

TINTAGEL: Fit for A King



Ease into a few quiet moments at the library

Upon entering the premises this boutique hotel instantly commands an aura of prestige and privacy. Within its tastefully furnished setting, guests can avail of a chic character that pervades down to the finest detail.

Words Prasadini Nanayakkara **Photographs** Menaka Aravinda and Indika De Silva

Retreating behind the high walls, Tintagel lends itself to the discerning traveller seeking comfort, seclusion and exclusivity. Built in 1930, Tintagel has established itself as a boutique hotel in the heart of the city in Rosmead Place since opening its doors in 2007. Embodied by an architecture that bespeaks conscientious preservation, the colonial style building takes on a palatial air outfitted with modern amenities and plush comforts.

The signature style of Tintagel can be attributed to its proprietor and designer, Shanth Fernando who has ensured that the boutique hotel delivers the finest to its guests. The interior is thus embellished with an eclectic flair where antiquity

and modernity strike a complementing balance. French baccarat chandeliers, feather down mattresses from Singapore, carpets made in Nepal, plush sofas from Spain, walls adorned with mirrors from Paris and much more collectively present refinery with an edge. This is aside from the contemporary art from renowned artists, both local and international, that add to the aesthetics of the interior.

The hotel accommodates ten suites with high ceilings and timber floors, geared towards lavish comforts. Guests can enjoy an elevated sense of privacy as the spacious suites include a private courtyard and balcony and a living room in case of the Superior Suites.

While rooms are available at a bed and breakfast basis, guests can order meals at the dining room where Tintagel's discerning taste extends to the cuisine. Be it authentic Sri Lankan or Italian, the word in the kitchen is fusion. For a breath of fresh air and sedate atmosphere guests can also find their indulgence at the alfresco restaurant that sprawls across the courtyard. While the forecourt around the fountain lends itself for outdoor functions, a private dining room caters to more private and formal functions of up to 30 guests.

To complete a stay at Tintagel, guests can also avail of the gym, massages and a steam room for a few well spent hours of leisure and recreation. Well within Tintagel's premises is an indoor narrow lap pool with an atmosphere that seems to be suspended in time. The life-size figure sculptures that overlook the pool only add to the charm.

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With no comforts or amenities to spare, connectivity is at your fingertips with wifi available throughout the premises free of charge. It is no doubt that Tintagel has taken many strides to ensure that guests are made to feel completely at ease, as though in the privacy of their own homes. “We lay much focus on the finer details, as that is what gives the desired atmosphere for a boutique hotel,” says Shanth Fernando adding that, “Tintagel is for the discerning guest, and there are those who keep coming back here each time they visit.” Incidentally, Tintagel has seen its fair share of VVIP guests including Middle Eastern princesses, famous designers, Bollywood stars and Head of Hyatt International, Thomas Pritzker. A

comment book that lauds Tintagel for the unique experience it offers guests, is an attest to the hotel's success and it is the word of mouth that propels Tintagel's repute, locally and internationally.

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"There is a saying that goes 'You cannot hang a building on a wall like a painting. You have to find use for it' and that is what I keep doing," says the creator of Tintagel in transforming an old colonial building to a much sought-after and chic boutique hotel within the bustling city limits. And it is a versatility in delivering the best in quality, and privacy assured at all times that have set Tintagel apart as one of the choicest in the city. You could even say that it is fit for royalty.

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