

Useful Informations from A-Z (Version 2)

A **Airport Transfer:** This service is offered by the hotel at a fixed price.

Air conditioning: Rooms 1,3 on the ground floor and rooms 4-6 on the upper floor have air conditioning, optionally at an extra charge of LKR 1000.-/night. This covers the electricity costs. If desired please contact the boss.

ATM: See Cash machine.

B **Bathing:** The beach is gently sloping, no water holes known. There may be underwater currents, usually during the monsoon, and the swell is sometimes high. Usually the sea is calmer in the morning. In the front of the bay at the Shinagawa Hotel, it is a little more sheltered, and there is usually a lifeguard (lifeguard school) there. Even further behind the rocks there is a natural non-swimmer pool, surrounded by rocks. You should bring shoes for the path there (stones and glass splinters). Important: Please do not disturb the fishermen while net fishing and swim at a suitable distance. Help with pulling out the net is however welcome.

Bus stop to Colombo is just to the left at the front of Galle Road (bus shelter) as you walk along Rajawatta Road. The direction Galle is diagonally opposite on the right. Buses are stopped by hand signal. Attention: There are no more local buses in the evening and express buses often do not stop. During the Corona Pandemic the buses are not allowed to be used by tourists.

Breakfast is available from 7:30-10:30 a.m. in the cabana and/or garden. We offer a sumptuous continental breakfast, LKR 800.- per person, children less, for a small extra charge we also offer a special Sri Lanka breakfast.

C **Check-in** is from 1:00 pm, **check-out** is until 11:00 am. If you need an early check-in or late check-out please ask if it's possible. In any case you can stay on the premises before check-in or after check-out. We will keep the luggage for you. Soon contactless digital check-in and check-out will also be possible.

Cash machines (ATM): In Balapitiya the People's Bank, just before the bus station, but often there are problems with card acceptance. It works better at the Bank of Ceylon (BOC) in Ahungalla, left shortly before the gas station. There is also a pure vending machine on the right at the entrance of the village. More banks are located in Ambalangoda.

D **Dinner:** We are happy to prepare a dinner, for capacity reasons one for everyone. Please pre-order latest until 2 p.m., because we are shopping fresh.

Distance: During the Corona Pandemic, please keep a distance of 1.5m from other people who are not part of your household.

Doctor: The Asoka Medical Center can be reached on foot in 5 minutes. Opening time at about 4:30 p.m. More doctors can be find in Balapitiya, Ahungalla and Ambalangoda. Emergency telephone numbers are available at the reception.

Drinks hot and cold are available in our Cocobello Restaurant at moderate prices.

Dogs on the beach: Be careful, at least one of them is biting. In case of bite wounds the local hospital should be visited (prevention against rabies and a tetanus vaccination).

Door to the beach: The last one closes the door. If the door is locked, take the path to the right of the hotel grounds and ring the bell at the front gate.

Day trips: Can be organised through us.

E **Excursions:** Information is available from us, we can also organize excursions on request.

Electricity: The mains voltage is 230V alternating current, German sockets and a srilankan multi-socket are available. If you need an adapter, please contact the boss. Electricity is relatively expensive in Sri Lanka. We therefore ask you not to use electricity unnecessarily and to switch off the air conditioning, fans and lights when leaving the room. This also serves the environment.

F **Fraudsters** are everywhere in the world. Be careful not to get talked into anything. Often the prices are overpriced and the service is miserable. Ask us for the real prices if you are not sure. Some people claim to be related to us, or that they work for us. This is not the truth! Also, lies are used to lure guests to other hotels or restaurants because the guys get commission there.

Fruit shop is in Balapitiya. One of the 2 vegetable shops in the front of the street sometimes sells fruit, too. You can also order a fruit plate at the Cocobello.

G **Gate:** If you should stay away longer than 11 p.m. in the evening, please contact the hotel staff before. They will show you how to get in without any problems.

H **Hand washing soap:** There is a dispenser with antibacterial liquid soap in every bathroom and restaurant toilets.

H **Hospital:** The Balapitiya Hospital is located at the end of the village towards Ambalangoda. Emergency call for the ambulance: 1990.

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L **Lunch** is now also included in the program. Ask the (female) boss for details.

L **Laundry service** is offered for a fee (LKR 500.-per machine), please indicate the washing temperature, whether 30°C or 60°C.

M **Money exchange** from US\$ or € in LKR is also possible in the hotel. The exchange rate is about 2-3% below the bank rate. If you pass by in Aluthgama, it is recommended to exchange money at the money changer (Royal Pharmacy). Change the money yourself and do not send any locals you do not know well.

Minibar is available in the deluxe rooms. Can be stocked on request. For the other rooms a small refrigerator can be ordered for a fee, if available.

Madu River Boat Trip: Bookable through the hotel, incl. transfer via tuk-tuk, boat trip and visit of islands in the lake district, duration approx. 2 hours. A tour in the morning from 7 am is recommended.

Masks are mandatory during the Corona Pandemic. Anyone found in public without a mask will be put in quarantine for 2 weeks. Masks are available at the reception.

N **Nightlife:** the nest here is very sleepy, nightlife can be found in Hikkaduwa or in Bentota/Beruwala, both about 20km away. Easy to reach with the Tuk-Tuk.

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P **Pharmacy:** In Asoka Medical Center (see under Doctor), a better sorted pharmacy is located in Balapitiya.

P **Parking** on the hotel grounds is free of charge for guests. Please use only the signposted or assigned parking spaces and do not leave the paths.

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R **Relax,** our deck chairs are free of charge for guests. All guests can use the terrace at the front of the hotel wing or the balcony facing the beach.

R **Restaurants** in the area: Cocobello on the hotel grounds, western snacks, local dishes, wood oven pizza on advance booking. The Jungle Beach, on the beach 1,5km towards Ahungalla, Sunshine Restaurant and 2 more restaurants 500m further on, at the end of the beach, you can also eat at the Shinagawa Hotel on the left side, a bit more expensive. Nearby another restaurant has opened. In Balapitiya the Asian Restaurant is an address. Some local restaurants are also nearby, at the Galle Road. Directly at the Madu River there are several restaurants, where you can also eat well.

Road traffic: For strangers very much needs getting used to. Especially the long-distance buses drive very aggressively. Always keep an eye on the traffic and take care of your children.

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Shower: Behind the hotel tract (beach side) there is an outdoor shower where you can shower the sand after bathing. Please use it!

Shops: Smaller shops for daily needs are located at the front of Galle Road.

Sunbeds are free of charge for our guests. If you would like to take a sunbed to the beach, please contact the hotel staff, also if there seems not enough sunbeds and/or mats be available.

Supermarket: Food City Express and Lanka Sathosa are located in Balapitiya; Food City, Arpico Daily and others can be found in Ambalangoda. Now also a Food City Express in Ahungalla.

T **Tuk-Tuk:** The three-wheeled taxis can be found everywhere, the fare is a matter of negotiation except for a few vehicles equipped with taxi meters. They are suitable for short to medium distances. On request we will gladly call one for you. The Tuk-Tuk Park is located 600m from the hotel.

Towels: In the bathroom there is a notice about changing towels.

Turtle farm: Within walking distance. Direction Ahungalla, either from the beach or by road, behind the police station.

Trains: After walking and cycling, the train is the most economical way of getting around. Especially train rides through the highlands have their special charm. The mini train station Patagamgoda is only 700m away from the hotel. A bigger one is located in Balapitiya and Ambalangoda has the biggest one, all trains stop there. Please contact the hotel for current timetables. However, the trains are usually overcrowded. During the Corona pandemic no trains may be used by tourists.

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W Women should walk on the beach if possible with a male escort, otherwise they might get made stupid. However, no assaults are known.

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