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Margarita Blue at the Hotel Galadari is lively at night

Margarita Blue at the Hotel Galadari sways to the pulsating tunes of retro hits. It is a great place in the city to unwind and dance the night away.

Words Keshini de Silva **Photographs** Vishwathan Tharmakulasingham

Shades of transfixing neon blue radiates from the pub, as the atmosphere vibrates with toe-tapping retro beats. Walking into the Margarita Blue on any day from Tuesday to Sunday after sunset, the ambiance is perfect especially for lively rejuvenation. Popular bands and singers entertain with hits from the Swinging '60s to dance tunes of the new millennium. On weekends, just after midnight, the band might even perform baila renditions and popular roaring '70s tunes to which the crowd will sing-along.

Be entertained as award-winning mixologists serve guests beverages with an enactment of their acrobatic skills. They are fast, agile and will rarely miss the mark in terms of flavour. The beautiful 'Blue Margarita', the bar's namesake cocktail glows temptingly in azure. Indeed, Margarita Blue also has a deliciously diverse food menu to complement its spirited selection of beverages. To satisfy a hearty appetite, diners can order their pub-favourites such as the Caribbean Jerk Chicken or even tasty Arabic, Indian and Iranian food.

For large groups of friends, the seating by the windows overlooking a unique view of the bustling Colombo city is ideal. As the night progresses, there is ample room for everyone to dance or sway to the tunes.

Margarita Blue is open from 4pm. Thus, the early birds who visit before dark can enjoy a laidback setting. One can sit inside to wait for the nocturnal action to begin or relish an al fresco experience at the terrace at dusk. Enjoy undisturbed views of the peachy hues of the setting sun reflecting on the colonial edifices as well as modern high rise buildings.

Margarita Blue has over the years gathered a loyal clientele due to the exciting experiences offered. Special theme nights such as the popular Costume Parties for Halloween are organised based on the festivities of the month accordingly. Live sport is screened all night long, especially must-watch cricket and football matches, tennis Grand Slams and rugby encounters. Together the crowd cheer the wins and groan at the near misses.

Whether you are a traveller just visiting the city or after work in want of a great time,

Margarita Blue is a lively place to unwind and 'get your groove on'!

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