, Valalai, Atchuvely: Rs. 20/- to Rs. 34/- single, Rs. 50/- to Rs. 64/- double, AP; Rs. 5/- to Rs. 12/- single, Rs. 20/- double, EP; Contact Tel. Jaffna 628 (7 rooms).

Railway Retiring Rooms: Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 20/- double, room only. Contact Tel. 35838 (7 rooms).

Youth Hostel, Jaffna Y.M.C.A. Opposite Kachcheri, Tel. 7151 (10 beds).

Kalutara

Samanapaya Guest House: Rs. 40/- to Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 80/- to Rs. 90/- double, AP; Contact Tel. Mt. Lavinia 7174. (5 rooms)

Kandy

Hotels and Guest Houses

Queen's Hotel, Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 55/- to Rs. 75/- double, EP; Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 95/- to Rs. 115/- double, AP; Tel. Kandy 212, (108 rooms).

Hotel Suisse, Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 95/- to Rs. 115/- double, AP; Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 55/- to Rs. 75/- double, EP; Tel. Kandy 7637. (58 rooms).

Castle Hill, Rs. 90/- single, Rs. 140/- double, AP; Tel. Kandy 376- (4 rooms).

Chalet Guest House, Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 85/- double, b & b; Rs. 75/- single, Rs. 130/- double, AP; Tel. Kandy 353. (20 rooms.)

Peak View Motel, Rs. 37/50 single, Rs. 75/- double, AP; Rs. 17/50 single, Rs. 35/- double, b & b; Tel. Kandy 7241 (10 rooms).

Graylands, Rs. 25/- to Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 50/- to Rs. 60/- double, b & b; Rs. 40/- to Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 80/- to Rs. 100/- double, AP; Tel. Kandy 7205, (5 rooms).

Lady Hill Tourist Hotel, Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 57/50 double, b & b; Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 110/- double, AP; Tel. Kandy 7659, (10 rooms).

Windy Cot, 66, Riverdale Road, Anniewatte, Kandy: Rs. 15/00 single, Rs. 30/00 double EP; Rs. 45/- to Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 85/- to Rs. 100/- double AP; Tel. Kandy 7352 (8 rooms).

Kandy Tourinn, 17, Sanghamitta Road: Rs. 180/- double, AP; Tel. Kandy 7290, Reservations — Manager, Havelock Tourinn Colombo 5, Tel. 85251 (3 lines) (4 rooms).

Surasa, George E. de Silva Mawatha, Kandy. Tel. Kandy 7020. (Restaurant).

Peradeniya Rest-House, Rs. 45/- double, AP; Rs. 7/- to Rs. 14/- double, b & b; Tel. Peradeniya 297 (6 rooms).

Hunas Falls Hotel, Hunasgeriya Group, Elkaduwa, 16 miles from Kandy: Rs. 185/- single, Rs. 230/- double, AP; Tel. Elkaduwa 802-3-4. Contact Tel. Colombo 29551 (21 rooms).

Railway Retiring Rooms, Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 20/- double—room only. Contact Tel. 35838 (6 rooms).

Paying Guest Accommodation

Mrs. K. V. N. de Silva, 12, Riverdale Road, Anniewatte, Kandy, Tel. Kandy 254— Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 50/- double. AP Rs. 55/- single Rs. 90 - double (2 rooms).

Mrs. Kingsley Perera, 11, Sanghamitta Mawatha, Lady Macarthy's Road, Kandy, Tel. Kandy 489 — Rs. 22/50 single; Rs. 32/50 double, EP; Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 65/- double, AP; (1 room).

Mrs. M. Wickramasuriya, 532/21, Siebel Place, Kandy — Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 50/- double EP; Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 110/- double AP; Tel. Kandy 7032. (4 rooms).

Youth Hostels

Boy Scouts Headquarters Hostel, Bogambara (4 beds).

Y.M.C.A. 90A, Kotugodella Veediya, Tel. 7529 (32 beds).

Kantalai

Rest-House, Rs. 22/-50 to Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, AP; Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 15/- double, EP; Tel. Kantale 808. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501. (5 rooms).

Kegalle

Rest-House, Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 45/00 to Rs. 65/- double, AP; Rs. 10/50 single, Rs. 22/50 double, EP; Tel. Kegalle 301. (5 rooms).

Kitulgala

Rest-House, Rs. 27/50 to Rs. 37/50 single, Rs. 45/- to Rs. 65/ double, AP; Rs. 15/- single, Rs. 20/- double, EP; Tel. Kitulgala 28. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501 (4 rooms).

Kuliyapitiya

Rest-House, Rs. 4/20 single, Rs. 8/40 double, EP; Tel. Kuliyapitiya 293. (4 rooms).

Kurunegala

Rest-House, Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 27/50 single, Rs. 32/- to Rs. 37/50 double, AP; Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 15/- double, EP; Tel. Kurunegala-274. (10 rooms).

Matale

Bandarapola Tourist Lodge, Alwatte: Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 80/- double, AP; Rs. 25/- single, Rs. 46/- double, EP; Tel. Matale 224 (4 rooms).

Matara

● **Chantilly Guest-House**, Rs. 70/- single, Rs. 100/- double, AP; Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 65/- double, EP; Tel. Matara 465 (4 rooms).

Polhena Reef Gardens Hotel, 30, Beach Road, Polhena: Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 90/- double, AP; Rs. 35/- single, Rs. 50/- double, EP; Rs. 39/- single, Rs. 58/- double, b & b; Tel. Matara 344 (7 rooms).

Moratuwa

Guest House, No. 20, Sudharmaratnarama Lane, Lower Indibedda Rs. 50/- per person, b & b; (2 rooms).

Nuwara Eliya

Hotels and Guest-houses

Grand Hotel, Rs. 50/- to Rs. 90/- single, Rs. 95/- to Rs. 140/- double, AP; Tel. N'Eliya 261. (107 rooms).

Grosvenor Hotel, Rs. 27/50 to Rs. 37/50 single, Rs. 65/- double, AP; Rs. 15/- single, Rs. 30/- double, EP; Tel. N'Eliya 307. (10 rooms).

Princess Guest-House, Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 55/- to Rs. 82/50 double, AP; Rs. 20/- single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 50/- double, b & b; Tel. N'Eliya 462. (6 rooms).

● **'Villa Concordia' Guest-House**, Park Group, Kandapola: Rs. 20/- single, Rs. 40/- double, EP; (5 rooms).

Nuwara Eliya Tourinn, 25, Park Road: single Rs. 170/-; double, Rs. 200/- to Rs. 300/- AP; Tel. N'Eliya 410, Reservations Manager, Havelock Tourinn Colombo 5, Tel. 85251. (7 rooms).

Lake View Guest House, Badulla Road: Rs. 30/- single with bath, Rs. 20/- common bath, Rs. 40/- double, with bath, Rs. 35/- common bath EP; Contact Tel. Colombo 81462. (3 rooms).

Paying Guest Accommodation

Mr. G. Wickramasuriya, 'Oatlands', St. Andrew's Drive: Rs. 30/- single; Rs. 55/- double, b & b; Tel. N'Eliya 335. (2 rooms).

Youth Hostels

Service Centre, 15, Cross Street. (6 beds).

Molesworth Youth Hostel, Glenfall Road, (Near Grand Hotel)
Tel. Nuwara Eliya 501 (15 beds).

Lyndhurst Youth Hostel, Tel. Nuwara Eliya 347. (6 beds).

Negombo

Blue Lagoon Hotel, Talahena, Negombo: Rs. 95/- single, Rs. 115/- to Rs. 165/- double, EP; Rs. 130/- single, Rs. 185/- to Rs. 235/- double, AP; Tel. Negombo 380 (44 rooms).

Interline Beach Hotel, 65/3, Seneviratne Mawatha, Lewis Place, Negombo: Rs. 55/- single, Rs. 80/- double, b & b; Rs. 75/- single, Rs. 125/- double, AP; Tel. Negombo 350. (7 rooms).

Silver Sands Tourist Beach Hotel, 95, Lewis Place, Negombo: Rs. 35/- to Rs. 50/- single, Rs. 65/- to Rs. 80/- double, EP; Rs. 45/- to Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 85/- to Rs. 110/- double, AP; (19 rooms)

Negombo Beach Hotel, 75 & 77, Lewis Place, Negombo: (Rs. 70/- to Rs. 90/- single, Rs. 100/- to Rs. 200/- double, AP; Tel. Negombo 448, (34 rooms).

Aquarius Beach Motel, 4, Carron Place, Negombo: Rs. 55/- to Rs. 70/- single, Rs. 75/- to Rs. 90/- double, AP; Tel. Negombo 448
Contact Tel. Mt. Lavinia 468. (6 rooms).

Brown's Beach Hotel, 175, Lewis Place, Negombo: Rs. 160/- single, Rs. 215/- double, AP; Suite Rs. 225/-, Tel. Negombo 431. (66 rooms).

Samara Tourist Hotel, 256, Negombo Road, Wattala: Rs. 50/- to Rs. 60/- single, Rs. 70/- to Rs. 80/- double, EP; Rs. 50/- to Rs. 70/- single, Rs. 90/- to Rs. 120/- double, AP; Tel. Wattala 323. (12 rooms).

Catamaran Beach Hotel, 22, Lewis Place, Negombo: Rs. 75/- single Rs. 125/- double, AP; Contact Tel. Colombo 82729 (11 rooms).

New Rest-House — Rs. 35/- to Rs. 70/- AP; Tel. Negombo 272, (9 rooms).

Lagoon View Rest-House: Rs. 30/- to Rs. 60/- AP; Tel. Negombo 278. (5 rooms).

Polgahawela

Railway Retiring Rooms: Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 20/- double room only. Contact Tel. Colombo 35838 (2 rooms).

Pelmadulla

Rest-House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/- double, EP; Tel. Pelmadulla 27. (5 rooms).

Polonnaruwa

Polonnaruwa Rest-House: Rs. 20/- to Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, EP; Rs. 50/- to Rs. 70/- single, Rs. 80/- to Rs. 100/- double, AP; Tel. Polonnaruwa 515. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501. (10 rooms).

Pussellawa

Rest-House: Rs. 22/50 to Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 40/- to Rs. 60/- double, AP; Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 15/- double, EP; Tel. Pussellawa 803. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501 (4 rooms).

Ratnapura

Rest-House: Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; Tel. Ratnapura 314 (12 rooms).

Talawakelle

Rest-House: Rs. 9/- b & b; Rs. 27/50 to Rs. 35/- single Rs. 55/- to Rs. 70/- double, AP; Tel. Talawakelle 63 (8 rooms).

Sigiriya

Sigiriya Rest-House: Rs. 20/- to Rs. 40/- single, Rs. 25/- to Rs. 45/- double, EP; Rs. 45/- to Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 75/- to Rs. 95/- double, AP; Tel. Kibissa 2. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501 (20 rooms).

Camping Site:

Each of the 10 units has a cemented base for a tent, a toilet, shower, a cooking place and a plug point from which a lead could be taken to the tent. Toilets are provided with pipeborne water and drainage. Tents and cooking utensils are hired per day per family.

For reservations contact: The Camping Authority, Sigiriya National Holiday Resort, Sigiriya or Sigiriya Resthouse, Phone: Kibissa 2.

Tangalle

Rest-House, Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 60/- double AP; Tel. Tangalle, 526. (6 rooms).

Paying Guest Accommodation

Dr. Mrs. A. R. Wickramasuriya, 281, Kadurupokuna Road, Tangalle: Rs. 30/- single; Rs. 50/- double, (2 rooms).

Teldeniya

Rest-House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP; Tel. Teldeniya 899 (4 rooms).

Tissamaharama

Tissamaharama Rest-House: Rs. 25/- to Rs. 80/- single, Rs. 35/- to Rs. 55/- double, EP; Rs. 50/- to Rs. 105/- single, Rs. 85/- to Rs. 135/- double, AP; Tel. Tissamaharama 95. Contact Tel. Colombo 23501. (38 rooms).

Trincomalee

Welcombe Hotel, Rs. 37/50 to Rs. 47/50 single, Rs. 55/- to Rs. 75/- double, b & b; Rs. 55/- to Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 85/- to Rs. 125/- double AP; Tel. Trinco. 373 (33 rooms).

Rest-House, Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; Tel. Trinco 259 (8 rooms).

Tourist Centre, Rs. 32/50 single, Rs. 60/- double, AP; Rs. 15/- single, Rs. 25/- double, EP; Contact Tel. Colombo 23501 (3 rooms).

Railway Refiring Rooms, Rs. 10/- single, Rs. 20/- double, room only. Contact Tel. 35838 (6 rooms).

Blue Lagoon Hotel, Nilaveli via Trincomalee: 12 miles from Trincomalee; Rs. 65/- single, Rs. 130/- double, AP. Contact Tel. Colombo 95765 (20 rooms).

Welimada

Youth Hostel — Welimada Y.M.C.A./Y.W.C.A. Youth Centre, 63rd Mile post on the Welimada — N'eliya Road (86 beds).

Wilpattu National Park

Park Bungalows: Rs. 4/- per bed per day for accommodation only Tel. Colombo 94653.

Yala National Park

Park Bungalow at Palatupana — Buttua and Yala (Rs. 4/- per head per day for accommodation only. Tel. Colombo 94653).

Brown's Safari Cottages, Rs. 45/- single, Rs. 90/- double, AP Rs. 30/- single, Rs. 40/- double, EP. Contact Tel. Colombo 91171 (8 rooms).

PAYING GUEST ACCOMMODATION IN ESTATE BUNGALOWS

Kallebokka Estate, Madulkelle: Elevation 3,500 ft. Tel. Madulkelle 25; Rs. 35/- per person (2 rooms).

Rangala Group, Rangala, Elevation 2,900—4,500 ft. Tel. Rangala 24 — Rs. 15/- per person (2 rooms).

Pattigama Estate, Deltota, Elevation 3,500 ft. Tel. Galaha 581. Contact Tel. Colombo 25474 — Rs. 35/- per person (4 rooms).

Templestowe Estate, Rozella, Elevation 4,000 ft. Tel. Watawala 94 Rs. 20/- per person (1 room).

Halgolla Estate, Galagedera, Elevation 900 ft. Tel. Galagedera 805 — Rs. 35/- single; Rs. 60/- double. (2 rooms).

Keppoch Estate, Balangoda, Elevation 1,700 ft. Contact Tel. Colombo 23733 — Rs. 40/- per couple (2 rooms).

Kandahena Estate, Akuressa. Elevation 700 ft. Contact Tel. Colombo 29474. All inclusive — Rs. 55/- single; Rs. 80/- double (4 rooms).

Rekadahena Estate, Kahaduwa. Elevation 100 ft. Tel. Talgaswela 4 — Rs. 35/- per person. (1 room).

Kaludanda Estate, Akuressa. Elevation 100 ft. Tel. Akuressa 37. Contact Tel. Colombo 84244 — Rs. 20/- per person (2 rooms).

Meena Ella Estate Bungalow, Hakgala. Elevation 6,000 ft. — Rs. 25/- per person. (2 rooms).

OTHER REST HOUSES

(Not approved by the Ceylon Tourist Board. Particularly suitable for those travelling on a shoestring and ready to put up with certain inconveniences.)

South West

Moratuwa Rest-House, Rs. 5/- to Rs. 7/50 single, Rs. 8/- to Rs. 12/- to 12/- double, EP; (9 rooms).

Kalutara Rest-House, Rs. 3/50 to Rs. 4/- single, Rs. 7/- and Rs. 8/- double, EP; (6 rooms).

Matugama Rest-House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (4 rooms).

Moragala Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms).

Udagama Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms).

Hiniduma Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms).

Rakwana Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (4 rooms).

Deniyaya Rest House, (4 rooms).

Akuressa Rest-House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).

Weligama Rest House, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (6 rooms).

Matara Rest House, Rs. 3/40 to Rs. 3/90 per person, EP; (10 rooms)

Walasmulla Rest-House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms).

Mahara Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double. EP; (5 rooms)

Jaela Rest House, (5 rooms).

Gampaha Rest House, Rs. 5/00 single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (4 rooms).

Homagama Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, (3 rooms).

Padukka Rest House, Rs. 5/40 double, EP; (3 rooms).

Hill Country

Balangoda Rest House, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP; (6 rooms).

Haputale Rest House, Rs. 3/- single, Rs. 6/- double, EP; (6 rooms).

Koslanda Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP (2 rooms)

Wellawaya Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms)

- Moneragala Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (4 rooms).
- Lunugala Rest House**, Rs. 2/80 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).
- Bibile Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).
- Badulla Rest House**, Rs. 4/- to Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (12 rooms).
- Welimada Rest House**, Rs. 2/80 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (4 rooms).
- Bogawantalawa Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).
- Gampola Rest House**, Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (6 rooms)
- Aluthnuwara Rest House**, (Mahiyangana). — (2 rooms),
- Weragantota Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).
- Madugoda Rest House**, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms).
- Teldeniya Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms).
- Panwila Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (2 rooms)
- Mawanella Rest House**, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/00 double, EP; (5 rooms).
- Matale Rest House**, Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (5 rooms).
- Nalanda Rest House**, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP; (6 rooms)

Kurunegala and Vicinity

- Polgahawela Rest House**, Rs. 2/80 single, Rs. 5/60 double, EP; (6 rooms).
- Narammala Rest House**, Rs. 2/80 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).
- Chilaw Rest House**, Rs. 5/ single, Rs. 7/- double, EP; (8 rooms)
- Hettipola Rest House**, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 5/- double, EP; (2 rooms).

Hiripitiya Rest House, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP;
(2 rooms).

Nikaweratiya Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP;
(6 rooms)

Maho Rest House, Rs. 4/- double. EP; (4 rooms).

Galgamuwa Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double EP;
(3 rooms).

Puttalam Rest House, Rs. 4/50 single, Rs. 9/- double, EP; (6 rooms)

Kalpitiya Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP;
(3 rooms).

Ancient Cities

Hingurakgoda Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/- double, EP;
(4 rooms).

Mihintale Rest House, Rs. 2/80 single, Rs. 5/60 double, EP;
(2 rooms).

Ulankulama Rest House, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP;
(2 rooms).

Kahatagasdigiliya Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP;
(2 rooms).

Horowupotana Rest House, Rs. 2/65 single, Rs. 5/30 double, EP;
(4 rooms).

North Central and Jaffna

Medawachchiya Rest House, Rs. 2/90 single, Rs. 5/80 double, EP;
(4 rooms).

Vavuniya Rest House, Rs. 3/- to Rs. 4/- single, Rs. 6/- to Rs. 8/-
double, EP; (5 rooms).

Mannar Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (4 rooms)

Mankulam Rest House, --- (3 rooms).

Mullaifivu Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP;
(3 rooms).

Elephant Pass Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double. EP;
(4 rooms).

Chavakachcheri Rest House, Rs. 2/65 single, Rs. 5/30 double, EP; (2 rooms).

Jaffna Rest House, Rs. 7/- single, Rs. 13/- double, EP; (5 rooms).

Kayts Rest House, -- (2 rooms).

Kankasanturai Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (6 rooms).

Point Pedro Rest House, Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (2 rooms).

East Coast

Arugam Bay Rest House, Rs. 6/80 double, EP; (5 rooms).

Sinnamobathuvaram Rest House, Rs. 3/20 single, Rs. 6/40 double, EP; (3 rooms).

Amparai Rest House, Rs. 5/- single, Rs. 10/- double, EP; (11 rooms)

Kalmunai Rest House, Rs. 3/40 single, Rs. 6/80 double, EP; (5 rooms).

Maha-Oya Rest House, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP; (3 rooms).

Batticaloa Rest House, Rs. 6/- single, Rs. 12/- double, EP; (7 rooms)

Kalkudah Rest House, — (4 rooms).

Vakarai Rest House, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP; (2 rooms)

Muthur Rest House, Rs. 2/40 single, Rs. 4/80 double, EP; (2 rooms).

Kachchaveli Rest House, Rs. 2/60 single, Rs. 5/20 double, EP; (3 rooms).

Note: A number of new Hotels and Guest Houses are under construction particularly in Colombo and at Tourist Resorts. The Tourist Travel Information Centre at Hotel Samudra and Travel Agents will be able to provide the latest information regarding accommodation. Rates quoted above, valid November 1972, are naturally subject to change.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Postal (Mail) Rates

Inland

Letters:	15 cts. per 1/2 oz (13.5 gms)
Postcards:	10 cts.
Telegrams:	Ordinary, 75 cts. per minimum of 10 words and 10 cts. per additional word.
	Urgent, Re. 1.00 per minimum of 10 words and 20 cts. per additional word.

Overseas (Air Mail)

To Western Europe, Gt. Britain, Australia & Japan:

Letters:	Rs. 1.55 per 1/2 oz. (13.5 gms.)
Postcards:	Re. 1.00

To the U.S. and Canada

Letters:	Rs. 1.90 per 1/2 oz.
Postcards:	Re. 1.00

To the U.S.S.R., Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia & Hong Kong

Letters:	Rs. 1.35 per 1/2 oz.
Postcards:	80 cts.

To India and Pakistan

Letters:	Rs. 1.10 per 1/2 oz.
Postcards:	70 cts.

Aerogrammes to all countries: 80 cts.

For Information regarding

- (a) Air Letter and Foreign Mail Services: Tel. 92271
- (b) Foreign cables: Tel. 32420.

Poste Restante: General Post Office, Queen St., Fort,
Colombo 1, Tel. 26203.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Directory Inquiries	...	138
Ceylon Tourist Board, Information Centre, Hotel Samudra,	...	32178
Galle Face	...	36161
Railway Information Centre, Fort Railway station	...	36162
		35838
Bus Service Information		
CTB Central Bus Station	...	29604
Air Ceylon (Domestic Services)	...	33371
Central Telegraph Office	...	31967
Post Restante, General Post Office,	...	26203
Tourist Police	...	21111, 26941
Bandaranaike International Airport (Katunayake)	...	0789-361
Time (Speaking Clock)	...	127

Emergency Telephone

Fire	22222
Police	33333
Accident Service (General Hospital)	...			91111
Ambulance	23157

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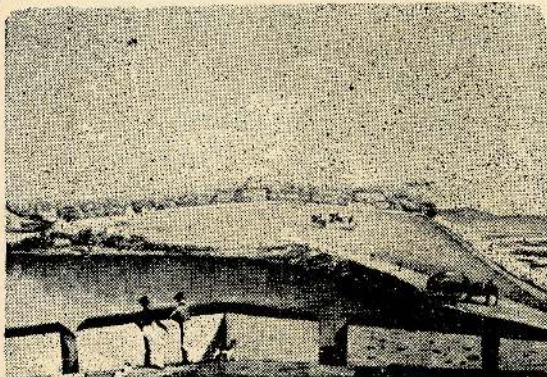
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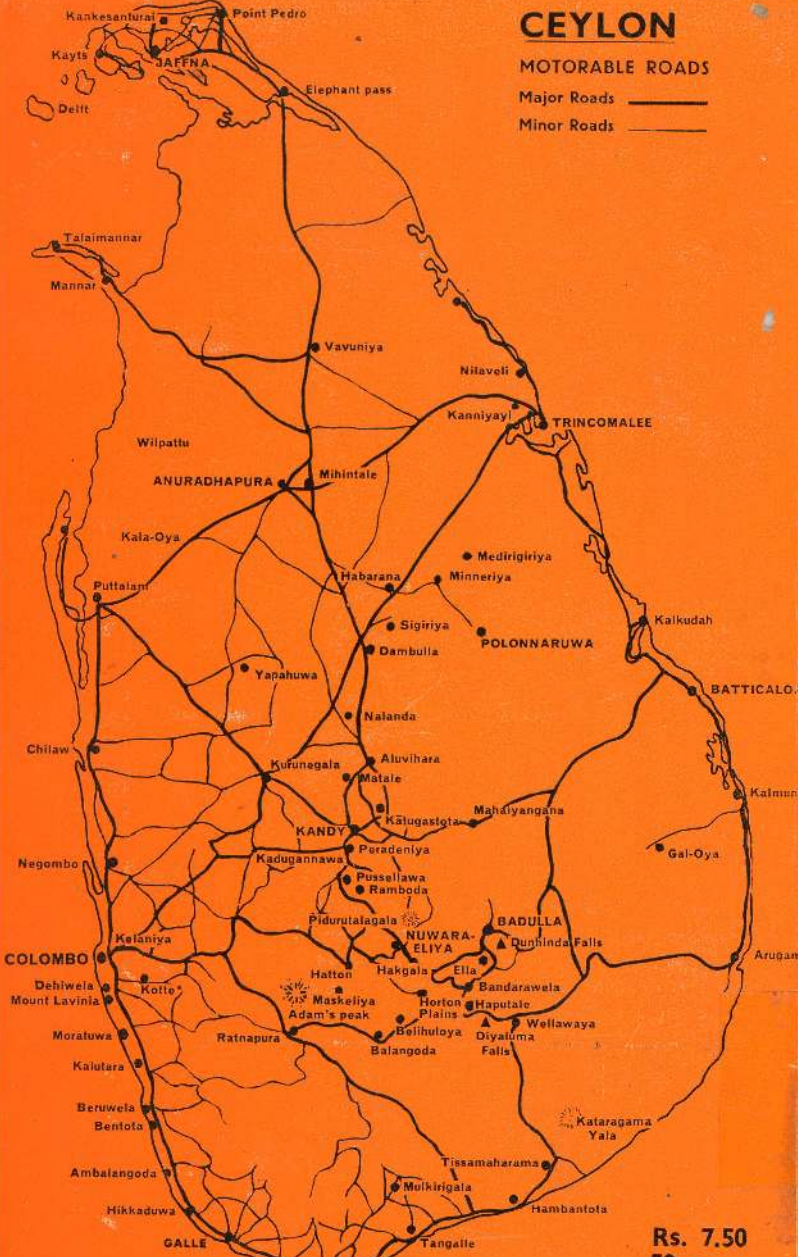
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