TOUR : CLASSICAL SRI LANKA DURATION : 07 DAYS / 06 NIGHTS

# **Tour Itinerary**

DAY 01 : AIRPORT / NEGAMBO

Meet & on arrival & proceed from Airport to Negambo.

Rest of the day leisure at the hotel

Overnight stay at hotel

# DAY 02 : <u>NEGAMBO / PINNAWALA / HABARANA</u>

Breakfast at the Hotel

## Morning visit to the Negambo Fish Market.

Located within a fairly close range to Bandaranaike International Airport, Negombo - the cinnamon hub of the Colonization of Dutch - offers some of the most exiting diving stretches in the country. With quite a pleasant beach and lagoon watch how Negombo dishes out some of the best lobsters, prawns and crabs found in the country, right on to your table or simply grab your kiteboards for an enthralling fly over crashing waves. Today Negombo also represents an ultimate nightlife featuring bars, disco bars and clubs. So, jazz up to the rhythm of the West, and be ready for a night of 'fest', because at Negombo everything is 'best'.

(Optional) - Boat Ride at Negambo Lagoon.

Transfer from Negambo to Pinnawala.

#### Visit to the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage.

The Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage, established in 1975, commenced with seven orphans. Today some of these orphans enjoy the fortune of seeing their grandchildren born in the same location. The original objective of establishing the orphanage inclined more towards tourism, but is soon became a conservation and educational centre. With the help of local and foreign elephant experts, Pinnawela started a scientific captive-breeding programme for elephants. The free movement of the herd enhanced the chances for respective individuals of both sexes to get together and mate. The nearby river played a dominant role in this regard, and in 1984, the first baby of Pinnawela was born. The success

story of Pinnawela has drawn the attention of scientists from all over the world. A considerable number of books and research articles on Pinnawela have been published in several languages. The members of the Pinnawela herd have been filmed, videoed and photographed thousands of times by professionals.

Transfer from Pinnawala to Habarana.

Overnight stay at Hotel

## DAY 03 : <u>HABARANA / SIGIRIYA / POLONNARUWA / HABARANA</u>

Breakfast at the Hotel

Transfer from Habarana to Sigiriya.

#### Climb the Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

Sigiriya, which is a world heritage site, built by King Kashyapa (477-495 AD). The 'Lion Rock' is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 metres from the scrub jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town. A moat, rampart, and extensive gardens including the renowned water gardens ring the base of the rock. Visit the world-renowned frescoes of the 'Heavenly Maidens' of Sigiriya, which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway. These frescoes are painted in earth pigments on plaster. Wander into the well-fabricated museum downstairs for an epic journey of yesteryears to realize how the citadel floated above citizens with the castle, ponds and irrigation systems that pumped water right onto its summit with an ingenious hydraulic system describing a colossal masterpiece of the great king which remained a wonder in Asia for centuries.

Transfer from Sigiriya to Polonnaruwa.

#### Visit to Polonnaruwa Ancient City.

Rising with the decline of Anuradhapura, the city of Polonnaruwa - medieval capital & crown jewel of King Parakramabahu I - remains superior proof of ancient culture & heritage blended with religious beliefs. Walk across its scattered walls of the World Heritage Site - blessed by stupas, resting Buddha statues, irrigation canals and fantastically carved Hindu sculptures - while observing the relic house - Watadage - which boasts of beautiful stone carvings. Take a close glance and you will realize a subtle Hindu influence on architecture and statues found in Polonnaruwa. Or sit by the side of Galviharaya and observe the absolute beauty gushing out of every bend of its huge

Buddhist statues. Nissankamalla Council Chamber is however, a headspinning beauty to just sit back and observe with its swaying pillars reminding the aesthetics of a powerful kingdom which rests beside Parakrama Samudraya - sea of Parakramabahu & masterpiece of irrigation!

Transfer from Polonnaruwa to Habarana.

Overnight stay at Hotel

#### DAY 04 : <u>HABARANA / DAMBULLA / KANDY</u>

Breakfast at the Hotel

Transfer from Habarana to Dambulla

## Visit to Dambulla Cave Temple.

King Walagamba built Dambulla rock temple in the 1st century B.C. and it is a World Heritage Site. It is the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. The complex of five caves with over 2000 sq. metres of painted walls and ceilings is the largest area of paintings found in the world. It contains over 150 images of the Buddha of which the largest is the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock and spanning 14 metres.

Transfer from Dambulla to Kandy.

#### Visit to Kandy City in the evening.

Kandy was the last capital of the Sri Lankan kings and is a World Heritage Site. The name "Kandy" conjures visions of splendour and magnificence. Many of the legends, traditions and folklore are still lovingly kept alive. Drive around the Kandy Lake built by the last Sinhala king, Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe in 1798. Visit the Kandy town and bazaar, the arts and crafts centre, a gem museum and a lapidary. Also visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic in Kandy, and in the evening you can witness a cultural show.

On your way to Kandy, If interested you can visit to a Spice Garden in Matale.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

#### DAY 05 : KANDY TO ELLA TRAIN

Breakfast at the Hotel

Proceed for a Scenic Train Ride from Peradeniya to Ella.

Peradeniya - Elle (Daily) DEP: Peradeniya: 12.31 Hrs

ARR: Elle: 18.23 Hrs

\*\*Train Time can get change due to availability of seats

Overnight Stay at Hotel

# DAY 06 : ELLA / YALA

Breakfast at the Hotel

Morning Witness the Ella Gap & Rawana Falls.

Transfer from Ella to Yala.

#### **Evening Proceed for a Jeep Safari at Yala National Park.**

Spreading into a vast 1259 Km2 Yala - with its glory spinning around vast grasslands, shrubs, tanks and dunes - rightfully is the heartland of wildlife in Sri Lanka. As your jeep rumble through the giant gates of Yala, you are not only stepping into the most visited national park in the country, but also the lands of a civilization which thrived during the reign of Sri Lankan kings. You name it, and Yala has it! Its usual inmates cover herds of elephant, sloth bear, spotted dear, jackal, extensively populated birdlife as well as the highest density of leopards in the world that garnish the park to be one of the finest destinations in the country. Feel the rough track as your jeep thunders over rocks and swish passing narrow bends for an exhilarating experience blended with the cries of wilderness under the tropical sun.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

# DAY 07 : YALA / GALLE / DROP AT BEACH HOTEL

Breakfast at the Hotel

Transfer from Yala to Galle.

#### Visit to Galle City

Galle the beautiful colonial town along the Southern Coast of Sri Lanka is a city that cannot be missed. Galle is popular for the 300 year old fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The 36 hectare fort was built by the Dutch in 1663, surrounded on three sides by the ocean. The streets within the fort are crammed with colonial remnants from the Dutch clock tower, Reformed church and the commander's house to the British coat of arms on the outer wall. You can enjoy the beautiful colonial architecture; visit the Galle Maritime Museum, the Galle lighthouse, Bodhi tree and the reclining Buddha Statue in the temple. It is also home to one of the most popular cricket stadium in the world.

Transfer from Galle to Beach Hotel (Hikkaduwa / Bentota / Kalutara) for your beach stay.

\*\*\*End of Service\*\*\*