

Welcome to Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo!

Three and a half months is a remarkably short period in which to refurbish and rebrand a hotel – especially one of five star class. Yet, this is exactly the feat that the team responsible for the refurbishment headed by JKH Leisure Sector Projects and LAN Management Development Service, Vasantha Ratnayake, Consultancy Services, interior designers namely, Bent Severin & Associates PTE Limited, Singapore, DDN Design (Pvt) Limited, Taru i.e., the branding team headed by Mr. Shafeek Wahab and Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo have managed to achieve successfully. On 1 September 2009, Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo opens its doors to the world, poised to set a new standard in the hospitality industry in Sri Lanka by taking indulgence to a new level.

Yes – Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo is now here, welcoming and inviting its guests to savour its inimitable blend of luxury, personal attention, sincerity and warmth! Regardless of whether you are visiting for an important business luncheon or dropping in for a quick coffee with a close friend; planning your dream wedding or organising a highly publicised conference; attending to important business or on a well-deserved vacation, they assure of the very best of their service, attention and support at all times, and give you the opportunity to operate at your own pace and in your own space.

Since its establishment in 1985, the hotel has reinvented its identity: from Ramada Renaissance to Trans Asia Hotel and now, to Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo. The transformation that has now taken place gives the hotel a new aura and ambience; a sensitive character and liberating spaces, making it truly the unique resort city hotel of the prestigious Cinnamon brand of hotels and resorts, the most preferred hospitality brand in the country today.

The decision to transform the hotel was taken by the John Keells Group, which owns the property. “A comparison of island-wide occupancy rates in Sri Lanka shows that during the upsurge in tourist arrivals brought about by the cease-fire (2002-05), hotels in Colombo benefited the most with average occupancy rates in the city increasing to over 70% in 2004-05”, said Ajit Gunewardene, Deputy Chairman, John Keells Group. “Today, with the 501-room Cinnamon Grand Colombo having well-established itself as the best 5-star in Colombo, and a newly refurbished Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo offering the business traveller a unique environment of leisure within the city, the John Keells Group simply awaits to greet the tourism potential of post-conflict Sri Lanka.”

Probably the most distinctive characteristic of Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo is the fact that it borders on the Beira Lake, giving guests an opportunity to enjoy an unparalleled al fresco dining experience in the heart of the busy, bustling city of Colombo. Be it a relaxing afternoon under the shade of a mango tree or an exciting party by the illuminated waters of the lake, guests have choices that no other city hotel can offer.

Indulgence is the key to everything the hotel offers and the changes brought about by the renovation are no exception. They include new restaurants, a classy bar, and refurbished

rooms with a stunning view of the lake, décor in warm, earthy hues that are sure to make you unwind; and even a new monthly newsletter, The Grapevine!

The hotel's main lobby sees a significant change with brand-new flooring, walls and furniture, creating an atmosphere of warmth coupled with a delightful interplay of light and shadow. A new reception/concierge counter is also in operation, making guests feel at home from the very first moment. Moreover, the main entrance to the hotel and doors leading to the garden and pool area will be changed to sheer glass doors to give guests a stunning view of the lake and pool. The ballroom has been restored to its original glory with stunning chandeliers and new carpet and furnishings, allowing patrons to have their functions catered at their favourite venue. Additionally, Azmaara Spa will be the latest addition to the hotel's guest facilities, offering a range of the finest spa treatments to suit every guest.

One of the main changes in the restaurants would be 7° North, the new restaurant and bar, offering both a stylishly casual al fresco dining experience by the Beira Lake and an air-conditioned exclusive indoor bar. Also new are The Dining Room, a chic, 24-hour coffee shop that offers both international and Asian fare; and The Lounge, the lobby lounge, with its daily, mouth-watering High Tea, varied entertainment and dessert trolley each night. Meanwhile, the popular restaurants, Royal Thai, Long Feng, Goodies, Pool Bar and The Library will continue to function as usual.

Mr. Gunawardene added, "The investment in refurbishing Trans Asia and re-launching it under the Cinnamon brand with new rooms, a completely different look to its lobby and an array of unique lakeside dining options will enable the hotel to position itself among the premium accommodation providers in the city while catering to multiple tiers of the market."

Starting the celebrations with a bang is the mind-boggling assortment of activities that are in store for you during Cinnamon Lakeside Week, from 1-7 September! This week of indulgence comprises an assortment of events, activities and special offers will make Lakeside Week come alive.

All through the week, a 30% discount on food will be extended to all patrons at all the restaurants. Acuri, a Brazilian band will entertain guests with its passionate, joyful and sentimental rhythms at 7° North, the new restaurant and bar, while a flaring barman concocts a delicious range of thirst-quenchers. Meanwhile, a mouth-watering High Tea will be served at The Lounge, Colombo's newest lobby lounge, complete with an array of entertainment, including sushi creating and vegetable carving demonstrations, music and much more. Moreover, when each day is done, guests can be dazzled by a brilliant and vibrant display of fireworks!

On 1 September, a fashion show for all ages and sizes will be presented by Geraldine at The Lounge during High Tea; while the next day, Segar, the acclaimed Sri Lankan cubist artist, will conduct a programme during High Tea at the same venue. Later in the evening of 2 September, award-winning all-female choir, Soul Sounds, will perform at The

Lounge in the evening, delighting guests with their tuneful repertoire. The hotel's young guests are not forgotten either, with an open invitation to have the time of their life at a 'Kids' Plate Painting Competition' organised by Dankotuwa Porcelain during High Tea at The Lounge on 4 September. Meanwhile, on 7 September, also at The Lounge, world renowned all-male choir, Revelations, will amaze guests with an unforgettable performance!

Enhancing all this is the incomparable Cinnamon hospitality, giving guests the liberty to decide what they want, when they want and where they want it. Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo is definitely here to indulge!

Welcome to Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo... how may we indulge you?