Mandara Resort – Mirissa

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A view of heaven on earth from your room

Pampered to perfection by the elements, Mandara sits against palm fringed waters of the Indian Ocean. Her guests are spellbound by her opulence, the minute she welcomes their arrival into the alluring warmth of her embrace. Once they cross her threshold, they are to taste a true paradise. For them, life will never again be the same… even the most discerning.

Words Sonali Kadurugamuwa **Photographs** Damith Wickramasinghe

A boutique hotel haven of unlimited comforts, Mandara Resort is nothing short of picturesque, both inside and out. Located beside Polathumodara river on one end and Mirissa Bay and the infamous Red Cliff, on the other, the views from each and every one of the 20 rooms is as magnificent as it may ever get. From superior rooms featuring their own, private little garden and plunge pool to the deluxe with two separate queen beds and a Jacuzzi you can't get enough of, especially if you're honeymooning, you've come to the right place.

Mirissa's waters are known for some of the most bountiful seafood that comprise a variety of fruits from the sea

Dine wherever you please. Whether you fancy a romantic meal by the sea, a fun family feast by the hotel's one of a kind swimming pool with fibre optic lighting, or a simple eat-in while you relax in your room, the choice is yours. Nevertheless, the hotel restaurant and bar too is set to enhance your dining experience. Fresh catches, daily from the ocean to your plate, Mirissa's waters are known for some of the most bountiful seafood that comprise a variety of fruits from the sea. Mandara Resort caters generously, working together with the surrounding villages' fisher folk and vendors to bring you mouthwatering cuisines made from the freshest of produce. "We have a mutual understanding with the villagers about the standard of quality we provide for our guests," says Manoj Alwis, Manager, Mandara Resort.

1 Whale watching season is from November to April while surfing season starts in April and runs through to July
2 Mandara Resort is expanding! Upcoming changes include, an additional 14 rooms, a banquet hall for up to 250 guests and a new and improved spa
3 You can party the night away at Mandara Resort's little beach hut that can be booked for private occasions

Safaris and excursions are not too far away, for the thrill seekers and nature lovers. Boat rides down Polathumodara river may have you in wonderment of the

surrounding flora and fauna. Whale watching adventures organised by Mandara Resort and Mirissa Harbour, even a spot of surfing are all part of a diverse number of seasonal leisure activities to participate in. Meanwhile, the Matara Fort is just a few kilometres from Mirissa and Yala National Park, not more than three hours away for those who would like to venture farther down south. Alternatively, beach volleyball, badminton, sea fishing and bathing, turtle watching, a fully-equipped fitness centre, spa, and even a little souvenir shop are housed in and around the hotel vicinity for guests who'd prefer to stay close to home.

The lush space nestled in a quiet coconut grove on the Mirissa shore, the ambience, the eloquent amenities and the echoing sounds of the Indian Ocean are bound to beckon you and your loved ones to come back for more… and more.

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