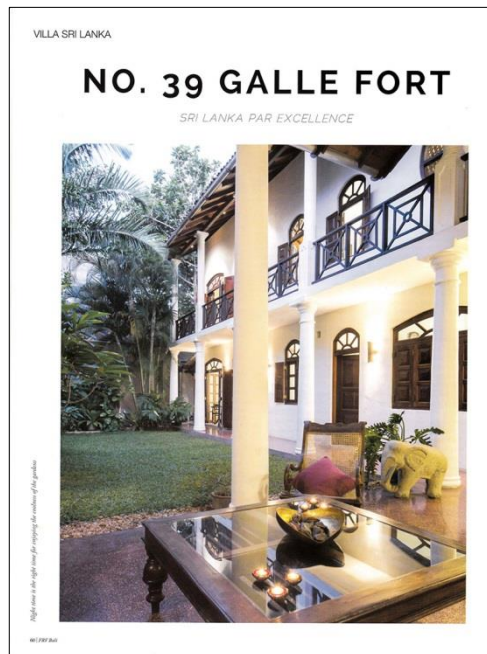


FRV BALI – No.39 Galle Fort, Sri Lanka

Edition 11.5 – Feb – Mar 15



No. 39 Galle Fort is a beautiful, Dutch colonial-style house that sits almost halfway along Lighthouse Street, a narrow, cobbled lane that dissects Galle Fort on Sri Lanka's southwest coast - a UNESCO world heritage site - from north to south and is close to all major landmarks, providing the perfect base for both stay-at-home relaxing or sightseeing.

As a temporary resident of Galle Fort, you will join the glittering ranks of merchants, traders, colonialists and foreign nationals who have all left their indelible mark on this impressive seventeenth century Dutch fortress. Listen from your window for the call to prayer from the mosque, or the chanting from the Buddhist temple. Galle Fort is home to many religions whose devotees all live in peace and harmony with each other. The fort is a wonderful place to explore as you wander narrow streets and ponder at the colonial architecture: delicate framework, magnificent columns and never-ending red-tiled roofs, and the wide grey-washed ramparts on which cricket matches regularly break out, offer the perfect recipe at sunset. There are also a couple of interesting museums showcasing the fort's rich history, as well as plenty of boutiques selling handicrafts, delicate lacework, glimmering gems and other exquisite treasures. Restaurants and cafes abound.

Although No. 39 dates back to the early days of the fort - some three hundred years ago - various renovations over the years have brought it sensibly up to date. Living and dining spaces are open-plan and sit beneath a double-bright ceiling that soars up to 30 feet overhead. Folding doors blend interior and exterior spaces and each of the house's three bedrooms comes with a beautifully dressed bed, welcome air conditioning and modern en-suite bathrooms.

For a house with just three bedrooms, No. 39's living space is generous. On the ground floor you can sit back on cushioned daybeds in the central living room or, beyond a pair of folding doors, curl up on the soft of the pillared veranda overlooking the lawn and colorful tropical foliage of the house's pretty walled garden and enter some afternoon tea.

The minimalist TV lounge on the first floor is set up for watching movies and catching up on the news, while a small first floor reading room with twin daybeds - really an extension of the master bedroom - doubles up as a library and offers further space to relax.

No. 39 comes with a live-in housekeeper who is also the cook. He prepares meals from a simple suggestion menu with provisions changed at one plus a small surcharge. Self-caterers are welcome to use the kitchen too, however with such an abundance of cafes and restaurants within walking distance it is much more fun to eat out (at under \$10). A firm-based management company takes care of the overall operation of the house and a member of the team will drop by upon request to help you book local transport, tours and activities, which include whale-watching, guided fort-walls and Sri Lankan cooking classes. www.39gallefort.com

High ceilings and four pillars for a dining day

Traditional comfort and the perfect place to relax out

Elegant dining and lounging under a soaring roof

No.39 Galle Fort

No. 39 Galle Fort is a beautiful, Dutch colonial-style house that sits almost halfway along Lighthouse Street, a narrow, cobbled lane that dissects Galle Fort on Sri Lanka's southwest coast - a UNESCO world heritage site - from north to south and is close to all major landmarks, providing the perfect base for both stay-at-home relaxing or sightseeing.

As a temporary resident of Galle Fort, you will join the glittering ranks of merchants, traders, colonialists and foreign nationals who have all left their indelible mark on this impressive seventeenth century

Dutch fortress. Listen from your window for the call to prayer from the mosque, or the chanting from the Buddhist temple; Galle Fort is home to many religions whose devotees all live in peace and harmony with each other. The fort is a wonderful place to explore as you wander narrow streets and ponder at the colonial architecture; delicate fretwork, magnificent columns and never-ending red-tiled roofs, and the wide grassy western ramparts on which cricket matches regularly break out, offer the perfect respite at sunset, There are also a couple of interesting museums showcasing the fort's rich history, as well as plenty of boutiques selling handicrafts, delicate lacework, glittering gems and other evocative souvenirs. Restaurants and cafes abound.

Although No.39 dates back to the early days of the fort - some three hundred years ago - various renovations over the years have brought it sensitively up to date. Living and dining spaces are open-plan and sit beneath a double-height ceiling that soars up to 30 feet overhead. Folding doors blend interior and exterior spaces and each of the house's three bedrooms comes with a beautifully dressed bed, welcome air conditioning and modern en-suite bathrooms.

For a house with just three bedrooms, No. 39's living space is generous. On the ground floor you can sit back on cushioned daybeds in the convivial living room or, beyond a pair of folding doors, curl up on the sofa of the pillared veranda overlooking the lawn and colourful tropical foliage of the house's pretty walled garden and order some afternoon tea. the mezzanine TV lounge on the first floor is set up for watching movies and catching up on the news, whilst a small first floor reading room with twin daybeds - really an extension of the master bedroom - doubles up as a library, and offers further space to relax.

No.39 comes with a live-in housekeeper who is also the cook. He prepares meals from a simple suggestion menu with provisions charged at cost plus a small surcharge. Self-caterers are welcome to use the kitchen too, however with such an abundance of cafes and restaurants within walking distance it is much more fun to eat out (or order in). A fortbased management company takes care of the overall operation of the house and a member of the team will drop by upon request to help you book local transport, tours and activities, which include whale watching, guided fort walks and Sri Lankan cooking classes.

www.no39gallefort.com