



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

## Dubai & Sri Lanka

### 13-Day, 10-Night Journey

*Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Colombo, Minneriya National Park, Anuradhapura, Sigiriya, Dambulla, Kandy*

This tour offers a unique adventure combining tradition and novelty. Explore the contrasting futuristic skyscrapers and traditional quarters in Dubai and Abu Dhabi. Experience sweeping sand dunes and an exciting a camel ride on a memorable desert safari!

Explore the tropical paradise of Sri Lanka to take in its 3,000 years of history and visit some of world's most ancient cities! Visit the remnants of many once glorious cities, amazing palaces, historic temples and monasteries, hospitals and even theaters intricately carved out of stone amidst the soaring mountains. Don't forget to enjoy the many delicious local dishes, fragrant spices and famous Ceylon tea while your there!

#### ♦ Private Tour

### Trip Overview (\*UNESCO World Heritage Sites)

- |   |  |                             |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| ▶ Dubai City Tour                       | ▶ Al Bastakiya Historical Neighborhood | ▶ Abu Dhabi City Tour       |
| ▶ Burj Khalifa (Observation Desk)       | ▶ Dubai Museum                         | ▶ Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque |
| ▶ The Dubai Mall                        | ▶ Dubai Creek                          | ▶ Emirates Palace           |
| ▶ Jumeirah Palm                         | ▶ Gold Souk (Gold Market)              | ▶ Heritage Village          |
| ▶ Souq Madinat Jumeirah (Little Venice) | ▶ Spice Souk (Spice Market)            |                             |
| ▶ Old Dubai                             | ▶ Desert Safari                        |                             |

- ▶ Colombo Walking Tour
- ▶ Elephants at Minneriya National Park
- ▶ **Ruins of Anuradhapura\***
- ▶ Sri Mahabodhi (one the world's oldest trees)
- ▶ Ritigala Monastery
- ▶ **Sigiriya Rock (Lion Rock)\***
- ▶ **Rock Cave Temple of Dambulla\***
- ▶ Spice Plantation Tour
- ▶ Kandy City Tour
- ▶ **Temple of Tooth Relic of Buddha\***
- ▶ Sri Lankan style tapas
- ▶ Cooking Demonstration

## Why You'll Love This Tour



### UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE

Dubai is known worldwide for its architecture. It's hard to believe that only four decades ago, the city did not have a single skyscraper. Now, the Dubai skyline is full of unique skyscrapers designed by some of the best architects in the world. Don't miss the Dancing Dubai Fountains and the sprawling views from the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa.



### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WONDERS

Sri Lanka offers a chance to see museum-quality statues and artifacts in-situ. Pilgrims from around the world embark on a spiritual journey and attend ceremonies in magnificent dagobas and monasteries in ancient Anuradhapura, Sigiriya, Dambulla and Kandy, all UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



### LARGEST WALKING MAMMAL ON EARTH

Nothing beats seeing herds of elephants firsthand in their natural habitat. Be amazed at their immense size, intelligence and majesty as they stride across the river or amble through the forest, an experience that is surely the highlight of any journey.

## Inclusions

- ▶ Airport Transfers, Meet and Greet
- ▶ Hotel Accommodations
- ▶ Daily Breakfast & Selected Meals  
(See tour plan for details)
- ▶ English-speaking Local Guide
- ▶ Entrance Fees to Monuments and Attractions per Itinerary
- ▶ Burj Khalifa Ticket (Non-Prime Hours)

## Exclusions

- ▶ Airfare
- ▶ Tourism Fee of AED 15 per room per night paid directly to the UAE hotel
- ▶ Travel Insurance
- ▶ Medical Expenses
- ▶ Visa Fee
- ▶ Gratuity
- ▶ Personal Expenses

## Nearby Airports

Dubai - Dubai International Airport (DXB)

Colombo - Bandaranaike International Airport (CBM)

## Itinerary

(B)-Breakfast, (L)-Lunch, (D)-Dinner

### DAY 1: MAJOR USA AIRPORT - DUBAI (DXB)

Depart from your USA airport to fly to Dubai. Night on board the aircraft.

\*If your flight departs in the early morning hours, you must arrive at the airport the night before the indicated departure day i.e. early Friday morning means Thursday night!

### DAY 2: ARRIVE DUBAI, UAE

Upon arrival into **Dubai**, you'll be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free.

\*Hotel check-in time is generally 4 pm or later. If your flight arrives in the early morning (e.g. midnight or 7 am) we suggest you add a pre-tour hotel night during booking for a well-deserved rest before starting your tour.

### DAY 3: DUBAI | CITY TOUR (B)

Discover the best of Dubai on this full day city tour. Engage with and be inspired by its cultural diversity and unique architectures.

Step out onto the highest outdoor observation deck in the world at the **Burj Khalifa**. Visit **Dubai Mall** as



you continue to the **Jumeirah Palm**, yet another man-made island and then a photo stop at **Atlantis hotel**. Visit **Souq Madinat Jumeirah** (Little Venice) followed by a photo opportunity at Burj Al Arab and Jumeirah Mosque.

Continue to explore Dubai's humble beginnings, starting with **Old Dubai** in **Al Bastakiya Historical Neighborhood**. Explore **Dubai Museum** that highlights the fascinating local culture. Take a water taxi across the **Dubai Creek**. Get a sense of what commerce was like back in the day, by strolling through one of the city's traditional souks or bazaars, **Gold Souk** (Gold Market) and **Spice Souk** (Spice Market).

#### **DAY 4: DUBAI | DESERT SAFARI (B, D)**

This morning is free. Relax poolside at your hotel or explore the city on your own.

Around mid-afternoon, transfer to a desert camp. Go on a desert dune bashing drive through the golden dunes and then admire the sunset. Try your hand at camel riding or sandboarding. Take selfies wearing an Arabic outfit or smoke bubbly shisha while you watch Tanoura dancing and belly dancing shows. Finally enjoy a delicious spread of vegetarian and BBQ buffet dinner before returning to your hotel.

#### **DAY 5: DUBAI | ABU DHABI CITY TOUR (B)**

Meet your Bedouin guides and set off for **Abu Dhabi** (1.5 hours), **Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque**, **Emirates Palace** and **Abu Dhabi Heritage Village**.

#### **DAY 5: DUBAI – COLOMBO, SRI LANKA (B)**

After breakfast, transfer to Dubai International Airport (DXB) for your flight to Sri Lanka. Arrive at **Bandaranaike International Airport (CMB)** in **Colombo** and transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is free.

The legacies of colonial Colombo's garden roots are still very much intact along its often-shady boulevards. Colombo's cosmopolitan side supports ever-more stylish eateries, galleries and shops.

#### **DAY 7: COLOMBO - DAMBULLA | CITY TOUR, MINNERIYA NATIONAL PARK (B, L, D)**

Start with a half day walking tour of Colombo, then drive to Dambulla. Stop by the **Minneriya National Park**. The scenic Minneriya usually has 200 elephants in the park who make their way to the water reservoir at the center of the park to socialize, bathe and even find mates.

#### **DAY 8 –DAMBULLA | RUINS OF ANURADHAPURA (B, L, D)**

Enjoy an excursion to the **ruins of Anuradhapura**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Anuradhapura is an ancient city founded in the 5th century BC, and home to the largest number of monuments of the great

Sinhala civilization. Visit ancient royal palaces, shrines, dagobas and **Sri Maha Bodhi (one the world's oldest trees)**. Visit **Ritigala Monastery** on Ritigala Mountain.

#### **DAY 9: DAMBULLA | SIGIRIYA (B, L, D)**

Today we visit a traditional Sri Lankan village and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Sigiriya Rock**, built by King Kassapa in the 5th century AD. Sigiriya Rock is a treasure trove of rare art. In a pocket of the giant rock are the famous frescoes of the heavenly maidens of Sigiriya. It is also called the 'Rock Fortress' or 'the Lion Rock' because of the huge crouching lion image that is carved at the entrance to the fortress. This citadel rises more than 1,000 ft. from the jungles below. Enjoy a village tour with an authentic Sri Lanka lunch today.

#### **DAY 10: DAMBULLA - KANDY | DAMBULLA ROCK CAVE TEMPLE, SPICES OF KANDY (B, L, D)**

After breakfast, embark on your drive to **Kandy**.

En route we visit the iconic **Rock Cave Temple of Dambulla** which dates to the first century BC, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The temple is a series of 5 caves filled with statues and paintings, including a 47 ft. long statue of Lord Buddha. This is the largest and best-preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka.

Herbs and spices are tasty and yet healthy treats. We'll visit a **spice plantation** in which you will find cocoa, vanilla, cinnamon, coffee and more!

#### **DAY 11: KANDY | CITY TOUR, TEMPLE OF THE TOOTH RELIC, COOKING DEMO (B, L, D)**

After breakfast we explore Kandy City and visit the **Temple of Tooth Relic of Buddha** located in the royal palace complex which houses the relic of the tooth of Buddha and is one of Sri Lanka's 8 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Since ancient times the relic has played an important role in local politics because it is believed that whoever holds the relic holds the governance of the country. This afternoon we relax and enjoy **Sri Lankan style tapas** at the venerable Royal Bar. We end today with a **cooking demonstration**.

#### **DAY 12: KANDY – COLOMBO | DEPART COLOMBO (B)**

After breakfast we drive back to **Colombo** and check-in at the hotel. At the indicated time transfer to the **Bandaranaike International Airport (CMB)** in **Colombo** for a flight back to the US.

\*Hotel check-out time is generally around 11 am. If your flight departs in the evening or past midnight, we suggest you consider adding a post-tour hotel night during booking, to be comfortable and well rested before your flight home.

#### **DAY 13: ARRIVE IN USA**

Arrive back in the USA.

## Hotels

We carefully handpick our hotels to ensure they provide you with the best comfort and experience. For Private Tours, you may request a specific hotel as one of the customizable options.

