

CHECKING-IN

Sri Lanka Sprouts

A flurry of eco-minded boutique resorts cropping up in some of the country's lushest locales have made the island more tempting than ever. **Diana Hubbell** picks the ones to watch.



TRI

Nature inspires every element of this supremely sustainable boutique, right down to the 10 rooms and suites spiraling around a central water tower in a pattern mimicking the fabled Golden Ratio, the ultimate balance of proportions. Unlike many so-called green resorts, Tri has the eco-chops to back up its ambitious claims. All local materials, recycled wood, solar-heated hot water, and “living” walls and green roofs dense with plant life make this place as low-impact as it is lovely. *Koggala Lake, Galle; 94-777/708-177; trilanka.com; doubles from US\$248.*

GAL OYA LODGE

Brimming with biodiversity surrounding the shores of Senanayake Samudra reservoir, Sri Lanka's largest body of water, Gal Oya is one of the country's most remote national parks. Wild elephants, sambar deer, water buffalo and leopards roam these unspoiled forests, which have been protected for more than half a

century. The eight bungalows at this sensitively designed eco-lodge on the park's border blend so seamlessly into their setting you might think they sprouted from the ground with the rest of the vegetation—until you step into the spacious 74-square-meter interiors kitted out with regional crafts. *Inginiyagala Road, Uva; 94-76/636-9816; galoyalodge.com; doubles from US\$155.*

ANI VILLAS

The fact that Réda Amalou, the architect responsible for The Nam Hai and Six Senses Con Dao in Vietnam, was behind this ambitious project explains both the buzz and the graceful villas resplendent in rich hardwoods and bespoke furnishings. As if the alabaster coastline wasn't enough of a selling point, private butlers, expert spa therapists and chefs take this über-indulgent retreat to the next level. *Kaluketiya Watta, Maliyadda, Dickwella; anivillas.com/srilanka; four-bedroom villas from US\$3,250, three-night minimum stay. 📍*