



An island of national parks, venerated temples, tea plantations and rose-gold beaches: Sri Lanka packs in plenty of experiences. The Cultural Triangle is Sri Lanka's historic heartland, a concentration of extravagant ancient cities, life in the most endearing ways, waves that takes the hot sunny beaches a notch up, hikes that takes you to pretty views. From here you can head into the cooler climes of the central highlands, where neatly tended tea estates sit between colonial cottages and swathes of forest. The hills drop sharply down to the national parks and rainforest below, which shelter elephants, sloth bears and, more elusively, leopards. Along the coast you find the Dutch fortress of Galle and palm-fringed coves.

This tour covers some of Sri Lanka's popular attractions available to visit at the time of travel and at the same time offers you space to relax and have your own time while you enjoy your Sri Lanka tour. There's a bit of magic we have sprinkled in terms of giving the best curated experiences to bring out the best of destinations.

As always, we are able to tinker with this itinerary if you wish and add an extra night here and there. We can also discuss other hotel or villa options.

## **Itinerary highlights**

- Sigiriya Lion Rock Fortress
- Polonnaruwa
- Offer alms to monks
- Dambulla Rock Temple & Matale Spice Garden
- Jeep Safari in a National Park
- Visit Galle Fort
- Handungoda Tea Factory
- Lunuganga, Geoffry Bawa's Garden Home

## Itinerary

### Day 1: AIRPORT | NEGOMBO [Approx. travel time 20 min]

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On arrival meet your Tripavi representative who will introduce you to your private chauffeur-guide. Your chauffeur-guide will stay with you for the duration of your trip. Your Sri Lankan experience begins with a journey to Negombo. Depending on the time of your flight, you will have the rest of the day at your own leisure.



### Day 2: NEGOMBO | ELEPHANT FOUNDATION | SIGIRIYA [Approx. travel time 2 hrs to Kegalle | Kegalle to Sigiriya 2 ½ hrs without stops]

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After breakfast leave to Sigiriya, en-route visit to Millennium Elephant Foundation, an organization and charity set up to rescue and care for captive Asian elephants in Sri Lanka. The foundation is situated on a 15-acre estate by the name of Samaragiri, which is located 10 km northwest of Kegalle. Bareback elephant riding is offered to visitors, although never with a howdah – the traditional carriage most often seen in historic photographs. And in recognition of changing times, the MEF also promotes an elephant walk experience as an alternative to riding. Unlike the bareback riding, elephants can move at their leisure while visitors just troll alongside in awe. As well as the walk, you can also listen to an educational talk, help bathe an elephant in the river, even have an optional elephant shower and tour an elephant dung factory, this 2-to-3-hour experience should not go missing on your Sri Lanka journey.





Sri Lanka's famous Cultural Triangle offers plenty to fire both mind and body over the next three days, the journey from Kegalle will take 2.5 hours. The lion rock of Mount Sigiriya, and Dambulla's Buddhist Cave Temple & cultural ruins, these UNESCO world heritage sites are included in your holiday. Explore these cultural sites at your own pace planning your day with our expert chauffeur drivers.

## **Day 3: SIGIRIYA | POLONNARUWA | SIGIRIYA [Approx. travel time 1.5 hrs to Polonnaruwa]**

This day early morning you will take a trip to Polonnaruwa ancient city. Polonnaruwa city in ruins is the second kingdom of Sri Lanka. very well preserved Polonnaruwa city is a cross section of what the Sri Lankan history and archeology had been. In Polonnaruwa you will see temples, image houses, palaces and impressive buddha statues that relates to the Polonnaruwa era and shows distinctive differences from what other eras are bringing forth. Later in the day before stopping for lunch at a traditional Sri Lankan spread offering resaurant set up in the most magical backdrop of a functioning paddy field, you will learn how the paddy crop becomes the rice and sets in your plate. You will learn this by visiting a working rice mill and seeing the process by yourself. Lunch today is a traditional rice and curry spread which is enjoyed at a very humble traditional setting. After lunch we take a safari to either Minneriya/ Kaudulla or Eco Park national parks and on a 4x4 drive you will do a game drive across the national park and may stumble upon great herds of elephants, freely roaming along within the park apart from deer and birds and an occasional sloth bear.



## **Day 4: SIGIRIYA**

After early breakfast, you will take a visit to the Sigiriya Rock fortress. The 5<sup>th</sup> century rock fortress of King Kashyapa is known around the world for its amazing architecture, landscaped gardens, the mirror wall, and the well detailed fresco art. Sigiriya is a real hideout fortress for the king with two moats, inner and outer, along the years it has converted from a fortress to a hermitage and the waves of time and stories of ages still very visible among the timeline.

The afternoon is for you to look back at the living of Sri Lankan Buddhists in two different angles. We would recommend a visit to a nearby Buddhist temple and offer the monks alms. The Buddhist monks do not cook for themselves and the only means of them surviving is through the alms devotees prepare for them. Therefore offering alms to Buddhist monks are considered a good. You can also have discussion about anything that you want to get clarified on Buddhism and on the Sri Lankan culture along with huge Buddhist influence in shaping such culture.



Later in the afternoon you have the option of exploring some nice nature walks or take a cycle ride to explore the villages and cultivations in Dambulla or Sigiriya.

## **Day 4: DAMBULLA | KANDY [Approx. travel time 2.5 hrs to Kandy without stops]**

After breakfast, heading to Kandy. Before Kandy we stop for Dambulla cave Temple & one of the many spice plantations, where we get a glimpse into effect on the body and plant magic and knowledge of how they are used as a spice and creams. Kandy region is Sri Lanka's heart and is situated in a valley surrounded by mountains. It was the last kingdom of Sri Lanka.

Dambulla cave temple has added value in large to the king's work. The temple is also called Ran Giri Dambulu Viharaya giving the meaning of 'Golden rock temple'. The major attractions here are the 5 separate caves – Devaraja Viharaya, Maharaja Viharaya, Maha Alut Viharaya, Pashchima Viharaya and Devana Alut Viharaya containing not less than 150 Buddha images & statues.



Kandy is the last monarch city in Sri Lanka and a town with its modern parts mixing together with the colonial parts. Kandy is also the house of popular Temple of tooth which parades the perahera each year which is a spectacle in its own charm.





## Day 5: KANDY

Today morning after breakfast you will take drive to Peradeniya Botanical Gardens. Peradeniya is famous for its magnificent botanic gardens which were conceived originally as Queen's pleasure garden. It was converted to a 60ha botanical garden in 1821 and contains well-kept lawns, an orchid house with an extensive/ rare collection, octagon conservatory, fernery, banks of bamboo and various floras inclusive of canas, hibiscus, chrysanthemums, croton and bougainvillea. Avenue of palms, and colorful lawn are not amiss. The palm avenue meets the river drive at the end of it which has a suspension bridge across the river which now is being rarely used. After the garden tour we extend travels to an art center in Kandy headed by a



professor at one of the most prestigious Sri Lankan universities. This art center is a treasure in itself. The building is a 16<sup>th</sup> century building housing arts and antiques from all the eras and pre eras the house has lived through. There will be lunch served and you can direct the questions over lunch to the professor. After the interesting tour you will take time to go visit the Temple of tooth in Kandy. Temple of tooth is the famous temple housing Lord Buddha's left tooth relic and is a popular place of worship among the Buddhists and is considered the highest most sacred place among Buddhist temples in Sri Lanka. Temple also holds the famous annual Perahera parade, an annual cultural parade known for the traditional colorful cultural shows and elephant which carries the tooth relic. This is closely associated with the belief that it brings rain to the country apart from being a colorful event.

## Day 6: KANDY | WELIGAMA [BY AIR 40 min + 1 hrs land transport]



Today morning after breakfast, you will be escorted to take your seaplane ride to the southern part of the country to Weligama. From Polgolla dam the seaplane charter will land in the Koggala Lake. There on, you can utilize the time to take a stroll across the Galle Dutch Fort. Galle is the most important town in the south and its fort area, with its mighty ramparts, encloses some wonderful living collections of colonial architecture. A laid back and enchanting place to wander, it was declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1988. Rather removed from the busy modern town, the fort remains a village atmosphere. You will take a guided walk around this city of time and your host will tell you very interesting stories from the gone days. Stories of how

the names came to being, how the streets were inhabited and all. With the Portuguese style low roofed pillared buildings like in a movie set shading your way, Fort also boasts its own food culture. Maybe an ice cream to beat the heat from all the walking is a perfect idea. Fort also has a good collection of museums showcasing artifacts from the past. Every cobblestone here tells a story and if you are lucky you will be able to catch the fort jumpers. These enthusiastic sea jumpers, diving off straight to the sea depth from the fort wall and are a prominent sight in the Fort. After an enthusiastic fort walk, you will be directed to your seaside adobe in Weligama. If you choose to hit the road instead of the sea plane transfer you could experience a visit at a spice garden on route as well as local tea factory on your 5.5 hrs journey heading south from the hills.

## Day 7: WELIGAMA

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This day as the morning falls you will start off a wonderful beach vacation from your all-equipped luxury beach hotel. as lazing out in the sun is highly advised, the morning is kept free for you to do just that. For lunch we visit the beautiful boutique hotel Kahanda Kanda, where you will be served an exquisite spread of Sri Lankan delicacy in rice and curry, the Sri Lankan staple. After the quite colorful lunch we will head over to the Handungoda tea estate, to witness how white tea is being made. White tea is considered to be the world's purest tea and the estate grows and processes the tips as along with a growth of variety of spices that you can get your eyes on. While all this is so worthwhile, you can also choose to be just in the sun or at the resort, maybe experiencing a spa day for the ultimate relaxation.



## Day 8: WELIGAMA

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Just relax and enjoy the luxury at the hotel.



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**Day 9: WELIGAMA | LUNUGANGA BENTOTA | COLOMBO [Approx. Travel time 2 hrs to Bentota | Bentota to Colombo 1.5 hrs]**

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Checking out from the beach adobe today, we take a slow drive to Bentota where you will visit Lunuganga, the Garden house of Sri Lanka's most celebrated and one of Asia's most influential architects of his time, Geoffrey Bawa. His garden is a treasure trove in each corner you look, from the architecture, to monuments to even the growth of trees is simply art at Lunuganga. This garden immerses you and after the garden tour we will head to Colombo. On our way to the Colombo hotel, a pit stop to admire one of Bawa's greatest works, the parliament is always preferred. Arriving in Colombo the commercial epicentre of the country, you will be checked into your hotel. Colombo is a city with an old soul living in the modern times, as spoken by Dutch inspired buildings, cobblestone lanes along shoulder with high rising sky scrapers. It's a place where contradicting cultures make peace. Today is the last day of your vacation and city of Colombo will make it even more memorable for you to stay.



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**Day 10: DEPARTURE [Approx. Travel time 1 hrs to Airport]**

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Catch the flight at the Bandaranaike International Airport to head home.

## END OF TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

As always, we are able to tinker with this itinerary if you wish and add an extra night here and there. Our Travel consultants can help you plan the holiday as per your budget and interest along the way.

**PRICE INCLUDES:**

- 09 nights' accommodation on half board basis.
- In-destination transfers with and English-Speaking chauffeur driver (vehicle available for all excursions on the tour)
- Health and safety certified English-Speaking chauffeur driver for the full tour
- Expressway tickets and parking charges
- Meet and greet by company representative on arrival
- Special curated guided experiences
- All taxes and services charges
- Jeep safari to one of the national parks in the cultural triangle (Minneriya | Kadulla | Eco Park)
- Site entrance fees as mentioned
  - ❖ Millennium Elephant orphanage
  - ❖ Sigiriya rock fortress
  - ❖ Polonnaruwa cultural sites
  - ❖ Dambulla cave temple
  - ❖ Temple of the tooth Relic, Kandy
  - ❖ Galle Dutch fort walk
  - ❖ Visit to Lunuganga estate in Bentota
  - ❖ Handungoda tea estate

**PRICE EXCLUDES:**

- Entrance fees to any other place
- Sea plan transfer from the hill country to the south coast
- Expenses of personal nature
- Tipping and baggage handling
- Visa charges – apply online – [www.eta.gov.lk](http://www.eta.gov.lk)
- Any other service which is not specified above
- Departure PCR test if required
- Air tickets

**VALUE ADDED SERVICES ON COMPLIMENTRY BASIS:**

- WIFI in the vehicle
- 02 mineral water bottles on all transfer days for each person
- Sanitization of the main touch points in the vehicle on a daily basis
- Gift from the company at the end of the tour
- Bottle of wine on the last day of the tour
- Free Mobile SIM card on arrival (Passport details to be given for ownership transaction)



## **Special notes:**

- Rooms are subject to availability at the time of confirmation (alternative hotels will be offered for your preference)
- Above prices are inclusive of all service charges and Government taxes
- Normal hotel check-in 13 hours & check out is 12 noon
- All prices are quoted in USD inclusive of all taxes.
- Meal times at hotels - Breakfast 07.00am to 10.00am / Lunch 12.45pm to 2.30pm at hotel / Dinner 7.30pm to 10pm
- Rates are subject to change in the event of any charges to statutory government taxes.

## **Cancellation & refund policy:**

- 10% of the total value of the booking will be charge if canceled 31 days prior to arrival.
- 50% of the total value of the booking will be charge if canceled 7 days prior to arrival.
- 100% of the total value of the booking will be charge if canceled less than 7days prior to arrival.
- If any lockdown measures are introduced by your country government of restricting international travel, customer has the right to request for full refund or postponed the holiday for further 6 months without cancelling the holiday, rates are subject to change if the new dates fall during peak season or winter period dates.
- Cancellation polices are subject to change as some villa and luxury properties will have 30day 100% cancellation. Please check prior to finalizing the holiday with your travel consultants.

## **Accommodation options in Negombo**

Jetwing Lagoon (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwinglagoon/#gref">https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwinglagoon/#gref</a>
Heritance Negombo (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.heritancehotels.com/negombo/">https://www.heritancehotels.com/negombo/</a>
The Wallawwa (boutique)	<a href="https://www.teardrop-hotels.com/wallawwa/">https://www.teardrop-hotels.com/wallawwa/</a>

## **Accommodation options in Sigiriya / Dambulla**

Water Garden Sigiriya (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.watergardensigiriya.com/">https://www.watergardensigiriya.com/</a>
Vill Uyana Sigiriya (boutique)	<a href="https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwingviluyana/#gref">https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwingviluyana/#gref</a>
Heritance Kandalama (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.heritancehotels.com/">https://www.heritancehotels.com/</a>
Aliya Resort Sigiriya (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.themerestorts.com/aliyaresort/">https://www.themerestorts.com/aliyaresort/</a>
Signature by Amaya Dambulla (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.amayaresorts.com/amayalake/">https://www.amayaresorts.com/amayalake/</a>
Jetwing Lake Dambulla (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwinglake/">https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwinglake/</a>
Kalundewaretreat (boutique)	<a href="https://www.kalundewaretreat.com/">https://www.kalundewaretreat.com/</a>
Cinnamon Lodge (Deluxe)	<a href="https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamonlodgehabarana">https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamonlodgehabarana</a>

## Accommodation options in Kandy

Kandy House (boutique)	<a href="https://www.manorhouseconcepts.com/our-spaces/kandy-house/">https://www.manorhouseconcepts.com/our-spaces/kandy-house/</a>
Theva Residency (boutique)	<a href="https://thevaresidency.com/">https://thevaresidency.com/</a>
Santani (Wellness Resort deluxe)	<a href="https://www.santani.lk/">https://www.santani.lk/</a>
W15 Kandy (Luxury)	<a href="https://www.w15kandy.lk/">https://www.w15kandy.lk/</a>
Amaya hills (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.amayaresorts.com/amayahills/">https://www.amayaresorts.com/amayahills/</a>
Jetwing Kandy Gallery (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwingkandygallery/#gref">https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwingkandygallery/#gref</a>
Kings Pavilion (boutique)	<a href="https://www.kingspavilion.com/">https://www.kingspavilion.com/</a>

## Accommodation options in Galle/ Weligama

Galle Fort Hotel (boutique)	<a href="https://www.galleforhotel.com">https://www.galleforhotel.com</a>
Cape Weligama (boutique)	<a href="https://www.resplendentceylon.com/capeweligama/">https://www.resplendentceylon.com/capeweligama/</a>
Aditya Resort (boutique)	<a href="https://www.aditya-resort.com/">https://www.aditya-resort.com/</a>
Fort Printers (boutique)	<a href="http://www.thefortprinters.com/">http://www.thefortprinters.com/</a>
Amangalle (boutique)	<a href="https://www.aman.com/resorts/amangalla">https://www.aman.com/resorts/amangalla</a>
Le Grand Hotel (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.legrandgalle.lk/">https://www.legrandgalle.lk/</a>
Light House Hotel (deluxe)	<a href="https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwinglighthouse/#gref">https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwinglighthouse/#gref</a>
Amari Galle (Deluxe hotel)	<a href="https://www.amari.com/galle-srilanka/?promocode=BookDirect">https://www.amari.com/galle-srilanka/?promocode=BookDirect</a>

## Accommodation options in Colombo

Uga Residence Colombo (Boutique)	<a href="https://www.ugaescapes.com/residence/">https://www.ugaescapes.com/residence/</a>
Maniumpathy (Boutique)	<a href="http://www.maniumpathy.com/">http://www.maniumpathy.com/</a>
Tintagel (Boutique)	<a href="http://www.paradiseroadhotels.com/tintagel/">http://www.paradiseroadhotels.com/tintagel/</a>
Cinnamon Grand (Luxury hotel)	<a href="https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamongrandcolombo">https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamongrandcolombo</a>
Galle Face Hotel (Luxury/Colonial)	<a href="https://gallefacehotel.com/">https://gallefacehotel.com/</a>
Shangri La Colombo (Luxury hotel)	<a href="https://www.shangri-la.com/en/colombo/shangrila/">https://www.shangri-la.com/en/colombo/shangrila/</a>

