

SRI LANKA

Programme : Sri Lanka Tour
Duration : 8 Days / 7 Nights



Tour Itinerary

Day 01 : AIRPORT / PINNAWALA / CULTURAL TRAINGLE

Arrival to Colombo International Airport and meet and welcome by Sri Lanka Express representative and guide at the airport arrival lobby.

Transfer directly to Cultural Traingle.

Enroute Visit Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage, established in 1975, commenced with seven orphans. Today some of these orphans enjoy the fortune of seeing their grandchildren born in the same location. The original objective of establishing the orphanage inclined more towards tourism, but is soon became a conservation and educational centre. With the help of local and foreign elephant experts, Pinnawela started a scientific captive-breeding programme for elephants. The free movement of the herd enhanced the chances for



respective individuals of both sexes to get together and mate. The nearby river played a dominant role in this regard, and in 1984, the first baby of Pinnawela was born.

Transfer to Cultural Triangle

Dinner & overnight stay at Hotel

Day 02

: **ANURADHAPURA / MIHINTALE**

Breakfast at Hotel

Proceed to **Anuradhapura** through Marawila, Chilaw and Puttalam.

Visit Anuradhapura. It was the first capital and undoubtedly the grandest city of the ancient Ceylon. It is the home of two World Heritage Sites. Many places of historical and archaeological interest could be visited. Sri Maha Bodhi (Sacred Bo-Tree) was brought as a sapling of the tree under which Prince Siddhartha attained to enlightenment and it is over 2200 years old and is the oldest historically documented tree in the world. The Brazen Palace (2nd century B.C), the 1600 stone columns you see are all that is left of a magnificent multi-storied residence for monks. Ruwanwelisaya (2nd century B.C) is the most famous of all the Dagobas. It originally depicted the perfect 'bubble shape' that modern restoration has not been able to accurately reproduce. 'Samadhi' Buddha statue (4th century AD) is one of the most famous statues, depicting the Buddha in a state of 'Samadhi' or deep meditation. Isurumuniya rock temple (3rd century B.C) is well known for its rock carvings.



Visit Mihintale

Mihintale is a mountain peak near [Anuradhapura](#) in [Sri Lanka](#). It is believed by Sri Lankans to be the site of a meeting between the Buddhist monk [Mahinda](#) and King [Devanampiyatissa](#) which inaugurated the presence of Buddhism in Sri Lanka. It is now a pilgrimage site, and the site of several religious monuments and abandoned structures.

Return to Hotel

Dinner & overnight stay at Hotel

Day 03

: **SIGIRIYA / POLONNARUWA**

Breakfast at Hotel

Proceed to Sigiriya.

Climb the 5th century Sigiriya rock fortress which is a world heritage site, Built by King Kashyapa (477-495 AD).

The 'Lion Rock' is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 metres from the scrub



jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town. A moat, rampart, and extensive gardens including the renowned water gardens ring the base of the rock. Visit the world-renowned frescoes of the 'Heavenly Maidens' of Sigiriya, which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway. These frescoes are painted in earth pigments on plaster.

Transfer to Polonnaruwa.

Visit Polonnaruwa, which was the 2nd capital city of Sri Lanka built in the 11th and 12th centuries AD, and which is a world heritage site. Here you can see the ruins of the Royal Palace, the Gal Viharaya where 4 splendid statues of the Buddha in 'Upright', 'Sedentary' and 'Recumbent' postures carved out of rock could be seen, the Audience Hall, the Lotus Bath, the statue of king Parakramabahu, and the Parakrama Samudraya - a lake built by King Parakramabahu the great. There are also monuments of famous places of worship such as the Shiva Temple, the Lankathilake, the Watadage, the Galpotha, the Kiri Vehera and the remains of a former Temple of the Tooth Relic.



Return to the hotel

Dinner & overnight stay at Hotel



Day 04 : **DAMBULLA / MATALE / KANDY**
Breakfast at Hotel

Proceed to Dambulla.

Dambulla rock temple was built by king Walagambahu in the 1st century B.C. and it is a World Heritage Site. It is the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. The complex of five caves with over 2000 sq. metres of painted walls and ceilings is the largest area of paintings found in the world. It contains over 150 images of the Buddha of which the largest is the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock and spanning 14 metres.

Transfer to Kandy via Matale.

Visit a spice garden in Matale to see different spices for which Sri Lanka is famous for. Here, clients could see different spices and how some of these spices are grown and processed. **Witness a Cookery demonstration & a free massage.**



Transfer from Matale to Kandy.

Kandy was the last capital of the Sri Lankan kings and is a World Heritage Site. The name "Kandy" conjures visions of splendor and magnificence. Many of

the legends, traditions and folklore are still lovingly kept alive. Drive around the Kandy Lake built by the last Sinhala king, Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe in 1798. Visit the Kandy town and bazaar, the arts and crafts centre, a gem museum and a lapidary.

Also visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic in Kandy. Thereafter witness a cultural show.



Dinner & overnight stay at Hotel

Day 05

: **KANDY / PERADENIYA / NUWARA ELIYA**
Breakfast at Hotel

Proceed to Peradeniya.

Peradeniya botanical garden was first built as a pleasure garden by a Sinhala king and was expanded by the British. It is 147 acres in extent and provides an amazing variety of trees, plants and flowers.



Transfer from Peradeniya to Nuwara Eliya.

En route **visit a tea plantation and factory**, where the best tea in the world is produced. You will be told all about the process of manufacturing tea. You can also see how tea is graded. Taste a cup of pure Ceylon tea in the factory.



Visit Nuwara Eliya. Nuwara Eliya, because of its invigorating mountain climate and scenery, is Sri Lanka's most popular hill resort. Nuwara Eliya is also the heart of Sri Lanka's tea country producing a significant share of the world's best tea. Sri Lanka's highest mountain Pidurutalagala (8282 feet) is located here. Nuwara Eliya also has one of the finest 18 hole golf courses in South Asia.

Dinner & overnight stay at Galway Hotel

Day 06

: **NUWARA ELIYA / YALA**
Breakfast at Hotel

Transfer from Nuwara Eliya to Yala passing Bandarawela & Ella. Stop at the water falls.

In the afternoon, do a safari of the Yala National Park by jeep.

Yala is the largest National Park in Sri Lanka which is the home for wild elephants, wild boars, wild buffaloes, leopards, bears, deers and crocodiles. Large flocks of migratory and indigenous birds are also found here.



Transfer to your hotel.

Dinner & overnight stay at Hotel

Day 07 : **YALA / GALLE / COLOMBO**
Breakfast at Hotel

Transfer to Galle.

Galle was once the chief port of Ceylon. It is still well known for hand-made lace. You can also visit the Galle Fort (spanning 90 acres) which was originally built by the Portuguese and later extended by the Dutch in 1663. This is a World Heritage Site.



Transfer to Colombo

Do a city tour of Colombo

Colombo like many capital cities in developing countries is fast changing its face. Almost overnight, skyscrapers arise from where old buildings once stood. Yet in some parts, the old world charm is retained. For example, there is a 100-year-old clock tower and several British built colonial buildings. Other places of interest are the Pettah bazaar - where one can shop for bargain, a Hindu and a Buddhist temple, residential areas where you find the stately homes of the affluent, the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) an outright gift to Sri Lanka from the People's Republic of China.

Dinner & overnight stay at Hotel

Day 07 : **COLOMBO / AIRPORT**
Breakfast at Hotel

Transfer to Airport for departure flight.



End of Services !
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