

Start your walk around **Galle**Fort at the beautiful 18thcentury Amangalla hotel. Its
shining teak floors, grand
verandah and fragrant white
tea will cast a spell.



Try a tour of Tangalle village and the Mulkirigala cave temple. Just a drive away are three national parks, a turtle sanctuary and Mirissa harbour for



## **DAY TRIP**

A short drive away, Galle has a Pondicherrymeets-Goa vibe



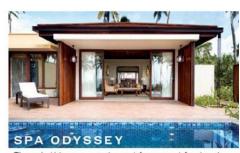


Drop into Stick No Bills, a poster shop that sells vintage prints and postcards describing Sri Lanka ('Ceylon') as something of a paradise (which, let's face it, it is).

Stop at the scattered jewellery shops and boutiques (don't miss Mimimango, Barefoot and Salt) for easy resort pieces. Finish with a divine scoop of yoghurt from Pedlar's Inn Gelateria.



Anantara Tangalle is proud of its curated private dining — for good reason. You can have a romantic table set up on a cliff top, by the water's edge or in the forest. A sudden bout of rain forced us indoors, but the super-fresh seafood and non-stop wine made up for that. I love the idea of packing a gourmet picnic basket and heading to the tea estate on a cool day. Hot tip: Their restaurant, Il Mare, has the best tiramisu ever.



here's something about the air in Sri Lanka that

soaks right into your body, making your muscles

with its private sands, curated food experiences and ocean-

spray views, might make it very difficult to leave. The resort

is about a three-hour drive from Colombo airport (good for a

snooze), or a 40-minute seaplane ride to Dickwella. The 21acre coconut plantation gives you plenty of space to yourself.

involuntarily relax, your city-hardened face soften.

And the almost-new Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle,

The only thing you need, apart from great food and a sunny beach? Massages that go on forever. The Anantara spa is entirely luxurious, with a range of standout Ayurvedic therapies — try the pinda swedana, in which hot herbal poultices are swept over your body to soothe muscles, leaving you with a deep sense of warmth and calm. I finished off with a heavenly outdoor rain shower, the sun on my back.

— AISHWARYA SUBRAMANYAM

