

Owl and the Pussycat, near Galle



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KEY FACTS

Opened in 2016, Owl and the Pussycat is Sri Lanka's newest boutique hotel, offering guests a luxury long-haul hideaway, located in the southern coastal town of Thalpe, just a short tuk-tuk ride from the historic Galle Fort.

Owners Reita Gadkari and Shane Thantirimudalige have created a hotel that offers sophistication with a lively seaside atmosphere and access to an unparalleled authentic Sri Lankan experience. Painted in deep pastels and vibrant bohemian hues, the property is designed by New York architect Uday Dhar.

The hotel's furniture, colourful textiles and artwork are

hand-made by 20 artists from all over the world, including local artisans. The property boasts generously-sized rooms and suites with views of the Indian Ocean, the terrace restaurant – Runcible Spoon – offers traditional Sri Lankan cuisine with Mediterranean accents, a bar and cafe, relaxed beach shack and a beautiful swimming pool.

Outside guests are welcome to use the facilities, ensuring a sociable and relaxed local atmosphere. Together with its jazz band and selection of musicians playing at the weekend, and its local learning programme and and philanthropic heart, this hotspot is inspired by local influences, whilst still promising sophistication and style.

LOCATION AND ACCESS

Bandaranaike International Airport: 159 km / 2 hr 15 min

Galle Fort: 7 km

ACCOMMODATION

16 uniquely-designed rooms and suites (from 25 - 100 sq.m), 8 with open-plan kitchens (suites), en-suite bathrooms and some with private terraces and balconies Rate from \$240 (approx. £159) per room per night

FACILITIES

Restaurant serving the finest local ingredients and dishes: The Runcible Spoon Bar and cafe beach shack

Swimming pool with sun loungers Massage and yoga available on request in Owl and the Pussycat's own Shala

Personal grocery deliveries can be organised on request (particularly useful for those staying in rooms with cooking facilities) Activities on offer include swimming with turtles, learning to fish with local stilt fishermen, shopping in local Galle boutiques, sailing, cycling, hiking, diving, surfing, local food market visits & cookery classes with the Head Chef, whale-watching

WiFi throughout

The hotel is named after Edward Lear's quirky poem.

Owner Reita Gadkari, originally from Northern India, has spent over 23 years developing property and interiors around the world in New York, London, Mumbai and Italy.

Katy McCann, Founder of Suite DNA, consulted on the development of the hotel.

Within 3 minutes inland from the hotel there are Buddhist temples, jungles, small Sri Lankan villages and paddy fields to discover.

Reita will have an Owl and the Pussycat workshop in the future, her own philanthropy programme supporting local Sri Lankan artisans and craftsmen. The hotel also supports a local orphanage by presenting the children's handmade owl and pussycat dolls in the hotel rooms at turn down. These are also sold in the hotel shop and all proceeds are given straight back to the orphanage. Reita travels the world, spanning India, Italy, New York and Argentina and has flown in local artists from Turkey to Sri Lanka to fill the property with colourful works of the finest craftsmanship.

Owl and the Pussycat has its own clothing brand called OTP, named after the hotel. Kaftans, other summer clothing and jewellery are available in their shop on site.

The wildlife at Yala National Park, the second largest national park in Sri Lanka, is located 1 hr 30 min away.

The hotel is ideally situated for blue whale watching trips off the southern coast from December to April, including sightings of dolphins and sperm whales.

The day after the hotel was named the 'Owl and the Pussycat', a cat moved into the building site and has remained there since.



Balcony



Runcible Spoon





Entrance



Guest Room





Lounge





Guest Room

Swimming Pool





Fresh Spices

Sunset over the Water

