PRIVATE TOUR: See the best of the Indian Ocean. Discover grand temples, intricate ruins and a rich, intriguing culture combined with beautiful gardens and leafy wildlife parks in spectacular Sri Lanka. Then, breathtaking beaches and idyllic pleasures are waiting to be experienced in stunning Maldives.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights
- Polonnaruwa - 11th century city
- Sigiriya - The famous 5th century fortress ruins
- Dambulla - Remarkable rock temple
- Kandy - Temple of the Tooth, city tour and cultural show and the Ceylon Tea Museum
- Relax in the beautiful Maldives
- Royal Botanical Gardens in Peradeniya
- Matale - Spice gardens

What’s Included
- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 5 dinners
- 9 nights STANDARD hotels. SUPERIOR and DELUXE hotel options are also available upon request. Accommodation rating – See Trip Notes for details
- Touring and excursions as per itinerary
- Entrance fees to all included sites in Sri Lanka
- Escort by a licensed English speaking chauffeur guide in Sri Lanka
- Specialist local guides at some sites
- An airport arrival transfer days 1 and 5, and a departure transfer days 5 and 10
- All transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned tourism vehicles
- A 2 or more people travelling policy applies for this private tour

What’s Not Included
- International flights and visas
- Flight from Colombo (Sri Lanka) to Male (Maldives)
- Tipping - An entirely personal gesture

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Colombo to Giritale
Colombo - Giritale. Welcome to Sri Lanka! Upon arrival at Colombo Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel in Giritale.
Overnight - Giritale (B)

Day 2 : Polonnaruwa & Sigiriya
Giritale - Kandy. En route to Kandy, we explore Dambulla Rock Temple, located in a cave. Here, we view the ornate painted walls and ceilings comprising of over 150 images of the Buddha. See the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock and spanning 14 metres. Next, we head to the spice garden in Matale to learn about how the spices are grown. In the evening, we visit the splendid Temple of the Tooth Relic, afterwards we enjoy a cultural show featuring traditional Sri Lankan dancing.
Overnight - Kandy (B)

Day 3 : Giritale
Giritale - Kandy. En route to Kandy, we explore Dambulla Rock Temple, located in a cave. Here, we view the ornate painted walls and ceilings comprising of over 150 images of the Buddha. See the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock and spanning 14 metres. Next, we head to the spice garden in Matale to learn about how the spices are grown. In the evening, we visit the splendid Temple of the Tooth Relic, afterwards we enjoy a cultural show featuring traditional Sri Lankan dancing.
Overnight - Kandy (B)

Day 4 : Kandy city tour
This morning we take a leisurely stroll and admire the Royal Botanical gardens in beautiful artificial lake, as well as several temples. Afterwards, we head to Sigiriya where we climb to the top Lion rock to see the remains of this amazing 5th century fortress.
Overnight - Kandy (B)
Sri Lanka & the Maldives

Peradeniya, home to 147 acres of flowers, trees and plants. Next, we enjoy a city tour of Kandy, visiting the town, bazaar, arts and crafts centre, a gem museum and lapidary. There’ll also be a visit to the Ceylon Tea Museum where you can learn all about the tea-picking process. Afterwards, we head to Colombo.

Overnight - Colombo (B)

Days 5-9 : Relaxation in the Maldives

Colombo - Male. Transfer to the airport on day 5 for your flight to Male (NOTE: the flight is not included in this package, please let us know your flight details so we can arrange the airport transfers accordingly) . Upon arrival in Male, we will be met at the airport and transferred to the resort by speedboat and the rest of the day is free for you to relax in paradise!

Enjoy a four blissful days relaxing on the white sands, swimming, snorkelling and admiring the sparkling seas. There’s so much to do - why not take a glass bottom boat ride, go reef diving, fishing, surfing or just laze about.

Overnight - Maldives (B:5, L:4, D:5)

Day 10 : Male

Transfer back to Male Airport for your onward flight.(B)

Tipping

Tipping is an essential part of the culture. For a job well done, we would suggest for tour guides: USD$4-7 per traveller, for each day of sightseeing.

For your driver and On The Go Representative we’d recommend USD$2-3 per traveller for each day of service. Tipping is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Accommodation ratings

On our Private trips, you can often choose your style of accommodation. The price quoted on our website is reflective of the included accommodation, please see the “included” section on the first page of this document for details. Should you opt for an alternative hotel category, this will be confirmed in writing with the respective price on your invoice.

For further details about the indicative hotels, please see the “hotels” tab on our website. Here we rank hotel’s in their respective country (REGIONAL CATEGORY) - but we also tell you how it ranks by Western standards (OUR CATEGORY).

STANDARD - Equates to a Western 3-star standard, always featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant.

SUPERIOR - Equates to a Western 4-star standard, featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant and often a swimming pool and/or a fitness centre.

DELUXE - Equates to a Western 5-star standard, usually featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, excellent service and customer care.

LUXURY - Equates to a Western 5-star plus standard - the creme de la creme. Featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, this accommodation is a cut above the rest. Sheer opulence!

Health requirements

You should seek medical advice for vaccinations and about medications before travelling.

Water

As tap water is not safe to drink in Sri Lanka, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available in hotels, shops and restaurants. You should also avoid salads which may be washed in unhygienic water.

Sri Lanka & the Maldives - 10 days

www.onthegotours.com

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.
What to pack
Please check local temperatures so you can pack accordingly. Visit www.worldclimate.com

- Suitcase or frameless backpack/rucksack if preferred
- Small day bag for your camera, water, sunglasses, i-Pod etc.
- Please see go to www.onthegotours.com/Sri-Lanka/Travel-tips-and-useful-info for recommendations on what/what not to wear
- Personal first aid kit
- Sunglasses, hat, umbrella, money belt, DEET-based industrial strength mosquito/insect repellent. High factor sunscreen and bathers/swim costume
- Anti-bacterial hand gel/wet wipes and flat pack toilet paper/tissues
- Universal travel adaptor
- Tour Voucher and a copy of your travel insurance policy, spare passport photos and a photocopy of your passport
- Spare camera batteries, memory cards
- Pack as light as possible to leave room for the souvenirs!

Shopping
Sri Lanka is excellent for gemstones especially sapphires, moon-stones and cat's-eye. Other items to look out for include spices, wood carvings and other handicrafts, clothing of types, batik and hand-woven textiles, brassware, handmade lace from Galle and of course tea. Tea varies in quality, so if you’re buying in bulk, ask for a tasting! If seeking modern local chic, Colombo offers a selection of department stores and stylish boutiques. Refrain from buying souvenirs made of coral (creation of this sort of tourist that contributes greatly to the destruction of Sri Lanka’s reefs), ivory or the hides of endangered animals.

In the tourism industry it’s common practice for commission to be offered in exchange for recommending particular shops or suppliers. This can become an issue when clients feel obliged to purchase. We do our best to avoid this by monitoring all shopping experiences offered.

All shopping experiences on your tour have been noted in the itinerary and they been carefully selected based upon positive feedback from On The Go travellers. You are under no obligation to partake in a listed shopping experience and you are most welcome to wait inside or outside the premises.

Although we only visit reputable retailers, please note that we cannot explicitly guarantee the quality of their products. All purchases made whilst on holiday with us are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with your purchase. On The Go cannot be held responsible for any items that you buy if they fail to meet expectation, or any shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

It’s not like home & what to expect
Please visit www.onthegotours.com/Sri-Lanka/Travel-tips-and-useful-info for local customs, currency, WiFi and other helpful information to prepare you for an enjoyable holiday.

Travel to far-flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

Maldives Country Guide

Visas & passports
Nationals of the United Kingdom, the EEC, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and USA (if resident in the UK) currently do not require a visa in advance of entry to the Maldives if stay is less than 30 days. Holders of RSA passports must obtain a visa for the Maldives prior to departure.