

P&C PORTS OF CALL Colombo



COLOMBO, ALTHOUGH A BUSY AND THRIVING City and Capital of the Dominion of Ceylon, is, nevertheless, a place of tropical foliage and of flowers. The centre of the town, which you first see from the

Landing Stage, is perhaps typical of any modern city, but you will not be long in discovering the real Colombo in the Pettah, where are the bazaars typical of the Orient.

York Street is the main thoroughfare, and in this district are the chief shops and business offices. This area is known as the Fort, and here also are Gordon Gardens and the Governor General's Residence. The jewellers' shops in the vicinity are irresistibly attractive, for the workmanship of the Singhalese craftsmen is justly world famous. The scintillating gems, the beautifully worked gold filigree jewellery and tortoiseshell and the gorgeous silks are enticements hard to resist.

The Pettah, where the majority of local traders do their business, will probably offer the greatest attraction. Here the streets are thronged with the gaily-clad Singhalese and Tamils, with here and there men in turbans from the farthest corners of India. The Hindu temples are particularly interesting and there are relics of former occupants of the Islands, the Dutch and Portuguese.

The delightful Cinnamon Gardens, where are the fashionable residential quarter, the chief Clubs and Racecourse, Victoria Park with its tropical trees and shrubs, and the modern but extremely beautiful Buddhist Temple are well worthy of some hours of your time.

A short tour along the coast will give you an opportunity of bathing on the palmfringed Beach at Mount Lavinia. You can also visit the extensive Zoo on your way to Mt. Lavinia.

Practical Note: Colombo is the capital of The Dominion of Ceylon within the British Commonwealth of Nations. Population 364,106, of whom 3,340 are Europeans, the others being composed of Burghers, Singhalese, Tamils, Moors, Malays, etc. The population of Ceylon is 6,879,000.

- CLIMATIC CONDITIONS: October-December, cool and rainy; January-February, cool; March-May, warm; June-July, cool and rainy; September, warm.
- LANDING AND BAGGAGE: Colombo Passengers are landed in motor launches at Company's expense.
- CUSTOMS: A duty is levied on liquor, perfumes, cigarettes, cigars, tobacco, wireless sets, jewellery, silks, wool or other material for making into wearing apparel and furnishings and household goods. One portable gramophone and a small number of records are admitted free of duty. Unaccompanied baggage arriving more than one month before or after the arrival of its owner is dutiable for all its contents. The duty on single-barrel and double barrel guns is 15% ad valorem, rifles and revolvers 100% ad valorem. The duty on ammunition is 40% ad valorem.

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CURRENCY: Rupees and Cents. Denominations of notes—Rs.1, 2, 5, 10, 50, 100. Approximate value of rupees—1s. 6d. Sterling; 1s. 10½d. Australian. A licensed money changer is available on the Jetty. Through passengers may not bring more than Rs.140 in cash and no Sterling. Passengers finally disembarking may land with not more than Rs.140 cash which may include £5 Sterling. Traveller's cheques can be encashed on shore by any Bank.

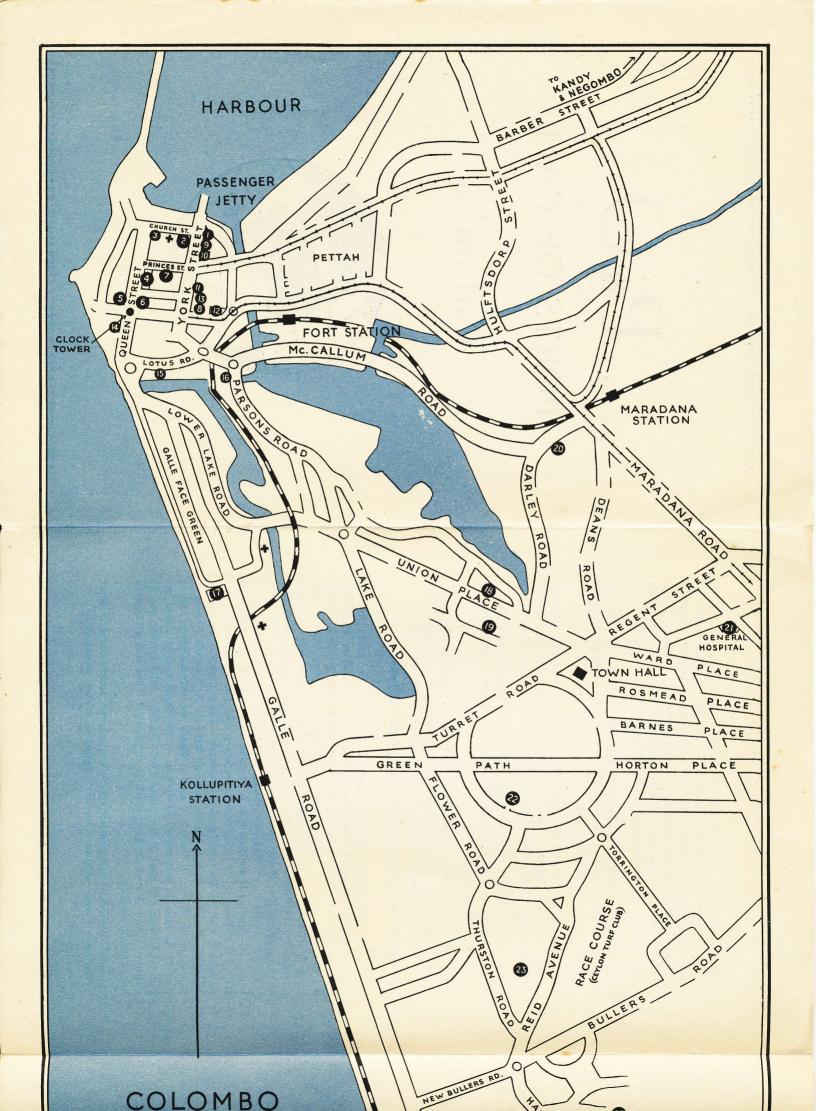
- LOCAL CONVEYANCES: Rickshaws, not exceeding 10 minutes, 25 cents, for each half-hour or portion, 60 cents; hire of motor cars within the Municipal Limits, 5-7 seater, Rs.10 per hour.
- BANKS: Mercantile Bank of India Ltd.; National Bank of India Ltd.; Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China; Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; Imperial Bank; Grindlays Bank Ltd.; The Eastern Bank Ltd.
- CHIEF RAILWAY COMMUNICATIONS: All principal towns served by Ceylon Government Railway, and details of trains and fares can be obtained at the Bureau at the Passenger Jetty.
- CHURCH SERVICES: St. Peter's Church, Fort (2 mins. from Jetty); Sundays—Holy Communion, 7.30 a.m.; Matins, 9 a.m.; Evensong, 6 p.m. Saints' Days—Holy Communion, 7.30 a.m. Weekdays—Holy Communion, 7.30 a.m.

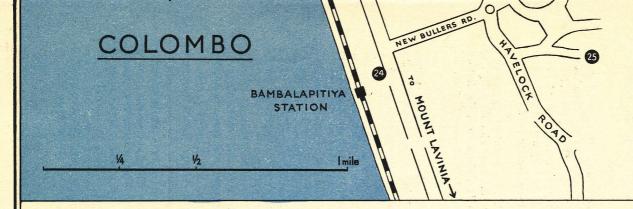
HOTELS: Grand Oriental; Galle Face; Bristol; Grand Mt. Lavinia.

Tourist Interests: Round Colombo: A visit to the Pettah with its Temples, thence to Kelaniya Temple on the bank of the river and on through the Cinnamon Gardens and Victoria Park to Mount Lavinia-time occupied, 3 hours. An alternative trip can be made via Pettah and the Temples, Slave Island, Cinnamon Gardens to Asokharamaya Buddhist Temple, and thence to Mount Lavinia, etc. To Negombo, an interesting fishing town with an old Dutch Fort and an excellent Rest House, situated about 23 miles from Colombo. The route is through Coconut and Cinnamon Estates, and the trip occupies about 5 or 6 hours. To Kandy: If sufficient time is available, a trip by car can be made to Kandy, a distance of 72 miles, with an excellent road and fine scenery. This includes a visit to the world-famous Peradeniya Horticultural Gardens, and arrangements can be made to see the elephants bathing. At Kandy is the famous Temple of the Tooth. If lunch is desired at Kandy, an inclusive charge can be quoted. Guides are unnecessary in Ceylon, as the places usually visited are easily accessible, and most of the Asians speak English. Asian servants can be obtained, but in view of the good hotels in all principal towns they are more a luxury than a necessity.

Passengers desiring to engage motor cars in Colombo are recommended to apply to the Ship's Bureau or to the Company's Agents for reliable information.

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KEY

- MACKINNON MACKENZIE & COMPANY'S OFFICE
- 2 GRAND ORIENTAL HOTEL
- PASSPORT OFFICE, SENATE BUILDING
- 4 GENERAL POST OFFICE
- THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA LTD.
- THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA &

CHINA

THE HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANK

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA

- B THE BANK OF CEYLON
- 9 GRINDLAYS BANK LTD.
- THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA LTD.
- BRISTOL HOTEL
- CENTRAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE
- (F) Y. M. C. A.
- (A) Y. W. C. A.
- SECRETARIAT (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)
- REGAL THEATRE (CINEMA)

- GALLE FACE HOTEL
- 1 Y. W. C. A.
- EMPIRE THEATRE (CINEMA)
- NEW OLYMPIA THEATRE (CINEMA)
- GENERAL HOSPITAL
- MUSEUM
- UNIVERSITY OF CEYLON
- MAJESTIC CINEMA
- JOSEPH FRAZER M. N. H.