

TOUR : BEST OF SRI LANKA
DURATION : 10 DAYS / 09 NIGHTS

Tour Itinerary

DAY 01 : AIRPORT / NEGAMBO

Meet & on arrival & proceed from Airport to Negambo.

Rest of the day leisure at hotel

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 02 : NEGAMBO / PINNAWALA / HABARANA

Breakfast at 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 : HABARANA / SIGIRIYA / MINNERIYA / HABARANA

Breakfast at 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 Minneriya.

Proceed for a Jeep Safari at Minneriya National Park.

If you're up for a serious rumble in the jungle, then Minneriya is your Colosseum! Spreading over 8800 hectares, this is a sanctuary for elephants. Minneriya is home to herds of deer and ample birdlife, but its spotlight remains between swaying trunks & flapping ears. Park your jeep on the bank of the reservoir and switch off its engine. Watch carefully as herds of elephants - one by one - roll on to the grass-covered banks, to feed on tender shoots. In fact, this is the largest elephant gathering in the world - over 300 at a time - which has garnished the park to become a magnet for wildlife enthusiasts across the globe.

Transfer from Minneriya to Habarana.

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 04 : HABARANA / HIRIWADUNNA VILLAGE / POLONNARUWA / KANDY

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer from Habarana to Hiriwadunna.

Proceed for a Village Trek at Hiriwadunna Village.

For a local countryside experience, take a ride in a bullock cart, enjoy a nature walk through a scrub jungle, wade through a local stream, cross a lake in an 'oruwa', the traditional mode of water transportation, spend time with a farmer harvesting crops and taste authentic village cuisine prepared by the farmer's family. There could be no better orientation to the Sri Lankan village life, other than this.

Transfer from Hiriwadunna 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 Galvihara and observe the absolute beauty gushing out of every bend of its huge Buddhist statues. Nissankamalla Council Chamber is however, a head-spinning 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 05 : HABARANA / DAMBULLA / MATALE / KANDY

Breakfast at 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 Matale

Visit to a Spice Garden in Matale.

Matale is situated in the central province in close proximity to Kandy. This area is very famous for its spices which are considered to be the best on the island. Gardens are open to visitors and its atmosphere is superb to stroll in fragrant greenery and learn more about the spices. The spice gardens attract tourists as well as locals who visit this area. These spices are used for culinary, cosmetic and indigenous medicinal purposes. Entrances to these gardens are free and children could learn to about the origin of spices and identify each spice by its individual fragrance.

Transfer from Matale to Kandy.

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 06 : KANDY /PERADENIYA / KANDY CITY

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer from Kandy to Peradeniya.

Visit to Peradeniya Botanical Garden.

Peradeniya Botanical Garden is situated in the Central Province of Sri Lanka and visited approximately 02 million people annually. The unusual name is Sinhalese translation of guava plain. The garden is notable for its collection of a variety of Orchids. It is home to various species of plants, spices, medicinal plants and palm trees. It is also one

of the largest botanical gardens of Sri Lanka, An artificial lake with water plants including giant water lily and papyrus seeds is found in the centre of the garden.

Transfer from Peradeniya to Kandy

Visit to the Kandy City.

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.

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 07 : KANDY / TEA PLANTATION / NUWARA ELIYA

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer from Kandy to Tea Plantation

Visit a Tea plantation and a tea factory, where the best tea in the world is produced. Here you could observe all about the process of manufacturing tea. You can also see how tea is graded. Taste a cup of pure Ceylon tea in the factory.

Transfer from Tea Plantation to Nuwara Eliya

Visit to Nuwara Eliya City.

Nuwara Eliya, because of its invigorating mountain climate and scenery, is Sri Lanka's most popular hill resort. Nuwara Eliya is also the heart of Sri Lanka's tea country producing a significant share of the world's best tea. Sri Lanka's highest mountain Pidurutalagala (8282 feet) is located here. Nuwara Eliya also has one of the finest 18 hole golf courses in South Asia.

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 08 : NUWARA ELIYA / HORTON PLAINS / NUWARA ELIYA

Take Picnic Breakfast from hotel & transfer from Nuwara Eliya to Horton Plains.

Proceed for a Trek at Horton Plains.

Horton Plains, UNESCO World Heritage Site, trekking paradise & Eco-tourism hideout in the heart of the isle, painted with unending stretches of green pastures marks one of the healthiest wet montane evergreen forests in Sri Lanka. With an altitude above 7000ft, the plateau sweeps to a robust 3169 hectares sheltering flora and fauna varieties that may be found no where else on earth. As the tributary of Belihul Oya - Bakers Falls - thunders down rocks head along the 9km trekking path - across frost-covered grass - to feel the icy-cold wind against your face. You may even gaze down World's End, a head-spinning 3700ft drop towards the Southern end or drive carefully through herds of sambar deer, shy to human touch & birdlife chirping across the plains. If you're cautious enough you may be greeted by the sights of a grunting wild boar, a pouncing fishing cat, otters or even the 'Spotted-Ghost that haunts the plains', the Sri Lankan Leopard!

Transfer from Horton Plains to Nuwara Eliya.

Rest of the day leisure at the hotel

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 09 : NUWARA ELIYA / ELLA / YALA/ THISSAMAHARAMA

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer from Nuwara Eliya to Ella.

Carryout a Trek to Little Adams Peak, Ella

A quaint hill side village offering the most amazing view in all of Sri Lanka, Ella is ideal for leisurely treks. Trudge through tea plantations, temple sites and waterfalls through the day. Welcome the night with clear skies, twinkling stars and the distant glow of light houses in the Southern Coast. Though there are just a handful of guesthouses and hotels here, Sri Lanka's warm and friendly signature hospitality is more than available at every place.

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 deer, 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.

Transfer from Yala to Thissamaharama.

Overnight Stay at hotel

DAY 10 : THISSAMAHARAMA / GALLE / DROP AT BEACH

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer from Thissamaharama 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 the Beach Hotel.

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