Woods of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka trick-boxes are made of some of the finest hardwoods in the world, including Teak, Rosewood, Sandalwood, Rainbow, Mahogany and Ebony. These woods are used for all kinds of wooden products, including wooden puzzle boxes.

Book Ends

Book ends with secret compartment in each of the books. The elephants are carved with great detail. The books are inlaid with pieces of bone. Very elaborate versions made from Ebony can also be found.

Moon Stone

A moon stone is a sacred stone with a semi-circular shape found at the entrance of a temple. This trick-box has three different compartments all simultaneously unlocked by the same mechanism.

Thick Box

This rectangular box has an extra thick lid. It utilises the standard mechanism for opening the box, but apart from the usual compartment, a second compartment is hidden in the inside of lid.

Chest-shaped box

This ornately decorated box can be opened by finding the secret mechanism in the lid of the box. This mechanism does not only unlock the box itself, but also the additional compartment in the lid.

Octagonal box

This box has a large square secret compartment. The lid of the box is decorated with an elephant, the national symbol of Sri Lanka. The inside of the compartment is lined with red velvet.
The mechanism of this box is very different from the others. A large round knob is one of the striking characteristics of this box. To unlock the box this knob has to be rotated.

**Sri Lanka Box**

This trick-box has the shape of the island of Sri Lanka, and is one of the rarer boxes. The carved decorations include flowers and an elephant. The box has two (different size) secret compartments.

**Square Box**

This box with nicely carved decorations within a central circle has four different secret compartments. Two are unlocked from the left, two are unlocked from the right.

**Book-shaped Box**

The 'standard' trick-box that can be found in Sri Lanka has the shape of a book. The number of secret compartments varies from one to four. Each locking mechanism in this box unlocks one small and one big compartment.

**Elephant Box**

This wood carving in the shape of an elephant does not look like a trick-box at all. It might come as a surprise that this elephant also has a secret compartment. Many people will not even realise that.

**Ambiguous Picture**

Many of the Sri Lankan trick-boxes are decorated with an interesting ambiguous picture. It shows a bull and an elephant sharing the same head. On the right you can see the complete picture and the separate animals.