

# Colombo

## Holiday Destination



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Colombo (/kəlʴmboʴ/; Sinhala: කොළඹ, romanized: Kolamba, pronunciation [ˈkəlʴmbə]; Tamil: கொழும்பு, romanized: Ko<sup>ʴ</sup>umpu, Tamil pronunciation: [ko<sup>ʴ</sup>umbu]) is the commercial capital and largest city of Sri Lanka by population. According to the Brookings Institution, Colombo metropolitan area has a population of 5.6 million, and 752,993 in the city proper. It is the financial centre of the island and a tourist destination. It is located on the west coast of the island and adjacent to the Greater Colombo area which includes Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, the legislative capital of Sri Lanka and Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia. Colombo is often referred to as the capital since Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte is within the urban area of, and a suburb of, Colombo. It is also the administrative capital of the Western Province and the district capital of Colombo District. Colombo is a busy and vibrant place with a mixture of modern life and colonial buildings and ruins.

Due to its large harbour and its strategic position along the East–West sea trade routes, Colombo was known to ancient traders 2,000 years ago.<sup>[citation needed]</sup> It was made the capital of the island when Sri Lanka was ceded to the British Empire in 1815, and its status as capital was retained when the nation became independent in 1948. In 1978, when administrative functions were moved to Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Colombo was designated as the commercial capital of Sri Lanka.

Like many cities, Colombo's urban area extends well beyond the boundaries of a single local authority, encompassing other municipal and urban councils such as Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte Municipal Council,

Dehiwala Mount Lavinia Municipal Council, Kolonnawa Urban Council, Kaduwela Municipal Council and Kotikawatte Mulleriyawa Pradeshiya Sabha.[citation needed] The main city is home to a majority of Sri Lanka's corporate offices, restaurants and entertainment venues. Famous landmarks in Colombo include Galle Face Green, Viharamahadevi Park, Beira Lake, Colombo Racecourse, Planetarium, University of Colombo, Mount Lavinia beach, Dehiwala Zoological Garden, Nelum Pokuna Theatre, Colombo Lotus Tower as well as the National Museum.

## Top Destinations

### Colombo



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### Bolgoda



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### Mount Lavinia



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## Things To Do

### Gambling in Colombo



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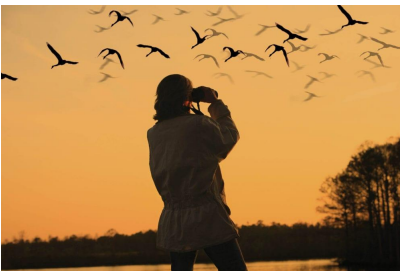
### Adventure Sports at Mount Lavinia



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### Bird Watching at Bolgoda



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## Adventure Sports in Colombo



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## Lake fishing at Bolgoda



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## Shopping in Colombo

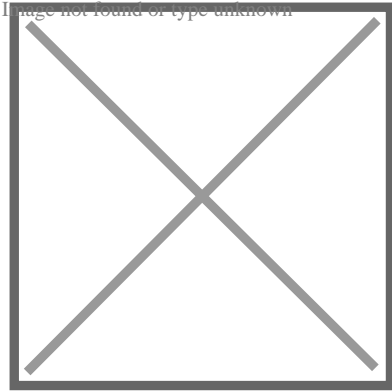


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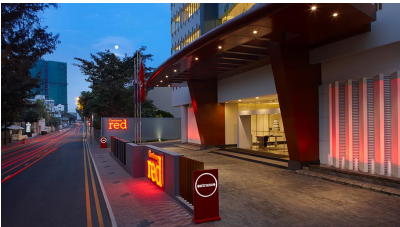
## Hotels

## Shangrila Colombo - Colombo



A personal tropical sanctuary that is perfect for escaping the city, Shangri-La Colombo overlooks the Indian Ocean in the heart of the business district with direct access to the most extensive international shopping mall in Sri Lanka, Shangri-La's own One Galle Face Mall. The hotel offers the finest accommodation in Colombo, an exciting new dining and social scene and the largest and extensive hotel conference and event facilities.

## Cinnamon Red - Colombo



Welcome to Cinnamon Red Colombo, where 21st-century technology and artistic contemporary décor integrate seamlessly. The art-infused car park, together with express check-in will set the stage for a unique stay in Colombo. Retreat to your comfortable room with modern amenities in the first lean luxury hotel in South Asia with a rooftop bar and infinity pool. Stay with us at Cinnamon Red Colombo, and experience the height of leisure with a stay in the city. Book your stay now.

## Marino Colombo - Colombo



Marino Beach Colombo has an outdoor swimming pool, fitness centre, a garden and terrace in Colombo. Among the facilities of this property are a restaurant, room service and a 24-hour front desk, along with free WiFi throughout the property. The accommodation features an ATM, a concierge service and currency exchange for guests.

The hotel will provide guests with air-conditioned rooms offering a desk, a kettle, a minibar, a safety deposit box, a flat-screen TV, a balcony and a private bathroom with a bidet. At Marino Beach Colombo rooms are equipped with bed linen and towels.