



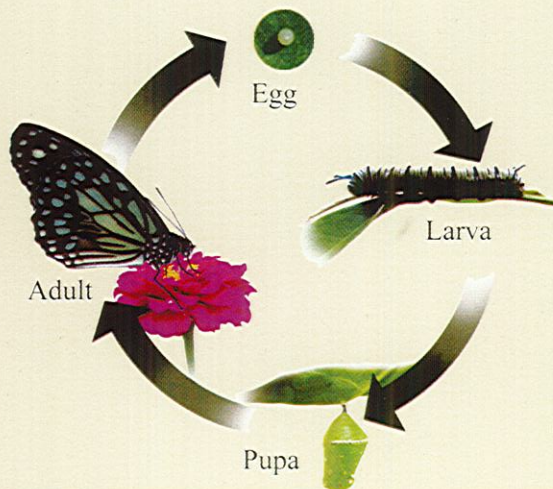
Butterflies of Heritance Kandalama



pump the liquid in the abdomen into the wings, eventually to spread them to become a flying insect. This phenomenon usually happens early in the morning before birds became active.

Many butterflies emerge from their pupae during the rainy season in the dry zone. They appear in large numbers after a few weeks of the rain. This peak remains until the end of January, eventually giving rise to "butterfly migration" in February. Pierid butterflies such as Sri Lankan Lesser Albatross and Lemon Emigrant are the pioneers of this migration and more than 60 other species join them as time passes. The present migration of butterflies is only a mere fraction of what has been documented years ago. This is purely due to habitat loss of butterflies, along with the application of toxic substances and the increase of human population.

After this migration, butterfly population begins to decline in the Dry zone. But if inter monsoonal rains come in early April, a number of butterflies are seen in considerable numbers responding to the wetness. However this rain doesn't cause a population burst as the previous seasons. After these rains the butterfly population declines further, until the driest months of August, when it is a miracle to find any undamaged butterfly. The few remaining butterflies somehow manage to live until the monsoonal rains to lay their eggs to propagate a new generation. Thus the life cycle of a butterfly appear to stretch for at least two batches for a year. Some times it could have even more.



INTRODUCTION

Sri Lanka is a haven for butterflies hosting 245 species. Twenty six of them are confined only to the island and are thus endemic. Many of these endemic species inhabit the wet zone from the lowlands to the highest hills. According to the distribution of species, five major zones can be identified and "Kandalama" is located in the "dry zone". Many of the butterflies found here can be found over the dry zone from Jaffna to Hambantota.

Unlike in the wet zone, this area shows distinct population variations within a year according to climatic parameters. The North East monsoon, which commences in late October or early November brings rains to this dry flat land for a short spell, while most of the time its dry. With the monsoon diminishing in late January, the environment is very lush and looks green everywhere. It is this rainy season that provides food for all creatures including butterflies. The initial food source of butterflies is immature leaves, fed by their caterpillar stage. Each butterfly species has its own plant species, on which they feed. These plants are called "Butterfly larval food plants" and play a crucial role in butterfly survival. When the rains come, these plants flourish and butterflies lay thousands of eggs on the new tender leaves.

The caterpillars emerging out from the eggs feed rapidly and become adult butterflies. During this phase the caterpillars moult 5-6 times and grow bigger and bigger. Leafless *Cassia auriculata* plants are commonly seen in this season due to Mottled Emigrant larvae feeding on all the leaves. Meanwhile caterpillars are food for many birds including Yellow Billed Babbler and Common Iora. They even become prey for other insects such as the Praying Mantis. However, the major threat to caterpillars is by parasitoids such as Dipterans. Parasitoids lay their eggs in or on caterpillar body. The hatched parasitoid feed on the internal body parts of the caterpillar while the caterpillar is still alive. Finally the caterpillar dies, when the parasitoid is ready to pupate.

If the butterfly caterpillar grows without facing any harmful effect, it pupates in a concealed place. Many morphological changes happen within the pupa to become a winged, beautiful creature from a crawling worm like creature. When the changes are complete, the butterfly comes out from the pupa to see the world. At the initial stage it doesn't look like a butterfly, as its wings are folded

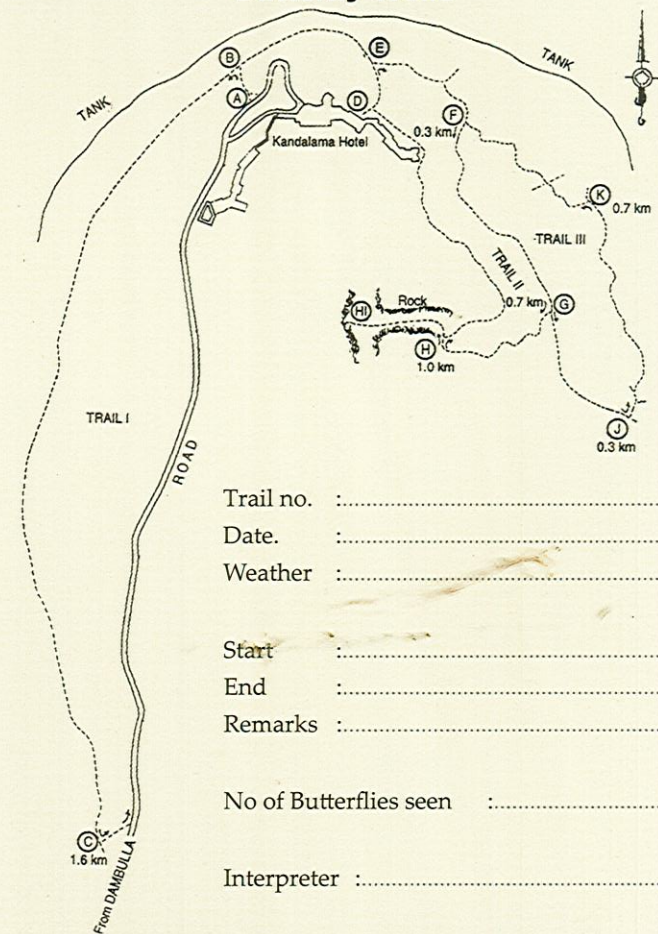
#	SPECIES NAME	
46	<i>Junonia iphita pluviatilis</i>	Chocolate Soldier
47	<i>Junonia almana almana</i>	Peacock Pansy
48	<i>Hypolimnas misippus</i>	Danaid Eggfly
49	<i>Kallima philarchus</i>	● Sri Lanka Blue Oak Leaf
50	<i>Neptis hylas varmona</i>	Common Sailor
51	<i>Neptis jumbah nalanda</i>	Chestnut Streaked Sailor
52	<i>Moduza procris calidasa</i>	Commander
53	<i>Parthenos sylvia cyaneus</i>	Clipper
54	<i>Dophla evelina evelina</i>	Red spot Duke
55	<i>Euthalia aconthea vasanta</i>	Baron
56	<i>Charaxes psaphon psaphon</i>	Tawny Rajah
57	<i>Acraea violae</i>	Tawny Coster
58	<i>Melanitis leda leda</i>	Common Evening Brown
59	<i>Orsotriaena medus mandata</i>	Nigger / Medus Brown
60	<i>Mycalesis subdita</i>	● Sri Lanka Tamil Bushbrown
61	<i>Mycalesis patnia patnia</i>	Gladeye Bushbrown
62	<i>Ypthima ceylonica</i>	White Four-ring
63	<i>Curetis thetis</i>	Indian Sunbeam
64	<i>Arhopala amantes amantes</i>	Large Oakblue
65	<i>Rathinda amor</i>	Monkey-puzzle
66	<i>Spindasis ictis ceylonica</i>	Common Shot Silverline
67	<i>Nacaduba sinhala</i>	● Sri Lanka Pale Six Lineblue
68	<i>Jamides bochus bochus</i>	Dark Cerulean
69	<i>Jamides celeno tissama</i>	Common Cerulean
70	<i>Castalius rosimon rosimon</i>	Common Pierrot
71	<i>Discolampa ethion ethion</i>	Banded Blue Pierrot
72	<i>Talicauda nyseus nyseus</i>	Red Pierrot
73	<i>Acytolepis puspa felderi</i>	Common Hedge Blue
74	<i>Neopithicops zalmora dharm</i>	Quaker
75	<i>Abisara echerius prunosa</i>	Plum Judy



Cethosia nietneri nietneri Lace Wing

#	SPECIES NAME	
1	<i>Troides darsius</i>	● Sri Lanka Birdwing
2	<i>Pachliopta hector</i>	Crimson Rose
3	<i>Papilio crino</i>	Banded Peacock
4	<i>Papilio demoleus demoleus</i>	Lime Butterfly
5	<i>Papilio polytes romulus</i>	Common Mormon
6	<i>Papilio polymnestor parinda</i>	Blue Mormon
7	<i>Papilio clytia lankeswara</i>	Mime
8	<i>Graphium sarpedon teredon</i>	Bluebottle
9	<i>Graphium doson doson</i>	Common Jay
10	<i>Graphium agamemnon menides</i>	Tailed Jay
11	<i>Graphium nomius nomius</i>	Spot Swordtail
12	<i>Graphium antiphates ceylonicus</i>	Five bar Swordtail
13	<i>Leptosia nina nina</i>	Psyche
14	<i>Delias eucharis</i>	Jezebel
15	<i>Belenois aurota taprobana</i>	Pioneer
16	<i>Cepora nerissa phryne</i>	Common Gull
17	<i>Appias libythea libythea</i>	Striped Albatross
18	<i>Appias lycinda taprobana</i>	Chocolate Albatross
19	<i>Appias albina swinhoe</i>	Common Albatross
20	<i>Appias galene</i>	● Sri Lanka Lesser Albatross
21	<i>Ixias marianne</i>	White Orange Tip
22	<i>Ixias pyrene cingalensis</i>	Yellow Orange Tip
23	<i>Catopsilia pyranthe pyranthe</i>	Mottled Emigrant
24	<i>Catopsilia pomona pomona</i>	Lemon Emigrant
25	<i>Pareronia ceylanica ceylanica</i>	Dark Wanderer
26	<i>Colotis amata modesta</i>	Small Salmon Arab
27	<i>Colotis etrida limbata</i>	Little Orange Tip
28	<i>Eurema brigitta rubella</i>	Small Grass Yellow
29	<i>Eurema hecabe hecabe</i>	Common Grass Yellow
30	<i>Eurema blanda citrina</i>	Three Spot Grass Yellow
31	<i>Tirumala limniace exoticus</i>	Blue Tiger
32	<i>Tirumala septentrionis musikanos</i>	Dark Blue Tiger
33	<i>Parantica aglea aglea</i>	Glassy Tiger
34	<i>Danaus chrysippus chrysippus</i>	Plain Tiger
35	<i>Danaus genutia genutia</i>	Common Tiger
36	<i>Euploea core asela</i>	Common Crow
37	<i>Euploea klugii sinhala</i>	Brown King Crow
38	<i>Ariadne ariadne minorata</i>	Angled Castor
39	<i>Ariadne merione taprobana</i>	Common Castor
40	<i>Phalanta phalantha phalantha</i>	Leopard
41	<i>Cirrochroa thais lanka</i>	Tamil Yeoman
42	<i>Cethosia nietneri nietneri</i>	Lace Wing
43	<i>Junonia lemonias vaisya</i>	Lemon Pansy
44	<i>Junonia orithya patenas</i>	Blue Pansy

Butterfly Trails



Trail no. :

Date. :

Weather :

Start :

End :

Remarks :

No of Butterflies seen :

Interpreter :

Heritance Kandalama is a "Bird Friendly Resort"

Partner and a Corporate member of the
Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka (FOGSL)

Our mission is to enable people to experience a unique interaction with
nature and culture leaving little or no impact on the environment.



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Jayasinghe, H., De Alwis, C. & Rajapakse, S.S. 2013. *A Pocket Guide to the Butterflies of Sri Lanka*.

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