



41

Trincomalee on the east coast of Sri Lanka. Tuul & Bruno Morandi/Corbis

East Coast Sri Lanka



Remote stillness — and world-class diving — beckon.

Cut off for the last 30 years because of civil unrest, the east coast of Sri Lanka offers a collection of new hotels like the eco-conscious treehouse-inspired [Jungle Bay resort](#), the barefoot-casual [Maalu Maalu](#) and private villas from the local brand [Anilana](#). [Wildland Adventures](#) offers back road cycling and leopard-spotting land safaris, and [Abercrombie & Kent](#) now extends access to forgotten Hindu temples in newly revived Trinco as well as the region's main draw, unexplored diving sites: the world-class wreck [MV Cordiality](#) and the [1922 British Sergeant](#), a marine oasis leaning on its side. Add on snorkeling with blue whales off Pigeon Island National Park, plus remote surfing, and the boxes are all ticked.

Daniel Scheffler



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