

Discover the Pearl in the Indian Ocean

# Bawa Architecture Tours



Royal Holidays

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## **DAY 01**

Arrival to Sri Lanka around 05.40AM and transfer to Restaurant for Breakfast (07.00 - 08.00Am) after Breakfast transfer to Dambulla

01.30 Afternoon leave hotel to restaurant for Lunch

After Lunch proceed to Sigiriya , Visit Sigiriya Rock and thereafter transfer to Hotel - Dinner at hotel.

**Sigiriya Rock Fortress** - This is a world heritage site, built by king Kashyapa (473 - 491 A.D). The "lion rock" is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 meters from the scrub jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town. The base of the rock is ringed by a moat, rampart, and extensive gardens including the renowned water gardens. The world-renowned frescoes of the "heavenly maidens" of Sigiriya which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway is one of the main attractions. The frescoes are painted in earth pigments on plaster.

## **DAY 02**

After breakfast transfer to visit **Polonnaruwa city**:-

The Capital of Sri Lanka from 11th - 13th Century, contains some splendid and spectacular status. Lankatilake, Tivanka and Thuparama are the most beautiful and largest shrine ruins and Tivanka has the best example of frescoes of the Polonnaruwa period. Rankot Vihara and Kiriwehera are well preserved large stupas, and Gal Vihare - a rock shrine has four Buddha statues, two seated, one standing and one reclining and Parakramabahu statue are examples of Sinhalese stone carver. The Vata-da-ge is a unique creation of Sri Lankan artists.

Lunch at Local restaurant



En-route visit **Heritance Kandalama Hotel** :-



The Kandalama Hotel, designed by Geoffrey Bawa, was constructed between 1992 and 1995 on the outskirts of Dambulla, Sri Lanka. The Kandalama Hotel is considered one of Bawa's most important works as it showcases so clearly Bawa's talent for

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creating affective spatial sequences and architectural narrative. The hotel was intended to serve as a building from which to view the pristine landscape of the Kandalama basin, and thus the lightness of the architectural articulation is an appropriate and successful design strategy. The hotel also features innovative building technologies and systems designed to mitigate the environmental impact of the building's operation on the catchment of the nearby lake. The Kandalama Hotel is an excellent example of how tourist facilities can be integrated into an undeveloped landscape successfully, fostering appreciation for the natural beauty of the setting while minimizing negative environmental consequences.  
Return Back to Hotel - Dinner at hotel

### **DAY-03**

After Breakfast leave hotel at 08.00am to Bentota  
Lunch at local restaurant.

#### **Avani Bentota Hotel :- ( Serendib Hotel) 02.00 - 02.45 PM**

Designed by world-renowned architect Geoffrey Bawa, who took inspiration from an 18th century Dutch village to create this home-away-from-home. Located on one of the best beaches on the Southern Coast, this resort is an escape of laid back relaxation.



#### **Bentota Beach Hotel :- (03.00 - 03.45 PM)**

Constructed between 1967 and 1969, the Bentota Beach Hotel is one of architect Geoffrey Bawa's most important works. It is an iconic example of Bawa's architectural style during the 1960s, as well as the critical model for hotel design in tropical climates during the decades following its construction. The resort is notable in that it successfully caters to a predominantly foreign clientele, meeting specific expectations in terms of desired services and amenities, while still respecting and representing the local culture in which it is set.

#### **Club Bentota :- (04.00 - 04.45 PM)**

Club Bentota was built in 1982 by South African architect, John Drake. The teak and Palmyra fittings in classic southern Sri Lankan style, with stylized roof fringes, columns and roof beams all add to the buildings' unique character and ambiance. The red brick exterior, columns and herringbone patterned flooring transport you to a different era. Access to the upper floor are via a wooden gantry supported by a complex interlocking latticework of vertical and horizontal architectural lines; the wooden mesh work makes a profound artistic statement that alters your mood ostensibly. The extraordinary vaulted roof, with baked red clay tiles, completes the magical setting.

#### **Visit Blue Waters Hotel :- (05.45 - 06.30 PM)**

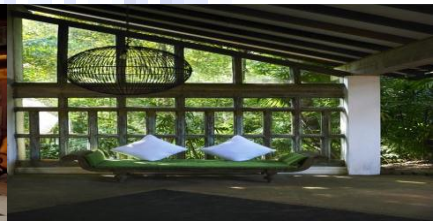
Although Bawa never did manage to build a hotel in the heart of Colombo, his last hotel was located at the southern edge of the metropolitan area at Wadduwa and was conceived as a vast urban palazzo. The developer was Ajit Wijesekera, a garment manufacturer who was new to the hotel business but hell bent on getting Geoffrey Bawa' as his architect. The site had little to commend it: a few hectares of coconut plantation stuck between a featureless stretch of beach and the coastal railway line in the dreary ribbon of suburban sprawl stretching down the coast from Moratuwa to Kalutara.

After that proceed to **Waskaduwa Hotel** (07.00 to 07.30pm)  
Overnight stay in Waskaduwa - Dinner at hotel

### **DAY 04**

After Breakfast leave at 08.00 AM

Visit **Lunuganga Garden** :- (09.00 - 11.00 AM)



Lunuganga Estate was the country home of the renowned Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa. Started in 1947, the garden led Bawa, a lawyer called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1940, to decide to become an architect. As he went on to become Sri Lanka's and one of Asia's most prolific and influential architects, the garden at the Lunuganga estate remained his first muse and experimental laboratory for new ideas. He continued to change and experiment with its spaces and structures throughout his life until his final illness in 1998. Left to the Lunuganga Trust on his demise in 2003, the gardens are now open to the public and the buildings on the estate are run as a country house hotel.

#### **Visit Heritance Ahungalla :- (12.00 - 12.45 PM)**

The Triton Hotel's (now Heritance Ahungalla) design, influenced by the shape of the site, is a visual treat. The long frontage gave Bawa the opportunity to dramatise the view of the sea that runs along the hotel site. The reception faces a swimming pool that appears to dissolve into the sea. This is because the lobby floor, the swimming pool, and the sea are all at the same level. All the other common spaces of the hotel are also designed as open pavilions with windows framing the sea. The vistas facilitate the illusion that the whole site is dominated by the sea.

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### Jetwing Light House Hotel :-(01.15 - 02.00)

The hotel is sited on a rocky promontory once occupied by a magistrates' circuit bungalow, and sits tightly between the main road and the sea about a mile to the north of Galle. The sea is inhospitable but the views are stunning. The main entrance and reception buildings of the hotel hug the southern tip of the ridge and offer views towards the Galle fort, the entrance and service points being housed within rubble retaining walls that enclose the lower slopes of the rock.

A massive porte cochère leads past the reception desk to a vertical drum enclosing the main stair, which spirals upwards to the upper terraces and restaurants. The staircase itself was designed by Bawa's old friend Laki Senanayake and is conceived as a swirling mass of Dutch and Sinhalese warriors re-enacting the Battle of Randeniya. The lounges and restaurants carry memories of old rest houses and planters' clubs, while the furnishing of the terraces and verandahs is solid and rugged to withstand the buffeting of the south-west monsoon. The first floor is finished in samara-coloured render and the upper floor is recessed behind a delicate colonnade. A three-storey range of hotel rooms runs along the edge of the shore northwards from the main reception areas, a parallel service block behind forming a tranquil courtyard of clipped grass and bare rock. A second range of hotel rooms steps back towards the road to create an open terrace with a bar and pool looking out to the ocean.



### Lunch at Galle

Proceed to Mirissa to visit Jayawardene House

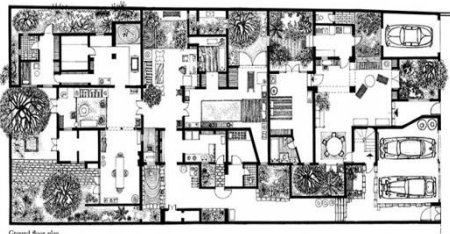


Overnight stay at Mirissa - Dinner at hotel

### DAY 05

After Breakfast leave hotel at 08.00am. Visit "Ruhunu University" in Matara 08.15 - 09.30am, After that proceed to Colombo. En-route visit Galle fort. (Optional)  
Lunch at local restaurant in Colombo (01.30 - 02.30 PM).

After Lunch Evening Visit No 11 BawaHouse , Colombo .



After that visit St. Thomas Collage and St .Bridget School.

Overnight stay at Colombo - Dinner at hotel

### DAY 06 -

After breakfast Colombo city tour including visit Parliament House, Hector Kobbakaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute & Seema malaka Temple and shopping.



Night proceed to Airport for departure flight.