

EMERALD TOURS

SPECIAL INTEREST TOURS

ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

“When you look at the better examples of what remains to us of these earlier buildings, you will find that they all look at life in Ceylon squarely in the face. They look at the rain, at the termites, at the social needs, at the view to be had from verandas and windows, at the needs of life at the time...”

Day 01

ARRIVAL TRANSFER/ COLOMBO

You will be met & assisted upon arrival at the International Airport and be transferred to Colombo . Dinner at Gallery Cafe

[Overnight stay in Casa Colombo.](#)

Day 02

COLOMBO / DAMBULLA

After breakfast transfer directly to Heritance Kandalama Hotel in Dambulla. Check into hotel and explore the hotel and the surroundings, a famous creation of Geoffrey Bawa.

[Overnight stay at Heritance Kandalama in Dambulla – Designed by Mr. Bawa](#)

Day 03

DAMBULLA / SIGIRIYA / POLONNARUWA / DAMBULLA

After breakfast visit and climb the 5th Century Rock Fortress in Sigiriya (UNESCO World Heritage Site) considered by some as the 8th wonder of the world for its architectural marvels and the advanced water management system. The ‘Lion Rock’ is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 meters 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.

Thereafter proceed to Polonnaruwa, (UNESCO World Heritage Site) 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, the Audience Hall, the Lotus Bath, king Parakramabahu's statue, and the Parakrama Samudraya Lake built by King Parakramabahu the great.

[Overnight stay at Heritance Kandalama in Dambulla – Designed by Mr. Bawa](#)

Day 04

DAMBULLA / KANDY

After breakfast transfer to Kandy (UNESCO World Heritage Site) the last Kingdom of Sri Lanka before being colonized by the British.

Enroute visit the Matale Heritage Centre, which draws on the rich craft traditions of the area, producing quality batik, embroidery, carpentry and brasswork. It occupies a sprawling compound of bungalows, workshops and gardens.

On arrival in Kandy visit the Temple of the Tooth, the ancient King's Palace building, council chamber and other buildings still preserved in its original form, dating back to the 15th century.

[Overnight stay at Hotel Suisse Hotel, Kandy – Old British colonial buildings.](#)

Day 05

KANDY / TANGALLE / DICKWELLA

After breakfast leave for Tangalle . En route visit the Bandarawela Chapel of the Good Shepherd's Convent (designed with Mr. Ulrik Plesner). Bandarawela Chapel was constructed by using granite for the structure

From the hills of Bandarawela descend to Tangalle on the coast . On arrival in Tangalle, check in to the Last House, which is the last property built by Geoffrey Bawa in Sri Lanka. This luxury seaside escape's airy, antique-filled interiors spill into all fresco spaces as if no boundaries exist.

Thereafter visit Fitzherbert House, which is now known as Cloughton House, in Dickwella (approximately 30 minutes). This too is a great work of Bawa's.

[Overnight stay at Dickwella Resort \(Complimentary dinner\)](#)

Day 06

DICKWELLA / GALLE

Drive this morning to the colonial city of Galle (approximately 2 hours). En route, drop by another of Bawa's works – the Ruhunu University Campus and the Matara Office building.

Check-in to the Jetwing Lighthouse, an architectural triumph of Geoffrey Bawa, where you will be spending the night.

In the afternoon, enjoy some sightseeing in Galle Fort. Its rich heritage is derived from the colonial influences of the Portuguese, Dutch and the British respectively, spanning four centuries. The town's centrepiece is the Dutch Fort, around which the city is built. The Fort remains a hive of activity and is one of the few World Heritage listed sites in which a bustling population continues to thrive

[Overnight stay at the Lighthouse Hotel, Galle](#)

Day 07

GALLE / BENTOTA

After breakfast, drive to Bentota (approximately 2 hours), visiting Heritance Ahungalla en route, where Bawa created features such as interconnecting expanses of water leading the guest into the hotel. Also visit the boutique hotel, Club Villa, a 19th century Dutch Colonial villa re-designed by Bawa in 1980

For afternoon tea, visit Geoffrey Bawa's country residence Lunuganga where you will find that nature has been incorporated in the very design of the house. Experience Lunuganga the local residence and lifetime creation of Mr. Bawa. Guided tour will be conducted in the property.

Then proceed to Ibbankatuwa a "Megalithic" Burial site, spread in an area of more than 10 acres. See more than 10 graves excavated and conserved.

[Overnight stay at the Bentota Beach – Designed by Geoffrey Bawa.](#)

Day 08

BENTOTA / COLOMBO

The morning drive to the commercial capital of Colombo (approximately 2 hours). En route stop at Blue Waters in Wadduwa, designed by Geoffrey Bawa.

In the evening visit Number 11, the residence of Geoffrey Bawa. and Parliament building designed by Mr. Bawa

[Overnight stay in Casa Colombo](#)

Day 09

COLOMBO / DEPARTURE TRANSFER

After breakfast leave in time for the airport