

# Batticaloa – Land of the singing fish

Batticaloa is known as the land of the singing fish. Their melodious sounds can be heard from the Kallady lagoon near the Lady Manning Bridge between April and September. The reason people consider the phenomenon ‘magical’ and ‘romantic’, is that the singing fish usually perform their serenades at night when there is minimal wind and at full moon. If you are lucky, you’ll be able to experience an enchanted evening with the singing fish of Batticaloa.



### Lighthouse

At the end of a sandbar, surrounded by lagoons and mangroves, this lighthouse dates from 1913 and stands at 28 meters high. The coastline around here is a popular family excursion and there's a play area for kids. Swimming in the calm water, surrounded by islands and inlets, is the main draw, though boat trips can be good for bird- and crocodile-watching.

### Lady Manning (Kallady) Bridge

The bridge was built in 1924 during British colonial rule. The bridge was named **Lady Manning Bridge** in honour of the wife of **William Manning**, the British Governor of Ceylon. It was the oldest and longest iron bridge in Sri Lanka. Batticaloa's singing fish legend is associated with the bridge. In 1954 two American priests from St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, Rev. Fr. Lang and Rev. Fr. Moran, recorded fishes singing under the bridge. The recording was broadcast on Radio Ceylon in the 1960s. The new two lane bridge is 288.35 m (946 ft) long and 14 m (46 ft) wide. The bridge cost Rs. 2.6 billion (US\$20 million)



### Batticaloa Gate / Mahatma Gandhi Park

This monument depicts the point, which was used as port to connect Puliyanthivu (island) with the mainland of Batticaloa, Sri Lanka. The place believed as landing site of **Rev. William Ault**, who was the first Methodist missionary to Batticaloa, in 1814. His statue can be seen closer to the Batticaloa Gate. The first English school in Sri Lanka the **Methodist Central College** was founded by Rev. William Ault also in 1814



### Dutch Fort

The Batticaloa Fort was built by the Portuguese in 1628 and was the first to be captured by the Dutch on 18 May 1638. Later, the fort was used by British from 1745. The fort has a structure of four bastions and protected by the Batticaloa Lagoon from two sides and a canal of the other two sides. The fort is still in reasonable condition and many local administrative departments of Sri Lanka government function in new buildings, which is based in the old structure.



# Riviera Lagoon Cruise – a unique way to see the landmarks

## Scheduled Ride 9:30 am & 4:30 pm (Please book with reception)

9:30 am & 4:30 pm	Ride time	Per person	Minimum	Maximum
Lighthouse & Dutch fort	65 min	Rs. 750	2 persons	6 persons

## Boat ride – on request

	Ride time	Up to 3 adults	Extra adult	Family package	Max 6 adults
Lighthouse	40 min	Rs. 1,500	Rs. 500	Rs. 2,000	
Dutch fort	25 min	Rs. 1,200	Rs. 300	Rs. 1,500	
Lighthouse & Dutch fort	65 min	Rs. 2,500	Rs. 500	Rs. 3,500	



Lighthouse



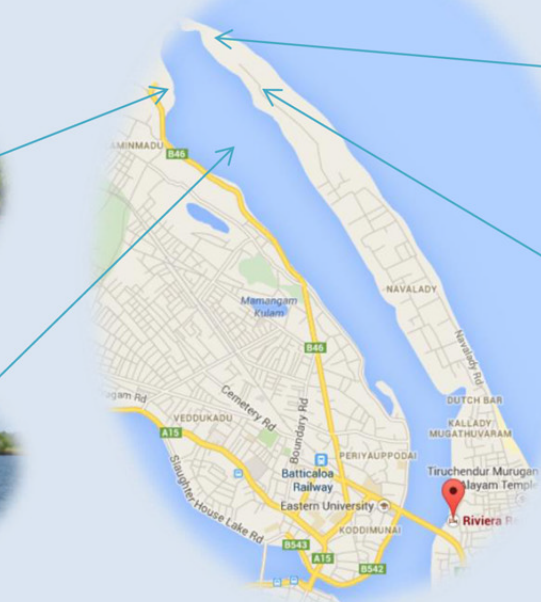
The Island



Batticaloa Gate



Mahatma Gandhi Park



Bar mouth



Bird watching



Lady Manning Bridge



Dutch Fort