

# Why should sri lanka be visited as tourist?

Sri Lanka should be visited as a tourist destination because it offers a diverse mix of experiences including stunning natural landscapes, rich cultural heritage with ancient ruins, incredible wildlife viewing opportunities, beautiful beaches, delicious local cuisine, and welcoming hospitality, all within a relatively compact island making it easy to explore various aspects of the country in a single trip.

## Key reasons to visit Sri Lanka:

- **Cultural Triangle:** Explore ancient cities like Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa, significant Buddhist sites with historical ruins and architecture.
- **Wildlife encounters:** Witness diverse wildlife including elephants, leopards, sloth bears, and various bird species in national parks.
- **Tea Plantations:** Visit scenic tea plantations in the hill country, experiencing the process of tea production and enjoying breathtaking views.
- **Beaches:** Relax on pristine beaches with clear waters, perfect for swimming, surfing, and sunbathing.
- **Local cuisine:** Sample Sri Lankan flavors with a mix of spicy curries, fresh seafood, and unique street food.
- **Friendly people:** Experience the renowned warmth and hospitality of Sri Lankan people.
- **Scenic train journeys:** Travel through stunning landscapes on scenic train routes.
- **Diverse landscapes:** From lush rainforests to arid plains, Sri Lanka offers a variety of natural environments.
- **UNESCO World Heritage Sites:** Several important historical sites in Sri Lanka are recognized by UNESCO.

## Sri Lanka Wildlife

The need to conserve the environment was deeply ingrained in traditional Sri Lankan society: in the 3rd c. BC, the country's first Buddhist monarch established the world's first wildlife sanctuary. Today, this tradition continues with 13% of Sri Lanka conserved as national parks, reserves, sanctuaries and jungle corridors.

Sri Lanka possesses a high degree of biodiversity. Indeed the island (together with the Western Ghats of India) has been identified by Conservation International as one of 34 world biodiversity hot spots. In addition, The Sinharaja Forest Reserve, the country's last viable area of primary tropical rainforest has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. What's remarkable is the high proportion of endemic species.

A safari in one of the 14 national parks offers the chance to see some of Sri Lanka's 91 mammals (16 endemic) - elephant, leopard, sloth bear, sambhur, spotted deer, hog, mouse- and barking-deer, wild boar, porcupine, ant-eater, civet cat, loris, giant squirrel, and monkeys such as the macaque, purple-faced leaf monkey and grey langur.

The island is an ornithologist's paradise, with over 233 resident species, (33 endemic) - but migratory species stretch the number to an astounding 482. There are 171 reptiles (101 endemic including two crocodile species). Thankfully, only five of the 83 snake species are lethal. In recent

years there has been a surge in the discovery of amphibians, so that by the time you read this, the figure of 106 (90 endemic), will no doubt have risen.

## The Finest Places to See Wildlife in Sri Lanka

- 1 Yala National Park.
- 2 Sinharaja Forest Reserve.
- 3 Horton Plains.
- 4 Udawalawe National Park..
- 5 Hikkaduwa Marine National Park.
- 6 Minneriya National Park.
- 7 Wilpattu National Park.
- 8 Bundala National Park.

### 1 Yala National Park.

Yala National Park is a huge area of forest, grassland and lagoons bordering the Indian Ocean, in southeast Sri Lanka. It's home to wildlife such as leopards, elephants and crocodiles, as well as hundreds of bird species. Inland, Sithulpawwa is an ancient Buddhist monastery. Nearby caves contain centuries-old rock paintings. Southwest, Magul Maha Viharaya also has ancient Buddhist ruins. Both are pilgrimage sites.

**Area:** 978.8 km²

**Phone:** 0112 888 585

**Established:** 1900

**Hours:** Open 6 AM· Closes 6 PM (except Saturday)

**Management:** Department of Wildlife Conservation

**Coordinates:** 6°22'22"N 81°31'01"E / 6.37278°N 81.51694°E

**Nearest city:** Hambantota

Yala combines a strict nature reserve with a national park. Divided into 5 blocks, the park has a protected area of nearly 130,000 hectares of land consisting of light forests, scrubs, grasslands, tanks and lagoons. Two blocks are currently opened to the public. Situated in Sri Lanka's south-east hugging the panoramic Indian Ocean, Yala was designated a wildlife sanctuary in 1900 and was designated a national park in 1938. Ironically, the park was initially used as a hunting ground for the elite under British rule. Yala is home to 44 varieties of mammal and 215 bird species. Among its more famous residents are the world's biggest concentration of leopards, majestic elephants, sloth bears, sambars, jackals, spotted deer, peacocks, and crocodiles. The best time to visit Yala is between February and July when the water levels of the park are quite low, bringing animals into the open.

### Hotels for yala(website link)

[https://www.booking.com/region/lk/yala-region.en.html?aid=324798;label=yala-region-lnAybghLx0X2EqGtraPVYgS540149173648;pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tkwd-12333693750:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YcWHiCDB7igB8XpJKYgu4TM;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiAvbm7BhC5ARIsAFjwNH](https://www.booking.com/region/lk/yala-region.en.html?aid=324798;label=yala-region-lnAybghLx0X2EqGtraPVYgS540149173648;pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tkwd-12333693750:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YcWHiCDB7igB8XpJKYgu4TM;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiAvbm7BhC5ARIsAFjwNH)

[vTJ\\_6ePEbi35L7W04fPqsAP3Vy4iz1lIqjCOLLKhjJhoNdo6z2-jgaAmObEALw\\_wcB](vTJ_6ePEbi35L7W04fPqsAP3Vy4iz1lIqjCOLLKhjJhoNdo6z2-jgaAmObEALw_wcB)

## **Yala location (map link)**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/HVwGp2HA7Ywrue8V9>

## **Yala imagers(links)**

[https://www.google.com/search?sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&sxsrf=ADLYWIJVP3YObnr2o0dYKM8BHjGOWF5FWw:1735398812917&q=yala+imagers&udm=2&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGGb5IQQO6L3JyJclJuzBPI12qJyPx7ESJehObpS5jg6J88CCM-RK725uTmAZpGaaQNHAssOKTZZECPFMslQXapzfpK-ojP0SGWQr39BbxQfYNVzT9U9g6alGwb1mD-7hWXHz-1LQlktMJybx&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiEiaau4MqKAxUV3jQHdHfaKoIQtkgLegQIFRAB&biw=1536&bih=703&dpr=1.25](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&sxsrf=ADLYWIJVP3YObnr2o0dYKM8BHjGOWF5FWw:1735398812917&q=yala+imagers&udm=2&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGGb5IQQO6L3JyJclJuzBPI12qJyPx7ESJehObpS5jg6J88CCM-RK725uTmAZpGaaQNHAssOKTZZECPFMslQXapzfpK-ojP0SGWQr39BbxQfYNVzT9U9g6alGwb1mD-7hWXHz-1LQlktMJybx&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiEiaau4MqKAxUV3jQHdHfaKoIQtkgLegQIFRAB&biw=1536&bih=703&dpr=1.25)

## **2 Sinharaja Forest Reserve.**

### **Sinharaja Location link for snharaja**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/XMogirWTAKqXnaZH7>

### **Sinharaja Hotel booking link**

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=311984&label=sinharaja-hostal-Pv1bI1kJPAITJlhKH9lv9AS541121194948%3Ap1%3Aa%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aaneg%3Afi%3Aatikwd-27579925501%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DUmFuZG9tSVYkc2RIIyh9YbSsB13MCvHsD8UKUHIRFxY&gclid=Cj0KCQiAvbm7BhC5ARIsAFjwNHtsjtmQOpLhgDgbLI-3v3grjqiahZpNCNeZe60d5r0novoulmQp-XAaAn8xEALw\\_wcB&highlighted\\_hotels=1324748&redirected=1&city=-2215669&hlrd=no\\_dates&source=hotel&expand\\_sb=1&keep\\_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caa0a54c550a43](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=311984&label=sinharaja-hostal-Pv1bI1kJPAITJlhKH9lv9AS541121194948%3Ap1%3Aa%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aaneg%3Afi%3Aatikwd-27579925501%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DUmFuZG9tSVYkc2RIIyh9YbSsB13MCvHsD8UKUHIRFxY&gclid=Cj0KCQiAvbm7BhC5ARIsAFjwNHtsjtmQOpLhgDgbLI-3v3grjqiahZpNCNeZe60d5r0novoulmQp-XAaAn8xEALw_wcB&highlighted_hotels=1324748&redirected=1&city=-2215669&hlrd=no_dates&source=hotel&expand_sb=1&keep_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caa0a54c550a43)

## Sinharaja imagers(links)

[https://www.google.com/search?q=sinharaja+forest+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILjuyZWnFrssijyPNcSpxjxqBID2g%3A1735401449937&ei=6R9wZ8LyOM3G1e8PqOXTwAQ&ved=0ahUKEwiCi92X6sqKAXVNY\\_UHHajyFEgQ4dUDCB&uact=5&oq=sinharaja+forest+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciGHNpbmhhcmFqYSBmb3Jlc3QgaW1hZ2Vyc0iYGFD2A1i6FXABeACQAQCYAdkBoAG4C6oBBTAuNy4xuAEDyAEA-AEBmAIHoALaCMICDRAAGIAEGLEDGEMYigXCAGUQABiABMICChAAGIAEGEMYigXCAGQQABgewgIGEAAYCBgewgIGEAAYBRgemAMAIAYBkgcDMS42oAeHFw&sclient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=sinharaja+forest+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILjuyZWnFrssijyPNcSpxjxqBID2g%3A1735401449937&ei=6R9wZ8LyOM3G1e8PqOXTwAQ&ved=0ahUKEwiCi92X6sqKAXVNY_UHHajyFEgQ4dUDCB&uact=5&oq=sinharaja+forest+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciGHNpbmhhcmFqYSBmb3Jlc3QgaW1hZ2Vyc0iYGFD2A1i6FXABeACQAQCYAdkBoAG4C6oBBTAuNy4xuAEDyAEA-AEBmAIHoALaCMICDRAAGIAEGLEDGEMYigXCAGUQABiABMICChAAGIAEGEMYigXCAGQQABgewgIGEAAYCBgewgIGEAAYBRgemAMAIAYBkgcDMS42oAeHFw&sclient=img)

Sinharaja Forest Reserve is a forest reserve and a biodiversity hotspot in Sri Lanka. It is of international significance and has been designated a Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site by UNESCO. [Wikipedia](#)

**Area:** 111.9 km<sup>2</sup>

**Established:** April 1978

**Phone:** 0413 490 644

**Hours:** Open 6 AM· Closes 6 PM (except Saturday)

**Coordinates:** 6°25'00"N 80°30'00"E / 6.41667°N 80.50000°E

**Nearest city:** [Rakwana](#)

**UNESCO Site Id:** 405

Sinharaja Forest Reserve is a forest reserve and a biodiversity hotspot in Sri Lanka. It is of international significance and has been designated a Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site by UNESCO.[1]

According to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Sinharaja is the country's last viable area of primary tropical rainforest. Over 60% of the trees are endemic, many of them considered rare. 50% of Sri Lanka's endemics species of animals (especially butterfly, amphibians, birds, snakes and fish species)[clarification needed]. It is home to 95% endemic birds.

The hilly virgin rainforest, part of the Sri Lanka lowland rain forests ecoregion, was saved from the worst of commercial logging by its inaccessibility, and was designated a World Biosphere Reserve in 1978 and a World Heritage Site in 1988.

Because of the dense vegetation, wildlife is not as easily seen as at dry-zone national parks such as Yala. The most common larger mammal is the endemic purple-faced langur.

### Sinharaja

forest cover of Sinharaja

Birds tend to move in mixed feeding flocks, invariably led by the fearless Sri Lanka drongo and the noisy orange-billed babbler. Of Sri Lanka's 26 endemic birds, the 20 rainforest species all occur here, including the elusive red-faced malkoha, green-billed coucal and Sri Lanka blue magpie.

Reptiles include the endemic green pit viper and hump-nosed viper, and there are a large variety of amphibians, especially tree frogs. Invertebrates include the endemic Sri Lankan birdwing butterfly and leeches.

### 3 Hortain planes

Horton Plains National Park is a national park in the central highlands of Sri Lanka that was designated in 1988. It is located at an elevation of 2,100–2,300 m and encompasses montane grassland and cloud forest. It is rich in biodiversity and many species found here are endemic to the region. [Wikipedia](#)

**Area:** 31.6 km<sup>2</sup>

**Phone:** [0112 426 900](#)

**Hours:**

[Open](#) 6AM · Closes 4 PM(exept Saturday)

**Established:** 1969

**Management:** [Department of Wildlife Conservation](#)

**Coordinates:** 6°48′N 80°48′E﻿ / ﻿6.800°N 80.800°E

**Nearest city:** [Ohiya](#) and [Nuwara Eliya](#)

Horton Plains National Park (Sinhala: හොට්ටන් තැන්න ජාතික උද්‍යානය, romanized: Hortan Thanna Jathika Udyanaya) is a national park in the central highlands of Sri Lanka that was designated in 1988. It is located at an elevation of 2,100–2,300 m (6,900–7,500 ft) and encompasses montane grassland and cloud forest. It is rich in biodiversity and many species found here are endemic to the region.

The Horton Plains are the headwaters of three major Sri Lankan rivers, the Mahaweli, Kelani, and Walawe. In Sinhala the plains are known as Maha Eliya Plains (මහ එළිය තැන්න). Stone tools dating back to Balangoda culture have been found here. The plains' vegetation is grasslands interspersed with montane forest and includes many endemic woody plants. Large herds of Sri Lankan sambar deer feature as typical mammals and the park is also an Important Bird Area with many species not only endemic to Sri Lanka but restricted to the Horton Plains. Forest dieback is one of the major threats to the park and some studies suggest that it is caused by a natural phenomenon.

The sheer precipice of World's End and Baker's Falls are among the tourist attractions of the park.

### Hortain planes Location link

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/7uZpL1up6wHy3xrz7>

### Hortain planes Wikipadea link

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/7uZpL1up6wHy3xrz7>

## Hortain planes Hotels booking link

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=383259&label=horton-plains-YQxR\\_zRG\\_IRbKqfuaE\\_RQAS388488247671%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atikwd-12886444711%3A1p1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DumFuZG9tSVYkc2RIIyh9YRlijhKLEMjJLyONwTyX95c&gclid=Cj0KCQiAvbm7BhC5ARIsAFjwNHuovLxuk5Ur4h5HlHdHz5psjniZC4ZWwxtY25njtjVvVxLvB-Ig3LcaAn5wEALw\\_wcB&dest\\_type=city&redirected=1&dest\\_id=-2220048&source=city&redirected\\_from\\_city=1&keep\\_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caae0a54c550a43](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=383259&label=horton-plains-YQxR_zRG_IRbKqfuaE_RQAS388488247671%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atikwd-12886444711%3A1p1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DumFuZG9tSVYkc2RIIyh9YRlijhKLEMjJLyONwTyX95c&gclid=Cj0KCQiAvbm7BhC5ARIsAFjwNHuovLxuk5Ur4h5HlHdHz5psjniZC4ZWwxtY25njtjVvVxLvB-Ig3LcaAn5wEALw_wcB&dest_type=city&redirected=1&dest_id=-2220048&source=city&redirected_from_city=1&keep_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caae0a54c550a43)

## Hortain planes imagers(links)

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Hortain+planes+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILG-zdksRZ0OW5y\\_wkOJowtC4GaLA%3A1735401524199&ei=NCBwZ5fqC9zb1e8P06iryA8&ved=0ahUKEwix1JG76sqKAXXcbfUHHVPUCvkQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Hortain+planes+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciFkhvcnRhaW4gcGxhbmVzIGltYWdlcnNlZghQAFgAcAB4AJABAJgBxQGgAcUBqgEDMC4xuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMAKgcAoAct&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Hortain+planes+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILG-zdksRZ0OW5y_wkOJowtC4GaLA%3A1735401524199&ei=NCBwZ5fqC9zb1e8P06iryA8&ved=0ahUKEwix1JG76sqKAXXcbfUHHVPUCvkQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Hortain+planes+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciFkhvcnRhaW4gcGxhbmVzIGltYWdlcnNlZghQAFgAcAB4AJABAJgBxQGgAcUBqgEDMC4xuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMAKgcAoAct&scient=img)

## 4 Wilpaththu

Wilpattu National Park is a national park in Sri Lanka. The unique feature of this park is the existence of "Willus" (natural lakes) – natural, sand-rimmed water basins or depressions that fill with rainwater. Located on the northwest coast lowland dry zone of Sri Lanka, the park is 30 km (19 mi) west of Anuradhapura and 26 km (16 mi) north of Puttalam (approximately 180 km (110 mi) north of Colombo). The park is 1,317 km<sup>2</sup> (508 sq mi) (131,693 hectares) in area and ranges from 0–152 m (0–499 ft) above sea level. Nearly one hundred and six lakes (Willu) and tanks are found spread throughout Wilpattu. Wilpattu is the largest and one of the oldest national parks in Sri Lanka. Wilpattu is world-renowned for its leopard (*Panthera pardus kotiya*) population. A remote camera survey conducted in Wilpattu from July to October 2015 by the Wilderness and Wildlife Conservation Trust captured photographs of forty-nine individual leopards in the surveyed area, the core area density of which was between that of Yala National Park's Block I and Horton Plains National Park.[2]

A second, more extensive camera trap survey was conducted from May to September 2018 by Samarasinghe et al. (2022), covering a substantial area of the national park, approximately 660 km<sup>2</sup>, and capturing a total of 133 individual leopards.[3] This count comprised 116 independent leopards (aged over 2 years) and 17 cubs. Eight adult females were observed with 1–2 cubs during the study. Utilizing Bayesian spatial capture-recapture models, the population density of leopards in Wilpattu National Park was estimated to be 18 leopards per 100 km<sup>2</sup>. The mean abundance (N) within the effectively sampled area was calculated to be 144 leopards. Notably, the national park maintains a healthy sex ratio of male to female leopards, estimated to be 1:2.03.[3]

From December 1988 to 16 March 2003, the park was closed due to security concerns surrounding the Sri Lankan Civil War, before being reopened to visitors sixteen years later. Visitor access is currently limited to approximately 25% of the park, the remainder of which is dense forest or scrub. Popular

visiting periods span between the months of February and October, although there are a number of private ecotourism groups that conduct safaris year-round.

Wilpattu National Park is a national park in Sri Lanka. The unique feature of this park is the existence of "Willus" – natural, sand-rimmed water basins or depressions that fill with rainwater.

**Area:** 1,317 km²

**Phone:** 0112 888 585

**Established:** December 25, 1938

**Management:** [Department of Wildlife Conservation](#)

**Designated:** 2 February 2013

**Nearest city:** Mannar, Anuradhapura, Puttalam

## Wilpaththu Location link

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/NU8XpuogjYbWVnTR7>

## Wilpaththu Hotels booking link

[https://www.booking.com/region/lk/wilpattu-national-park.en.html?aid=377400;label=wilpattu-national-park-ieZJznJQ\\_PY\\*JfefCvjuDgS630980807947:pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-302431245340:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2RIIyh9YdbYVqXDN8zp7PNDFvT66M8:ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWr17EfvykUma3FHN73w5TAnh0zdgkLQum809j1kmNg1TOLvxwVjjmPsQcaAopREALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/region/lk/wilpattu-national-park.en.html?aid=377400;label=wilpattu-national-park-ieZJznJQ_PY*JfefCvjuDgS630980807947:pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-302431245340:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2RIIyh9YdbYVqXDN8zp7PNDFvT66M8:ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWr17EfvykUma3FHN73w5TAnh0zdgkLQum809j1kmNg1TOLvxwVjjmPsQcaAopREALw_wcB)

## Wilpaththu image link url

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Wilpaththu+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJenLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIKjE42ejNxxODpQ-EV9lccWvbDAgA%3A1735401684566&ei=1CBwZ9iflqWPvrOPk\\_3o2Q4&ved=0ahUKEwjY2c2H68qKAxWlh68BHZM-OusQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Wilpaththu+imagers&gs\\_l=EGNpbWciEldpbHBhdGh0aHUgaW1hZ2Vyc0jCC1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAHcAaAB3AGqAQMyLTG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwDiAwUSATEgQJIHAKAHLQ&sclient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Wilpaththu+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJenLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIKjE42ejNxxODpQ-EV9lccWvbDAgA%3A1735401684566&ei=1CBwZ9iflqWPvrOPk_3o2Q4&ved=0ahUKEwjY2c2H68qKAxWlh68BHZM-OusQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Wilpaththu+imagers&gs_l=EGNpbWciEldpbHBhdGh0aHUgaW1hZ2Vyc0jCC1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAHcAaAB3AGqAQMyLTG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwDiAwUSATEgQJIHAKAHLQ&sclient=img)

Travel packagers

<https://www.holidify.com/places/polonnaruwa/packages.html>

# Cultural and histrical plases in sri Lanka

# The Finest Places to See Wildlife in Sri Lanka

1. Anuradapuraya
2. Polonnaruwa
3. Dabadeniya
4. Yapahuwa
5. sigiriya

## 1 Anuradapura

Anuradhapura is a major city located in the north central plain of Sri Lanka. It is the capital city of North Central Province and the capital of Anuradhapura District. The city lies 205 kilometers (127 mi) north of the current capital of Colombo in the North Central Province, on the banks of the historic Malwathu Oya. The city is now a World Heritage Site famous for its well-preserved ruins of the ancient Sinhalese civilisation.

While Mahāvamsa places the founding of the city in 437 BCE, the site has been inhabited for much longer, making it a major human settlement on the island for almost three millennia and one of the oldest continuously occupied cities in Asia. It is the cradle of the Hydraulic Sri Lankan civilisation, Theravada Buddhism, and the longest-serving ancient capital of Sri Lanka that has survived for 1500 years. Moreover, It was the first capital of the Sinhala Kingdom of Rajarata, following the kingdoms of Tambapanni and Upatissa Nuwara. Anuradhapura was also the centre of Theravada Buddhism for many centuries and has been a major Buddhist pilgrimage site with ruins of many ancient Buddhist temples, including the famous Anuradhapura Maha Viharaya and the Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi, the oldest still-living, documented, planted tree in the world[1] and that is believed to have originally been a branch of the sacred fig tree at Bodh Gaya (Bihar, India), under which the Buddha attained enlightenment. These vast networks of ancient temples and monasteries now cover over 100 square kilometers (40 sq mi) of area of the city today.

The city was mostly destroyed and largely deserted after 993 CE, with the Chola invasion from South India.[2] Although several attempts were made by later Sinhalese kings to return the capital to Anuradhapura, it was not reestablished as a major population centre of the island until the British colonial era in the 19th century CE. Despite its political decline, Anuradhapura remained a vital pilgrimage site for Buddhists throughout the medieval period and continues to be an important spiritual destination to this day.[3][4] The revival of the current city began in earnest in the 1870s. The contemporary city, much of which was moved during the mid-20th century to preserve the site of the ancient capital, is a major road junction of northern Sri Lanka and lies along a railway line. The city is the headquarters of Sri Lanka's archeological survey, and tourism is a significant factor in its economy.

### Etymology

According to historical records such as Mahavamsa, the origin of the name Anuradhapura is traced to the minister named 'Anuradha' in the court of Prince Vijaya (543–505 BCE), the first Sinhalese king of the island. According to the legends related to Vijaya, his minister named 'Anuradha' established the settlement that later became Anuradhapura. However, the finding of earlier settlements in the citadel area of the old city dating back to until 10 century BCE would doubt this claim.

The name 'Anuradhapura' means the 'city of Anuradha' (Anuradha+pura), where "pura" stand for 'city' in Sinhala, Sanskrit, Pali, and Tamil. However, before Anuradhapura was considered a city, it was called the 'Anuradhagama,' meaning the 'village of Anuradha,' from "Anuradha" and "grama".[5] This older name was also mentioned in the work of ancient Greek and Roman scholars such as Strabo and Claudius Ptolemy.[6] In Ptolemy's world map from 2 century CE, the place was named 'Anourogrammoi.' Thus, It is believed that the expansion of this earlier smaller settlement called Anuradhagama into a city during the reign of Sinhalese king Pandukabhaya (474–367 BCE) in 437 BCE caused the change of the name to Anuradhapura.[5]



## Significant milestones in the development of the name

Naming the earlier smaller settlement after the minister 'Anuradha' in the court of Prince Vijaya as Anuradhagrama (6th century BCE).

Anuradhagrama stand for 'village of Anuradha' (Anuradha+grama).

Changing the name into Anuradhapura due to the expansion of settlement into a city during Sinhalese king Pandukabhaya (437 BCE).

Anuradhapura stands for 'city of Anuradha' (Anuradha+pura).

### Early history

Anuradhapura is the best representation of the beginnings of pre-modern urbanization in Sri Lanka.

The development of the initial settlement at the site of the city can be attributed to the second global cycle of historical evolution with the generalised diffusion of iron technology in the Old World through the first millennium BCE, culminating in the emergence of many historical civilizations. The history of Anuradhapura then extends from its traditional founding in the recorded history in the fourth century BCE and its subsequent laying-out by Devanampiya Tissa (250–210 BCE) to its abandonment by the last of the Anuradhapura kings at the end of the tenth century CE, its brief reoccupation in the eleventh century and the restoration of some of its major monuments, in the late 13th century CE by Vijayabahu IV (1267–1270 CE).[7]

### Iron Age

Even though, historical chronicle Mahāvamsa (5th century CE) place founding of the city in the 5th century BC, the archaeological data from the excavation of the citadel area of the old city puts the date of the human settlement as far back as the 10th century BC.[8] According to these excavations, protohistoric Iron Age of the city spans from 900 - 600 BCE, with the appearance of iron technology, pottery, the horse, domestic cattle and paddy cultivation.[9][10] In the time period 700-600 BCE, the settlement in Anuradhapura had grown over an area of at least 50 ha. Irrigable and fertile land surround the city, strategically situated with major ports northwest and northeast of the island. The city also benefited from dense jungle surroundings, providing a natural defense from invaders.

Excavation at Anuradhapura has unearthed Painted Gray Ware (PGW) pottery from the 'Basal early historic' period of Anuradhapura (600 BC-500 BCE) showing connections with North India (during vedic period).[11]

### Early Historic Period

Details of city's development in this early historic period, spanning from 500 to 250 BCE can be found in Sinhalese Chronicles. According to these records, King Pandukabhaya formally planned the city with gates and quarters for traders. The city at the time covered an area of one square kilometer, making it one of the largest cities on the continent at the time. The city was largely deserted after the invasion by the Chola Tamil Hindu king Rajaraja I in 993 CE and his son Rajendra I in 1014 CE. According to Culavamsa (6th century CE-18th century CE), Anuradhapura was "utterly destroyed in every way by the Chola army. Still, the place was continuously inhabited after this event as indicated by records of visitors to the island such as Robert Knox and others.[12][13] Thus, the city was the longest-serving Sinhalese capital of Sri Lanka from the 5th century BCE (437 BCE) until the 11th century CE (1017 CE) flourishing for around 1,500 years.[14]

### Buddhism

Anuradhapura was a major intellectual centre for early Theravada Buddhism, home to revered Buddhist philosophers including Buddhaghosa.[15]

During the reign of Dhatusena (455-473) a redaction of the Theravada Buddhist canon took place while at the same time 18 new vihara (temple complexes) were built and a statue erected for Mahinda, the Indian prince-monk who introduced Buddhism to the island.[16]

During the late Anuradhapura period, the royal family and nobility of Sri Lanka strongly supported Buddhism. As such, they frequently commissioned works of art and donated these items to Buddhist temples. In return, the temple and local Buddhist community supported the king's rule. Artworks featuring depictions of Avalokitesvara, the Bodhisattva of Mercy and Compassion, became increasingly popular.[17]

Modern era

European discovery

The area was sparsely inhabited for many centuries, but the local population remained aware of the ruins. In Robert Knox's 1681 *An Historical Relation of the Island Ceylon*, he wrote: "At this City of Anurodgburro is a Watch kept, beyond which are no more people that yield obedience to the King of Kandy".[12] In 1821, John Davy wrote that: "Anooradapoorra, so long the capital of Ceylon, is now a small mean village, in the midst of a desert. A large tank, numerous stone pillars, two or three immense tumuli, (probably old dagobahs,) are its principal remains. It is still considered a sacred spot; and is a place of pilgrimage."[13]

Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka by Oldypak LP life Smirnov photo

Ruwanwaliseya

Excavations

Abhayagiri Dagoba in Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka

Various excavations have taken place at the site, beginning in 1884–86 by Stephen Montagu Burrows.[18]

Sacred city and new town

Anuradhapura became the centre of administration of the North Central Province and with the building of the Northern Railway line, Anuradhapura became an important railway town with the opening of the Anuradhapura railway station in 1904. The Government of Ceylon tasked Oliver Weerasinghe to develop the Anuradhapura Preservation Plan in 1949, aimed at establishing a new planned town east of the existing Anuradhapura town, thereby establishing the Sacred city of Anuradhapura, with the aim of preserving the ancient city. The "New Town" had many of the government offices and law courts moved into it. The Anuradhapura Preservation Board was established with this aim.

Nissanka Wijeyeratne was Government Agent of Anuradhapura District from 1958 to 1962. He was arguably the best known of all government agents of his time. His stature ensured that the voice of Anuradhapura was heard at the highest levels in Colombo. Apart from being Government Agent, he was Chairman of the Anuradhapura Preservation Board. This was the time when the city of Anuradhapura was in a period of historic transition. The new town of Anuradhapura was being built, and the residents of the old were being transferred to the new town. It was a time of some tension and of excitement. He managed this process of change with courage and remarkable political skills. While in Anuradhapura, he unveiled a memorial for H. R. Freeman, a popular British Government Agent who later was elected by the people of the district to represent them in the 1st State Council of Ceylon.[19] Coming events cast their shadows before. A striking feature of Wijeyeratne's Anuradhapura days was his great ability to see the bigger picture and focus on the key issues, and delegate responsibilities to his staff officers. He was never one to be enmeshed in detail. He also set up the Sacred City of Anuradhapura shifted the urban city to the newly created Anuradhapura town and is responsible for the establishment of Anuradhapura Airport.[20][21]

### **Places for visit in anuradapura**

(Atamasthana)

1. Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi
2. Ruwanwelisaya
3. Thuparamaya
4. Lovamahapaya
5. Abhayagiri Dagaba
6. Jetavanarama
7. Mirisaveti Stupa
8. Lankarama

### **Other structures**

9. Abhayagiriya Monastery with Samadhi Statue, Kuttam Pokuna (twin pond) and moonstone.
10. Dakkhina Stupa
11. Isurumuniya
12. Kiribath Vehera

13. Kuttam Pokuna
14. Mahamevnāwa Gardens
15. Naka Vihara
16. Ranmasu Uyana
17. Rathna Prasadaya
18. Samadhi Statue
19. Sela Cetiya
20. Tolvila statue
21. Vessagiriya

## Anuradapura Location

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/wGBmMQaajbpDsdwV8>

## Anuradapura Hotels

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/anuradhapura.en.html?aid=306395;label=anuradhapura-cz35PJtaziKxKrcH4fFfswS650545857501;pl:ta:p1135;p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-11534469986;lp1009919;li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2RlIyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7GqFIFhNcqEIgNcf7uFgOyVEM45s6BH7XJfhANLzYMpspal59rjhjkaAhH8EALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/anuradhapura.en.html?aid=306395;label=anuradhapura-cz35PJtaziKxKrcH4fFfswS650545857501;pl:ta:p1135;p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-11534469986;lp1009919;li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2RlIyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7GqFIFhNcqEIgNcf7uFgOyVEM45s6BH7XJfhANLzYMpspal59rjhjkaAhH8EALw_wcB)

## Anuradapura image link url

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# 2 Polonnaruwa

Polonnaruwa, (Sinhala: පොලොන්නරුව, romanized: Polonnaruwa; Tamil: பொலன்னறுவை, romanized: Polannaruvai) also referred as Pulathisipura and Vijayarajapura in ancient times, is the main town of Polonnaruwa District in North Central Province, Sri Lanka. The modern town of Polonnaruwa is also known as New Town, and the other part of Polonnaruwa remains as the royal ancient city of the Kingdom of Polonnaruwa.

The second oldest of all Sri Lanka's kingdoms, Polonnaruwa was first established as a military post by the Sinhalese kingdom.[1] It was renamed Jananathamangalam by the Chola dynasty after their successful invasion of the country's then capital, Anuradhapura, in the 10th century. The Ancient City of Polonnaruwa has been declared a World Heritage Site.[2]

Modern Polonnaruwa is undergoing a major development project known as the "Awakening of Polonnaruwa," championed by former President Maithripala Sirisena. It envisions the development of all sectors in Polonnaruwa including roads, electricity, agriculture, education, health and environment.[3]

Etymology

The name Polonnaruwa is of unknown origin.[4] Its Tamil form, Pulainari, is mentioned in Tamil inscriptions of the Chola dynasty found at Polonnaruwa.[5] The name was perhaps a contraction of its ancient name Pulastya nagara or Pulatti nakaram meaning city of the Hindu sage Pulastya.[6][7]

It was renamed under Chola rule as Jananathapuram or Jananathamangalam.[8][9] The place was later known as Vijayarajapuram as mentioned in the records of Jayabahu I, which probably was derived from the name of Vijayabahu I.[10]

#### Demographic

Polonnaruwa has a Sinhalese majority. Muslims form the second largest group. There are also small numbers of Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Tamils. Others include Burgher and Malay.

#### Ethnicity according to Polonnaruwa Town (2012)

##### Ethnicity in Polonnaruwa Town

Population	Percent
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Sinhalese	68.31%
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Muslims	30.10%
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Sri Lankan Tamils	0.85%
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Indian Tamils	0.10%
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Others	0.05%
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Source:statistics.gov.lk	
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#### History

Polonnaruwa was first established as a military post by the Sinhalese kingdom.[1] And, it was renamed Jananathamangalam by the Chola dynasty after their successful invasion of the country in the 10th century.[11] Raja Raja Chola I built Vanavan Mahadevisvaram, a Shiva temple at Polonnaruwa named after his queen, which presently is known as Siva Devale.[12] The temple among other contained Ganesha and Parvati statues of bronze.[7] north and central parts of Sri Lanka was under this period ruled under Rajendra Chola I directly as a Chola province. However, following the year 1070 AD ended the Chola rule in the island, and Polonnaruwa was captured by Vijayabahu I of Polonnaruwa also known as Vijayabahu the great.[13]

Starting from Mahanagakula on the south of the Walawe river, Vijayabahu dispatched three armies to attack Polonnaruwa from three fronts. One army was sent along the western shore of the country to the port of Mahathittha to deal with any reinforcements arriving from South India. Afterwards, part of this army moved towards Polonnaruwa and attacked from the northwest. A second army was sent from the east across Magama to attack Polonnaruwa from the east. The third and main force advanced across the country, led by the king. Surrounded by these three armies, Polonnaruwa was besieged for seven months before king Vijayabahu's forces entered the city. In 1070, Vijayabahu became the ruler of Polonnaruwa.[14][15] At that time Sri Lanka was known as Thambapanni.

Trade and agriculture flourished under the patronage of the famous grandson of King Vijayabahu I of Polonnaruwa, king Prakramabahu the Great, who was so adamant that no drop of water falling from the heavens was to be wasted and each was to be used toward the development of the land.[citation needed] Hence, irrigation systems that are far superior to those of the Anuradhapura Age were constructed during Parakramabahu's reign – systems which to this day supply the water necessary for paddy cultivation during the scorching dry season in the east of the country. The greatest of these systems is the Parakrama Samudra or the Sea of Parakrama which was also used as a large sea-going ship anchorage via the Mahaweli River.[13] The Kingdom of Polonnaruwa was completely self-sufficient during King Parakramabahu's reign.

With the exception of his immediate successor, Nissankamalla I, the other monarchs of Polonnaruwa were not as strong-willed and were prone to picking fights within their own court.[citation needed] They also went on to form more matrimonial alliances with stronger South Indian kingdoms until these matrimonial links superseded the local royal lineage. This prompted an invasion by the Aryacakravarti dynasty warlord Kalinga Magha in 1214, which saw the complete destruction of the metropolises of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa by burning.

Today the ancient city of Polonnaruwa remains one of the best-planned archaeological relic cities in the country, standing testimony to the discipline and greatness of the Kingdom's first rulers. Its beauty was also used as a backdrop to film scenes for the Duran Duran music video Save a Prayer in 1982. The ancient city of Polonnaruwa has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Near the ancient city, there is a small town with several hotels and some glossy shops, and places to fulfil day-to-day needs. There are government institutions in a newly built area called “New Town,” about 6 km away from the town and the main road. The largest school in the district, Polonnaruwa Royal Central College is situated in the new town.

Polonnaruwa is the second largest city in North Central Province, but it is known as one of the cleanest and more beautiful cities in the country. The green environment, amazing ancient constructions, Parakrama Samudra (a huge lake built in 1200), and attractive tourist hotels and hospitable people, make it a tourism hotspot.

Another draw for tourists is the city's population of toque macaques. The monkeys have been living in the ruins since the human occupation and continued to thrive there long after the humans left.

#### **Polonnaruwa destinations**

- Polonnaruwa Vatadage
- Hatadage
- Rankoth Vehera
- Nissanka Latha Mandapaya
- Gal Vihara

## **Polonnaruwa Location**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/AfNJzi8vUKLQ3Pod9>

## **Polonnaruwa Hotels**

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## **Polonnaruwa image link url**

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[https://www.google.com/search?&gs\\_l=EpNpbWciE1BvbG9ubmFydXdhIGltYWdlcnNlhmhFQAFgAcAB4AJABAJgBxQKgAcUCqgEDMyOxuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMA4gMFEgExIECSBwCgBy0&sclient=img](https://www.google.com/search?&gs_l=EpNpbWciE1BvbG9ubmFydXdhIGltYWdlcnNlhmhFQAFgAcAB4AJABAJgBxQKgAcUCqgEDMyOxuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMA4gMFEgExIECSBwCgBy0&sclient=img)

### 3 Sigiriya

**SIGIRIYA INTRODUCTION** Sigiriya is an exception to the majority of archaeological sites in Sri Lanka. Most of the ruins found in the ancient cities of Sri Lanka depict a religious character. Sigiriya differs from them in being secular, with its pleasure gardens and frescoes of beautiful feminine figures. The royal pleasure gardens are laid out with a beautiful array of ponds, fountains, pavilions and pathways. The high artistic quality of the paintings are visible even today. Sigiriya today is a UNESCO listed world heritage site. It is one of the best preserved examples of ancient urban planning. It is the most visited historic site in Sri Lanka **LOCATION** Sigiriya is located in the central Matale District of the central province, Sri Lanka in an area dominated by a massive column of rock nearly 200 meters high according to the ancient Sri Lankan chronicle the Culavamsa the site was selected by king Kashapa as his new capital. **THE STORY OF SIGIRIYA** The chronicle tells us the story that king Dhatusena had two sons, Kasyapa and Moggallana. The King also had a daughter whom he loved as his own life and gave her in marriage to his sister's son, Migara, and made him the commander of the Army. One day Migara told Kasyapa that the King was hiding his treasure for his brother. When Kasyapa asked for this treasure from his father, at first he denied but when he repeatedly asked for it, he went with Kasyapa's messengers to Kalaveva, the reservoir he built, and pointing at the water said: 'This here, my friends, is my whole wealth.' Hearing this Kasyapa was filled with fury and got Migara to slay him. But he could not live in peace for fear of his brother Moggallana. He sought refuge in Sigiriya 'which is difficult of ascent for human beings, cleared the land round about, surrounded it with a wall and built a staircase in the form of a lion. Thus begins the story of Sigiriya. **SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS THE LION STAIRCASE** One of Sigiriya's most dramatic features is its great Lion Staircase. Originally it has had the figure of a recumbent lion, and from the remaining two paws one can visualize the size and splendor that it must have once. There had been a door between the paws of the lion providing access to the beginning to the staircase through a gaping mouth, leading to the heights of the Sigiriya rock. The rock takes the name from this lion-entrance, Sigiriya, the 'lion-rock' **THE MIRROR WALL** The mirror wall has been built with brick masonry and the surface of the wall has a highly polished plaster finish; hence the name 'Mirror Wall' is used. Many poets who visited Sigiriya between the sixth and the tenth century have expressed their feelings after seeing the frescoes, and

their comments are visible even today on the mirror wall. Those are known as “The Sigiriya” Grafti. Therefore, they exemplify the status of Sinhala poetry between the sixth to the tenth century. We came and as we looked At these golden-coloured ones They gave us no speech But only glances from their motionless eyes, etc.... THE FRESCOES OF SIGIRIYA The famous fifth-century paintings- are known Sigiriya frescoes. They are found on the rock, some hundred meters above ground level. Many interpretations have been given to these figures, mainly of women, but what is generally accepted is that they represent Apsaras or Celestial nymphs, a motif common to the art of Asia. The plaster on which the frescoes are drawn have been made with a mixture of resin from a tree. Bee’s honey have been used to form the foundation of this frescoes. These figures were drawn with a brush on top of this plaster. The technique of painting has been shown to be an oil emulsion tempera with gum. Now only fifty frescoes left from 250 frescoes and the rest diminished. THE GARDEN OF SIGIRIYA Recent excavations by the Cultural Triangle have focused on the unique features of gardens in the Sigiriya complex. According to archaeologists Sigiriya is an example of one of the oldest landscaped gardens in the world. Three distinct but unified forms of gardens have been identified here: water gardens, cave and boulder gardens, terraced gardens encircling the rock.

## Sigiriya Location

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/8URTykzhNhtAmQPA9>

## Sigiriya Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/sigiriya.en.html?aid=306395;label=sigiriya-iGC\\*CfAOe02ueT1bIZvy4wS392865646762;pl:ta:p1170;p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-8383963653;lp1009919;li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2RlIyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7EY7\\_GFnSrgAPGQP1MhKmLp8XAUjTJPJvRGxyLKw4m90xYKDO5-YJcaAmsWEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/sigiriya.en.html?aid=306395;label=sigiriya-iGC*CfAOe02ueT1bIZvy4wS392865646762;pl:ta:p1170;p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-8383963653;lp1009919;li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2RlIyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7EY7_GFnSrgAPGQP1MhKmLp8XAUjTJPJvRGxyLKw4m90xYKDO5-YJcaAmsWEALw_wcB)

## Sigiriya image url link

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## Beaches in Sri Lanka

1. Bentota
2. Hiriketiya

3. Arugam Bay
4. Uppuveli
5. Mirissa
6. Hikkaduwe corel reeves
7. Nilaveli Whale & Dolphin Watching

With 830 miles of coastline, finding the best beaches in Sri Lanka is no mean feat.

This enchanting country is teeming with palm-fringed paradises, but which ones are the cream of the crop? We've carried out the laborious task of sipping cocktails, digging our toes in varying sands, and perfecting our tanlines to give you our rundown of the best beaches in Sri Lanka.

Feeling inspired to discover the best beaches in Sri Lanka? Click below to see our staggeringly low-priced tours **to this jewel of South Asia.**

## Bentota

Bentota - one of the best beaches in Sri Lanka

This is truly one of the finest stretches of sand in the world. Unsurprisingly, this stunning part of Sri Lanka has not gone unnoticed. Running alongside the magical Bentota Lagoon, this coastline is peppered with an array of luxurious hotels.

This affluent slice of paradise is also a hub for watersports. Sitting just behind the beach, the lagoon is a paradise for thrill-seekers. The options of kayaking, jet-skiing and wakeboarding add a dash of adrenaline to what is an otherwise blissful resort. If you are feeling adventurous, zoom up the river and meander through the mangroves to spot crocodiles and hear howls of the purple-faced leaf monkey. Another unmissable experience is a visit to the Kosgoda Turtle Conservation and Research Centre. Head here to learn about these endangered animals, and even help release some baby turtles into the wild.

## Bentota image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Bentota+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWllpgm1eWrJ0hfVUufK8MZ0OF0rp7A%3A1735402139561&ei=myJwZ5v2IZ-Pvr0P84HmyAY&ved=0ahUKEwjbr8jg7MqKAXWfh68BHfOAGWkQ4dUDCB&uact=5&oq=Bentota+imagers&gs\\_l=EGNpbWciD0JlbnRvdGEgaW1hZ2Vyc0ijCFAAWABwAHgAkAEAmAG4AaABuAGqAQMWLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Bentota+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWllpgm1eWrJ0hfVUufK8MZ0OF0rp7A%3A1735402139561&ei=myJwZ5v2IZ-Pvr0P84HmyAY&ved=0ahUKEwjbr8jg7MqKAXWfh68BHfOAGWkQ4dUDCB&uact=5&oq=Bentota+imagers&gs_l=EGNpbWciD0JlbnRvdGEgaW1hZ2Vyc0ijCFAAWABwAHgAkAEAmAG4AaABuAGqAQMWLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img)

## Bentota Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/75wWcvzHnVLM6C18>



## Bentota Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/bentota.en.html?aid=306395;label=bentota-j2\\_Ei2Sb9JmTh9bni92uiAS392710363917:pl:ta:p1150:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-76049160:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7EQF3673d4hsjeMutlD1EicdxYHN1\\_kH6bWAMYce7j4l-IR7kMpUK0aArgPEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/bentota.en.html?aid=306395;label=bentota-j2_Ei2Sb9JmTh9bni92uiAS392710363917:pl:ta:p1150:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-76049160:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7EQF3673d4hsjeMutlD1EicdxYHN1_kH6bWAMYce7j4l-IR7kMpUK0aArgPEALw_wcB)

## Hiriketiya

Hiriketiya - one of the best beaches in Sri Lanka

Hiriketiya is where the jungle blends into the sea. For those seeking a helping of unspoiled heaven on earth, this is the go-to. Although, In the last few years, its popularity has skyrocketed. Yet unlike Bentota, the majority of visitors are seeking a retreat from the grand complexes dotting the coastline of Sri Lanka.

One of the benefits of being, trendy, young and extremely instagramable, is the array of first-class cafes on offer. Most of these hipster hangouts offer fantastic brunch options and cocktails; their menus wouldn't look out of place in glitzy areas of London or New York. After a lazy lunch, rent a surfboard to glide across the waves of this horseshoe cove. Surfing not your cup of tea? Try renting a boat to gaze back inland at the lush forest bordering the creamy sands.

## Hiriketiya image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Hiriketiya+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWlJV1g5YuFMQuz5yqiCjc\\_QWn3vtwQ%3A1735402812976&ei=PCVwZ8GhO5mcvr0PlubliQg&ved=0ahUKEwjBr9ah78qKAxUZjq8BHRZzOYEQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Hiriketiya+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciEkhpcllrZXRpeWEgaW1hZ2Vyc0i\\_CIAAWABwAHgAkAEAmAG2AaABtgGqAQMwLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&sclient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Hiriketiya+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWlJV1g5YuFMQuz5yqiCjc_QWn3vtwQ%3A1735402812976&ei=PCVwZ8GhO5mcvr0PlubliQg&ved=0ahUKEwjBr9ah78qKAxUZjq8BHRZzOYEQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Hiriketiya+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciEkhpcllrZXRpeWEgaW1hZ2Vyc0i_CIAAWABwAHgAkAEAmAG2AaABtgGqAQMwLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&sclient=img)

## Hiriketiya Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/DwETSdPH33XGPgzi6>

## Hiriketiya Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/hiriketiya.en.html?aid=306395;label=hiriketiya-ZvUevaBM9byxVw89y15vkgS540953282772:pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-298177917726:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7FubjfwX4i6dyszL5NPPYlwS1tHu90JlqbunrOaLfjd1o7h7mOYuEaAhSOEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/hiriketiya.en.html?aid=306395;label=hiriketiya-ZvUevaBM9byxVw89y15vkgS540953282772:pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-298177917726:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7FubjfwX4i6dyszL5NPPYlwS1tHu90JlqbunrOaLfjd1o7h7mOYuEaAhSOEALw_wcB)

## Arugam Bay

Arugam Bay, the best beaches in Sri Lanka

Arugam Bay is not only one of the best beaches in Sri Lanka; it also has some of the best waves. This carefree village became extremely popular amongst the surf scene, but has now started to attract an array of travellers.

Due to the local's strong resistance, there's not a luxury complex in sight; instead, a range of quirky guesthouse line the shore. Tours of nearby Pottuvil Lagoon leave from the beach, as well as motor-boat trips out to sea in search of dolphins. Visit this beach if you crave laid-back vibes and dreamy sunsets.

## Arugam Bay image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Arugam+Bay+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIIJCELust3D4se7tXr81M8LPgnV-A%3A1735402962448&ei=0iVwZ\\_OCG5Xg2roPidbggQE&ved=0ahUKEwizs\\_no78qKAXUVsFYBHQkrOB\\_AQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Arugam+Bay+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciEkFydWdhbSBBCYXkgaw1hZ2Vyc0IsjgdQwbsFWMG7BXABeACQAQCYAeECoAHEBKoBBTItMS4xuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMAIAYBkgcAoAda&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Arugam+Bay+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIIJCELust3D4se7tXr81M8LPgnV-A%3A1735402962448&ei=0iVwZ_OCG5Xg2roPidbggQE&ved=0ahUKEwizs_no78qKAXUVsFYBHQkrOB_AQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Arugam+Bay+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciEkFydWdhbSBBCYXkgaw1hZ2Vyc0IsjgdQwbsFWMG7BXABeACQAQCYAeECoAHEBKoBBTItMS4xuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMAIAYBkgcAoAda&scient=img)

## Arugam Bay Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/cbraw7VEEzNGE5es5>

## Arugam Bay Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/arugam.en.html?aid=306395;label=arugam-Jy5be\\*5ybosNFkAhK0JDwgS648935596048:pl:ta:p165:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-27221440838:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7Ev2-sxi6BK1wVHP8nmhYqOQUR-Q-Jd7mal3luEXYVy2fzGF-UpnqMaAlBfEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/arugam.en.html?aid=306395;label=arugam-Jy5be*5ybosNFkAhK0JDwgS648935596048:pl:ta:p165:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-27221440838:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7Ev2-sxi6BK1wVHP8nmhYqOQUR-Q-Jd7mal3luEXYVy2fzGF-UpnqMaAlBfEALw_wcB)

## Uppuveli

Lying just north of Trincomalee, the sleepy village of Uppuveli is far from the beaten track. Because of its close proximity to the former civil war zone, the soft white sands are relatively free of development. Although, this is likely to change soon; this quaint village is carving out a reputation as one of the best places to embark on whale watching tours.

## Uppuveli image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Uppuveli+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWII\\_tN8MTIBku5NU6tg6G5o4ctSNzQ%3A1735403106967&ei=YiZwZ8-2OojQ2roP0dzvQA&ved=0ahUKEwjP7-2t8MqKAXUIqFYBHVHuGwgQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Uppuveli+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciEFVwcHV2ZWxpIGltYWdlcnNlYHBQAFgAcAB4AJABAJgBxgGgAYoDqgEDMC4yuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMAKgcAoAda&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Uppuveli+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWII_tN8MTIBku5NU6tg6G5o4ctSNzQ%3A1735403106967&ei=YiZwZ8-2OojQ2roP0dzvQA&ved=0ahUKEwjP7-2t8MqKAXUIqFYBHVHuGwgQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Uppuveli+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciEFVwcHV2ZWxpIGltYWdlcnNlYHBQAFgAcAB4AJABAJgBxgGgAYoDqgEDMC4yuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAIAoAIAmAMAKgcAoAda&scient=img)

## Uppuveli Location google map URL

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## Uppuveli Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=306395&label=uppuveli-9gmxeZzjrSpFkOVeZFNrPAS476701774048%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap12%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atikwd-15513849308%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DUmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7EsWjq-hqwhPypkj2N9qswTXJTN65b8iGJ3NprKRRM15f9pPRRQFHkaApPgEALw\\_wcB&dest\\_type=city&redirected=1&dest\\_id=2238446&source=city&redirected\\_from\\_city=1&keep\\_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caae0a54c550a43](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=306395&label=uppuveli-9gmxeZzjrSpFkOVeZFNrPAS476701774048%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap12%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atikwd-15513849308%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DUmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7EsWjq-hqwhPypkj2N9qswTXJTN65b8iGJ3NprKRRM15f9pPRRQFHkaApPgEALw_wcB&dest_type=city&redirected=1&dest_id=2238446&source=city&redirected_from_city=1&keep_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caae0a54c550a43)

## Mirissa

Mirissa - the best beaches in Sri Lanka

Sitting on the south coast, the fine sands of Mirissa Beach are lapped by lively waves. Except for a small cluster of hotels and guesthouses, this part of Sri Lanka is again relatively unspoiled.

Mirissa beach is truly stunning but is not the only attraction on offer; every year thousands of visitors flock here to embark on whale watching tours. Often these majestic creatures can be seen crashing through the just offshore from December to April.

## Mirissa image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Mirissa+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWllrBDrPn6XgOYoP-IT80GC\\_Hrg6Wg%3A1735403208628&ei=yCZwZ4X9JY\\_T2roPylir8Qs&ved=0ahUKEwiFgave8MqKAxWPqVYBHUIEKr4Q4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Mirissa+imagers&gs\\_l=EgNpbWciD01pcmlzc2EgaW1hZ2Vyc0i4B1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAGyAaABsgGqAQMwLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Mirissa+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWllrBDrPn6XgOYoP-IT80GC_Hrg6Wg%3A1735403208628&ei=yCZwZ4X9JY_T2roPylir8Qs&ved=0ahUKEwiFgave8MqKAxWPqVYBHUIEKr4Q4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Mirissa+imagers&gs_l=EgNpbWciD01pcmlzc2EgaW1hZ2Vyc0i4B1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAGyAaABsgGqAQMwLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img)

## Mirissa Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/JdE9QucPMMHSB2Wa6>

## Mirissa Hotels URL

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# Hikkaduwa

Hikkaduwa is a seaside resort town in southwestern Sri Lanka. It's known for its strong surf and beaches, including palm-dotted Hikkaduwa Beach, lined with restaurants and bars. The shallow waters opposite Hikkaduwa Beach shelter the Hikkaduwa National Park, which is a coral sanctuary and home to marine turtles and exotic fish. Inland, Gangarama Maha Vihara is a Buddhist temple decorated with hand-painted murals. — Google

**Postal Code:** 80240

**Beaches:** [Hikkaduwa Beach](#); [Narigama Beach](#)

**District:** [Galle District](#)

**Province:** [Southern Province](#)

## Hikkaduwa image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=hikkaduwa+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIKi1NOcfyL37OuBsBO00ARzloRrGw%3A1735403295206&ei=HydwZ\\_uIDKLG0-kPjuKb4QU&ved=0ahUKEwi7rs-H8cqKAxUi4zQHHQ7xJlwQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=hikkaduwa+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciEWHPa2thZH V3YSBpbWFnZXJzSPibUABYkxwAHgAkAEAmAGVAqABrQ2qAQUwLjguMbgBA8gBAPgBAZgCAaACxwH CAgYQABgHGB7CaggQABgHGAoYHpgDAJIHAzAuMaAHrAs&sclient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=hikkaduwa+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIKi1NOcfyL37OuBsBO00ARzloRrGw%3A1735403295206&ei=HydwZ_uIDKLG0-kPjuKb4QU&ved=0ahUKEwi7rs-H8cqKAxUi4zQHHQ7xJlwQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=hikkaduwa+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciEWHPa2thZH V3YSBpbWFnZXJzSPibUABYkxwAHgAkAEAmAGVAqABrQ2qAQUwLjguMbgBA8gBAPgBAZgCAaACxwH CAgYQABgHGB7CaggQABgHGAoYHpgDAJIHAzAuMaAHrAs&sclient=img)

## Hikkaduwa Correl reeves image

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## Hikkaduwa Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/8Dz7CHGyo9Us64LEA>

## Hikkaduwa Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/hikkaduwa.en.html?aid=306395;label=hikkaduwa-pAtK\\_B8zGvtQX9gOLZx\\_WgS392664036399;pl:ta:p1360;p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-10513003553:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7FbobjA39VBz5Wvu\\_gnTaB2c\\_xEQVpHA99KilIVg3EBLtSBPpp1pMaApWHEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/hikkaduwa.en.html?aid=306395;label=hikkaduwa-pAtK_B8zGvtQX9gOLZx_WgS392664036399;pl:ta:p1360;p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-10513003553:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7FbobjA39VBz5Wvu_gnTaB2c_xEQVpHA99KilIVg3EBLtSBPpp1pMaApWHEALw_wcB)

## Nilaveli Whale & Dolphin Watching

Following the recent development of Whale & Dolphin Watching Tours in Mirissa, Trincomalee is rapidly emerging as another internationally important whale-watching destination. Blue whales in particular (plus smaller numbers of sperm whales) can regularly be seen around six to eight nautical miles east of Trincomalee (about 30min by boat), Dolphins (mainly Spinner) are also regularly seen. Most sightings occur between March/April and August/September, as whales continue their migrations around the island from the south coast (where they mainly congregate from December to April) – this means that Sri Lanka offers around ten months of continuous whale & dolphin watching annually at different points around the coast.

Our Whale & Dolphin Watching Trips from our NILAVELI DIVING CENTRE:

When? From 15. March until end October

What? Whales and Dolphin Watching around Nilaveli & Trincomalee

Departure time: Our boats depart from our NILAVELI DIVING CENTRE at Divinguru Nilaveli at 5:45am.

Check In is at 5.30 am at our Nilaveli Diving Centre. You will be back at our Diving Centre around 9 am.

Trip Duration: In average 3 hours

Sightings: There is a high chance to see whales or dolphins during our tours (probably 50 % of Whales, 90 % of Dolphins) and we will give our best to find them for you on every single day. However, on some days, even with our best efforts, it is impossible for us to show you dolphins or whales.

Rates :

Starts from 38 Euros per person to 50 Euros per person depending how many people on the boat, max. 6 people per boat.

Minimum age of kids is 5 years old. Kids below 5 years of age are free of charge, kids from 5 until 12 are half price.

Pick Up / Drop Off: Free of charge from anywhere in distance from Trincomalee town to Uppuveli.

Bookings: Please contact us to make a booking. Advance bookings are highly recommended.

Please Note

The Indian Ocean is not a calm ocean. There is always at least a light swell. If you tend to get sea sick or if it the first time for you on a boat in the Indian Ocean, we advise you to take seasick pills on the morning of the trip (about 1 – 2 hours BEFORE you enter the boat). You can find them in every pharmacy in Sri Lanka. We recommend the brand “Avomine” or “Celenid”. Please consult your doctor or pharmacist in advance before using these drugs.

## Nilaveli image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Nilaveli++Whale+%26+Dolphin+Watching+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIKnz-N24cnYGUjKmwM7pEKZd09zlg%3A1735403700189&ei=tChwZ92ZC9jW1e8PpeyzSA&ved=0ahUKEwjdw93I8sqKAxVYa\\_UHHSX2DAkQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Nilaveli++Whale+%26+Dolphin+Watching+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciKk5pbGF2ZWxpICBxAGFsZSAmlERvbHBoaW4gV2F0Y2hpbmcgaW1hZ2Vyc0idB1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAHDAAABwwGgAQMWLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scli=ent=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Nilaveli++Whale+%26+Dolphin+Watching+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIKnz-N24cnYGUjKmwM7pEKZd09zlg%3A1735403700189&ei=tChwZ92ZC9jW1e8PpeyzSA&ved=0ahUKEwjdw93I8sqKAxVYa_UHHSX2DAkQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Nilaveli++Whale+%26+Dolphin+Watching+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciKk5pbGF2ZWxpICBxAGFsZSAmlERvbHBoaW4gV2F0Y2hpbmcgaW1hZ2Vyc0idB1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAHDAAABwwGgAQMWLjG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scli=ent=img)

## Nilaveli Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/1jFDbGWwVJpVksBq8>

## Nilaveli Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/nilaveli.en.html?aid=306395;label=nilaveli-u\\*Ot61Tj\\_OwErPcsjWbKdwS473171532902;pl:ta:p130:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-24352932198;lp1009919;li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KQCjA4L67BhDUARisADWrl7F3EIUZB8juy7I28-8goNlCHcnK7cv1fY-d39pJlp8v0rTMGS9yhZEaAlgPEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/nilaveli.en.html?aid=306395;label=nilaveli-u*Ot61Tj_OwErPcsjWbKdwS473171532902;pl:ta:p130:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-24352932198;lp1009919;li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KQCjA4L67BhDUARisADWrl7F3EIUZB8juy7I28-8goNlCHcnK7cv1fY-d39pJlp8v0rTMGS9yhZEaAlgPEALw_wcB)

## Ella Rock Trail

Check out this 5.3-km out-and-back trail near Kithal Ella, Badulla. Generally considered a challenging route, it takes an average of 2 h 9 min to complete. This is a very popular area for hiking, so you'll likely encounter other people while exploring. The best times to visit this trail are January through April.

Great trail that starts through a tea plantation. The trail is easier in the beginning but then it will eventually become quite steep. Keep pushing to reach the top as the views are well worth it. You will be able to see the entire city of Ella as well as Little Adam's Peak. Bring plenty of water. The entire steep climb is in the forest so there are plenty of shade.

## Ella Rock image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Ella+Rock+Trail+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILavAAhv5Dj5b4ixsDLRkRL7a2egA%3A1735404128777&ei=YCpwZ5uOL5Hf1e8PnMOMkQI&ved=0ahUKEwibvoyV9MqKAXWRb\\_UHHZyhKSIQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Ella+Rock+Trail+imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciF0VsbGEgUm9jayBUcmFpbCBp](https://www.google.com/search?q=Ella+Rock+Trail+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILavAAhv5Dj5b4ixsDLRkRL7a2egA%3A1735404128777&ei=YCpwZ5uOL5Hf1e8PnMOMkQI&ved=0ahUKEwibvoyV9MqKAXWRb_UHHZyhKSIQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Ella+Rock+Trail+imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciF0VsbGEgUm9jayBUcmFpbCBp)

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## Ella Rock Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/PbPwedAgyN3C9idd9>

## Ella Rock Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/landmark/lk/ella-rock.html?aid=318615;label=New\\_English\\_EN\\_LK\\_27026936905-3TMPqAtslwzzZaVgX\\*8D1wS217276142573:pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi55658152985:tidsa-301303784602:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrI7Hs80AhCVj3EqmOCJi6YFbfXOyKKRntgeoiF6ndb\\_wlhylgtZM0HcsaAhrKEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/landmark/lk/ella-rock.html?aid=318615;label=New_English_EN_LK_27026936905-3TMPqAtslwzzZaVgX*8D1wS217276142573:pl:ta:p1:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi55658152985:tidsa-301303784602:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrI7Hs80AhCVj3EqmOCJi6YFbfXOyKKRntgeoiF6ndb_wlhylgtZM0HcsaAhrKEALw_wcB)

# Adams Peak

Adam's Peak, one of the must-visit spots in Sri Lanka, is a huge conical mountain towering over with 2,243 meters height in the central highlands of the country, carrying on its top a sacred footprint equally revered by all religions. Besides being a holy tourist destination, Adam's Peak is extremely popular with tourists for its alluring beauty and unmatched trekking. The peak, the seventh tallest peak in Sri Lanka, is also known as Sri Pada (sacred footprint) and Samanala Kanda (butterfly mountain).

### What Are The Tourist Attractions in Adam's Peak?

Adam's Peak is mostly seen as a sacred place for all religious groups. On the top, the peak treasures a big rock that carries a huge footprint that is believed to be Lord Buddhas in Buddhist tradition, Sri Rama's in Hindu mythology, and prophet Adam's in Christian and Islamic beliefs. The peak is pretty much attractive with thickly vegetated hills all the way up that facilitates the best trekking experience. Also, the peak is headwaters to four prominent rivers in the country named Kalu, Mahaweli, Kelani and Walawe and various other tributaries and features plenty of waterfalls. Being home to a wide range of unique birds, reptiles, and mammals, Adam's Peak has in possession rich biodiversity consisting of lavish endemic flora.

### Historical Elements Behind Adam's Peak

Adam's Peak, whose history dates back to the pre-Christian era, is special to all religions and expressed in different ways if you ask the locals about the history of this sacred mountain, hence relying on whom you are asking. Buddhists believe that it was the residence of their lord. While Hindus hold that according to their folktale it is in Adam's Peak that Ravana, King of Asura, hid Seetha, the queen of Lord Rama after abducting her from India. Muslims have it that after the forbidden fruit incident from Heaven, Adam directly descended on Adam's Peak. Sun-worshippers are said to have made first offerings here in 140 BC with King Dutugemunu who had given

staples to monks at Sri Pada; the karma of which incident is said to have healed him at the deathbed. According to the chronicle of the ancient history of Sri Lanka, the story of Sri Pada has something to do with Queen Varija, daughter-in-law of King Kashyapa. At various points in history, the holy destination had to face setbacks and remain away from public attention.

### **Weather & Climate At Adam's Peak - Best Time To Visit?**

Simply put the best season to visit Adam's Peak is between January and May when there is less rain in the region and daytime would get pleasant sun all day long. In the southern fringes of the central highlands, where Adam's Peak is situated the safe summer season happens between December and April. During this time, you shall experience a warm atmospheric temperature of 29 Degree Celsius on average with a clear sky. The pilgrimage season in here starts on Duruthu poya day in December or January and lasts until Vesak poya day in May, the busiest time being in April when the school holidays and Sri Lankan new year holidays happen. So it is recommended to make your pilgrim in the early months for calm and relaxed climbing. Many ascend the mountain at nights, to enjoy the daybreak on the top.

### **Activities You Enjoy At Adam's Peak**

Here at Adam's Peak, there is much more to do than a pilgrimage to this 2,243 meters tall mountain. You shall be enjoying scenic valleys, rustic looking environments, lush foliages everywhere your entire way up the mountain. Possibly this one provides you the best trekking and hiking experience up the incline slopes that consist of 5,500 steps in total. You don't need technical hiking equipment to cover the 4 hours of ascent and 2 hours of decent, but a nice pair of shoes or boots and fitness level. If you are ascending at night in the AM, you are getting the golden opportunity to witness the pure outbreak of sunrise, reaching the summit before 7 in the am, where clouds are passing beneath you. The summit area is reserved for the sacred experience of visiting the footprint, Buddhist monasteries and monks.

### **The Restaurants & Night Life Here**

In pilgrimage season, there would be plenty of tea shops and food stalls showing up regular intervals almost all the way up to the peak where you could sit for a while getting yourselves deep-fried local snacks, chickpeas, Rotis and coffees and teas made of pure tea powders right out from the plantations. Anyway, it would be better keeping your own food with you if you need to take care of a particular diet. Since most people prefer to climb the peak at nights, the nightlife in here would be busier and interesting. All the way up would be lightened with lamps and tube-lights where in the off-season, the way might be dark and only a few food stalls. There are fresh rooms for answering nature's call here and there all the way up. You shall have a selection of restaurants and hotels in Dalhousie with nice accommodation and food.

### **How To Reach Adam ?**

There are two alternative mountain feet for you to start ascending to Adam's Peak; the popular one being from Dalhousie, a small village, otherwise known as Nalathanniya and the other one being from Ratnapura, the opposite base of the mountain, which is less common because of longer hours of ascending. To begin from Dalhousie you first need to arrive at Hatton or Maskeliya, the nearest city, that can be accessed by train or bus from Ella, Kandy,



Colombo, etc. Located around 30 kilometers away from Hatton, Dalhousie village can be reached by bus, taxi cars or tuk-tuks both taking around 1 hour going past waterfalls, villages, and tea plantations. Simply put, the three popular routes to the peak from the base are Hatton via Maskeliya (four miles walk), Rathnapura via Carney Estate (10 miles) and Kuruwita (12 miles).

## Adam's Peak image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=adems+peak+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILYh8CARLSKUiTvPNGMgPAKo1SXZg%3A1735409731855&ei=QOBwZ7rxM7uq0-kPs9TR8AY&ved=0ahUKEwj6nu2EicuKAxU71TQHHTNqFG4Q4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=adems+peak+imagers&gs\\_l=pg=EgNpbWciEmFkZW1zIHB1YWsgaW1hZ2Vyc0iaCVAAWABwAHgAkAEAmAGnAaABpwGqAQmWl.jG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=adems+peak+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWILYh8CARLSKUiTvPNGMgPAKo1SXZg%3A1735409731855&ei=QOBwZ7rxM7uq0-kPs9TR8AY&ved=0ahUKEwj6nu2EicuKAxU71TQHHTNqFG4Q4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=adems+peak+imagers&gs_l=pg=EgNpbWciEmFkZW1zIHB1YWsgaW1hZ2Vyc0iaCVAAWABwAHgAkAEAmAGnAaABpwGqAQmWl.jG4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img)

## Adam's Peak Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/XcKYmm1CgUkEawWX7>

## Adam's Peak Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=318615&label=New\\_English\\_EN\\_LK\\_27027142825-OOHRKEm2e9cX4E5\\_mJSvaAS640874803405%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atidsa-199482273865%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Aag27027142825%3Acmp400679785&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARisADWrl7H3c2XXPmmN4loCARP7mW9GNs4tWc3Wo83MVkuoiJClcd1biy56bplaAvCWEALw\\_wcB&highlighted\\_hotels=1745373&redirected=1&city=900052927&hlrd=no\\_dates&source=hotel&expand\\_sb=1&keep\\_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caae0a54c550a43](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=318615&label=New_English_EN_LK_27027142825-OOHRKEm2e9cX4E5_mJSvaAS640874803405%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atidsa-199482273865%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Aag27027142825%3Acmp400679785&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARisADWrl7H3c2XXPmmN4loCARP7mW9GNs4tWc3Wo83MVkuoiJClcd1biy56bplaAvCWEALw_wcB&highlighted_hotels=1745373&redirected=1&city=900052927&hlrd=no_dates&source=hotel&expand_sb=1&keep_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caae0a54c550a43)

# World's End Trail

Explore this 8.2-km loop trail near Haputale, Badulla. Generally considered a moderately challenging route, it takes an average of 2 h 40 min to complete. This is a popular trail for hiking and walking, but you can still enjoy some solitude during quieter times of day. The best times to visit this trail are December through May.

## World's End Trail image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=World%27s+End+Trail+imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIIObZV8crCyWfESRFxsDLH3FkAagw%3A1735410444283&ei=DENwZ8DzEJiP2roPk4-qwQw&ved=0ahUKEwjAqcjYi8uKAxWYh1YBHZOHKsgQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=World%27s+End+Trail+imagers&gs\\_l=pg=EgNpbWciGVdvcmxk3J3MgRW5kiFRyYWIslGltYWdlcnNI1QZQAFgACAB4AJABAJgBswGgAbMBqgEDMC4xuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAlAoAlAmAMA4gMFEgExIECSBwCgBy0&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=World%27s+End+Trail+imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIIObZV8crCyWfESRFxsDLH3FkAagw%3A1735410444283&ei=DENwZ8DzEJiP2roPk4-qwQw&ved=0ahUKEwjAqcjYi8uKAxWYh1YBHZOHKsgQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=World%27s+End+Trail+imagers&gs_l=pg=EgNpbWciGVdvcmxk3J3MgRW5kiFRyYWIslGltYWdlcnNI1QZQAFgACAB4AJABAJgBswGgAbMBqgEDMC4xuAEDyAEA-AEC-AEBmAlAoAlAmAMA4gMFEgExIECSBwCgBy0&scient=img)

## World's End Trail Location google map URL

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/JdtUdx66SZzHgTE59>

## World's End Trail Hotels URL

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=318615&label=New\\_English\\_EN\\_LK\\_27026936425-5WQxik%2A5vqjOdJbH0vs4ggS634117833255%3Apl%3Ata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atidsa-64415224945%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Aag27026936425%3Acmp400679785&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARisADWrl7FHIDzUIR17Bvreurhlj9ZClgk9Ks\\_bp2oyTdhEk0pBPtnS48HuXTAaAoE-EALw\\_wcB&highlighted\\_hotels=2076938&redirected=1&city=-1226549&hlrd=no\\_dates&source=hotel&expand\\_sb=1&keep\\_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caa\\_e0a54c550a43](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?aid=318615&label=New_English_EN_LK_27026936425-5WQxik%2A5vqjOdJbH0vs4ggS634117833255%3Apl%3Ata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atidsa-64415224945%3Alp1009919%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Aag27026936425%3Acmp400679785&gclid=Cj0KCQIA4L67BhDUARisADWrl7FHIDzUIR17Bvreurhlj9ZClgk9Ks_bp2oyTdhEk0pBPtnS48HuXTAaAoE-EALw_wcB&highlighted_hotels=2076938&redirected=1&city=-1226549&hlrd=no_dates&source=hotel&expand_sb=1&keep_landing=1&sid=a3f0632fda2278395caa_e0a54c550a43)

# Trincomalee natural harbour

Trincomalee harbour is the second best natural harbour in the world and the available water and land area is about 10 times as much as the Port of Colombo. Trincomalee was tentatively identified to cater for bulk and break bulk cargo and port related industrial activities including heavy industries, tourism and agriculture etc. At present SLPA is in the process to re-develop Trincomalee as a metropolis growth centre. SLPA has completed zoning plan to utilize the huge amount of existing unutilized land under its jurisdiction on the outcome of the analysis with the other sectors of the development, such as UDA, BOI, and Tourist Board etc. SLPA plans to advertise internationally and locally to call for proposals from potential investors. Evaluated RFP have been submitted for approval.

## Trincomalee natural harbour image url link

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Trincomalee+natural+harbour++imagers&sca\\_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ\\_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIIbNGQV\\_kbkcaTqPdztEHbL01EP0w%3A1735410614577&ei=tkNwZ4zxIqGSvrOPle0AyQs&ved=0ahUKEwiMpOKpjMuKAxUhia8BHZUxILkQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Trincomalee+natural+harbour++imagers&gs\\_lp=EgNpbWciJFRyaW5jb21hbGVlIG5hdHVyYWwgaGFyYm91ciAgaW1hZ2Vyc0jTC1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAG2AaABtgGqAQmWlJg4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img](https://www.google.com/search?q=Trincomalee+natural+harbour++imagers&sca_esv=232c4ba19e3c94e6&rlz=1C1KNTJ_enLK1059LK1059&udm=2&biw=1536&bih=703&sxsrf=ADLYWIIbNGQV_kbkcaTqPdztEHbL01EP0w%3A1735410614577&ei=tkNwZ4zxIqGSvrOPle0AyQs&ved=0ahUKEwiMpOKpjMuKAxUhia8BHZUxILkQ4dUDCBE&uact=5&oq=Trincomalee+natural+harbour++imagers&gs_lp=EgNpbWciJFRyaW5jb21hbGVlIG5hdHVyYWwgaGFyYm91ciAgaW1hZ2Vyc0jTC1AAWABwAHgAkAEAmAG2AaABtgGqAQmWlJg4AQPIAQD4AQL4AQGYAgCgAgCYAwCSBwCgBy0&scient=img)

## **Trincomalee natural harbour Location google map URL**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/3nR8AdYaorkbpi7R7>

## **Trincomalee natural harbour Hotels URL**

[https://www.booking.com/city/lk/trincomalee.en.html?aid=306395;label=trincomalee-nWoAKtfYEAunyWJ256dSVQS500105530954:pl:ta:p165:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-1578980384:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7FJIAIAN4I\\_kIIZiXM6y\\_Y4tIVjO\\_Q\\_CvC2-8Tz5XyBKvr4EeXTvzEaAuOIEALw\\_wcB](https://www.booking.com/city/lk/trincomalee.en.html?aid=306395;label=trincomalee-nWoAKtfYEAunyWJ256dSVQS500105530954:pl:ta:p165:p2:ac:ap:neg:fi:tikwd-1578980384:lp1009919:li:dec:dm:ppccp=UmFuZG9tSVYkc2Rllyh9YZVcNNsENnH02-pWD53qm9c;ws=&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA4L67BhDUARIsADWrl7FJIAIAN4I_kIIZiXM6y_Y4tIVjO_Q_CvC2-8Tz5XyBKvr4EeXTvzEaAuOIEALw_wcB)

## **Sri Lanka Water Fales**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_waterfalls\\_in\\_Sri\\_Lanka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_waterfalls_in_Sri_Lanka)