

Amanwella

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A contemporary oceanside resort, Amanwella presents 28 contemporary suites, each with its own private plunge pool and large terrace. Divided into four categories based on their views, the 28 spacious Suites are identical in layout and design. All range along a hillside facing the Indian Ocean, with Premium Ocean Suites providing the finest views. Linked by pathways through the coconut grove, Suites are situated to the west of the public areas.

The resort is accessed via a narrow road that winds through lush vegetation before opening into a large red-pebble courtyard. Here, guests are welcomed into the Arrival Pavilion, its design inspired by Sri Lanka's most notable modern architect, Geoffrey Bawa. A colonnaded, open-air structure, it overlooks a grass courtyard and a reflection pool surrounding the free-standing library. On either side of the library are the Restaurant and the Lounge Bar – both open on all sides and offering spectacular views of the bay. The Restaurant serves Mediterranean, Asian and Sri Lankan specialties both indoors and on the ocean-facing terrace.

From the terrace outside these two dining venues, steps lead down to the 47-metre swimming pool, which offers sublime sunset views over the Indian Ocean. Refreshments and light meals can be enjoyed throughout the day on the Pool Terrace.

The Beach Club is located at the western end of the beach, beyond the Suites. Shaded by coconut palms, it features an open pavilion with a wooden deck for informal dining with an emphasis on healthy meals and fresh seafood. Snorkelling equipment and dressing rooms are available.

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From the terrace outside these two dining venues, steps lead down to the 47-metre swimming pool, which also boasts magnificent views of the coconut grove, the beach and picture-perfect sunsets. The Pool Terrace is ideal for enjoying refreshments with uninterrupted views of the Indian Ocean.

Divided into four categories based on their views, all 28 spacious suites are identical in layout and design. They range along the hillside facing the sea, with Premium Ocean Suites providing the finest views. Their contemporary design incorporates local materials, including distinctive terracotta roof tiles and hand-hewn stone. Terrazzo floors finished in muted, sandy tones reflect the beach setting. Designed for seamless indoor/outdoor living, suites open on both sides to let in cooling sea breezes. Floor-to-ceiling glass and latticed panels reveal a private walled-in courtyard and plunge pool on the entrance side of the dwelling, and on the other side, they open onto a spacious terrace with sun loungers, an alfresco dining area for two and expansive views. Plunge pools measure six by four metres and courtyards feature a banquette for lounging and dining.

Large timber sliding panels separate the interior space into a combined sleeping and living room, and an open-plan bathroom. The sleeping/living room features a king-size bed, writing desk, armchair, daybed and credenza housing a personal bar with refreshments. The spacious bathroom beyond the sliding panels includes a free-standing oversized bathtub, twin vanities, a dressing area, toilet and shower.

The Beach Club is located at the western end of the beach, beyond the Suites. Shaded by coconut palms, it features an open pavilion with a wooden deck for informal dining with an emphasis on healthy meals and fresh, locally caught seafood. Snorkelling equipment and dressing rooms are available.

Activities on offer include surfing, whale watching, visiting temples and spotting wildlife in nearby national parks. Amangalla and Galle Fort await just over an hour's drive to the west.