



**SRI LANKA TEA BY JETWING**  
**An Initiative to Serve High Quality Sri Lanka Tea**



Commencing September 2006, Jetwing Hotels will feature a 'Tea Menu' known as Sri Lanka Tea by Jetwing. It will be a celebration and appreciation of Sri Lanka's famous tea. Until 1869 the main crop produced in Sri Lanka, then Ceylon, was coffee. A coffee-rust fungus, *Hemileia vastatrix*, killed the majority of the coffee plants in this year and estate owners had to diversify into other crops in order to avoid total ruin. Sri Lanka is now known to produce the best quality tea in the world.

Most of the Ceylon tea gardens are situated at elevations between 3000 and 8000 feet in two areas of the south western part of the island, to the east of Colombo and in the Galle district on the southern point. In the hot, steamy plains and foothills, the tea bushes flush every seven or eight days and are picked all year round. The finest teas are gathered from late June to the end of August in eastern districts and from the beginning of February to mid-March in the western parts. Sri Lanka's finest teas are produced mainly from bushes that grow above 4000 feet.

The Chinese Emperor Shen Nung, having tasted his first cup of tea, declared it to give one "vigour of body, contentment of mind, and determination of purpose". Research has shown that sipping a refreshing cup of tea, especially green tea, may provide a number of health benefits. Studies have shown that tea may pack as powerful a punch of health as one serving of many vegetables or fruits.



## MEDIA RELEASE

However, sadly in Sri Lanka, neither the Sri Lankans nor the overseas visitors have the privilege of enjoying or sampling the true and varied flavours of our very own Sri Lankan Tea. They most often get a wider variety and selection of imported wines than tea in our hotels. It is interesting nevertheless to note that the Hazelmere Café in England which serves Ceylon 'loose leaf' tea rather than the usual tea bags was voted as the venue selling 'the best cuppa tea' in UK this year. The famous Claridges Hotel in London won the best *Afternoon Tea* (this includes food)

JETWING has therefore decided to be the first to introduce this quality selection of single estate Tea's and are now working with a Tea expert, Manthi Delwita of Robert Wilsons Ceylon Teas. He will source and supply Jetwing with personally selected 'loose leaf' tea from the six different tea producing regions of Sri Lanka. He will also tutor their associates on how to prepare a perfect cup of tea and how best it should be served to the guest. This service will commence in September, initially at Galle's Jetwing Lighthouse, Jetwing Beach in Negombo, Jetwing Vil Uyana located near the Sigiriya Rock Fortress probably the 8<sup>th</sup> wonder of the world, Jetwing Hunas Falls in the hills of Kandy and Jetwing St. Andrew's situated opposite the famous Nuwara Eliya Golf Club.

Jetwing will also introduce a tea tasting ceremony which will enable the guest to taste tea produced in each of the six regions. This will be organised on a weekly basis at each featured hotel, to show and allow guests to taste in a professional 'Tea Tasting' manner the different flavours as, the teas produced in each region have their own individual characteristics of flavour, aroma and colour. In addition a traditional Afternoon Tea menu would be developed to complement the high quality tea they intend to serve so that Sri Lanka Tea by Jetwing will be a truly refreshing experience.

Apart from Jetwing Lighthouse, Jetwing Beach, Jetwing Hunas Falls and Jetwing St. Andrew's, Jetwing manages, in **Negombo**: Jetwing Blue Oceanic, Sea Garden, Jetwing Seashells, Jetwing Ayurveda Pavilions **Wadduwa**: The Blue Water **Beruwela**: Jetwing Tropical Villas **Sigiriya**: Jetwing Vil Uyana

### NOTE

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