

## **Highlights & Glamour of Sri Lanka**

Spend 12 days witnessing the cultural highlights of Sri Lanka and unwind in the Central hills.

**Locations:** | Anuradhapura | Trincomalee | Passikudah | Polonnaruwa | Sigiriya | Minneriya National Park | Dambulla | Matale | Kandy | Nuwaraeliya | Horton Plains | Kitulgala | Colombo |

**| Archeological Sites | Beaches | Cultural | Trekking | Rafting | Wildlife | Ruins |**

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### **Day 01**

*(Airport – Anuradhapura)*

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- At the airport you will be greeted by your chauffeur guide who will take your residence for the next eleven nights. After completing formalities at the airport, head straight to Anuradhapura. 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 the archeological city of Anuradhapura.

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## Day 02

*(Anuradhapura - Trincomalee)*

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- Breakfast in the hotel
- Then 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 Trincomalee. Check-in the hotel to relax & spend the night.

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## Day 03

*(Trincomalee)*

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- Afterwards, return back to the hotel to relax & spend the night.

- Breakfast in the hotel
- Enjoy the day that is arranged for a journey to Trincomalee. We make tremendous strides at a pace to surpass the Trincomalee where you can enjoy swimming & wind surfing. You can visit either the Thirukoneswaram Temple or the Southern Kailasam. Perhaps both of them can be visited. Southern Kailasam was built by sage Agastiyar under the instructions of Lord Shiva.

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## Day 04

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*(Trincomalee - Passikudah)*



- Breakfast in the hotel
- Transfer to Passikudah. Passikudah basking on the upper east coast of Sri Lanka should not be ever missed. The widely stretched sandy beach with pleasant sea waves.
- The day is arranged for you to entertain and enjoy the full day leisurely and freely hopefully for a relaxation.

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## Day 05

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*(Passikudah)*



- Breakfast in the hotel
- Since one day in Passikudah is not enough, spend another day on the widely stretched sandy beach with pleasant sea waves. The day is arranged for you to entertain and enjoy the full day leisurely and freely hopefully for a relaxation. It is simply amazing to be in a place where time stands still and your night is endless.

## Day 06

*(Passikudah – Polonnaruwa – Sigiriya)*



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- The day begins by transferring to Polonnaruwa & exploring 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.
- Transfer to Sigiriya. Check-in the hotel to relax & spend the night.

## Day 07

*(Sigiriya – Polonnaruwa - Sigiriya)*



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Set off to Sigiriya, to climb 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 metres 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 we will head to Minneriya National Park for an evening safari. The park serves as a sanctuary for numerous species of flora and fauna, monkeys, endemic to Sri Lanka, rare and endangered animal species and many migrant and resident species of birds. Also witness a huge number of elephants too. The Minneriya National Park has a water tank that was constructed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century and continues to sustain the various species life forms till today.
- After the safari, you will head to Habarana, where you will check-in to the hotel to relax & spend the night.



## Day 08

*(Habarana – Dambulla – Matale - Kandy)*



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Then we will head towards the city of Dambulla to explore the famous Golden Rock cave temple, 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,
- Shortly afterwards you will arrive in spiritual Kandy, surrounded by greenery and the great Mahaweli River. 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 09

*(Kandy - Nuwaraeliya)*



- 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). 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 10

*(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 11

*(Nuwaraeliya – Kitulgala - Colombo)*



- Breakfast in the hotel
- From the hills of Nuwaraeliya descend to Colombo. On the way, you may choose either to visit the Pinnawala elephant orphanage or Kitulgala for a white water rafting adventure.
- Spend the rest of the day enjoying some sightseeing in Colombo along with some shopping and spend the night in Colombo.

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## Day 12

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(Colombo - Airport)



- Breakfast in the hotel.
- 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.

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## Terms & Conditions

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### Your Holiday Includes:

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- 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 Minneriya (including jeep hire).
- 40 Minutes Kitulgala White Water Rafting (on request).
- Kitulgala confident jumping adventure (on request).

### Your Holiday Excludes:

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- 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

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- 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.