

# Beach Memories

07 Days/06 Nights

Golden beaches, washed by a foam-fringed aquamarine sea, encircle much of Sri Lanka's 1,340 km coastline. The flap and ruffle of small wavelets on the shoreline compete with the souging of the wind through the ubiquitous coconut palms and the boom of breakers on the reef which protects the island from the open seas beyond. Where beaches are concerned you will be spoiled for choice. No matter what time of the year, you can find a beach that is in season and just waiting to welcome you. Whether your ambition is to lounge on a beach, take a gentle dip in the ocean or indulge in one of the more energetic water sports like wind surfing, jet skiing, banana boating or scuba diving we have a choice of destinations to offer you among the well-established tourist destinations of the southern coast.

## Day 01

Our customer care team will meet and welcome you at Bandaranaike International Airport and will whisk you away to the small town of Bentota on the south west coast to relax and recover from your journey to "pearl island" Over Night Stays at Bentota ,

### **Bentota beach**

After a sumptuous breakfast you will have time to explore the town of Bentota and discover its amenities. The first foreigners to stumble upon this charming spot were the Arab merchant sailors who were frequent visitors to Sri Lanka over the centuries. The town has changed much since then and is now one of the best developed and most beautiful beach resorts in the country with star-class hotels, exclusive boutiques and myriads of restaurants, large and small, serving the freshest of sea foods at affordable prices. Bentota is a paradise of unlimited sun, sea and sand. Nestled in peaceful surroundings with lush tropical foliage bordering the coast, it has become an area not only for relaxed holidays, but for many activities such as windsurfing, water skiing and diving to explore the treasures of the underwater world.

The Bentota river adds another dimension allowing for cruises inland and yet more water sports. You will have an opportunity to experience all this during your stay, second night's stay at a hotel in this Town.

## Day 03

### **Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery**

We continue our journey to Kosgoda Beach, the home of the turtles and famous for its turtle hatchery operated by the Wild Life Protection Society of Sri Lanka. The hatchery was established in 1981 to save Sri Lanka's turtles from extinction. The hatchery pays fishermen for turtle eggs that they collect at night along the sandy beach. Visitors can see huge tanks filled with new born turtle

hatchlings feeding and swimming while they await their return to their native element – the sea. When they are between 2 and 4 days old the baby turtles are taken to the seashore and released, usually during the safer hours of darkness.

### **Ahungalla / Ambalangoda**

The afternoon will be spent at Ahungalla, a single long dream of a beach about 15 km south of Bentota whose pristine beauty has been carefully preserved. Ahungalla beach invites travellers to enjoy long walks along its fine sands and to enjoy the sea breezes singing softly through the palms that fringe the coast. Those interested in traditional medicine might wish to visit the Lotus Villa, one of the best Ayurveda resorts on this coast. Basket ware and handicrafts abound and can be bought from local street vendors. The area around Ahungalla, particularly the town of Ambalangoda, is famous for traditional hand carved masks made from light wood and painted with vegetable paints. Some of the more elaborate masks feature the fearsome faces with fanglike teeth and protruding tongues of devils and deities who play an important role in local folklore. The day's exploration ends in the historic port city of Galle where the tour will stop over night.

## **Day 04**

### **Galle**

Galle and the beautiful beach resort of Unawatana six kilometers away will be the focus of the fourth day of the tour. Another of Sri Lanka's World Heritage Sites, Galle is reputed to be the port of Tarshish to which King Solomon of biblical fame sent merchant ships to procure "gold, silver, ivory, apes and peacocks". The city boasts a magnificent Dutch fort which is its most popular attraction. Enjoy the Dutch atmosphere of the town which is still very much in evidence in and around the fort and its many historical streets, alleys and buildings even after 300 years. Join the local population in a leisurely stroll on the ramparts or visit the Old Dutch Government House, the Governor's House (now a hotel) and the Groote Kerk (Great Church) built in 1755 and still being used by worshippers. The descendants of Arab traders from the time of Sinbad also call Galle home and like King Solomon you can also buy from them the precious pearls and gems that have made Sri Lanka famous from time immemorial.

For all its architectural interest and charm Galle is one of the few spots on the south coast that does not have wide golden beaches but Unawatana just south of Galle was voted one of the top 12 beaches in the world and remains a favourite of visitors to the island. It has excellent diving, a relaxed atmosphere and a lively night life that appeals to the young at heart. Accommodation for the night will be in Galle.

## **Day 05**

### **Hikkaduwa Beach**

On our way back northwards we pause to refresh ourselves in Hikkaduwa which lies 98km from our final destination, Colombo. Hikkaduwa is one of the most famous beach resorts of the island and is

renowned for its diving, its surfing and its coral reefs which come within wading distance of the beach. Should you have the time, ride in a glass-bottomed boat and be introduced to the marine life of the area without getting your feet wet! We reach Colombo and your hotel in the city in the late evening.

## Day 06

### **Colombo-Business Hub**

Colombo, the commercial capital and the seat of Government of Sri Lanka has a population of around 1.1 million people and affords an attractive glimpse into the rich and diverse cultural tapestry of multi-ethnic Sri Lanka. Enjoy a city tour of busy, bustling Colombo. The Fort, in the very centre of the city, is where most of the colonial remnants, mainly from the British era are still to be found. Nearby Pettah is Colombo's busiest and most traditional bazaar, a mosaic of human activities and architectural memories, some of which date back to the Dutch era. It is also an ideal place for that last minute souvenir shopping and you can buy anything from sapphires to spices. Time permitting Colombo's museums offer

Beach Memories 07 Days/06 Nights a comprehensive collection of artefacts and art that span centuries and foster a better understanding of the island and its peoples. Spend the night at one of Colombo's world class hotels and take advantage of your final opportunity to enjoy the food of the country.

## Day-07

### **Departure**

After break fast, there will be a last meeting with our representatives and an opportunity to give us your feedback about the tour and your suggestions for our future growth. Depart on time for the Airport and your next destination taking with you fond memories of a idyllic week on the beaches of "Pearl Island".

## Package Includes

- \* Accommodation – sharing twin
- \* Meals on half board basis (breakfast & dinner)
- \* Air-conditioned private transport
- \* Multi-Lingual chauffer-guides
- \* Government tax and service charge

## Package Excludes

- \* Visas
- \* Insurance
- \* Optional tours and activities
- \* Flights
- \* Airport taxes
- \* Camera & Video permits at Cultural sights
- \* All expenses of personal nature
- \* Tips and porters fees

## Notes

1. Quote is subject to availability and price fluctuations prior to booking.
2. All drive times are approximate and are subject to change
3. All reservations subject to availability at time of booking
4. The standard check out time in Sri Lanka is 12 noon