EMERALD TOURS

FAMILY ESCAPE

A SHORT ESCAPE

From great archaeological ruins to the sunny side of Sri Lanka, let's see, let's walk and let's talk, about a country that is so small, but offers so much more than its size. This is one of the great isles to spend those special moments with your loved ones.

Day 01

ARRIVAL TRANSFER / MINNERIYA / DAMBULLA

You will be met & assisted upon arrival at the International Airport and be transferred to Dambulla.

Overnight stay at Dambulla

Day 02

DAMBULLA / SIGIRIYA/POLONNARUWA / DAMBULLA

After breakfast proceed to Sigirya and visit 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 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, 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. 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.

On completion return to hotel Overnight stay at Dambulla.

Day 03

DAMBULLA / MATALE / KANDY

After breakfatst visit Dambulla Rock Cave temple. Climb up to the temple, which was donated by king Walagambahu in the 1st century BC to Buddhist monks. Dambulla is a World Heritage site and is the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. The complex of five caves with over 2000 sq. meters painted walls and the Ceiling is the largest area of paintings found in the world. These caves contain over 150 Images of the Buddha of which the largest is the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock spanning 14 meters.

Thereafter proceed to Kandy. En route visit a 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

Afternoon proceed on a city tour of 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 & crafts center, a gem museum, a lapidary and Batik factory.

Also visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic and thereafter proceed to an auditorium and witness a cultural show featuring traditional Sri Lankan dancing.

Overnight stay at Kandy

Day 04

KANDY / BERUWALA

After breakfast proceed to Beruwala. En route visit Peradeniya Botanical Gardens. This 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. Also visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic and thereafter proceed to an auditorium and witness a cultural show featuring traditional Sri Lankan dancing.

Overnight stay at Beruwala.

Day 05

BERUWALA

After breakfast spend day at leisure on the beach.

Overnight Stay at Beruwala.

Day 06

BERUWALA / DEPARTURE TRANSFER

After breakfast leave in time to connect with departure flight.

Overnight Stay at Beruwala.