



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

Sri Lanka Wildlife & Culture

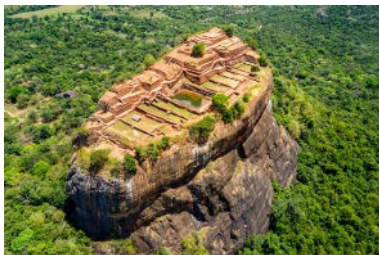
14-Day, 13-Night Journey (Private Tour)

Negombo, Anuradhapura, Sigiriya, Dambulla, Kandy, Hatton, Yala, Galle, Colombo

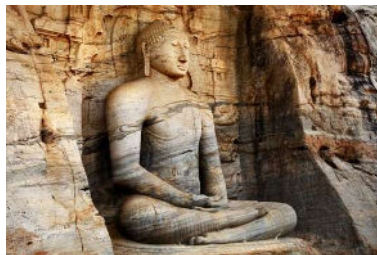
Check off Sri Lanka from your bucket list with this tropical island adventure, featuring leopards and other amazing wildlife, ancient ruins, Buddhist culture, and serene highlands and oceans.

Explore Sri Lanka's rich heritage on this tour, from Anuradhapura's ancient ruins to Sigiriya's rock fortress, Kandy's cultural heart, Dambulla's cave temples, Hatton's tea plantations, Yala's leopard and elephant safaris, Galle's colonial charm, and Colombo's vibrant city life.

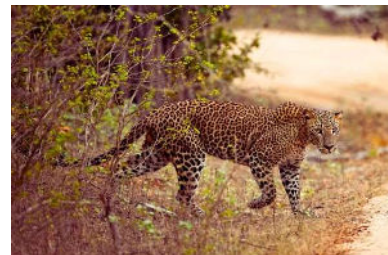
Each destination offers unique experiences and breathtaking sights.



Birds Eye view of Sigiriya Rock Fortress



Stunning Buddha statues carved in granite at Polonnaruwa



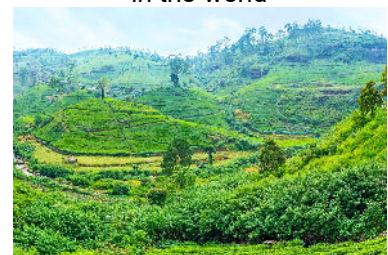
Yala National Park has one of the highest densities of leopards in the world



This ancient temple complex showcases 150 stunning Buddha statues



Galle is known for stunning beaches, the ancient Galle Fort and Galle Lighthouse



Scenic train ride thru the Tea Plantations

Inclusions

- ▶ English-Speaking Private Driver-cum-Guide
- ▶ Private Airport Transfers
- ▶ Hotel Accommodations
- ▶ Daily Breakfast
(See tour plan for details)
- ▶ Entrance Fees to Monuments and Attractions per Itinerary

Exclusions

- ▶ International Air Fare
- ▶ Government Tourism Fee
- ▶ Travel Insurance
- ▶ Medical Expenses
- ▶ Visa Fee
- ▶ Gratuities
- ▶ Personal Expenses

Nearby Airport

Colombo – Colombo-Bandaranaike International Airport (CMB)

Itinerary

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN SRI LANKA

Upon arrival at **Colombo International Airport (CMB)** you will be transferred to your hotel in **Negombo**. The rest of the day is free.

Negombo is a charming coastal town located 25 miles north of Colombo. The town's rich colonial history is a fascinating blend of influences from the Portuguese, Dutch, and British who ruled the region at different times. This seaside town, strategically located near the mouth of the Negombo Lagoon, was a key center for the spice trade, particularly cinnamon.

[1 Nights in Negombo. Meals: None]



DAY 2: NEGOMBO CITY TOUR, NEGOMBO - THIRAPPANE

Start the tour with a half-day guided tour of **Negombo**. (4 hours @9am).

Visit **St Marys Church** (built by the Portuguese in the 1500s). See **coral reefs and a shipwreck**. Take a boat ride at **Hamilton Canal** (expanded by the Dutch in 1600s). Experience the diverse wildlife of **Muthurajawela Marsh**.

Then transfer from **Negombo** to **Thirappane** (4 hours @2pm).

Thirappane is close to the ancient city of Anuradhapura, a UNESCO World Heritage site. It has beautiful natural surroundings, including reservoirs and lush landscapes that make it a serene location.

[3 Nights in **Thirappane**. Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 3: ANURADHAPURA SACRED CITY TOUR

After breakfast we drive to **Anuradhapura** (1 hour @9am). Let's dive into the cradle of Sri Lanka Buddhism today.

A full-day guided tour of the sacred city of **Anuradhapura** (8 hours @10am). You will visit Mihintale which is the birthplace of Buddhism in Sri Lanka and is a significant pilgrimage site. See the sacred fig tree (Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi), many ancient stupas and a monastery.

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 4: SIGIRIYA FORTRESS & POLONNARUWA

After breakfast we drive to **Sigiriya** (1 hour @9am).

A full-day guided tour of **Sigiriya Rock Fortress** and **Polonnaruwa** (8 hours, @10am).

We visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Sigiriya Rock** built by King Kassapa in the 5th century AD.

Today **Sigiriya Rock** is a treasure trove of rare ancient 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 that is carved at the entrance to the fortress. This citadel is more than 1,000 ft above the jungles below.

Visit **Polonnaruwa**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, which is a well-preserved ancient city. Explore the Royal Palace, a rock temple with stunning Buddha statues carved in granite, stone columns and fascinating ruins.

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 5: THIRAPPANE - KANDY | DAMBULLA CAVE TEMPLE

After breakfast we depart for Kandy (1 hour @9am). Enroute we visit **Dambulla Cave Temple** (3 hours @10am) and then continue to Kandy. The Dambulla Cave Temple, also known as the Golden Temple of Dambulla, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its stunning collection of Buddha statues and intricate murals within five ancient caves.

Visit a local **Batik** Maker Workshop. Batik is a traditional fabric dyeing technique that showcases cultural identity and artistry.

Arrive **Kandy** that is nestled amidst misty hills in central Sri Lanka, next to the serene Kandy Lake. It has a rich cultural heritage and lush botanical gardens.

[2 Nights in **Kandy**. Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 6: KANDY CITY TOUR, TEMPLE OF THE TOOTH RELIC

After breakfast we explore **Kandy city and the Lake** (8 hours @9am).

Visit the **Temple of the Tooth Relic of Buddha**, located in the royal palace complex, which houses the relic of the tooth of Buddha. It is one of Sri Lanka's eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Visit Kandy Lake and a **gem gallery** (window shopping for precious stones such as blue sapphire, pink sapphire, ruby and more).

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 7: KANDY – HATTON | PERADENIYA BOTANICAL GARDEN

After breakfast we explore **Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya** which spreads over 160 acres of exquisite beauty with more than 4,000 species of flora (3 hours @9am).

Transfer to Kandy Train Station and board the train to Hatton (2 hours).

This scenic train ride takes you through lush tea plantations, misty hills, and picturesque landscapes. It's one of the most beautiful train journeys in Sri Lanka.

[2 Nights in **Hatton**. Meals: Premium-Breakfast, Deluxe: All-Inclusive]

DAY 8: HATTON

Today is free.

Hatton is the Tea Capital of Sri Lanka. The town offers lush tea plantations, misty hills, and cascading waterfalls. We suggest you to consider a spa treatment at the hotel, bicycle ride through the surrounding tea plantations, explore vibrant gardens, or visit a tea estate.

[Meals: Meals: Premium-Breakfast, Deluxe: All-Inclusive]

DAY 9: HATTON - YALA | AFTERNOON JUNGLE SAFARIS

After breakfast we take a leisurely drive to Yala (4 hours @8am) the most visited and second largest national park in Sri Lanka. Upon arrival, check in for 2 nights stay at the resort.

Enjoy your **afternoon jungle safari (4 hours @3pm)**.

Yala National Park is spread over an area of 979 sq. km (378 sq. miles). It was one of the first two officially designated national parks in Sri Lanka. This game park is famous for having one of the highest densities of leopards in the world. Yala Park has 3 of Sri Lanka's Big Five: **Leopards, Asian Elephants and Sloth Bears**. Unfortunately, the remaining 2 of the Big Five (Blue Whales and Sperm Whales) are unavailable on land. 44 other species of mammals and other wildlife are found in the park including wild bears, peacocks, wild buffalo, sambar and spotted deer, in addition to 130 species of birds.

[2 Nights in **Yala**. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

DAY 10: MORNING AND AFTERNOON JUNGLE SAFARI

Enjoy a **morning jungle safari** (4 hours @ 6am) and **an afternoon jungle safari** (4 hours @3pm) in Yala National Park. On these interesting safaris you are likely to see spotted deer, wild boars and wild elephants in addition to a wide variety of birds. There are also high chances of spotting sloth bears and leopards. With an average 1 leopard per sq. km Yala has the highest density of leopards in Asia!

[Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

DAY 11: YALA – GALLE | GALLE CITY TOUR

In the morning, we depart for the coastal town of **Galle**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a thriving beach destination in Sri Lanka. (2 hours @9am).

This afternoon we enjoy a walking tour of the **Heritage City of Galle** and explore the **Dutch Fortress**. **Galle** was the most ancient and important harbor of Sri Lanka. Galle Old Town was founded by Portuguese colonists in the 16th century with architecture reflecting Portuguese, Dutch and British rule. The old town is known for its stunning beaches and **Galle Fort** (a UNESCO World Heritage Site).

[2 Nights in **Galle**. Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 12: GALLE | STILT FISHERMEN, TEA & SPICE PLANTATIONS

This morning, follow your guided tour to witness a curious feature - the **stilt fishermen** on the coast who carefully balance themselves before casting their fishing lines.

Visit a **tea plantation** and **spice plantation**. You can learn about the cultivation and processing of tea and spices like cinnamon, clove and more. There are opportunities to taste and purchase fresh tea and spices. A sensory-rich adventure!

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 13: GALLE – COLOMBO | COLOMBO TOUR

After breakfast we drive to **Colombo** (3 hours @ 9am).

This afternoon we take a guided tour to visit -

Pettah Bazaar: A bustling local market.

Old Dutch Museum: A 17th century colonial building showcasing the Dutch influence.

Former home to Count August Carl Van Ranzow: This historic building also served as an orphanage and military hospital

Then transfer to your hotel in **Colombo**.

[1 Night in **Colombo**. Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 14: COLOMBO AIRPORT (CMB)

After breakfast we transfer to **Colombo Airport** for your flight home.

[Meals: Breakfast]

*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.

*The duration and start time of excursions are subject to change without prior notice.