

Around Ceylon

Visit almost every corner in Sri Lanka for a tour full of memorable experiences or alluring excursions to make your holiday rewarding.

Locations: | Negombo | Wilpattu National Park | Anuradhapura | Sigiriya | Polonnaruwa | Dambulla | Matale | Knuckles | Kandy | Nuwaraeliya | Horton Plains | Nanu Oya | Ella | Udawalawe or Yala National Park | Tissamaharama | Mirissa | Colombo |

| Archeological Sites | Wildlife | Culture | Ruins | Hiking & Trekking | Train Rides | Boat Cruises | Beaches |

Day 01

(Airport – Negombo)



- At the airport you will be greeted by your chauffeur guide who will take your residence for the next six nights. After completing formalities at the airport, head straight to Negombo which is as close as minutes from the airport. Check-in to the hotel and rest & relax to recover from any jet lag.
- Spend the day at leisure relaxing at the hotel or do some sightseeing in Negombo. You may visit a

fish market and the Dutch canal. Alternatively, you can soak up some sun on Negombo's prestige beaches.

Day 02

(Negombo – Wilpattu - Anuradhapura)



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- We will set off early morning on your expedition, as you will be heading north to the jungles of Wilpattu.
- It is one of the largest and oldest parks in the country. This popular eco-tourism destination is home to 31 species of mammals and trees such as "Veera" and "Milla". Some of the animals that are

under threat are Elephants, Leopards, Water Buffalo and the Sloth Bear. While the Mongoose, Mouse and the Spotted Deer are more like the parks residents. Take a safari through the foliage of the land and spot the many surprises around the corner.

- In the evening after the safari, you will head straight to Anuradhapura where you will rest and spend the night.

Day 03

(Anuradhapura - Sigiriya)



- Breakfast in the hotel
- Visit the sacred ancient city founded in the 04th century B.C and named as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1982. It has the largest number of ancient monuments of the great Sinhala civilization which flourished in this region.
- You will see some of the most famous as well as the tallest Stupas of Sri Lanka and the Ruins of ancient royal palaces. Another amazing site would

be the "Sri Maha Bodhi" or the sacred Bo tree which is over 2200 years old, grown from a branch of the very tree under which "The Buddha" attained enlightenment; it is also the oldest historically documented tree in the world.

- Transfer to the city of Sigiriya to relax and spend the night.

Day 04

(Sigiriya – Polonnaruwa - Dambulla)



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Climb Sigiriya, the 5th Century "Fortress in the Sky", built by King Kassapa. The fortress was a Royal Citadel for more than 18 years. The lion rock is a citadel of unusual beauty, rising 200 meters from the scrub jungle. The base of the rock is ringed by a moat and rampart and the extensive gardens are a glorious splendour pumped by

advance plumbing techniques that baffles the historians to this day. The majestic Lion's Paw picturesquely guards the stairway of the palace on the summit. See the famous frescoes of the "Heavenly maidens" of Sigiriya in a sheltered pocket of the rock and the 10 foot high Mirror Wall.

- Then transfer to Polonnaruwa, and explore the archeological sites of the best kept ruins of ancient Ceylon. This was the Capital of Sri Lanka from the 11th to 13th century, which was a well-planned medieval city defended by enclosing walls, graced by palaces, shrines, monasteries, pavilions, parks, ponds and irrigation lakes. Polonnaruwa is strewn with ruins in a resplendent state of preservation.
- The 'Gal Vihara' which consists of statues of the recumbent, standing and seated Buddha have been cut from a single granite wall and rank among the true masterpieces of Sri Lankan Art.
- Then head straight to Dambulla to relax and spend the night.

Day 05

(Dambulla – Matale - Knuckles)



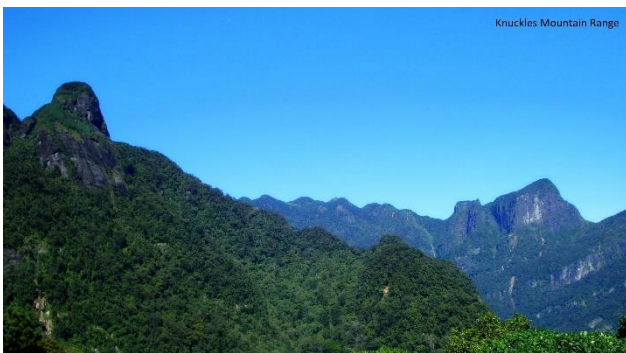
- Breakfast in the hotel.
- We will explore the famous Golden Rock cave temple in Dambulla, which is one of the eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Sri Lanka.
- Being a sacred pilgrimage site for 22 centuries, this cave monastery is a vast isolated rock mass with its five caverns recorded as the largest best preserved cave-temple complex in Sri Lanka.
- The Buddhist mural paintings (covering an area of

2,100 sq. meters) are of particular importance as are the 157 statues including a 47 foot long statue of the recumbent Buddha.

- We will head to Matale which is 26km away from Kandy. Surrounding the Matale town is the Knuckles Mountain Range. Matale is mainly an agricultural area, where tea, rubber, vegetable and spices cultivation dominate. We will visit the spice garden & the historic Aluvihara Temple, on the north side of the town it was the location where the *Pali* canon was first written down in full text on Ola (palm) leaves in 29 B.C.
- Then we will head to the city of Knuckles to relax and spend the night.

Day 06

(Knuckles)



- Breakfast in the hotel
- Today you will go out in a hike in the Knuckles mountain range. Lush green hills and foliage of Knuckles Range, calls out many trekkers and adventure enthusiasts to traverse up to an altitude of 1400 meters to be kissed by the sun in Mother Nature's bounty. You can explore the wilderness and the essence of nature on your

terms whilst spotting the many fauna of the region, such as 200 bird species and the 15 species that are endemic to the land. You can spend an overnight stay at camp, while keeping an eye out for shutter-worthy animals such as Jungle Fowl, Yellow Eared Bulbul, Dusk Blue Flycatcher, Brown Capped Babbler, Sri Lankan Grackle and many more.

Day 07

(Knuckles - Kandy)



- Breakfast in the campsite.
- Continue rest of the trekking and transfer to Kandy in the afternoon.
- Kandy is also well known as the center of Buddhism. At your convenience become acquainted with the city of Kandy, pay your respects to the Temple of the Tooth Relic and later in the evening view a cultural performance.

Day 08

(Kandy – Nuwaraeliya via Ramboda)



- Breakfast in the hotel
- For an in depth flavor of Kandy, spend the morning walking the streets or gem shopping.
- We will transfer to Nuwaraeliya (Little England) via Ramboda. During the drive relish to endless views of tea carpeted valleys and the bright flash of female “tea pluckers” in their pimento, fuchsia and cerise saris. We will visit a tea factory on our way.
- Once in Nuwara Eliya you will realize that the abundant rainfall combined with sunshine, cold nights and misty mornings offers the perfect climate for producing high grown teas. With brick and stone-built houses, rose gardens and perfect lawns Nuwara Eliya in many ways resembles a 'small English village'. Enjoy a guided stroll pass the 18-hole golf course, the colonial member’s only Hill Club and English styled country homes.

Day 09

(Nuwaraeliya – Horton Plains - Nuwaraeliya)



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Then we will head to Horton plains, the highest plateau in the country. It is one of the very important National parks in Sri Lanka especially for its topographical variations. It has unique vegetation and is famous for many rare and endemic highland birds. The most awesome physical feature of the Horton Plains is the

escarpment that falls 880 meters to the lowlands of the southern region of the island. Aptly known as the 'World's End' the view from the precipice of the countryside below towards the south coast is spectacular.

- Return to Nuwaraeliya upon completion. After lunch and at your convenience commence a sightseeing tour of the city. Visit the Nuwaraeliya Town, Market place, Golf Course, (one of the finest 18 holes Golf courses in Asia) the Hill club, and drive around this hill station viewing Lake Gregory.

Day 10

(Nuwaraeliya – Nanu Oya - Ella)



- Breakfast in the hotel
- Transfer to Nanu oya station (which is the closest railway station to Nuwaraeliya), to take a train trip to Ella.
- Spend the rest of the day leisurely to blow out the steam with the natural beauty of Ella.

Day 11

(Ella)



- Breakfast in hotel.
- Spend the whole day in Ella. You can also visit the 9 arch bridge, Demodara Bridge and many more including remarkable sceneries and waterfalls. You can add hiking expeditions or village walks to your tour at your pace.
- Spend the night in Ella.

Day 12

(Ella – Udawalawe / Yala - Tissamaharama)



- Breakfast in the hotel
- The whole day is reserved for a full day safari. You have the chance to select one national park between Yala and Udawalawe at your pace.
- Both these National Park includes animals such as wild bears, peacocks, wild buffalo, mongooses, foxes, crocodiles, leopards, elephants, Sambar and spotted deers. But specifically Yala National Park is famous for leopards and Udawalawe is famous for a

higher number of elephants.

- With luck you will witness all these creatures over a full day jeep safari with a naturalist guide.
- After the safari we will head to Tissamaharama to relax and spend the night.

Day 13

(Tissamaharama - Mirissa)



- Breakfast in the hotel
- Spend the morning leisurely at Tissamaharama. Then transfer to Mirissa in afternoon.
- Spend an idyllic evening watching the crested waves as they bounce off the sun-kissed sands. It is simply amazing to be in a place where time stands still and your nights are endless.

Day 14

(Mirissa)



- Mirissa is one of the world's best location for watching blue whales and sperm whales as well as pods of dolphins. This is because the continental shelf is closer to the surface at this point and hence, it is more likely to sight the world's largest animal in nature. Set off early morning on your expedition accompanied by a local naturalists guide. Don't forget your camera to catch their tails flip.
- After and exciting experience return to the hotel and spend the evening at leisure.

Day 15

(Mirissa – Colombo - Airport)



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- We will transfer to Colombo via the southern express-way.
- Do a city tour and spend the rest of the day enjoying some sightseeing in Colombo along with some shopping before catching the flight to onward destinations.
- Alternatively, you could always soak up some sun on Colombo's prestige beaches which is close as an hour away from the airport.
- As all good things must come to an end, your chauffeur guide with comfortable take you back to the international airport for a safe journey home.

————— End of Services —————

Terms & Conditions

Your Holiday Includes:

- Per person cost of twin-sharing accommodation.
- Transport by Private air-conditioned car or van and services of English speaking chauffeur guide for the entire duration.
- Local government taxes & service charges.
- Meals: Breakfast.
- Half day safari in Wilpattu (including jeep hire).
- Tickets for a train ride (on request).
- Half day safari in Udawalawe or Yala (including jeep hire).
- Whale & Dolphin watching boat cruise (including boat hire and transfer).

Your Holiday Excludes:

- Visas
- Meals: Lunch & Dinner
- Travel Insurance
- Optional tours & activities
- Flights
- Airport taxes
- Activities & Highlights
- Camera & video permits at cultural sights
- All expenses of personal nature
- Tips and portage; if you are satisfied we recommend tipping your chauffeur guide
- Spa and wellness treatment
- Entrances

Reservation, Cancellation Policy & Note

- All reservation subject to availability at time of booking.
- Quote is subject to availability of rooms, tax increases, price fluctuations & any peak season supplements.
- The cost is based on cash basis. For any reservation, 50% of the total tour cost should be paid 30 days prior to the arrival date and the balance payment to be paid on arrival.
- The standard check-in time in Sri Lanka is 14:00 hours and standard check-out time is 11:00 hours.
- All drive times are approximate and are subject to change.