## Sri Lanka Tourist Attractions Mannar Nilavdi Wilportu National Park Anuradhapura # Minneriou · Kalpitiya · Portalan Numera Eliya # Beruwela Benuns Bundala National Park Sinharaja Harobannora \* DUDIAN OCEAN

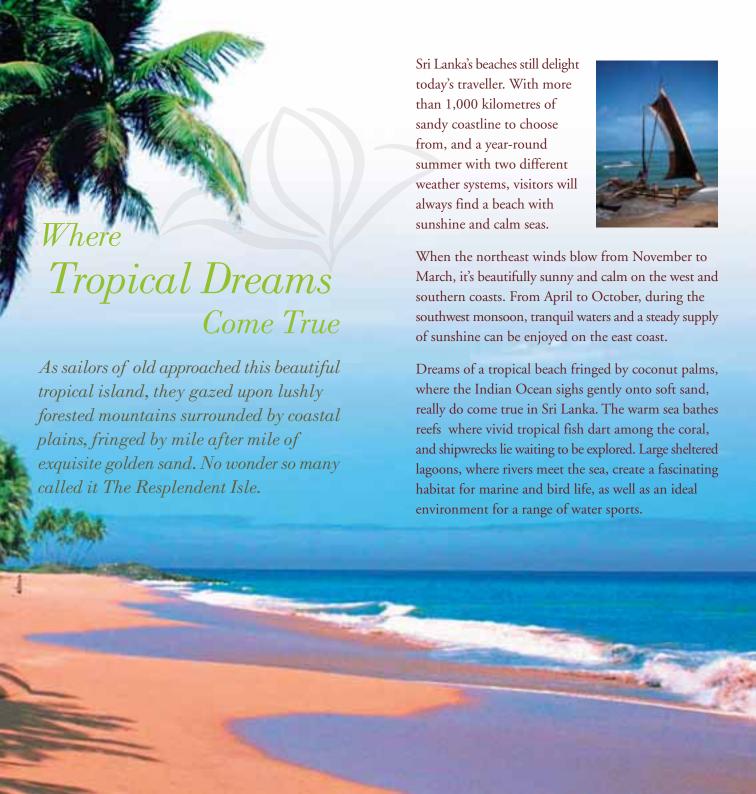
## Sri Lanka Tourism

80 Galle Road, Colombo 3, Sri Lanka Tel: +94 11 243 7059/60 Fax: +94 11 244 0001 E-mail: info@srilankatourism.org Website: www.srilankatourism.org



## SRI LANKA





Several west coast beaches can be found north of Colombo, conveniently close to the International Airport. These include Negombo (with its many long-established resorts), Waikkal, Seeduwa, Uswetakeiyawa and Marawila. This region includes an historic town with the remains of an ancient fort, lovely old Catholic churches,

Dutch-built canals, local fishermen in their outrigger canoes and tranquil lagoons.

Mt Lavinia, almost a suburb of Colombo, has a popular beach, while resorts further south of the capital can be found at Wadduwa and Beruwala. The beaches, restaurants and bars of Beruwala are separated from Bentota's prime beach resorts by the wide Bentota River.

South of Bentota, the largest number of beach resorts is found at Hikkaduwa, with others at Induruwa, Kosgoda and Ahungalla. *Coral reefs off* 

Hikkaduwa attract snorkellers and scuba divers, while several turtle hatcheries give visitors the chance to see efforts to conserve endangered sea turtles. There are a few coastal resorts close to historic Galle Fort (a UNESCO World Heritage Site of enormous charm), while further along the south coast, glorious beaches can be found at Unawatuna, Koggala, Weligama, Dikwella, Tangalle and Hambantota.

The pristine beaches of Sri Lanka's east coast are renowned for their soft white sand, enchanting bays and sleepy lagoons. The finest beaches north of Trincomalee (which has a fine natural harbour), include Nilaveli, Uppuveli, Kuchchaveli, Marble Bay, Deadman's Cove, Sober and Pigeon Islands.

To the south, the top east coast spots include Kalkudah and Pasekudah, with Arugam Bay – a 20 km strip of glorious beaches and bays – achieving almost legendary status among surfers, who come here between April and October.

Another area with some fine beaches is the Jaffna Peninsula in the far north. As well as Casuarina Beach and Manalkau, several nearby islands, inhabited only by wildlife and birds, beckon the adventurous sun lover.

