

Thompukandam for a soothing getaway



Thompukandam set amidst verdant views

Shading my eyes against the glare of the sun I let my gaze wander over the countless paddy fields that stretched as far as the eye could see. It was early morning and the surroundings were already abuzz with activity. The Thompukandam Village Resort set amidst all this, serenely merged and reflected the way of life at Nanthavur, Ampara.

Words Krishani Peiris **Photographs** Indika De Silva

Originally meant as quarters for employees at the bio energy solution power plant located nearby, Thompukandam has become a comfortable setting that is ideal for discerning travellers to the East coast. Situated halfway between the renowned attractions of Arugam Bay and Passekudah, and within reach of Lahugala and historical sites, Thompukandam offers a space where guests can enjoy a peaceful vacation, as well as a base for exploration.

Built with stone to lend a cooling effect and with wide open spaces, the main building houses the lobby, restaurant and the conference and banquet halls that double as a fine dining restaurant. Infusing earthy tones along with greenery, the interior and the furniture reveal a motif that goes hand in hand with the natural environment and with the paddy cultivation that surrounds the hotel.

When it comes to the cuisine at Thompukandam, the menu offers a wide range of options spanning Western, Eastern, local and Italian. Especially prepared sea food dishes and recipes that draw inspiration from the locality have been introduced to impart a distinctive gastronomical journey to visitors.

The pool, situated overlooking the paddy fields, is bound to be a favourite among guests at Thompukandam due to the vistas and the refreshing feel from luxuriating in the cooling depths to escape from the warmth of the sun. A small canal winds its way along the periphery of the hotel where, depending on the season, the hotel arranges boat rides.

Equipped with six deluxe rooms and four suites, each section accommodated in two separate buildings, every room is decorated with gentle hues and adornments while providing a range of facilities. The four suites named Vakkathveen, Allimoolan, Singathoppu, and Mattiuppalei matching the names of the neighbouring verdant paddy fields—are spacious and afford a secluded and relaxing getaway.

For travellers who wish to explore the area and the destinations that the area has to offer, the hotel will arrange safaris and tours. Guests can also indulge in leisurely strolls to the beach located close by, or take a tour around the village to experience true Sri Lankan hospitality and discover a way of life that vastly differs from that of city dwellers, being interconnected with paddy cultivation.

The staff at Thompukandam work attentively to ensure that all the needs of guests are met, while striving to find ways to make their stay more memorable. Preparing special outings such as arranging a special lunch by the paddy fields is done to provide a distinctive experience. Whether you are in the comforting space of your room, by the pool or enjoying a scrumptious meal, Thompukandam extends a delightful sojourn that is truly one of a kind.

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