

# THE ASIA VILLA GUIDE – VILLA POOJA KANDA

## First Edition – 2011



174

### POOJA KANDA

KOGGALA, SOUTH COAST, SRI LANKA

**SLEEPS**  
10

**BEDROOMS**  
King/Queen - 4  
Double - 1

**STAFF**  
Manager - 1  
Chef/Cook - 1  
Maids/Cleaner - 2  
Security - 1

**PRICE FROM**  
\$250.00 pm

**MID-RANGE COLLECTION**  
SRI LANKA • South Coast



Sheltered by medicinal trees and jungle flowers, Pooja Kanda is situated on top of a sacred hill in Habaraduwa, rising through the greenery like a forest palace. The architect has adopted Geoffrey Bawa's notion of incorporating the natural environment into the design, so the whitewashed colonnaded villa with traditional wooden roofs is constructed around red boulders, with benches, a rock garden and a charming waterfall all carved from the ancient stones.

This villa is entirely unpretentious; so much so that you might only discover the swimming pool when walking on the top terrace, where the three guest bedrooms with their ensuite bathrooms are situated. Glanced through the jungle, the natural-looking aqua-marine swimming pool

is watched over by a cross-legged Ganesha and bordered by a mixture of giant ferns, bamboo plants, and hanging vines which monkeys leap between – a scene you can also view over a traditional coconut rice and curry on the veranda by the pool.

Only ten minutes' drive from the coast, Pooja Kanda reflects images of the sea with its well-worn fisherman's rope, (a feature of the central stairwell), and the delicious smells of freshly caught fish being baked in local spices by the villa chef.

The downstairs area is a place of contemplation in keeping with the Sinhala meaning of the villa's name sacred – or prayer – hill. At night enjoy playing board games in the dining room lit by large candelabras.

This house, originally the home of Galle resident Charles Hulst, a renowned American actor, architect and socialite who has lived in the area for nearly 40 years, has brilliantly used the line of arched entrance doorways to create the feel of a Broadway play set; a feature that allows guests to enjoy the open breezy views and lovely southern light that captivates everyone who visits.





**AMENITIES**  
AC, Pool, BBQ, WiFi, TV, Parking

**RATING**  
7.0

[www.theasiavillaguide.com/PoojaKanda/](http://www.theasiavillaguide.com/PoojaKanda/)

## MID - RANGE COLLECTION

### Pooja Kanda

Koggala, South Coast, Sri Lanka

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