

Arugambay for a luxurious holiday.

A five-star boutique hotel in the sunny eastern coastal destination of Arugambay, Aprota Villas in Urani, Pottuvil is a luxurious green oasis that provides unique experiences ensuring complete privacy and relaxation.

**Words** Udeshi Amarasinghe | **Photographs** Menaka Aravinda



The distinctive Aprota Villas with the restaurant and bar set amidst tropical greenery.

Spread across an expanse of ten acres, Aprota Villas has maximized on the space and aesthetic beauty of the location. Aprota means new beginnings and thus a novel concept reflecting elegant luxury was introduced to this laid-back area. The entire property is designed in a manner so that the guests are taken on a journey from the moment of arrival. As Prasad Liyanaarachchi, Director, Aprota & Pabra explained “Arugambay is dry, sunny and warm but at Aprota Villas we wanted the guests to be amidst lush greenery. The design

while being Sri Lankan-inspired, reflects a more contemporary fusion style.” Aprota Villas has moved away from the conventional reception and guests are first received in the living room, which is surrounded by a beautiful garden adorned with tropical foliage. Once they are refreshed and relaxed they are taken to their rooms, where all luggage has already been placed. Check-in procedures are completed subsequently once the guest has settled in for their stay. The rooms consist of two categories; six chalets and four villas. The chalets consist of a spacious room, bathroom and deck while the villas are larger and include a sitting room and plunge pool in addition to the bedroom and bathroom. The VVIP villa has its own kitchenette, thereby providing ultimate privacy. The furnishings and aesthetics of the interiors are luxurious. Timber and subtle shades of blue and grey have been used extensively to provide respite from the bright sunlight and a cooling ambience within the rooms.

The use of timber has also enabled the hotel to conserve energy. All rooms have high ceilings, slide and fold floor to ceiling windows and AC. Amenities have been provided for comfort and all rooms have an HD curved TV with Netflix, complimentary mini bar and coffee machine with premium teas and coffees. The bathrooms are spacious with European branded fittings and have a copper-gold element with a beautiful mosaic design. From the balcony or deck of the chalets and villas, the view of the ocean as well as the swimming pools can be seen. Having been a coconut estate previously cutting of trees was minimized and the plants uprooted during construction were re-planted together with a variety of green foliage. Aprota Villa has beautiful expansive views of the ocean and the private helipad is located on the beach front itself. The swimming pool consists of three sections; main pool, children’s pool and bar pool. The design is such that there is a cooling blue surrounded by greenery, and the bar pool seamlessly flows into the main pool. Aprota Villas is unique in style and design reflecting Sri Lankan contemporary and fusion architecture. The roof of the main structure is in two sections depicting the restaurant on one side and the bar on the other. The restaurant opens out to the balcony with large floor level sliding windows. Guests can observe the action in the open kitchen while enjoying the scrumptious cuisine that has been specially curated according to their preferences. Each guest is served individually where Aprota Villas has moved away from the buffet style of dining. “We mainly serve Pan-Asian and contemporary Sri Lankan cuisine. Our dishes are refined and unique in terms of the various combinations and preparations”, explained Prasad Liyanaarachchi. Aprota Villas aspires to showcase the hotel and Arugambay as a complete experience drawing on the fact that this beachside destination has activities all year round. “Surfing is just one activity, but in terms of wildlife, we have Kumana, Lahugala and Gal Oya. This area has many historical, cultural and religious sites to visit. The Urani Lagoon too provides a unique experience. Guests can also visit Passikudah, Ella, Kandy, Polonaruwa, and down

south, thus completing their tour. We provide a shuttle service to Whisky Point, and being only ten minutes away from Arugambay, Aprota Villas is a quiet and peaceful place to stay. We want to raise the profile of Arugambay by offering a luxury property, that is our ultimate aim,” stated Prasad Liyanaarachchi as the sun receded into the Eastern sky with views of the ocean and Whisky Point in the near distance.

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All chalets and villas have private entrances and vehicle access.





Spacious villas provide modern amenities for a luxurious stay.



Guests are first received in the living room.



Sri Lankan breakfast, a selection of favourites



Wood Apple mousse, a sweet delicacy.





The restaurant serves Pan-Asian and contemporary Sri Lankan cuisine



Prasad Liyanaarachchi, Director, Aprota & Pabra.



The pool comprises three sections - main, children's and bar pool with the helipad beyond.