



Sri Lanka

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Great explorers were enticed by the lush greenery, the fragrant spices, and its tropical lifestyle. Some wrote chapters about it, some wrote books, and some never left after falling in love with the island and its many hidden treasures. 2000 years of cultural history is recorded at ancient sites and temples some of which are now listed UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The recent past includes the rule of the Dutch and British over this sovereign island later gaining independence in 1948.

Today it's famous for its delicious tea, turquoise beaches, exotic wildlife, ancient monuments, and many more. An island so small, yet so unexpectedly diverse from every point of view



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EXPLORE

Sri Lanka is an out of this world tropical island which is blessed with an exciting piece of everything possible on earth. Escape to a paradise on earth where you can trot along the golden sands sipping a fresh king-coconut, safari through the lush jungle to see mighty elephants and elusive leopards and perfect your golf swing on a stunning green golf course.

This is an outdoor paradise somewhere to totally escape and fall completely off the grid. Buses, tuk-tuks and mopeds all noisily hurtling along the busy streets. Once known as Ceylon, Sri Lanka was a country that

Sri Lanka is a country whose Buddhist past is as prevalent today as it was thousands of years ago. So, with such a lengthy heritage there's a great array of temples, ancient monasteries, and monuments to explore, both in the town and hidden away in the islands' dense forests.

Here you'll find local artists taking their inspiration from Sri Lanka's wildlife. Sri Lankan craftsmanship has a long and vibrant history. Over the centuries the islanders have produced everything from lace work, elaborate metal works & carvings in wood. Buddha's Hindu Gods, traditional Sri Lankan masks and elephants are among the most popular carvings.

The people in Sri Lanka are what makes this wonderful island what it is. The smiles, the ever-so-helpful attitude, the laid-back lifestyle, and the rustic architecture all tastefully lingers in your mind every step of the way.

WEATHER & BEST TIME TO VISIT

The weather in Sri Lanka is dictated by two monsoon seasons which bring rain to the west and south-west coasts from May to September: and the east coast and northern region between October and February. The rest of the year is sunny and dry. Temperatures are constant year-round, with coastal regions enjoying average temperatures of 25-30C and the highlands 15-18C on average.

Sri Lanka is a year-round destination since there is something for every discerning traveler. From pilgrim experiences to adventure, culture, honeymoon, or even special interest experiences, there is something you can do in Sri Lanka anytime of the year. With recent weather pattern changes, it is hard to predict when it would rain and when the sun is out, however, making a note that Sri Lanka is a tropical destination and rain is to be expected anytime of the day, any time of the year; always helps.

Our recommended best time of the year to travel is between November to April. However, its best to keep in mind that this period is also quite expensive to travel as the European winters and the festive year end generally attracts a lot of travelers to Sri Lanka.

VISA

VISA can be obtained online via the government e-visa website – www.eta.gov.lk. If you are a citizen of Singapore, Maldives, or Seychelles, you are exempt from the requirement of obtaining visa for 1 month. It could take up to 5 working days for a VISA to process depending on where you are from.



10 DAYS TOUR IN SRILANKA

Day 1 & 2 - Airport | Colombo

45 Minutes Drive

Arrival in Sri Lanka on GF144 at 0905hrs, you will be blessed to get your first taste of warm Sri Lankan hospitality. Our Airport Representative from **Esna Holidays** will welcome you at the Airport and will guide you to the transportation.

Your First Destination will be Colombo & Check-in Hotel.

Afternoon, commence sightseeing of the commercial capital of Sri Lanka

COLOMBO CITY TOUR,

drive through the city taking you to the busy commercial areas as well as the tree lined residential, Cinnamon Gardens, Visit Fort, the former British administrative Centre and military garrison, Sea Street – the Goldsmiths quarters in the heart of Pettah, the Bazaar area, where is also a Hindu Temple with elaborate stone carvings, and the Dutch Church of Wolfe dhal dating back to 1749.



Colombo Shopping Tour: Take a fascinating journey in the capital of the isle paradise. This commercial and administrative hub of the country proves to be a blend of cultural texture, religions, and socioeconomic classes. Visit bargain markets, Independence Square, Odel Shopping Mall, Colombo City Center, One Galle Face, Shopping at Laksala state owned Handicraft's emporium, Dutch Hospital and Premadasa Gems & gallery.

Later proceed to **Sri Jjnananda Children's Orphanage**, Lunch sponsored by Mr. Antonis Antoniou. Group will meet and share with the Children.

Overnight Stay in **The Kingsbury Hotel**

Day 3 - Colombo | Dambulla | Minneriya

3 Hours 30 Minutes Drive

After an appetizing breakfast checkout from the hotel & proceed to Dambulla

Visit ***Dambulla Cave Temple** – which is located in the North Central Province. This UNESCO World Heritage Site which dates to the 01st century BC, is an amazing complex of 05 caves, first used as a refuge by an ancient king who on regaining his throne, commissioned magnificent carved images within the living rock. Later kings made further improvements and the caves contain over 150 images of the Buddha of which the largest is a colossal figure spanning 15 meters.

Proceed to a Local ***School Visit** and Enjoy the company of Children.

*In the evening Safari in **Minneriya national park***

MINNERIYA NATIONAL PARK 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.[1] The reason for declaring the area as protected is to protect the catchment of Minneriya tank and the wildlife of the surrounding area. The tank is of historical importance, having been built by King Mahasen in third century AD. The park is a dry season feeding ground for the elephant population dwelling in forests of Matale.



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Transfer to Hotel

Dinner & Overnight Stay in **Occidental Paradise Dambulla**

Day 4 - Dambulla | Sigiriya | Matale | Kandy

Dambulla – Sigiriya = 30 Minutes Drive
Sigiriya - Kandy = 2 Hours 30 Minutes Drive

After a scrumptious breakfast Proceed to Sigiriya

SIGIRIYA is a “UNESCO World Heritage Site” and the 5th Century “Fortress in the Sky” which is perhaps the most fantastic single wonder of the Island. It is also known as Lion Rock because of the huge lion that used to stand at the entrance to the Palace on the summit of the 600-foot-high rock. On its summit are the foundations of the Royal Palace, Water Tanks to supply water and all other buildings and at the edges the guardhouses. On one of the stairways the only known ancient work of Sinhala secular painting survived in the form of Frescoes of 21 life sized damsels still shining in their original colors. The Water Gardens, Fountain Garden, Summerhouses, Boulder Gardens, and the Caves within the enclosed area should not be missed.



Continue to Kandy.

En-route, SPICE GARDEN IN MATALE to see the different spices, which Sri Lanka is famous for. You will be introduced to different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown and processed

Visit the **Temple of the Tooth Relic** which was once a resplendent royal palace. The palace now houses one of the most sacred tooth relics of the Buddha and is considered one of the most symbolic icons of the Buddhist heritage of Sri Lanka.

Late Cultural Show (Traditional Dances)

Transfer to Hotel

Dinner & Overnight Stay in **Earls Regency Hotel Kandy**

Day 5 - Kandy | Peradeniya | Pinnawela | Nuwara Eliya

Kandy – Nuwara Eliya = 2 Hours 30 Minutes Drive

After a breakfast proceed to visit ***Royal Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya** – This majestic botanical garden is 147 acres in extent and was started in 1374 as a pleasure garden of the Kings of Gampola and Kandy. There are more than 5,000 species of trees, plants and creepers. Some which are rare and endemic, as well as flora from the tropical world are found in the gardens. The Spice Garden and Orchid House are popular with tourists. There are 5 Palm Avenues beautifying the gardens, the earliest and tallest, Royal Palm Avenue, was planted in 1905 and the Double Coconuts from the Seashells Island, with the largest seed of all plants in the world, is one such avenue.

Proceed to visit ***Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage** starting from the feeding to the baby elephants. The orphanage is currently home to over 80 elephants, including adults and babies. The orphanage was established as a response to the growing number of orphaned elephants in Sri Lanka due to factors such as habitat loss, poaching, and human-elephant conflict. Visitors can see the elephants bathing and playing in the nearby river and watch them being fed and cared for by the staff. The orphanage also has a breeding program to help increase the wild elephant population in Sri Lanka. This is a highlight for many tourists that travel and explore Sri Lanka.

Continue to Nuwara Eliya, en-route stop to witness the ***Plucking of Tea** at a Tea Plantation. The plucking field where it all begins with the picking of “two leaves and a bud”. Originally introduced to the island around 1850 by the British, Ceylon Tea is world famous for its high quality and has remained a major contributor to the island’s economy for generations.

***Nuwara Eliya**, which is called “Little England of Sri Lanka” and is located in the dense, foggy hills of this paradise island. The colonial atmosphere remains preserved and resembles the British countryside filled with rose bushes.

Dinner & Overnight Stay in **Galway Heights Nuwara Eliya**

Day 6 - Nuwara Eliya | Horton Plains | Ella

Kandy – Nuwara Eliya = 2 Hours 30 Minutes Drive

Early morning visit ***Horton Plains National Park** in Ohiya is a protected area in the central highlands of Sri Lanka and is covered by montane grassland and cloud forest. This plateau at an altitude of 2,100–2,300 meters (6,900–7,500 ft.) is rich in biodiversity and many species found here are endemic to the region. This region was designated a national park in 1988. It is also a popular tourist destination and is situated 8 kilometers (5.0 mi) from Ohiya, 6 kilometers (3.7 mi) from the world famous Ohiya Gap/Dondra Watch and 32 kilometers (20 mi) from Nuwara Eliya.

Late afternoon you will make a visit to **Nine Arches Bridge, Ella gap & Rawana Falls**.

Free & Eat at Ravana Pool Club

Transfer to Hotel

Dinner & Overnight Stay in **Hide Ella**

Day 7 - Ella | Yala

Ella– Yala = 2 Hours 30 Minutes Drive

After breakfast proceed to Yala.

4X4 Jeep Safari at **Yala National Park jeep safari** - This is Sri Lanka’s most known National Park is popular for Elephant, Leopard, Bear, Crocodile and Wild Boar. 97,800 hectares in extent, this is the second largest of Sri Lanka’s National Parks. Its open undulating terrain made it famous for elephants for many years, but recently the park has also received much

fame through publicity by National Geographic and the Discovery TV channels, which focused on a leopard research/conservation and identification project. Claims have subsequently been made that Yala National Park has the world's highest concentration of leopard per square kilometer. Vegetation is primarily grassland and shrub jungle with patches of dense growth while several salt and fresh water lagoons are a haven for a large variety of resident and migrant birds. Areas popular with leopard are rock strewn hillocks with dense shrub in which the animals hide.

Transfer to Hotel

Dinner & Overnight Stay in **Jetwing Yala**

Day 8 - Yala | Galle | Kosgoda

Yala – Galle = 2.5 Hours + Drive

Galle – Kosgoda = 1 Hours + Drive

After breakfast proceed to Galle. Enroute visit ***Stilt Fisherman & *Coconut Mountain in Mirissa.**



Afternoon visit ***Galle Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**, originally built by the Portuguese and then further developed by the Dutch and the British, covers nearly four sq kms, and is protected by 12 bastions and connecting ramparts. During the early 18th century the Old Dutch Gate was the entrance point to the Fort. Subsequently the British built the Main Gate which is still used today. Buildings of interest include the Dutch Reformed Church, All Saints Church, Amangalla Hotel (formerly the New Oriental Hotel), and the lighthouse and bell tower. The Dutch also developed what was then an innovative tide-based sewage-system within the Fort.

Transfer to Hotel

Overnight Stay in **Sheraton Kosgoda Turtle Beach Resort**

Day 9 - Kosgoda

Breakfast at hotel. Free & Easy.

OPTIONAL - ***Turtle Hatchery Kosgoda**, visitors to the hatchery can observe the turtles in various stages of their life cycle, learn about the different species of sea turtles, and even participate in the release of baby turtles into the ocean. The hatchery also conducts educational programs and awareness campaigns to promote the conservation of sea turtles and their habitats. The hatchery collects turtle eggs from nearby beaches and brings them to the hatchery for incubation in a protected environment, away from predators and human disturbance. Once hatched, the baby turtles are released into the ocean, increasing their chances of survival. The hatchery also cares for injured turtles, providing medical treatment and rehabilitation before releasing them back into the ocean.

Enjoy the Beach & Facilities of the Hotel.

Overnight Stay in **Sheraton Kosgoda Turtle Beach**

Day 10 & 11 Kosgoda | Airport

Kosgoda - Airport = 2 Hours

Breakfast at hotel. Free & Easy.

Enjoy the Beach & Facilities of the Hotel.

Later transfer to Airport.



Though it will be difficult to say goodbye, as all good things come to an end. Your representative from Pluton Travel will meet you on time at the hotel lobby to return you by way of a scenic drive to the international airport for your departing flight and a safe journey home.

<< End of Tour >>

CITY	HOTEL	ROOM TYPE	MEAL PLAN
Colombo	The Kingsbury Hotel	Superior	BB (Breakfast)
Dambulla	Occidental Paradise	Deluxe	HB (Breakfast & Dinner)
Kandy	Earls Regency Hotel	Deluxe	HB (Breakfast & Dinner)
Nuwara Eliya	Galway Heights	Superior	HB (Breakfast & Dinner)
Ella	Hide Ella	Deluxe	HB (Breakfast & Dinner)
Yala	Jetwing Yala	Deluxe	HB (Breakfast & Dinner)
Kosgoda	Sheraton Kosgoda Turtle Beach Resort	Deluxe Garden View	BB (Breakfast)

PACKAGE INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

Includes:

- Daily Guided Tours, excursions and transfers based on schedule
- Accommodation
 - 1 Night at The Kingsbury Hotel, with breakfast
 - 1 Night at Occidental Paradise, with breakfast & dinner
 - 1 Night at Earls Regency Hotel, with breakfast & dinner
 - 1 Night at Galway heights, with breakfast & dinner
 - 1 Night at Hide Ella, with breakfast & dinner
 - 1 Night at Jetwing Yala, with breakfast & dinner
 - 2 Nights at Sheraton Kosgoda Turtle Beach, with breakfast
- MONO Entrance tickets for the following
 - Dambulla Cave Temple
 - Sigiriya Rock Fortress
 - Minneriya National Park including Jeep
 - Temple of Tooth Relic
 - Cultural Show
 - Peradeniya Botanical Gardens
 - Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage
 - Yala National Park including Jeep
 - Horton Plains including vehicle
 - Galle Dutch Fortress
 - Stilt Fisherman
 - Coconut Mountain Mirissa
- 2 Jeep Safari's in Minneriya National Park & Yala National Park
- Arrival Grand Welcome by Esna Holidays
- Welcome Drinks at Every Hotel
- Traditional welcome in Hotel in Kandy
- Bottle/Filtered water during tour & hotel
- Coffee/Tea Making Facilities at every hotel
- Local Experiences English Speaking National guide
- All Taxes

Excludes:

- Lunch throughout the tour
- Entrance Fees to sights mentioned as optional
- Water Sport activity charges
- Tips & Porter age
- Visa Charges
- Spa & Laundry

Compliments

- Wi-Fi during the tour