

PREVIEW OF COLOMBO



GUIDE TO MAP:

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) Breakwater | (10) Temples |
| (2) Harbour | (11) Barracks |
| (3) Landing Jetty | (12) Lakes |
| (4) Grand Oriental Hotel | (13) Victoria Park |
| (5) Post Office | (14) Museum |
| (6) Central Telegraph Office | (8) Canal |
| (7) Bristol Hotel | (9) Pettah (Native Quarter) |
| | (15) Gen. Hosp. |
| | (16) Galle Face Hotel |

EVEN SNAKECHARMERS!

Soon you may see rickshaws and snakecharmers for the first time -- for these are two of the characteristics of Colombo, of which "Dit-Dah" here gives you a preview.

Incoming visitors to Colombo leave their ship at anchor in the harbour and are conveyed to a landing stage, around which is the shopping centre, known as the Fort. There one may bargain for silks and jewels and souvenirs. Colombo has a reputation for wonderful tailors, whose charges are extremely moderate if a proper bargain is struck.

Snakecharmers and sometimes a conjurer are to be seen near the principal hotels, which are the Grand Oriental and the Bristol (both in the town), and the Galle Face (on the sea-front).

ORIENTAL MUSEUM

Most of the Europeans live in the "Cinnamon Gardens," near Victoria Park, in the vicinity of which is the Oriental Museum -- a place well worth a visit. Another interesting building is the Kelani Temple, a short distance from Colombo.

Typical foods you may sample are curries and such fruits as the sugar banana, the paw-paw and the mango.

If you are able to recognise it, you may notice a strong vein of Portuguese in the Colombo dialect -- a relic of the town's early history, when both the Portuguese and the Dutch occupied it.

(Map and text by courtesy of L/Cpl J. Hill).