



*New Adventures... New Opportunities...*

**PACKAGE 09**  
**17D /16N**  
**HISTORIC "PEARL OF ASIA"**  
**(Galle -Yala-Nuwaraeliya-Kandy-Sigiriya-Trincomalee-Jaffna-Anuradhapura)**

***Itinerary***

**Day 1**

Arrival at Bandaranayake International Airport (CMB)

*Welcome to Sri Lanka.*

A warm welcome await you at the arrival lounge of the Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. Your tour guide will give you a brief introduction and commence the trip to Colombo. Check in to hotel rest of the day at leisure and overnight stay at the hotel.

Meals: On-flight meals

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

**Day 2 & 3**

Colombo - Galle

*Day 01:* Following breakfast, embark on a southward journey towards Galle, making a brief stop for a Colombo sightseeing tour. Colombo, a fusion of modern Western influences and authentic Sri Lankan charm, unfolds before you as you pass notable landmarks like the Old Parliament, President's House, Gangaramaya Temple, Galle Face Green, Pettah, Viharamahadevi Park, and Independence Square. The tour also includes a visit to the Colombo National Museum, housed in a splendid neo-Baroque building commissioned by Governor William Henry Gregory in 1877. The museum invites you on a captivating odyssey through Sri Lanka's history, showcasing exhibits dedicated to its historical kingdoms, complemented by informative display boards elucidating the significance of mudras in Buddha statues. Later in Balapitiya, a boat excursion awaits on the Madu River, granting access to 64 scattered islands. Notably, Cinnamon Island provides insights into cinnamon production, a trade in which Sri Lanka leads globally. As the day unfolds, retreat to your accommodation in Galle, anticipating a restful overnight stay.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

*Day 02:* Today's tour unveils the enchanting Galle Fort and its historic fortifications. A UNESCO heritage site since 1988, Galle seamlessly blends past and present. The Portuguese, Dutch, and English influences echo in its captivating architecture. Wander cobblestone streets, explore ramparts, and immerse in the rich history that resonates within the fort's walls.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch / Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

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## Day 4

### Galle- Yala

Embark on a morning journey to Yala National Park, anticipating an afternoon filled with adventure on a guided game drive. Immerse yourself in the dynamic wildlife and lush plant life of this expansive park, renowned as one of Sri Lanka's largest. Yala is a haven for nature enthusiasts, providing a unique opportunity to spot the elusive leopard amidst its diverse ecosystem.

It's essential to note that Yala National Park temporarily closes from September to October. During this period, we offer an equally captivating alternative with a visit to Udawalawe National Park, ensuring a seamless continuation of your wildlife exploration.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

## Day 5

### Yala - Nuwaraeliya

Embark on another thrilling safari this morning in Yala National Park, exploring its rich biodiversity by jeep. Witness the diverse wildlife that inhabits the park, providing a memorable experience of nature's wonders. Following the safari, your journey continues to Nuwara Eliya, often hailed as "Little England." This highland gem exudes a quaint, British-country-village ambiance, characterized by colonial-era bungalows and a rose-tinted charm. Nestled amidst scenic landscapes, Nuwara Eliya invites you to embrace its genteel atmosphere and discover the allure of this captivating hill station, where tradition meets the tranquility of the Sri Lankan highlands.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

### *Important Note:*

*Yala National Park undergoes temporary closures for conservation efforts annually, typically between September and October. The specific closure dates are determined by the Sri Lankan government, with announcements made 1-2 months in advance, varying each year. As Yala consists of multiple sections, in the event of one section being closed for conservation, we will seamlessly redirect the itinerary to explore one of the open sections, ensuring a continued and fulfilling wildlife experience for our guests. Your understanding and flexibility during these periods are greatly appreciated.*

## Day 6 & 7

### Nuwaraeliya – Kandy

*Day 01:* Following breakfast, embark on a renowned train journey to Kandy, acclaimed as one of the most scenic and picturesque in the world. Traverse the enchanting landscapes of the tea country,

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encountering breathtaking vistas and cascading waterfalls. This journey is not merely a visual delight but an opportunity to engage with the local community, fostering a cultural connection.

Upon reaching Kandy, immerse yourself in the city's rich history dating back to its time as the Hill Capital from 1514-1815 AD. Designated a UNESCO heritage site in 1988, Kandy beckons with a serene lake, historic temples like the revered Temple of the Tooth Relic, and meticulously preserved ruins of royal palaces. The afternoon grants you free time to explore Kandy at your leisure, allowing for a deeper appreciation of its cultural treasures.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

*Day 02:* Explore Kandy with a TukTuk and Bazaar tour, savoring lunch at a local eatery. Enjoy an afternoon stroll by the scenic Kandy Lake. In the evening, visit the revered Temple of the Tooth, home to a sacred Buddha relic, guarded by majestic elephants. Conclude with a captivating Sri Lankan Cultural Performance, blending traditional music, dance, and artistry.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

*Tips & suggestions:*

During the visit of Temple of the Tooth please wear clothing covering knees and shoulders, as a sign of respect. You will also be required to leave your shoes at the shoe counter near to the entrance before entering the temple

**Day 8 & 9**

Kandy – Sigiriya (Via Minneriya National Park)

*Day 01:* Embark on a journey to Sigiriya today, complemented by a jeep safari at Minneriya National Park. Spanning 36,948 hectares across Matale and Polonnaruwa, and bordered by the "Mahaweli" and "Amban" rivers, the park was declared a National Park in 1984. Renowned for its natural splendor, it's a haven for wildlife enthusiasts, especially those eager to observe elephants in their natural habitat. Arrive in Sigiriya for check-in, and in the evening, relish a delightful dinner accompanied by sundowner pre-dinner Arrack—a local cocktail—or a beverage of your choice, complemented by delectable canapes.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

*Day 02:* Sigiriya - Lion Rock Fortress - Polonnaruwa - Sigiriya

Embark on a morning ascent of the Sigiriya Rock Fortress, also known as Lion's Rock, an unparalleled artistic complex dating back to 477-498 AD. This UNESCO World Heritage Site entralls visitors with

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its distinctive architecture, making it a global attraction. Following your climb, savor a delectable lunch.

In the afternoon, indulge in a sightseeing tour of Polonnaruwa, the medieval capital city of Sri Lanka (1017-1235 AD). Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982, post the fall of Anuradhapura, it holds historical significance. Return to your hotel, and enjoy leisure time at your own pace.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

## **Day 10 & 11**

Sigiriya - Trincomalee

*Day 01:* Post-breakfast, embark on a scenic drive to Trincomalee, a captivating port city on Sri Lanka's northeast coast. En route, visit Fort Frederick and Koneswaram Temple. Constructed by Portuguese settlers in 1623, Fort Frederick witnessed subsequent captures by the Dutch in 1639 and British troops in 1795. Nestled within the fort atop Swami Rock, the revered Koneswaram Temple is a significant Hindu shrine dedicated to God Shiva. Upon arrival in Trincomalee, check-in and relish an evening at leisure to commence your exploration of this coastal gem, known for its pristine beaches and cultural richness. Immerse yourself in the charm of Trincomalee, one of Sri Lanka's coastal treasures.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

*Day 02:* Trincomalee City Tour.

Embark on a morning boat tour en route to Pigeon Island, a serene haven renowned for its tranquil beach and captivating snorkeling opportunities. The approximately 15-minute boat ride introduces you to Pigeon Island Marine National Park's underwater wonders, including Black Tip Reef Sharks, Green Sea Turtles, Hawksbill Sea Turtles, and a vibrant array of tropical fish such as cornet fish, parrot fish, and titan triggerfish.

Explore the marine sanctuary, discovering fascinating marine life like sweetlips, boxfish, cleaner wrasse, and moray eels. The crystal-clear waters provide an ideal setting for encounters with squids, octopus, and lobsters hiding among the rocks. Pigeon Island comprises two charming islands and derives its name from the endemic blue rock pigeons inhabiting them.

In the afternoon, join a city tour of Trincomalee with a local guide, gaining insights into the city's rich history and cultural heritage. Explore the gems that make Trincomalee a unique coastal destination.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

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## **Day 12 & 13**

Trincomalee - Jaffna

*Day 01:* Embark on a northward journey today as we drive to Jaffna, a Tamil city along the northern coast that was previously inaccessible for years due to the civil war. Covering a distance of 230 kilometers, the scenic drive takes approximately 4 hours. Explore the unique cultural and historical offerings of Jaffna, now open to travelers, and witness the resilience and beauty that define this once-off-limits destination. Engage with the vibrant Tamil heritage and discover the transformation of Jaffna into a captivating city, rich in history and ready to share its stories with those who venture its way.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

*Day 02:* Jaffna City Tour.

Embark on a half-day sightseeing adventure in Jaffna, exploring its famous highlights. Begin at Naga Pooshani Amman Kovil, an ancient Hindu temple complex surrounded by mature neem trees. The vibrant temple is dedicated to the naga goddess Meenakshi, a consort of Shiva. It's a sacred place for women seeking blessings for conception, especially during the trance-inducing midday puja. Continue to the beautifully restored Jaffna Public Library, a symbol of resilience and cultural restoration post-civil war destruction. Visit the Hindu Temple of Nallur Kandaswamy Kovil, a significant religious site in Jaffna.

Conclude today's sightseeing like a local by savoring a scoop of ice cream at Jaffna Rio Ice Cream, adding a sweet note to your exploration of this culturally rich city.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

## **Day 14 & 15**

Jaffna - Anuradhapura

*Day 01:* Embark on a scenic journey today as you leave Jaffna for the city of Anuradhapura. The approximately 4-hour drive covers a distance of 190 kilometers, offering glimpses of Sri Lanka's diverse landscapes. Upon reaching Anuradhapura, check-in and unwind, enjoying the remainder of the day at your leisure. Delve into the historical and cultural significance of Anuradhapura, one of the ancient capitals of Sri Lanka, as you explore the city's archaeological wonders and sacred sites. The tranquility and rich heritage of Anuradhapura await, promising a serene and culturally enriching experience. Overnight in Anuradhapura.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

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**Day 02: Anuradhapura City Tour.**

Embark on a full-day sightseeing tour to Anuradhapura after breakfast. As one of the ancient capitals of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura is renowned for its well-preserved ruins, offering a glimpse into the country's rich historical past.

The highlight of the day includes a visit to the magnificent Anuradhapura ruins. Explore the sacred old Bo Tree, a symbol of Buddhism's inception in Sri Lanka and a source of inspiration for the city's grand structures. The sprawling ruins, scattered across wooded areas and park-like settings, feature columns, ponds, and other architectural remnants.

Later in the day, journey to Mihintale, a mountain peak near Anuradhapura. Locals consider this site the meeting point between the Buddhist monk Mahinda and King Devanampiyatissa, marking the introduction of Buddhism to Sri Lanka. Immerse yourself in the spiritual and historical significance of Mihintale.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

Accommodation: 3\* or 4\* similar

**Day 16 & 17**

Anuradhapura - Negombo - Airport

Following breakfast, embark on a 170-kilometer drive to Negombo, marking the end of your journey. Whether it's for your flight departure back home or for onward travel to your next destination, Negombo serves as a convenient and well-connected location. Reflect on the memories of your exploration through diverse landscapes, historical marvels, and cultural gems as you bid farewell to the enchanting island of Sri Lanka. Safe travels on your onward journey!

Meals: Breakfast.

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## **INCLUSIONS**

- 02 water bottles per person per day
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of tour
- 16 nights in 3\* and 4\* hotel accommodation
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily Breakfasts, 16 dinner
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- All entry fees as per the itinerary

## **EXCLUSIONS**

- Meals and drinks are not mentioned in the program
- Visa fee in Sri Lanka
- Tipping for driver and tour guide (\$10/per person/day)
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance (we strongly recommend you hold a valid travel insurance policy for all domestic and overseas travel)
- Trip delay or interruption by airline schedule change
- Extra cost or missing tour caused by flight delay or cancel
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the program

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## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### ***Physical Requirements***

The tour requires a reasonable level of fitness, emphasizing time spent on your feet rather than covering extensive distances. Expect to embark and disembark from coaches and boats, stroll around various sights, and navigate stairs, adding a moderate physical activity component to the experience.

### ***Tipping***

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Please note that tipping for tour guides, drivers, and bellmen is a customary practice and is required. Your travel consultant will collect gratuities seven days before your departure. A suggested gratuity of 10\$ per person per day can make a significant impact on the livelihoods of local professionals in the tourism industry who have diligently served you throughout your holiday. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### ***Accommodation***

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

### ***Group size:***

2-16 Pax

### ***Travel Insurance***

Travel insurance is crucial for unexpected situations. In addition to potential assistance, you may need to show your insurance documents while traveling. We've teamed up with Nib Travel Insurance to offer competitive rates. Book Comprehensive or Essentials cover for domestic, international, or multi-trip journeys easily through us. Prioritize peace of mind with travel insurance to stay prepared for the unexpected during your travels.

### ***Visa & Passport information***

It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return and must have more than 2 blank pages.

An e-visa is required for entry into Sri Lanka. The Department of Immigration and Emigration launched a system called "Electronic Travel Authorization – ETA" in order to grant prior approval for a visa online for foreign nationals who visit Sri Lanka. You can visit <http://eta.gov.lk/slvisa/> to purchase your visa online.

E-Visas are only valid for 30 days, so you can only apply closer to your travel dates. Please do not apply for your visa until you have your travel documentation. It will take 3 business days to be approved. The cost is US\$50 per person.

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Please note that these details are subject to change without notice. We recommend visiting Government travel information web site for up to date information in terms of entry requirements.

### ***Tour Documentation***

Final documentation, including e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

#### **Children**

40% Child sharing with parents WITH an extra bed (40% on the Double Room Rate)

25% Child sharing with parents WITHOUT an extra bed (25% on the Double Room Rate)

### ***Tour Length***

The total tour duration, including specific time spent on land, can be found in the day-by-day itinerary. This provides accurate information about the overall length of the tour and the duration spent at each destination.

### **Terms and Conditions**

- Please note that the above rates are compiled with the hotels mentioned in the program and subject to change if any changers take place of the government taxes.
- The rooms will be confirmed according to the availability at the time of check in, unless the client make a block booking with the hotels with a 50% advance payment to us to make it against the hotels.
- Please note that the above rates are applicable for the above program only and if the client needs a specific destination included or omitted we could adjust the same accordingly and further if you need us to tailor make any programs we could arrange it for your convenience

### **Cancellation Policy**

- If cancelled 30 days or more prior to arrival – no charge – any payments made prior to this date will be reimbursed (less any bank charges)
- If cancelled between 14 to 29 days (inclusive) prior to arrival – 30% of the total booking value will be charge
- If cancelled between 7 to 14 days prior to arrival – 75% of the total booking value will be charge
- If cancelled less than 7 days prior to arrival – 100% of the total booking value will be charge

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