

Colombo, Caves & Kandy

8 days | Starts/Ends: Colombo



Discover Sri Lanka's famous cultural triangle and visit the rock fortress of Sigiriya, the exquisite Dambulla cave temple and the historic Temple of the Tooth in Kandy. Add a scenic train trip through the verdant tea plantations and spot wildlife at Udawalawe NP, all in an exciting one week holiday.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Sigiriya - climb the 5th century fortress ruins
- Polonnaruwa - explore the ancient capital city of Ceylon
- Dambulla - marvel at the cave temples and their art
- Colombo - tour the Fort area, Galle Face Green and Gangaramaya Temple
- Kandy - city tour including tuk tuk ride, Temple of the Tooth and cultural performance
- Nuwara Eliya - ride the scenic train past waterfalls and tea plantations from Kandy
- Udawalawe National Park - jeep safari to search for Asian Elephants
- Kayanwala village - canoe ride for a local cookery demonstration

What's Included

- 7 breakfasts and 1 lunch
- 7 nights 4 - 5 star and heritage properties
- Touring of Dambulla, Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya, Nuwara Eliya, Udawalawe and Colombo
- Jeep safari/game drive in Udawalawe National park
- Scenic train trip from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya, canoe ride and tuk tuk trips
- Escorted by an English-speaking national guide for groups of 6 or more (professional chauffeur guide for groups of 5 or fewer)
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 8
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$50-\$60pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$120-\$140pp, paid in local currency
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow \$3 - 6 USD per day per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture
- International flights and visas

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Colombo - your way



Saturday. Welcome to Sri Lanka! Airport arrival transfer and remainder of the day at leisure. Our start hotel located on the seafront is a short walk from Galle Road and many of the city highlights. Choose to head out and explore, take a dip in the pool or enjoy a cocktail whilst you watch the perfect sunset over the Laccodive Sea. **Overnight - Colombo**

Day 2 : Dambulla & Polonnaruwa



Colombo - Dambulla - Polonnaruwa - Dambulla. Bidding farewell to Colombo

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this morning we drive inland to Dambulla, stopping en route at a fruit and vegetable market in Naramwela Town. Dambulla Rock Temple is an incredible ancient complex of caves which date back to the 1st Century BC. The five caves contain over 150 images of Buddha including an impressive 14 metre carved statue.

After exploring this ancient site we continue to Polonnaruwa. This fascinating 11th century city is home to many interesting ruins and famous monuments including the Royal Palace and the Gal Vihara. Polonnaruwa was once the capital and is also the second most ancient city in Sri Lanka. It is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This evening return to Dambulla for an evening at leisure.

Overnight - Dambulla (B)

Day 3 : Sigiriya & Kandy



Dambulla - Sigiriya - Kandy. This morning we explore Sigiriya and the famous 'Lion Rock' fortress. Built over 1500 years ago, this beautiful citadel stands 200 meters high in the middle of verdant jungle and was an important stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town. It can be viewed from miles around and is definitely one of Sri Lanka's most iconic and famous sites. You'll be able to view the world famous paintings of the Heavenly Maidens which stand in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway.

From Sigiriya we take a bullock cart ride and short canoe trip to the village of Kayanwala. Here, at Kayanwala village we take part in a cookery demonstration in the mud brick home of a local woman and enjoy a freshly prepared lunch of curry, dahl, spiced rice, pickle and more. En route to Kandy we stop off a spice garden in Matale, to see the different herbs

and spices, which Sri Lanka is famous for. You will be introduced to different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown and processed.

Overnight - Kandy (B, L)

Day 4 : Kandy Temple of the Tooth



(B)

Day 5 : Scenic Train trip & Tea Plantations



Kandy - Nuwara Eliya. This morning offers free time before transferring to the railway station for a scenic train trip. Passing kilometre upon kilometre of verdant tea plantations that hug the winding mountain passes, we'll see waterfalls, suspension bridges and tea pickers on our journey up to Nuwara Eliya - Sri Lanka's most popular hill resort. Nuwara Eliya is also the heart of Sri Lanka's tea country producing a significant share of the world's best tea.

This afternoon we take a beautiful drive through Nuwara Eliya - an area known locally as 'Little England'. **Overnight - Nuwara Eliya (B)**

Day 6 : Udawalawe NP Jeep Safari



Nuwara Eliya - Udawalawe National Park. Today we head south to Embilipitiya, our base for exploring Udawalawe National Park. This national park is probably one of the best places to spot the famous Sri Lankan Elephant, the biggest of all the Asian Elephants. It is thought that there are around 400 elephants here. The park is also home to the elusive leopard, the Sri Lankan Sloth Bear and lots of types of deer. We take an afternoon game drive here before returning to the hotel for the night. **Overnight - Udawalawe National Park (B)**

Day 7 : Colombo City Tour



Udawalawe National Park - Colombo. This morning we visit the Gem Mine and Museum at Ratnapura. Sri Lanka is famous for its gem industry and is home to 40 out of the 85 types of gems in the world.

Arriving to Colombo, we commence a city tour seeing the Fort area in the north of the city, famous for its government buildings and interesting shops. We'll see the stunning Gangarama Temple and take a stroll along Galle Face Green, a popular spot for kite flying and games of cricket. **Overnight - Colombo (B)**

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Day 8 : Goodbye Sri Lanka

Saturday. Today offers free time for you to independently explore the city, before 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. If you require a complete list of the confirmed hotels for your tour please request this from your reservations consultant two weeks prior to your departure. **Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

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.



Jetwing Lake

The Jetwing Lake hotel is a brand new property with spacious and comfortable rooms that enjoy a contemporary design blended with splashes of Eastern influenced decor. The ensuite facilities are magnificent and in keeping with the luxurious feel of the property as a whole. Each room also comes with a balcony, from which guests can get some fresh air and enjoy the spectacular views. Within the complex there is a pool, spa and fitness centre, where guests can while away their free time. There is also a restaurant, which serves sumptuous meals.



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.



Araliya Green Hills

Recently opened, the Araliya Green Hills is a modern property with beautiful mountain views. Rooms are spacious and well appointed with slightly garish carpets. Sumptuous buffets are served in the restaurant - look out for the hoppers - perfect to have your eggs in! Wi-Fi is available throughout the hotel and there is even a pool table for you to challenge your friends on. Perfectly located close to the centre of Nuwara Eliyah.



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 travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who would like their own room

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and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement. Departure dates noted with a 'S' allow Solo travellers the comfort of a single room on this tour at no additional cost.

PRICES / DATES 2019

Date	Twin Share	Single
03 Aug	USD 1,495	USD 2,285
10 Aug	USD 1,795	USD 2,485
31 Aug	USD 1,495	USD 2,285
14 Sep	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
21 Sep	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
28 Sep	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
12 Oct	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
19 Oct	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
26 Oct	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
02 Nov	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
09 Nov	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
16 Nov	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
23 Nov	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
07 Dec	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
21 Dec	USD 1,745	USD 2,535
28 Dec	USD 1,745	USD 2,535

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
04 Jan	USD 1,745	USD 2,535
11 Jan	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
25 Jan	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
08 Feb	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
22 Feb	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
07 Mar	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
14 Mar	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
28 Mar	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
04 Apr	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
11 Apr	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
02 May	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
16 May	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
13 Jun	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
04 Jul	USD 1,495	USD 2,285
18 Jul	USD 1,495	USD 2,285
01 Aug	USD 1,795	USD 2,485
29 Aug	USD 1,495	USD 2,285
12 Sep	USD 1,395	USD 2,185

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
26 Sep	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
10 Oct	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
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24 Oct	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
07 Nov	USD 1,395	USD 2,185
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19 Dec	USD 1,745	USD 2,535

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