



Sun beds and loungers ideal for sun bathing (Photograph: Vishwathan Tharmagulasingam)

A holiday haven tucked away amongst the beaches of Mirissa

Words Nadhwa Mohamed

The newest hotel from Casa Colombo Collection is, quite simply, a stunner. The magic begins the moment you arrive, your gaze drawn between ornate wooden doors, along a pebbled pathway and straight through the hotel's impressive glass façade to the pristine beach beyond.

The interiors are pretty special too, dreamt up by forward-thinking Casa Colombo Collection founder and chairman Lalin Jinasena. The main lobby area is decked out with plush seats, quirky objets d'art, striking colours and dramatic patterns. A shelf stacked with books and magazines gives the place a homely feel, and plants and seashells bring the outdoors into this otherwise sleek and modern space.

The chairman's eye for design extends onto the beach too, where stylish chairs, loungers, day beds and umbrellas are dotted across the creamy coloured sand and around the beachside swimming pool.

The Mirissa boasts six spacious suites, four in the main building and two in the annex. Each has its own unique design, with leather and dark wood furnishings standing out against clean, cool, whitewashed walls. State of the art amenities in all six suites include HD flat screen TVs and air conditioning, while the Master Suite has its own private outdoor pool and the Beach Balcony suites have large balconies with their own day beds.

As at all Casa Colombo Collection properties, service is key. Personal butlers are at guests' disposal, no matter how big or small the request. In-suite dining, for example, is available 24 hours a day. Airport transfers, tours and excursions to beautiful destinations like Yala National Park and Galle city are easily arranged, and staff are more than happy to accompany guests to make sure their every request is granted.

Casa Colombo Collection Mirissa also owns a yacht that's just perfect for whale and dolphin watching, sunset cruises, and private dinners. What's more, guests can avail themselves of snorkeling gear and body boards, swim with turtles, and explore the area on quad bikes, scooters or bicycles. More adventurous water sports are available too - all guests need to do is ask.

When it comes to relaxation, the Casa Colombo Collection Mirissa goes above and beyond, thanks to the talented Balinese massage therapists of the Rishi Spa. Providing in-room treatments with a wide array of herbal products, they help to round off a perfect day of swimming, sunbathing, sailing and more.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served at Miris, the hotel's beachside terrace restaurant. Intimate, candlelit tables, the sight and sound of the sea just a few metres away, and gourmet seafood dishes inspired by local and international flavours make a meal at Miris a unique culinary experience.

With friendly and keen staff members, modern facilities, delicious food, mesmerizing scenes and a salty ocean breeze, what more could you ask for?

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