

Among the Misty Hills of Ceylon...

Dilmah has built a reputation for absolute quality and now absolute luxury...



Popping on the kettle is elevated to an art form in Sri Lanka, where tea-lovers should visit the green highlands of central Bogawantalawa Valley, home of the Ceylon Tea Trails Resort.

Four former colonial tea planters' bungalows set among lush Ceylon tea estates, have been infused with a new

and decidedly gourmet vibe. Each villa, built between 1890 and 1939, offers a taste of colonial living thanks to butlers, authentic period furnishings and updated variations on British cuisine. Castlereagh and Summerville bungalows have lakefront positions, while Norwood has the best pool, with panoramic views. Tientsin is the most traditional colonial.

Owned and operated by the Dilmah tea company, the resort will teach you everything you need to know about the perfect brew. Guests are absorbed

into life on a working tea estate, albeit while revelling in five-star luxury. Since opening in 2005, Tea Trails has garnered praise from around the world as the best boutique experience in Sri Lanka.

Scenic walking trails link the properties, offering views in all directions. Take excursions through the tea fields, in the footsteps of the Old Ceylon tea planters, watch the leaves make their way down to the factory and taste the day's production of Broken Orange Pekoe with the resident tea planter. Other activities include

mountain biking, trekking and white-water rafting.

Tea Trails has been selected for the coveted Conde Nast Traveler Hot List and Luxury Travel Magazine's list of Top 10 Hotels in the World for Tea Lovers.

www.teatrails.com

Extracts from
guest comments on
www.tripadvisor.com

"Unforgettable! We stayed at the beautiful Castlereagh Bungalow overlooking the Castlereagh reservoir. The view was magnificent at anytime of the day. Staff were very attentive and the service was faultless. Entire bungalow and the suite we stayed were very comfortable and well appointed. Food was superb and we were consulted in advance by the chef personally regarding each meal and the menu was done according to our wishes. What else can you wish for? This little gem is the best kept secret in Sri Lanka. We highly recommend it."

"Faultless! I was so impressed with the superb service so polished, impeccable. The meet and greet given by our butler at Norwood was the stuff of dreams, great to see! So many high end properties attempt this but rarely can carry it off. The rooms are immaculate, linens whiter than white."

"Simply the best! All meals are discussed individually with the chef and local produce is used. We were lucky enough to have the services of a young chef who took our breath away with the creativity and quality of the food he prepared for us. My husband and I would rate him as Michelin star standard and that is not exaggerating. This is all the more incredible as he speaks no English and has never left the island. Visit and enjoy Tientsin soon – the best in Sri Lanka. We really do hesitate to recommend it too highly in case it changes."

