

07 Days Sri Lanka Archeological Sites Tour

Day 01: MON (Narita to Colombo)

Depart from Narita by **UL-455 at 13:20 & arrive Colombo at 19:10 hrs.**
Upon arrival at Colombo Airport, meet our representative and transfer to hotel for overnight.

Day 02: TUE (Colombo –Anandapura)

After breakfast, drive to Anandapura via Sigiriya (56 km, east of Colombo).
Upon arrival at Sigiriya, transfer to hotel for dinner & overnight.

Lunch at Sigiriya.

Sigiriya is one of the most valuable historical monuments of Sri Lanka. Referred by locals as the Eighth Wonder of the World this ancient palace and fortress complex has significant archaeological importance and attracts thousands of tourists every year. It is probably the most visited tourist destination of Sri Lanka. Few historic sites in the world have such an interesting tale to tell as that of Sigiriya. The palace is located in the heart of the island between the towns of Dambulla and Habarane on a massive rocky plateau 370 meters above the sea level.



After lunch climb **Sigiriya Rock** fortress and see the 1500 year old frescoes.

Then continue our drive to Anandapura, upon arrival check in hotel.

At evening proceed for sightseeing of Jaya **Srimaha Bodhiya**. This wonderful event took place 2600 years ago seated with his back against under an Esathu tree by the river Neranjana in the Buddhagaya, India. As the ascetic Siddhartha attained the Sambodhi Gnana under the shade of the Esathu tree, this highly venerated tree came to be known as the 'Bodhi'.



Ruwanweli Seya: A feast of civil engineering marvels. Designed by Arhants or enlightened ones themselves archaeologists and investigators inquire the greater purpose of a stupa whose construction was predicted by Buddha and was awaited by Arhants, gods and humans. It was built nearly 2500 years ago,



Mirisawatiya is one of the most ancient Dagabas in Sri Lanka. Built by the great king Dutugemunu, this magnificent structure is a must see for any visitor to the sacred city of Anuradhapura. It is believed that the great king Dutugemunu made many wishes here that have come true during his lifetime.



Sandakada Pahana is known as Moon-Stone, is a unique feature of the Sinhalese architecture of ancient Sri Lanka. It is an elaborately carved semi-circular piece of stone which stood at the foot of a flight of steps in most Buddhist buildings. It is thought that the moon stones originated as blank square stone and later developed into a semi-circular shape. Historians believe that this was due to the craftsman of later kingdoms lacked the artistic skills of the older generations and they attempted to create variety and complex patterns in order to make their moon-stones attractive to the eye.



After dinner, night at the hotel

Day 03: WED (Anandapura - Jaffna)

After breakfast drive to Jaffna (04-05 Hrs approx/ 200 Kms).

Jaffna, the main city of Jaffna district, until the year 1824, it was called Waligama of North Province, the Jaffna district is one of the 25 districts organized into the nine provinces, an artificial creation of the Colonial British (1815-1948) for the purposes of administration of the Island of Sri Lanka, then called Ceylon.



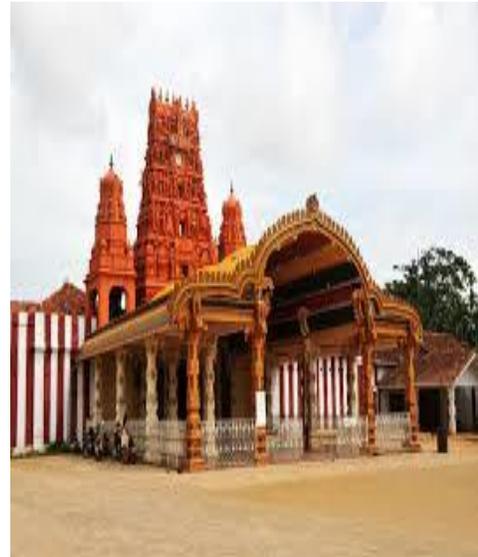
Lunch at the hotel

Afternoon visit **Viharaya**, silver Temple is a 2nd-century BC is located in a junction and surrounded with huge trees. This temple was recently modified. Earlier it was a small temple. There are a lot of places inside that'll be interesting and good place for Buddhist enthusiasts.

The temple is clean and makes you feel calm and quiet instantly. The temple gets filled with devotees on poya days and make sure you wear nice decent covered white clothes as this is a sacred place for Buddhists.



Then proceed for visit to **Nallur Kovil** is one of the most significant Hindu temples in the Jaffna. It stands in the town of Nallur. The kovil's current structure dates from 1734, and its huge compound shelters decorative brass work, larger-than-life murals, pillared halls and a colonnaded, stepped holy pool. Several friendly priests, some of whom speak English, can answer questions about the temple and its traditions. Visitors must remove their shoes; men need to remove their shirts as well.



You can also say a prayer at the sacred tree in the temple, get a piece of cloth from outside the temple, wrap some coins in it and tie it to the tree along with a prayer. Afterwards, ring the big brass bell. The temple is the focus of the enormous and spectacular Nallur Festival in mid-summer.

After dinner, night at the hotel

Day 04: THU (Jaffna - Kandy-Dambulla Rock Temple)

Morning proceed to **Kandy** (243 kms; 3-4 hrs drive). It is a major city in Sri Lanka and is located in the Central Province and the second largest city in the country. It was the last capital of the ancient kings' era of Sri Lanka. Kandy, founded in the 14th century, is the southern tip of Sri Lanka's 'Cultural Triangle'. The city became the capital of the kingdom in 1592, during a troubled time when many of the islanders were fleeing to the interior, away from the coastal areas the European powers were fighting over.



After lunch at Kandy, continue to **Dambulla Rock Temple**. Also known as the Golden Temple of Dambulla is a World Heritage Site in Sri Lanka, situated in the central part of the country. The beautiful Royal Rock Temple sits 100m to 150m above the road in the southern part of Dambulla. The hike up to the temples begins along a vast, sloping rock face with steps in some places. There are excellent views over the surrounding countryside from the level of the caves. The caves' history as a place of worship is thought to date from around the 1st century BC, when King Valagamba, driven out of Anuradhapura, took refuge here.



After the Temple visit, continue upto **Matale Spice Garden**. Visit a spice garden in Matale to see many different types of spices, 25 km from the hill capital of Kandy, the Matale spice gardens are among the best on the island. You will be introduced about different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown.



Gardens are open to visitors, a delightful place to stroll in fragrant greenery and learn about nutmeg, pepper vines, clove trees and curry, cinnamon and the precious cardamom, a relative of ginger. It grows in the shade of high jungle trees and can only be harvested by hand.

Visitors may buy spices, traditional remedies and cosmetics, taste herbal brew and in some venues, enjoy the full flavors of Sri Lankan spices.

Dinner & overnight at the Hotel.

Day 05: FRI (Kandy- Colombo)

After early breakfast, we will proceed to visit Royal Botanical Gardens, Gems Market, Shopping of Souvenirs, Handicrafts, Brass and Silver products and Garments.



Also visit the **Temple of the Tooth** is approached through a large rectangular garden stretching from the center of the town right up to the Temple itself. The shrine consists of a two storied rectangular building on an oblong platform faced with stone. There are three entrances, the main one facing the Drumming Hall and one each on its north and south sides. A moonstone and stairs lead to the porch at the main entrance. On either side of the stairs are two stone lions, gifted by Chinese pilgrims in the late 19th century. It is here that devotees assemble every evening to worship the Tooth.



If time permit then visit to **Kandy Lake** is in the heart of the hill city of Kandy, built in 1807 by King Sri Vikrama Rajasinha of Sri Lanka next to the Temple of the Tooth. Later the British used it as an ammunition store and added the fortress-style parapet around the perimeter. The nicest part to walk along is the area around the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic. Due to some past cases of harassment, single women should not walk here alone after dark. On the south shore, in front of the Malwatte Maha Vihara, the circular enclosure is the monks' bathhouse.



Take the lunch and continue to Colombo. Upon arrival, Check-in to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 06: SAT (Colombo – Fly back)

On the last day, this morning after breakfast, we will commence sightseeing of the city of Colombo, visit National Museum and Asokaramaya Buddhist Temple.

National Museum: This museum is dated in the sense that it reminds one of other British colonial museums. It is the largest museum in Sri Lanka. It is maintained by the Department of National Museum of the Central Government. The Museum contains a collection of much importance to Sri Lanka such as the Regalia of the country, including the Throne and Crown of the Kandyan Monarchs as well as many other exhibits telling the story of ancient Sri Lanka.



Asokaramaya Buddhist Temple is more than 100 years old temple in Colombo. It is known for its spectacular murals of early 20th century Buddhist art which has distinctive western influences.



At the last moment make the shopping. Take the lunch and transfer to Airport for the departure flight **UL-454 depart Colombo at 23:30, arrive Narita at 12:50 AM**

Day 07: SUN (Arrive back at your home)
