



BEACHES

Mount Lavinia

Just 12 km. south of Colombo, Mount Lavinia is an immediate city suburb and the beach is one of the better known even in colonial times. It lies alongside a wind swept headland jutting into the waters of the Indian Ocean. The sand is the softest and the waves calm and clear. The Governor's House built in 1805 by Sir Thomas Maitland now forms part of the famous Mount Lavinia Hotel.

Negambo

A famous fishing village North of Colombo, with a Dutch built Canal. The canal itself is a hive of activity with fishermen traveling up and down in their gaily-painted boats. On the shores of the canal you will find many homes

and churches and many species of birds including spectacular Kingfishers.

Catamaran trips in the sea and boat trips in canal can be organized. From November to April, diving facilities are available in this quaint village. The streets on either side of the Hotels are dotted with Souvenir Shops, Restaurants etc.

Bentota

Is the first National Holiday Resort developed by the Ceylon Tourist Board as a Planned resort. There are 6 tourist hotels in the beach span of 5 miles with all the Facilities a resort would require. Water sports facilities are available as in the Bentota Resort. Many interesting sightseeing tours are possible from here, such as the Turtle Hatchery, Mask factory, Galle Fort, Mini Zoo, Garden brief Boat trips on Bentota River etc

Hikkaduwa

Is one of the famous beach resorts in the south coast of the Island.

The beautiful Coral Reef in shallow water, protected by a rock formation is an excellent place for viewing the coral, denizens of fantastically beautiful coral fish swimming among them attract many for snorkeling, divers and tourists interest in viewing them from the comforts of a glass-bottomed boat.

Bright batiks, masks, jewelry and other crafts are sold all along Hikkaduwa's Galle Road strip.

Surfers find the break at Hikkaduwa to their fancy.

For those who are more adventurous can go for diving to the Black Coral Gardens, beyond the Coral Reef in deep waters, only deep divers could see and admire or they could go for wreck diving to several ship wrecks close to

Hikkaduwa. Several hotels are providing facilities for Deep Sea fishing trips and there are several Diving Schools with "PADI" Dive Masters conducting classes.

