

### Galkadawala, Dambulla – Cultural Triangle



View From Upper Floor At Galkadawala

### Nature Cottages At Sigiriya

#### About Galkadawala

**Galkadawala** is a rustic eco-retreat on four acres of wilderness overlooking a lake in the remote village of **Galkadawala** in the **Cultural Triangle**. This is an ideal holiday retreat for nature lovers on a budget, with over 100 bird species and 45 different butterflies spotted here.

**Galkadawala** was once a slash-and-burn chena cultivation. Its four acres were gradually redeveloped and more than 300 trees, including fruits, **Kumbuk** and **Tamarind**, and over 80 species of medicinal plants were replanted on this ravaged land. Gradually, the birds, butterflies and even the flying squirrels returned as it was transformed into an appealing tropical wilderness. A great triumph that can now be enjoyed by all. A strict eco-friendly policy is followed here with the bungalow constructed entirely out of recycled wood from old demolished houses, bricks and clay. Only vegetarian meals are served here prepared with fresh village vegetables. Galkadawala can comfortably accommodate up to six guests and is rented on a BB basis. Bedrooms are reached via a steep staircase and hence not recommended for very young children or adults with mobility difficulties.

#### Rooms

There is one double room on the ground floor; and two more double rooms on the first floor. All have attached bathrooms with showers. The bedrooms are basic and are furnished with twin or double beds fitted with mosquito nets. Pedestal fans help to keep the rooms cool.



Bedroom At Galkadawala



Relaxing At Galkadawa

### Dining

The ground floor has a living and dining area opening out to the surrounding gardens. The top floor has a lounge with built-in seating overlooking the lake and is ideal for bird watching. Most might even prefer to sleep up here where it is cooler. Traditional **Sri Lankan** vegetarian meals are served here cooked with fresh vegetables from the village home gardens. The cook is happy to share his recipes with guests. The staff here includes a cook and caretaker.



Charming Rural Road To Galkadawala



Birdwatching At Galkadawala



Wild Elephants At Nearby Lake

#### Facilities

Go bird watching and trekking in the surrounding wilderness. Explore **Galkadawala** village with its wattle and daub village homes and wayside boutiques. Visit **Dambulla's** ancient cave temple, about 30 minutes away; its rock ceiling is one large sweep of colourful frescoes, some of which date back more than 2000 years. This cave temple has the largest number of **Buddha** statues all housed in one place, including a 14m-long figure of the recumbent **Buddha** carved out of the rock. Venture further away to the **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** of **Sigiriya**, **Ritigala**, **Anuradhapura** and **Polonnaruwa**, all located within 30-90 minutes drive.



Dining Area At Galkadawala

#### Hotel Website

<http://www.galkadawala.com>