

SRI LANKA, FAMILY HOLIDAYS 11 NIGHTS / 12 DAYS

COLOMBO - NEGOMBO - PINNAWALA - HABARANA - HIRIWADUNNA - MINNERIYA SAFARI - SIGIRIYA - DAMBULLA - KANDY TEMPLE - NUWARAELIYA - TEA FACTORY -ELLA - YAYA NATIONAL PARK - TISSAMAHARAMA - GALLE - KOSGODA SEA TURTLE HATCHERY - COLOMBO - DEPARTURE



Welcome to Eco Island... during this tour you will experience the colonial cities of Kandy, the beautiful interior of Sri Lanka and the impressive lion rock "Sigirock."

Meet the elephants at the Pinnawala Orphanage. Enjoy a game drive day out at the Yala National Park, explore the best view of the hill country from a perfect vantage travelling in the local train. Visit the Turtle Farm and Hatchery while exploring Sri Lanka

on this itinerary has something special to offer for everyone.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrive Colombo Airport – Negombo

Upon arrival at Colombo Airport, you will be met by your car with chauffeur for the short transfer to your hotel in Negombo. (approx. 40 min drive.)

Check in to the hotel. Rest of the day free. Night in Negombo. Note > Early check in Not included. Standard hotel check in time 14h.

Day 2 Negombo – Pinnawala Elephant orphanage – Habarana

- Negombo Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage Approx 75 km / 2 hr. 30 Mins.
- Pinnawala Habarana Approx 115 km / 2 hr. 50 Mins.

After breakfast at drive to Habana for night stay. Enroute visit Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage.

Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage

- The Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage is situated northwest of the town of Kegalle, halfway between the present capital Colombo and the ancient royal residence Kandy.
- Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage is an orphanage, nursery and captive breeding ground for wild Asian elephants located at Pinnawala village,

Overnight stay Hotel at Habarana

Day 3 Habarana – Hiriwadunna – Minneriya Safari – Habarana

Habarana – Minneriya Safari – Approx 10 km / 20 Mins.

After breakfast visit Hiriwadunna and Minneriya Safari. Night in Habarana.

Hiriwadunna:

 We will enjoy the Sinhalese culture in its fervor by making a cultural tour in the town of Hiriwadunna where we will take a walk in the lotus flower lagoon, Catamaran boat ride, tour of a Sinhalese village in ox-drawn cart that have been used for hundreds of years to work the land.

Evening Safari at Minneriya Park

• This 800 hectare National Park houses the largest concentration of elephants in the world, more than 300 free elephants that can be seen alone or in a herd in their daily life, bathing and feeding. On the jeep safari you can also see deer, a variety of birds and buffaloes in the middle of a vegetation of evergreen forest and grasslands. This natural park is a magnet for nature lovers around the world.

Day 4 Habarana – Sigiriya Rock – Habarana

Habarana – Sigiriya Rock – Approx 17 km / 25 Mins.

After breakfast visit Sigiriya Rock.

Sigiriya Rock Fortress:

Sigiriya Fortress one of Sri Lanka's most mythical sights. The arrival is impressive, as the
rock emerges about 200 meters above the jungle to dominate the horizon. At its top, hides
the ruins of a royal citadel dating back to the 5th century. The access will be through a
large gate in the form of a lion carved from the rock, and from there comes the name Of
Sigiriya, which means 'the lion's rock' in Singhalese. It been neglected over time until
British soldier found the rock in 19th Century and its summit had already been devoured
by the undergrowth. Admire frescoes like 'heavenly maidens', which are painted with earth
pigments on the plaster.

Evening leisure at hotel. Night stay in Habarana.

Day 5 Habarana – Dambulla – Kandy Temple

- Habarana Dambulla Approx 22 km / 25 Mins.
- Dambulla Kandy Approx 75 km / 2 Hrs. 25 Mins.

After breakfast drive to Kandy. Enroute visit Dambulla.

Dambulla:

- In the center of the island, which is known for its impressive caves decorated with Buddhist frescoes and statues.
- The decoration of the five caves of this monastic complex began more than 2,000 years ago. It contains more than 150 Buddha images, of which the largest is the colossal 14meter figure of Buddha carved out of the rock. Thanks to these impressive features, the temple is one of eight sites in Sri Lanka that have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Children can see lot of monkeys at top of Dambulla Rock

Transfer to Kandy for night stay. In the afternoon visit Kandy Temple

• Kandy Temple, Last ruled by King Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe - before it was brought under the British rule in 1815, Kandy - the World Heritage Site & last royal capital of Sri Lankan kings - crafts an array of culture, history, and heritage in the minds of visitors across the globe. Experience an ancient Kandyan legacy engraved around its crown jewel, the temple of the sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha.

Day 6 Kandy - Tea Factory - Nuwaraeliya

Kandy - Nuwaraeliya Approx 95 km / 3 Hrs.

After breakfast at hotel visit the following sites: -

Visit Tea Factory:

• We will enter a tea factory of the prestigious Ceylon tea brand, to observe a rich tradition that is kept alive to this day in the process and manufacture of tea. As you gaze at the hissing machines, inhaling the divine scent that emerges from these facilities.

In the afternoon Nuwaraeliya City Tour:

 Drive around the City, you will explore "the city of dawn". The city established by the British in the nineteenth century, known as "Little England" and is a popular holiday resort for Sri Lankans & tourists due to its cool climate and quaint colonial feel with its little bungalows surrounded by hedgerows.

Overnight Stay at Nuwaraeliya

Day 7 Train from Nuwaraeliya – Ella

Breakfast at hotel

TRAIN RIDE by PUBLIC TRAIN – NUWARA ELIYA TO ELLA Approx 3 Hours Ride

<u>Please Note > the train tickets are strictly subject to availability.</u>

The train ride to Nanu Oya will allow you the best view of the hill country from a perfect vantage. As the train winds its way round the sloping hills you will witness the many wonders of this unique locale, the valleys, meadows, mountains, and greenery with the occasional flash of a distant waterfall.

- Train tickets will be 1st or 2nd, or 3rd Class reserved, or non reserved seats and tickets.
- Trains can be cancelled at any given time without prior notice & No reason given. In this
 case this client has to travel by road.
- Train tickets should purchase before 30 days of travel date.

Night stay at Ella

Day 8 Ella – Yala National Park

Ella – Ravana falls
 Approx 6 km / 15 Mns.

Ravanna Waterfalls – Yala
 Approx 104 km / 2 Hrs 30 Mns.

After breakfast at hotel drive to Yala National Park for night stay. Enroute visit Ravanna waterfall.

• Ravana Falls is another must visit in Ella. Hill country of Sri Lanka is quite popular for beautiful waterfalls and Ravana Falls is right at the top. The falls are quite impressive, and you can climb over some of the rocks to get a closer look. It currently ranks as one of the widest falls in the country. This waterfall measures approximately 25 m (82 ft) in high and cascade from an oval-shaped concave rock outcrop. During the local wet season, the waterfall turns into what is said to resemble an area flower with withering petals. But this is not the case in the dry season, where the flow of water reduces dramatically.

Transfer to Yala National Park – Evening Safari

• On nearly 130,000 hectares Yala National Park spreads its glory around vast grasslands, shrubs, tanks, and dunes: it is the heart of Sri Lanka's wildlife and the lands of a civilization that flourished during the reign of Sri Lankan kings. We will take a Jeep, to enter the most visited park in the country. Among its usual interns are herds of elephants, sloths, jackals, herds of birds, as well as the highest density of leopards in the world making Yala one of the best destinations in the country. The jeep tires will pass rocks, potholes, and make tight curves making this safari an exhilarating experience under the tropical sun.

Day 9 Yala – Birds Park – Galle

- Hotel Birds Park Approx 60 km / 1 Hrs. 30 Mns.
- Birds Park Galle Approx 120 km / 2 Hrs.

Breakfast at hotel

Visit Bird Park.

- The Bird Park at Hambantota boast of being the Asia's largest Birds Park and Research Centre and is home to endemic and exotic birds with over 180 varieties and around 3200 birds. The park which is located in the Southern part of the island expands on a landscape of 35 acres and is dedicated to creating awareness and interest in wildlife and the Importance of Conservation of fauna and flora.
- One rare experience you will have here is the opportunity to feed the birds by yourself.
- The park is divided in to 5 zones namely, Wetlands, Wings of Asia, Flightless Birds, Macaw and Cockatoos and Parrot Paradise. https://www.birdspark.lk

Transfer to Galle and visit.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this historic city is a delight to explore on foot, an endlessly
exotic old trading port blessed with imposing Dutch-colonial buildings, ancient mosques
and churches, grand mansions, and museums. Wandering its rambling lanes you will pass
stylish cafes, quirky boutiques and impeccably restored hotels owned by local and foreign
artists, writers, photographers, and designers.

Night stay at Galle or Hikkaduwa

Day 10 Galle – Kosgoda Sea Turtle Hatchery - Colombo

- Birds Park Kosgoda Sea Turtle
 Approx 45 km / 1 Hrs. 30 Mns.
- Kosgoda Sea Turtle Colombo Approx 90 km / 2 Hrs.

After breakfast drive to see Turtle Hatchery at Kosgoda.

Turtle Hatchery:

Tourists and international volunteers battling "sea turtles" is a common sight in Mirissa.
 This vibrant tourist destination sitting calmly along the southern coast of Sri Lanka, apart from its traditional fishing and cinnamon farming industries, was later recognized by the Nature Protection Society of the studded region, with a sea turtle conservation project that operates on a formidable scale today.

Transfer to Colombo for night stay.

Day 11 Colombo City Tour – Evening leisure at Colombo

Breakfast at Hotel

Colombo City Tour

• The largest city and the current administrative capital of Sri Lanka. A hectic and vibrant city with a mix of modern life and the remnants of a bygone colonial era. Due to the expansion of its port and its strategic geographical position it has been a key connection for the routes between the eastern and western hemispheres, which made it known to traders 2000 years ago. Historical, religious and commercial attractions include the Old Dutch Hospital, Independence Square, the bustling Pettah Harbor, Gangarama Temple, Galle Face Green and Viharamahadevi Park.

Evening leisure at Colombo & night stay.

Day 12 Colombo - Airport - Departure

Transfer to the Airport at the corresponding time. The check in time for international flights is 3-4 hours before the flight if you are flying economy class.

We wish you a safe flight back home....

Ayubowan!

-----End of our Services -----

SUGGESTIONS FOR OPTIONAL USE:

The following are some optional suggestions and are always subject to change & availability. Advance reservations are required at most of the places. Not included.

- 1. If required, the itinerary can be modified as per your wish.
- 2. If you wish you can enjoy dinner with local family. ***
- 3. You can have a local cooking demonstration. ***
- 4. Chauffeur and vehicle will not be available during free time & days.

Optional and Not Included >

***If you wish a cooking demo and the lunch with a local family would be a good addition to the program. You can participate in preparing your own traditional Sri Lankan meal or simply enjoy a meal with a local family. The rice and curry meal are prepared with local produce sourced by the family from local markets and gardens. A tradicional meal is full of flavor and spice, but the family tries to prepare the meal to western palates. However, be ready expect some spice and heat.