

Wild Sri Lanka & Beach for Families

13 days | Starts/Ends: Colombo



This exciting journey travels through Sri Lanka's famous cultural triangle and offers something for the whole family. Discover the wildlife that waits in the Minneriya and Yala National Parks, walk along the sandy Golden Mile and bathe in the crystal waters of Beruwala beach in this amazing adventure for all ages. This holiday is perfect for families with children aged 5 years and over.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Yala National Park - Go on a jeep safari in search of Asian Elephants, Sri Lankan krait, crocodiles and elusive leopards
- Minneriya National Park - Go in search of wildlife on a jeep safari in this haven for wild Asian elephants
- Beruwala - Relax by the Golden Mile beach and swim in the Indian Ocean at this popular holiday resort on Sri Lanka's West Coast
- Dambulla - Discover over 150 images of Buddha in the incredible complex of caves at Dambulla Rock Temple

- Kandy - Ride a Tuk Tuk into the hills, explore the Temple of the Tooth and enjoy a cultural performance
- Sigiriya Rock Fortress - Climb to the top of the iconic 5th century Lion Rock fortress and see the Heavenly Maidens
- Polonnaruwa - Explore the ancient capital city of Ceylon, with its impressive temple of Gal Vihara and 12th century Royal Palace
- Happutale - Take a scenic train ride to Happutale and explore Sri Lanka's spectacular Hill Country
- Ella - Marvel at the Ravena Ella Falls, one of the wildest waterfalls in the country with a 30 foot drop
- Hambantota Village - Ride a farm tractor and play traditional Sri Lankan games with the villagers
- Colombo - Enjoy a guided tour of the city including the Old Fort area and impressive Gangaramaya Temple
- Matale - Learn all about Sri Lanka's herbs and spices at the spice gardens in Matale

What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- 12 nights 3-4 star hotels
- Guided sightseeing - Dambulla, Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya, Happutale, Ella and Colombo

- Jeep safaris in Minneriya National Park and Yala National Park
- Scenic train journey from Kandy and Tuk Tuk trips
- Escorted by an English speaking national guide
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on days 1 and 13
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned tourism vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$55-\$65pp, paid in local currency. No tip kitty for children
- Entrance Fees: USD\$140-\$150pp, paid in USD
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We suggest USD\$25 - 35 per adult for the entire tour. Tipping your tour guide is an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Colombo

Welcome to Sri Lanka! You will be met upon arrival at the airport and transferred to your hotel in the city of Negombo. Here you will have the rest of the afternoon to settle in and explore the highlights at your own leisure.

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Overnight - Negombo

Day 2 : Dambulla

Negombo - Dambulla. After breakfast we bid farewell to Negombo and set off for the town of Dambulla, home of the famous Dambulla cave temples and Sigiriya ancient rock fortress. Spend the rest of the afternoon getting better acquainted with this lovely town. Sit back, relax and try some of the local traditional foods including pittu.

Overnight - Dambulla (B)

Day 3 : Sigiriya Rock & Village



Sigiriya Rock and Village. Our first stop this morning is to the ancient Sigiriya rock fortress of the 5th Century King Kasyapa, undoubtedly one of the most iconic sights of Sri Lanka. Let the kids' burn off some energy with the climb up to the ruins of the palace and penthouse. Once we reach the ruins we have time to wander through some of the oldest landscape multi-tiered gardens in the world, and revel in the breathtaking landscape of the surrounding jungles.

After descending from the ruins we make our way along the village path to a typical village lake, known as a "Wewa", passing by homes surrounded by green woods and watch huts which the locals use at night to keep a lookout for wild elephants and boar. Here we cross the lake by canoe arriving at a local farm where we meet the owners and spend some time watching them share the secrets of Sri Lankan cuisine before we sit down to enjoy the delicious meal which has been prepared using a traditional hearth.

Upon our return to Dambulla we have the evening at leisure to spend however we wish.

Overnight - Dambulla (B)

Day 4 : Polonnaruwa & Minneriya National Park



Polonnaruwa and Minneriya. After breakfast we make our way to the medieval capital of Sri Lanka, Polonnaruwa. Here we take time to wander along the shimmering waters of the man-made lake, the Parakrama Samudra and uncover intricately carved lotus pillars, meditative halls, ceremonial towers, as well as magnificent royal baths and palace ruins before stopping at the famous Gal Vihara Temple.

This afternoon we head to Minneriya National Park where we search for wildlife by Jeep Safari. Despite its relatively small size there is an unusually wide range of habitat types, from dry tropical forest to wetlands and grasslands found here which is home to elephants, sambar, spotted deer, macaque and purple-faced langur monkeys, sloth bears and if we are incredibly lucky we may spot a leopard on our game drive. Every year from July to November, hundreds of elephants migrate to a man-made watering hole in Minneriya, which is one of the few water sources not to dry up in the hot weather. This is one of the greatest wildlife spectacles to be seen anywhere in the world.

Overnight - Dambulla (B)

Day 5 : Dambulla Cave Temple to Kandy



Dambulla - Kandy. This morning we discover the Golden Cave Temple in Dambulla, the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. Boasting over 2000 sq meters of painted walls and ceilings and a 14 meter Buddha made from rock.

Our next stop of the day is to a spice garden in Matale to get a better understanding of the process of growing the various different spices Sri Lanka is famous for before finishing our day in Kandy, the city of colonial architecture.

Overnight - Kandy (B)

Day 6 : Kandy Sightseeing

Today we explore the last capital of Sri Lankan kings by tuk tuk. We start our tour driving around and taking a dip in the lake built by the last Sinhala King in 1798 before going back into the town and exploring the Bazaar, the gem museum and a local lapidary.

After freshening up at our hotel we end our day with a visit to the Temple of the Tooth Relic, where it is said that whoever holds the relic holds control of the country, for an evening of traditional entertainment and dancing.

Overnight - Kandy (B)

Day 7 : Sri Lanka's Hill Country

Kandy - Haputale. Today we board the scenic train passing through tea plantations and amazing waterfalls until we reach the town of Haputale, on the southern edge of the Hill Country.

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After checking in and freshening up at our hotel we have the rest of the day to explore our spectacular surroundings. Go hiking in the Thangamale woodland or visit the Lipton's Seat lookout where Master Lipton planted the first seeds for what is now Sri Lanka's most popular tea – Lipton Tea. For those looking to relax, the hotel pool offers amazing views of the surrounding landscape.

Overnight - Haputale (B)

Day 8 : Yala National Park



Haputale - Ella - Tissamaharama. This morning we venture through the clouds to the village of Ella where we meet our local guide before making our way to our first stop - Ravena Ella Falls, one of the wildest falls in the country with a 30 foot drop. It is said the king who kidnapped princess Sita from India hid her behind the falls.

Returning to our hotel, there's time to relax before we embark on a jeep safari through Yala National Park where we search through the thorny scrubs and dense forests in hopes to see the resident elephants, leopards and bear. If we're lucky we also get the chance to see the feathered King Fisher and migrant birds being protected from Predator Eagles. **Overnight - Tissamaharama (B)**

Day 9 : Hambantota Village & Beruwala

Tissamaharama - Hambantota - Beruwala. This morning we travel just outside of Tissamaharama to a local village called Hambantota. Here we wander through the farm and taste some home grown tea in a fresh

coconut shell and play some traditional Sri Lankan games with the villagers. After an afternoon of fun we return to our bus in tractors used on the farm and set off to our last point of call for the day, Beruwala where we have the evening at leisure to spend on the beach.

Overnight - Beruwala (B)

Days 10-11 : Beruwala Beach



The next two days are at leisure to explore Beruwala. Take a stroll along the beach known as the "Golden Mile" or go for a walk through the lively fish market. You can meet the local fishermen and taste some of the days catch. Those looking for something different may wish to visit the water sports centre or sea turtle hatchery. Here you can learn all about the turtles that come to lay their eggs on the beaches here. You even get to meet some of the baby turtles! **Overnight - Beruwala (B:2)**

Day 12 : Colombo

Beruwala - Colombo. After breakfast we make our way to Colombo, originally known as "the garden city of the east". Meet our guide and enjoy a sightseeing tour of highlights including the old clock tower and the impressive Gangaramaya Temple. Our tour ends with a spot of souvenir shopping in Paradise Road and Lakmedura. We then have the rest of the evening to continue exploring Colombo's streets or sit back, relax and watch the world go by.

Overnight - Colombo (B)

Day 13 : Colombo

Our tour comes to an end today with a transfer to the airport. We hope you enjoyed your holiday!(B)

ACCOMMODATION

Highlighted below are some of the accommodation/ hotels which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these stays to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel or start point and further arrival information.

Arie Lagoon

Conveniently located close to Colombo International Airport, the Aire Lagoon boasts a spectacular location on the waterfront between the Indian Ocean and a serene lagoon. Each air-conditioned room is equipped with a flat screen TV and cable channels, free slippers and toiletries. Guests can unwind in one of the two swimming pools at the hotel, with a relaxing massage in the wellness spa or dine in one of the three speciality restaurants on site with an exclusive wine bar.



The Paradise Resort & Spa

Enveloped by lush vegetation within the ancient city of Dambulla, the Paradise Resort and Spa offers 67 luxurious eco-villas to suit all budgets. Tastefully designed with modern amenities, the rooms feature teak furniture and free WiFi. Guests can dine at the pizzeria, home to a traditional stone oven, or the Salt & Pepper restaurant that offers an A La Carte menu. The property also offers a Thai spa as well as an Ayurveda centre alongside an outdoor pool.

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Hotel Topaz

Hotel Topaz is a charming hotel with a stunning roof top view. The elegant rooms are spacious and accentuated with splashes of vibrant colour with private balconies and good facilities. The large outdoor pool is a lovely spot to unwind with far-reaching views of the surrounding hills. Buffet meals can be enjoyed at the hotel's restaurant with theme nights that include Chinese and Mexican cuisine. Guests can also relax in the spa or the TV lounge which stocks a large collection of DVDs.



Melheim Resort

Boasting breathtaking views of the surrounding forests, this boutique resort is set on the slopes of Blackwood Mountain in the Berigala Hills. Each guestroom features an ensuite, tea and coffee making facilities and a minibar, with a private deck opening out to the stunning mountain vistas. Other amenities include free bicycle rental, a fitness centre and an outdoor pool with a Jacuzzi. The onsite restaurant offers both Eastern and Western cuisine, which you can enjoy seated inside or out on the terrace with uninterrupted views of the surrounding scenery.



Chaarya Resort

Surrounded by lush greenery, this charming resort offers a wonderfully peaceful escape from the bustle of Sri Lanka's cities. Its cosy and elegantly designed guestrooms have an inviting ambiance, featuring a private balcony, tea and coffee making facilities and WiFi access. The landscaped garden is often visited by migratory birds and overlooked by an outdoor pool, Jacuzzi and inviting bar. The restaurant also serves a delightful range of traditional Sri Lankan, Oriental and Western cuisine. And after your adventurous safari in Yala National Park, you can take time to rejuvenate at the Ayurveda spa.



Earl's Reef

Set on the beautiful bay of Beruwala, Earl's Reef offers you a luxury stay just footsteps from the beach. Each guestroom is fully equipped with modern amenities and provides breathtaking views over the Indian Ocean. And with a spa, volleyball court and stunning outdoor pool, you have plenty of activities to choose from. The on-site restaurant faces the sea and serves a mix of exotic Sri Lankan cuisine and international favourites across buffet and a la carte menus.



Fairway Colombo

Situated at the heart of Colombo, the Fairway Hotel is ideally located, close to the iconic World Trade Center and the popular Dutch Hospital complex. With 181 comfortable guest rooms, this modern hotel blends the latest

technology with great design. Free high speed Wi-Fi access, motion sensor driven room temperature control, room access through your mobile phone are just a few of the technological conveniences offered. The hotel offers four restaurants, a nightclub, fitness centre and a fantastic rooftop terrace where guests can sip tasty cocktails and enjoy the superb city views.



PRICES / DATES INFO

'Twin Share' prices are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. Child prices are for children aged between 5 - 11 yrs We also offer a triple share option on this tour, please contact us for details. Departure dates marked with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departures are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons.

PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
10 Dec	USD 1,855	USD 2,965
24 Dec	USD 2,245	USD 3,475

PRICES / DATES 2023

Date	Twin Share	Single
07 Jan	USD 2,245	USD 3,475
18 Feb	USD 1,915	USD 3,045
01 Apr	USD 1,915	USD 3,045
08 Apr	USD 1,915	USD 3,045
27 May	USD 1,915	USD 3,045
08 Jul	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
15 Jul	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
29 Jul	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
05 Aug	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
12 Aug	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
23 Sep	USD 2,045	USD 3,255

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Date	Twin Share	Single
30 Sep	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
14 Oct	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
21 Oct	USD 2,045	USD 3,255
23 Dec	USD 2,245	USD 3,475
30 Dec	USD 2,245	USD 3,475