

Join us & enjoy to visit Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka has a history dating back to the birth of time. It is a place where the original soul of Buddhism still flourishes and where nature's beauty remains scarce. Few places in the world can offer the traveler such a remarkable combination of dramatic landscapes, perfect beaches, captivating cultural heritage and unique experiences, this is an island of magical proportions, once known as Serendib, Taprobane, the Pearl of the Indian Ocean, and Ceylon. Discover refreshingly Sri Lanka!

Sri Lanka is also famous for its spicy food, exotic fruits and collection of sweetmeats. With so many cultures living next to each other life in Sri Lanka continues among a series of celebrations throughout the year.

12 Days Sri Lanka Impressive Tour

Day 01: (Colombo)

Upon arrival in Colombo, our representative will welcome at airport and then transfer to your hotel.

Afternoon, proceed to sightseeing tour of this bustling city. Historically, Colombo is the commercial capital and largest city of Sri Lanka. Colombo has a population of 5.6 million. Colombo was known as a trading port due to its natural harbor. Dutch and British before Ceylon gained independence in 1948. Many old colonial buildings can still be seen around the city alongside more traditional Sri Lankan architecture.

Transfer to hotel for dinner & overnight.

Day 02: (Colombo – Anuradhapura-Mihintale- Sigiriya)

This morning, we will walk through lush Sri Lankan countryside and arrive at **Anuradhapura**, the country's ancient capital.

The city is considered sacred to the Buddhist world and is surrounded by monasteries. Your city tour takes in the well-preserved ruins of this area and the Sri Maha Bodhi, or Bo Tree, the oldest recorded tree in the world. This remarkable tree was a seedling taken from India.

Later visit the pilgrimage site of **Mihintale**, the cradle of Buddhism in Sri Lanka, before continuing to Sigiriya, 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



Continue our journey to Sigiriya. (**Approx 68 Kms; 1 hour drive**)

Sigiriya: Sigiriya is a unique witness to the civilization of Ceylon during the years of the reign of Kassapa I. The site of the 'Lion Mountain' was visited from the 6th century AD, by passionate admirers. The frescoes of Sigiriya inaugurated a pictorial style which endured over many centuries. The poems inscribed on the rock by certain of these admirers, and known as the 'Sigiri graffiti,' are among the most ancient texts in the Sinhalese language, and thus show the considerable influence exerted by the abandoned city of Kassapa I on both literature and thought.

The ruins of the capital built by the parricidal King Kassapa I (477–95) lie on the steep slopes and at the summit of a granite peak standing some 180m high (the 'Lion's Rock', which dominates the jungle from all sides). A series of galleries and staircases emerging from the mouth of a gigantic lion constructed of bricks and plaster provide access to the site.

Upon arrival transfer to Hotel for dinner & overnight.

Day 03: (Sigiriya-Polonnaruwa-Minneriya-Sigiriya)

This morning visit the famous **Sigiriya Rock Fortress**. Sigiriya is one of the most valuable historical monuments of Sri Lanka. It is an ancient palace located in the central Matale District near the town of Dambulla in the Central Province, Sri Lanka. By locals as it is Eighth Wonder of the World. This ancient palace and fortress complex has significant archaeological importance and attracts thousands of tourists every year. It is long-standing Buddhist monastery and a fortress. It is probably the most visited tourist destination of Sri Lanka.

On the way to the top, you will see the famous 'Cloud Maidens' frescoes painted on the rock wall.

After lunch visits the ruins of **Polonnaruwa**, Polonnaruwa was the second capital of Sri Lanka after the destruction of Anuradhapura in 993. It comprises, besides the Brahmanic monuments built by the Cholas, the monumental ruins of the fabulous garden-city created by Parakramabahu I in the 12th century.



Then, before taking an afternoon safari drive to **Minneriya National Park**: This is a national park in North Central Province of Sri Lanka. The area was designated as a national park on 12 August 1997, having been originally declared as a wildlife sanctuary in 1938, where you might spot elephants, sambar deer and if you are very lucky and a leopard also.

After dinner return to hotel for overnight at Sigiriya.



Day 04: (Sigiriya-Kandy 90 kms, one and half hour drive)

After breakfast, in the morning you'll visit the absorbing **Dambulla Rock Cave Temple**. This is a sacred pilgrimage site for 22 centuries. It located at an elevation of 1118 feet from the sea level raises a massive rock from the surrounding plains of Dambulla of 600 feet high and over 2000 feet. This cave monastery, with its five sanctuaries, is the largest, best-preserved cave-temple complex in Sri Lanka.



Continue our visit to spice garden and a batik factory on the way to Kandy, the cultural centre of Sri Lanka. Also visit the **Temple of the Tooth**, where it is believed that the tooth of the Buddha is enshrined. It is just north of the lake and Sri Lanka's most important Buddhist relic – a tooth of the Buddha. However, we cannot see the tooth, because it is kept in a gold casket shaped like a dagoba (stupa).



Upon arrival at Kandy, visit a cultural show and be entertained by Kandyan dancers and drummers (**Optional**)

Then take the dinner and transfer to hotel for overnight.

Day 05: (Full day at Kandy)

After breakfast, we will proceed to full day visit of **Kandy** the green city. It is just a few minutes from the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic and the city-centre. It is the second largest city in the country after Colombo. It was the last capital of the ancient kings' era of Sri Lanka.



Then we will visit colorful **Kandy Market**, the upper lake drive, and the **Gem Museum**. Also visit the **Arts & Crafts Centre** and the Peradeniya Botanical Gardens which are renowned for their collection of orchids, spices and medicinal plants.

After full day visit, return back to hotel for dinner & overnight.



Day 06: (Kandy-Nuwara Eliya)

After breakfast, we will scenic drive to the misty hills of **Nuwara Eliya**. Nuwara Eliya is considered the capital of Sri Lanka's tea industry, with its cool temperatures, humidity and rainfall providing the perfect climate for tea production.



En route, visit a **Ceylon tea plantation and factory**, learning about the cultivation process.



This evening, take a sightseeing tour around the town known as '**Little England**,' Nuwara Eliya is set nearly 2,000 meters above sea level and surrounded by rolling hills and lush tea plantations.

After the full day visit, return to your hotel for overnight.



Day 07: (Nuwara Eliya-Horton Plains) (3-4 hours walk)

Today after an early breakfast, we will journey upto steep mountains to the **Horton Plains National Park**. This mountainous region is blanketed in mist-wreathed forests and affords spectacular views of the valleys below, occasionally extending to the coastline.

You can get your tickets from the entrance gate at Horton plains and drive up to the trail starting point of world's end, where the



wildlife department officials check your tickets. Beyond this point, you have to walk along the trail, which is clearly visible.

Enjoy a trek through the park before returning to your hotel and afternoon leisure at your own.

At the evening, enjoy the surrounding areas and overnight at the hotel.

Day 08: (Nuwara Eliya- Tissamaharamaya)

After breakfast journey south towards Tissamaharama. Tissamaharamaya is a town in Hambantota District, Southern Province, Sri Lanka. It used to be the capital of the Sinhalese Kingdom of Ruhuna as early as the 3rd century B.C. Only few buildings from that period can still be seen today.

The rest of the day is free to relax at your hotel.

Dinner & overnight at the hotel at **Tissamaharamaya**

Day 09: (Tissamaharamaya – Full day visit to Yala National Park)

Morning, take a jeep safari through Yala National Park full day excursion. Yala National Park is the most visited and second largest national park in Sri Lanka. The park consists of five blocks, two of which are now open for the public and also adjoining parks. Yala is also a birdwatcher's paradise, with around 230 species recorded in the park. As well as leopards and birds, look out for elephants, sloth bears, water buffalo, macaques and mugger crocodiles. Later, you will have another opportunity to spot animals on an afternoon safari.

After the whole day enjoyment of Yala National Park and some animals, return to hotel for the rest & overnight.

Day 10: (Tissamaharamaya – Galle - Colombo)

This morning, travel to Galle and tour the **Galle Fort**. It is situated in the Bay of Galle on the southwest coast of Sri Lanka and was built first in 1588 by the Portuguese, then extensively prepared by the Dutch during the 17th century. It is a historical, archaeological and architectural heritage monument, which even after more than 423 years maintains a polished appearance, due to extensive reconstruction work done by Archaeological Department of Sri Lanka.



After visit Galle Fort, continue drive to Colombo. **(125 Kms; 2 hrs drive)**
Upon arrival, transfer to Hotel for dinner & overnight.

Day 11: (Colombo – Fly back)

After breakfast, transfer to airport for your International Flight.

Day 12: (Arrive back at your home)
