**Combine the incredible sites of India's Golden Triangle with Sri Lanka's ancient ruins, verdant jungles, cool mountains and amazing wildlife.** Explore the legendary Taj Mahal and pink city of Jaipur, Dambulla's rock temple, sip pure Ceylon tea and discover the bustling city of Colombo.

**HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS**

**Trip Highlights**

- Agra – enjoy a guided tour of striking Agra Fort and India’s most recognisable site - the legendary Taj Mahal
- Sigiriya – explore the UNESCO-listed rock fortress, which is more than 1,500 years old
- Delhi – see the highlights of India’s capital including Jama Masjid and the Rajpath, and enjoy a rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk bazaar
- UdaWalawe National Park – look out for elephants and leopards on a game drive in the biodiverse reserve
- Colombo – take a tour of Sri Lanka’s largest city and see the beautiful Gangaramaya Temple
- Dambulla – marvel at the impressive cave temple, the largest temple complex in Sri Lanka
- Polonnaruwa – discover the impressive temple of Ga’Vihara and the 12th century Royal Palace
- Nuwara Eliya – pass through sprawling tea plantations as we take a scenic train ride to ‘Little England’
- Jaipur – visit the highlights of the Pink City including Amber Fort and the Jantar Mantar space observatory
- Kandy – ride on a tuk-tuk in the countryside and enjoy a guided sightseeing tour including the famous Temple of the Tooth
- Karauli – stay at the Palace Bhanwar Vilas, home to the current Maharaja and be amazed by the rarely visited City Palace
- Kayanwala – canoe to the village and help cook a delicious traditional lunch with a Sri Lankan family

**What’s Included**

- 14 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- 14 nights - 3-4 star and heritage hotels
- Touring of Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Karauli, Colombo, Dambulla, Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya and UdaWalawe NP
- Rickshaw ride in Delhi and travel by jeep to the Amber Fort in Jaipur
- Scenic train trip Kandy - Nuwara Eliya, canoe and Tuk Tuk trips
- Jeep safari / game drive in UdaWalawe National park
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 15
- Escorted by an English-speaking Indian and Sri Lankan tour guide (for groups of 6 or more)
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles.

**What’s Not Included**

- Tipping Kitty: USD$75-$85pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD$200-210pp, paid in local currency
- International flights (including the flight from Delhi - Colombo) and visas
- Tip for your tour guide in India & Sri Lanka. We recommend you allow $3 - 7 USD per day per traveller. Tipping your tour guides is an entirely personal gesture

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1: Delhi**

Saturday. Namaste! Welcome to Delhi. On arrival at the airport you’ll be transferred to our hotel to spend the rest of today at leisure. This evening meet the guide and rest of the group at the hotel lobby at 18:00 for a welcome meeting. **Overnight - Delhi**
Delhi to Colombo

Delhi to Colombo - 15 days

Delhi - Agra. Leaving Delhi, we travel to Agra - former capital of the Mughal Empire. We'll explore behind the fortified walls of Agra Fort and continue to the Taj Mahal - India's most recognised attraction. Enjoy a guided tour of this famous white mausoleum, commissioned in the 17th century by the Emperor Shah Jahan and built by 20,000 workers. The Taj Mahal stands in memory of the Emperor's beloved wife who died tragically in childbirth. It remains the most extravagant and beautiful symbol of love the world has ever seen and has no rival. Overnight - Agra (B)

Day 3 : The Taj Mahal

Enjoy a day of sightseeing in India's capital city. In Old Delhi we visit the UNESCO-listed Humayun's Tomb and Jama Masjid - the oldest and largest mosque in India. Continue to the site of Gandhi's cremation at Raj Ghat before we stroll down the ceremonial Rajpath and admire the famous India Gate monument in New Delhi. We also enjoy a thrilling rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk bazaar. Our Namaste dinner takes place this evening so you can get to know your tour group. Overnight - Delhi (B, D)

Day 2 : Old and New Delhi sightseeing

Agra - Karauli. This morning we explore the ghostly city of Fatehpur Sikri, which has laid abandoned for more than 400 years. Continue to the beautiful Palace Bhanwar Vilas in Karauli, which remains the home of the current Maharaja and Maharani. Much of the complex has been transformed into a heritage hotel, our home for the night. Enjoy free time and stroll around the palace grounds, or if we're lucky we may be able to join a guided tour led by the princess. Later we visit the Karauli City Palace, which is being lovingly restored by the family. You may also opt to attend the evening Aarti prayer ceremony. Overnight - Karauli (B, L, D)

Day 4 : Karauli

Rise early this morning if you wish to join our Balloon Over Jaipur add-on. Climb aboard a hot air balloon and float with the wind over hill-top forts, temples and palaces. Returning to land, we travel to the striking 16th century Amber Fort. Enjoy a tour of this well-preserved fortress, which is spread out over four levels and sits on the shore of the majestic Maota Lake. We then return to Jaipur, stopping en route at a local cotton weaving house. Later enjoy a tour of city highlights including the impressive City Palace and the UNESCO-listed Jantar Mantar space observatory, which features 19 separate astrological instruments. Overnight - Jaipur (B)

Day 6 : The Pink City of Jaipur

Jaipur - Delhi. This morning we return to Delhi where the rest of the day is free to relax in the hotel or explore. Perhaps visit the impressive Red Fort and see its famous Sound and Light Show after dark. Overnight - Delhi (B)

Day 7 : Return to Delhi
Delhi to Colombo

**Day 8 : Delhi to Colombo**

Delhi - Colombo. We say goodbye to India today and transfer to the airport for our flight to Sri Lanka. On arrival you'll be transferred to our hotel to enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Please note: The flight from Delhi - Colombo is not included in the cost of this tour. Sri Lankan Airlines fly direct. If you provide us with your flight details, we will be there to meet you at Colombo airport and transfer you to your hotel.

**Overnight - Colombo (B)**

**Day 9 : Dambulla & Sigiriya**

Colombo - Dambulla - Sigiriya. Visit a local market in Naramwela this morning and continue to the Dambulla Rock Temple, the largest and best-preserved temple complex in Sri Lanka. There are hundreds of paintings and statues of Buddha spread over the five impressive caves. The largest of these is a 14-metre statue, carved straight from the cave rock.

After our visit we continue to the iconic UNESCO-listed Sigiriya rock fortress, which is more than 1,500 years old. Explore the impressive Lion Gate, the upper palace and the mirror wall, which was once polished so clean that the king could see his own reflection. You can also see the famous paintings of the Heavenly Maidens, reached by climbing a spiral stairway.

**Overnight - Sigiriya (B)**

**Day 10 : Polonnaruwa & Spice Gardens**

Sigiriya - Polonnaruwa - Kandy. Our first stop today is the ancient UNESCO-listed city of Polonnaruwa. See the 12th century Royal Palace and the famous rock cut temple of Gal Vihara. Admire the four giant rock carvings of Buddha in different positions - sitting, standing and reclining.

Later, enjoy a bullock cart ride and a canoe trip to the village of Kayanwala and join a cookery demonstration in a local mud brick house. Feast on a delicious lunch of curry, dahl and spiced rice and then visit a spice garden in Matale. We'll tour the gardens and there is the opportunity to buy local spices in the shop, which make excellent souvenirs. After our visit we continue to Kandy for the night.

**Overnight - Kandy (B)**

**Day 11 : Temple of the Tooth & Tuk Tuks**

Explore Kandy today with a guided sightseeing tour and take in highlights including the Temple of the Tooth - allegedly home to the relic of the tooth of Buddha. The tooth was historically important in local politics in Sri Lanka, as whoever held the relic oversaw the governance of the country. We also drive around Kandy Lake, visit a gem museum and stroll through a bustling local bazaar. We then enjoy an exhilarating tuk-tuk ride in the surrounding hills and marvel at the incredible scenery. Our final stop of the day is at Geragama Tea Factory to learn about the tea making process and taste a delicious cup of local tea.

**Overnight - Kandy (B)**

**Day 12 : Scenic Train trip & Tea Plantations**

Kandy - Nuwara Eliya. There is free time this morning to relax before we embark on a scenic train journey to Nuwara Eliya. The train winds along mountain passes and from lush jungle to sprawling tea plantations. Pass waterfalls and see beautiful suspension bridges before we arrive in Nuwara Eliya. The region is a popular hill resort and Sri Lanka’s most important tea producing region. Enjoy a sightseeing tour of the city, known as ‘Little England’ due to its colonial past, which is still clearly visible.

**Overnight - Nuwara Eliya (B)**

**Day 13 : Udawalawe NP Jeep Safari**

Nuwara Eliya - Udawalawe National Park. Leaving Nuwara Eliya today, we travel to Udawalawe National Park and join a wildlife game drive this afternoon. The park is
Delhi to Colombo

largely made up of grassland plains and you have a good chance of spotting rare species including elephants, leopards and the elusive Sri Lankan Sloth Bear. **Overnight - Udwalawe National Park (B)**

Day 14 : Colombo sightseeing
Udwalawe National Park - Colombo. This morning we visit the Gem Mine and Museum at Ratnapura on our way back to Colombo. Sri Lanka is famous for its gem industry and is home to 40 out of the 85 types of gems in the world. We then enjoy a guided tour of Colombo and discover highlights of the Fort area including the government buildings. See the stunning Gangaramaya Temple and take a stroll through Galle Face Green, a popular park on the coast. **Overnight - Colombo (B)**

Day 15 : Colombo
Saturday. Our tour comes to an end today with an included departure transfer to the airport.(B)

**HOTELS**

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard. Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

**Jaypee Siddharth Hotel**
The luxurious Jaypee Siddharth is a stunning property located just five kilometres from the New Delhi Railway Station. Guestrooms are exquisitely decorated with a blend of cream and brown tones and benefit from air conditioning and complimentary WiFi. If you have free time, guests can indulge in one of the rejuvenating treatments available at the spa, take a dip in the outdoor pool or work up an appetite in the gym. A range of cuisines are served in the various restaurants found within the hotel complex.

**Hotel Jivitesh**
The Jivitesh Hotel is centrally located in the heart of Karol Bagh, a popular neighbourhood of Delhi renowned for its excellent shops and vibrant street markets. The Jivitesh offers comfortable and spacious guest rooms, with modern amenities such as a mini bar, a well-equipped ensuite and a plush king-sized bed. In the evenings, guests can tuck into an array of regional specialties as well as vegetarian cuisine at the hotel's restaurant and take a refreshing dip in the outdoor swimming pool after a day of sightseeing in the capital.

**Vivanta by Taj Dwarka**
Vivanta by Taj Dwarka is a modern, luxury hotel located in Dwarka, on the outskirts of New Delhi, just a 15-minute drive from the airport. Spread over 7 acres, this striking hotel has a unique angular design and offers 250 luxurious rooms and suites. All tastes are catered for at the hotel's multi-cuisine restaurant, while the Indus Express restaurant serves mouth-watering Punjabi cuisine. Head to the popular Tipple bar for a delicious array of heady cocktails or relax by the poolside with a refreshing smoothie from the Celsius Pool Bar. The nearby Sector 21 Metro station provides direct access to the heart of the city and after a day of sightseeing you can cool off with a refreshing dip in the outdoor pool or relax in the sauna and massage parlour.

**Seven Hills Tower**
The modern and stylish Seven Hills Tower hotel boasts a range of facilities and services designed to ensure the quality of each traveller's stay. The spacious guestrooms are elegantly decorated with neutral colours and fabrics covered with traditional patterns and all have excellent ensuite facilities. Guests can enjoy a dip in the rooftop pool or laze on the sun loungers before heading to the equally lofty restaurant for some mouth-watering Mughlai cuisine. The al fresco dining area offers beautiful views of the Taj Mahal, perfect for enjoying a sunset drink.

**Bhanwar Vilas Palace**
Built in 1938, this stunning property is the residence of the Maharaja (181st in the Royal Dynasty) and Maharani of Karauli. Both the architecture and furniture have been designed in fitting with colonial styles and the property offers a fantastic insight into the history and elegance of a bygone era. Rooms are split between deluxe rooms and luxury suites, each including a range of modern amenities such as a mini bar, a well-appointed ensuite and a plush king-sized bed. In the evenings, guests can tuck into an array of regional specialties as well as cuisine from around the world in the hotel's restaurant. The hotel is just 7km from the nearest train station.
Delhi to Colombo

Mandawa Haveli
Made of pink and red sandstone, the beautiful heritage-style Mandawa Haveli is a fine example of typical Rajasthani architecture. All rooms are well appointed with intricately carved wooden beds and king-size royal portraits, with modern amenities such as free WiFi and ensuite bathrooms. Spend an evening dining on continental, Indian or Rajasthani cuisine on the outdoor terrace or request a private, candlelit dinner on the rooftop under a star-studded sky. Well located in the heart of Jaipur city on Sansar Chandra Road, this hotel is just a few minute’s drive from the Palace of the Winds.

OZO Colombo
OZO Colombo is a modern and stylish hotel, with sweeping Indian Ocean views from its rooftop infinity pool and many of its rooms. There's free WiFi access throughout the hotel and the guestrooms are bright and airy with all modern amenities. To top it off, there’s also a fantastic fitness center and a restaurant serving delicious, authentic Sri Lankan cuisine. OZO is centrally located on Marine Drive, near Galle Road and just a 10 minute drive from the city centre.

The Paradise Resort & Spa
An eco-friendly resort surrounded by the lush foliage of Sigiriya, this comfortable and conveniently located hotel is just a short distance from the sights of Sigiriya and Dambulla. The resort itself boasts an outdoor swimming pool and four dining options, where you can enjoy a selection of local fare and international favourites. There's also complimentary WiFi, a gym and spa facilities, and even bicycle rental available so you can explore the local area.

OZO Kandy Hotel
The stylish OZO Kandy prides itself on its smart facilities and stunning mountain surrounds. Its highlight being the rooftop pool and BOMMU Bar where you can soak up panoramic views over Kandy whilst enjoying a cocktail or two. The hotel’s all-day dining restaurant serves a tasty array of Asian and international cuisine using only fresh and handpicked produce. Other amenities include a fitness centre and complimentary WiFi, with guestrooms boasting signature soft beds and rain showers.

Jetwing St Andrew’s
Jetwing St. Andrew's is a unique colonial retreat set in a former country house and surrounded by landscaped gardens. All the spacious rooms are classically furnished with elegant wood and offer free WiFi and flat-screen TVs. The grounds of the hotel give a great feel of colonial splendour and guests can wake up to a typical English breakfast and enjoy a stiff brandy at the bar later in the day. Fine dining is offered at the Old Course Restaurant and the hotel also boasts an antique snooker table, which is the oldest in Sri Lanka.

Grand Udawalawe Safari Resort
Situated on 7 acres of land, the Grand Udawalawe Safari Resort is the only hotel of its class in the area. Rooms are spacious with beautiful hard wood flooring and artwork depicting the wildlife of Udawalawe. Food here is delicious and plentiful with an extensive breakfast menu. The outdoor pool is a great place to relax by and enjoy a refreshing splash in after a good day on safari. Well located just a few minutes drive from Udawalawe National Park.

PRICES / DATES INFO
Departure dates noted with a ‘G’ are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender on your tour, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement.

PRICES / DATES 2019

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Delhi to Colombo

Delhi to Colombo - 15 days

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