

Sofia Colombo becomes Sri Lanka's First GSTC-Certified Hotel

Posted on

Sofia Colombo sets a new benchmark as Sri Lanka's first GSTC-certified city hotel, embracing sustainability to drive responsible tourism and long-term growth.



Sugath Illangakoon, General Manager of Sofia Colombo City Hotel (right), in discussion with industry professionals.

Sofia Colombo, a prominent hotel in Colombo, has achieved GSTC (Global Sustainable Tourism Council) accreditation, becoming the first establishment of its kind in the country.

GSTC certification helps Sofia Colombo align with sustainability standards that encompass environmental, social responsibility, and economic viability. Control

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Union certification, an entity accredited by the GSTC since 2016, conducts audits and certifications of hotels and tour operators directly against the GSTC sustainability standards. Control Union has certified Sofia Colombo for this achievement, marking it as the inaugural hotel in Sri Lanka to attain this milestone.

Incorporating sustainability initiatives will increase Sofia Colombo's long-term commercial potential, particularly given our hotel's reputation, which sets us apart from the competition.



From center to right: Sugath Illangakoon, GM, Sofia Hotel Colombo with Roshan Ranawake, MD, Control Union Inspections; Oshadha Kumarasiri, Head of commercial team, Control Union; Kavindu Bandara, Commercial lead, Control Union; Kasun Vithanage, Manager/Lead auditor - Sustainable tourism, Control Union; and Garan Dharmasena, Commercial lead, Control Union.

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Sugath Illangakoon, GM, Sofia Hotel Colombo (right) with Chinthana Duminduhewa, Founding Chairman, Sustainable Tourism Initiatives (left).

Understanding the necessity as a responsible tourist city hotel and recognizing the industry's future demand, the hotel management took this initiative and eagerly executed plans to move forward. Many nations, particularly the EU, require hotels to follow sustainable standards, and they will prioritize sustainable-certified hotels from 2027 onwards, for their business. Sofia Colombo has established explicit objectives and fostered an organizational culture within the hotel.

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GSTC Certified, reflecting a commitment to global sustainability standards.

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Sofia Colombo City Hotel achieves GSTC Certification for sustainable tourism.