

Serenity of Sri Lanka

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Day 1

Day 01 || Arrival Colombo

Arrival at the Colombo International Airport, after warm welcome proceed to Colombo. Transfer to the hotel for check in. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 2

Day 02 || Colombo

After breakfast time free at leisure. Evening do a City tour in Colombo. Colombo - like many capital cities in developing countries Colombo is fast changing its face. Almost overnight, skyscrapers arise from where old buildings once stood, yet in some parts, the old world charm is retained. A 100-year-old clock tower and several British built, colonial buildings are still to be seen in the city. The Pettah bazaar – where one can shop for bargains, a Hindu and a Buddhist temple, residential areas where you find the stately homes of the affluent, the Colombo museum, the Bandaranaike memorial international conference hall – an outright gift to Sri Lanka from the people’s republic of china, the new parliament in Sri Jayawardenapura and the folk art center are some of the places of interest that one can visit to. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 3

Day 03 || Colombo- -Mihintale-Anuradhapura (220 Kms approx. 5 hrs)

After breakfast proceed to Anuradhapura. Anuradhapura - is located in the north central part of the Island, it was the first capital and undoubtedly the grandest city of ancient Sri Lanka. It is the home of two world heritage sites. Many places of historical and archeological interest could be visited. Sri-Mahabodhi (sacred Bo-tree), brought as a sapling of the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment, it is over 2,200 years old and is the oldest historically documented tree in the world. Brazen palace (2nd cent. B.C.) the 1600 stone columns you see are all that is left of a magnificent multi-storied residence for monks. RuwanweliSeya (2nd cent. B.C). This is the most famous of all the Dagobas. It originally depicted the perfect “water-bubble” shape that modern restoration has not been able to accurately reproduce. Samadhi Buddha (3rd cent. b.c.), one of the most famous statues, depicting the Buddha in a state of “Samadhi” or deep meditation. Isurumuniya rock temple (3rd cent. b.c.) Well known for its rock carving of “the lovers”. Kuttam Pokuna - twin ponds (3rd cent. b.c.) used by the monks of old as a bathing pool. Thuparama Dagoba (3rd cent. b.c.), the oldest Dagoba in the island. It enshrines a relic of the Buddha. Later proceed to Mihintale. Overnight at hotel.

Day 4

Day 04 || Anuradhapura - Aukana - Habarana (91 Kms approx. 2 hrs)

After breakfast and transfer to Aukana. Visit Aukana Buddha statue. Proceed to Habarana. Visit local village by bicycle (stop on the way at village house to have a cup of tea and jaggery). Overnight at Hotel.

Day 5

Day 05 || Habarana - Sigiriya Rock fortress – Minneriya National Park - Habarana.

After breakfast visit Sigiriya Rock Fortress - which is a world heritage site, built by king Kashyapa (473 – 491 A.D). The “lion rock” is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 meters from the scrub jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town. The base of the rock is ringed by a moat, rampart, and extensive gardens including the renowned water gardens. The world-renowned frescoes of the “heavenly maidens” of Sigiriya which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway is one of the main attractions. The frescoes are painted in earth pigments on plaster. Evening do a jeep Safari in Minneriya national park. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 6

Day 06 || Habarana - Matale - Kandy (93 Kms approx. 3 hrs)

After breakfast at the hotel proceed to Kandy. En route visit a spice garden to see the different spices that Sri Lanka is famous for. You will be introduced to different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown and processed. City tour in Kandy including Temple of the tooth relic. Kandy, founded in the 14th century, is the southern tip of Sri Lanka's 'Cultural Triangle'. The city became the capital of the kingdom in 1592, during a troubled time when many of the islanders were fleeing to the interior, away from the coastal areas the European powers were fighting over. Although taken several times, the city remained one of the bastions of Sinhalese independence until the British troops entered it on 14 February 1815. From Vimala Dharma Suriya I (1591-1604) to Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe (1798-1815), it was the last seat of royal power. It remains the religious capital of Buddhism and a sacred city for millions of believers. Enshrined in the Dalada Maligawa is the relic of the tooth of Buddha which has long been greatly venerated. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 7

Day 07 || Kandy

After breakfast time free at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

Day 8

Day 08 || Kandy – Mirissa (247kms approx, 5 ½ hrs)

After breakfast at the hotel proceed to Mirissa. Upon arrival check into hotel. Rest of the time free at leisure. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 9

Day 09 || Mirissa

After breakfast time free at leisure on the beach. Overnight at hotel.

Day 10

Day 10 || Mirissa

After breakfast time free at leisure on the beach. Overnight at hotel.

Day 11

Day 11 || Mirissa - Galle (40 kms.)

Breakfast at hotel and proceed to Galle. Visit the Dutch Fort of Galle. The Galle Fort, also known as the Dutch Fort or the "Ramparts of Galle", withstood the Boxing Day tsunami which damaged part of coastal area Galle town. It has been since restored. The Galle Fort also houses the elite Amangalla resort hotel, located near the Dutch Reformed Church. It was originally built in 1684 to house the Dutch Governor and his staff. It was then converted into a hotel and named then as the New Oriental Hotel in 1865, which catered to the European passengers traveling between Europe and Galle Port in the 19th century. Also you will be taken to witness "stilt fishing" which can be only seen in South Sri Lanka. It is visible from the road and makes a very unique way of fishing practice. The fisherman sit on a stick planted about 200 meters from the beach fish with a rod made out of seasoned dry palm leaf. The fishing is done either early morning or evening. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 12

Day 12 || Galle

After breakfast time free at leisure on the beach. Overnight at hotel.

Day 13

Day 13 || Galle

After breakfast time free at leisure on the beach. Overnight at hotel.

Day 14

Day 14 || Galle - Colombo (102 Kms approx. 3 hrs)

After breakfast proceed to Colombo. Evening do a City tour in Colombo. A 100-year-old clock tower and several British built, colonial buildings are still to be seen in the city. The Pettah bazaar – where one can shop for bargains, a Hindu and a Buddhist temple, residential areas where you find the stately homes of the affluent, the Colombo museum, the Bandaranaike memorial international conference hall – an outright gift to Sri Lanka from the people's republic of china, the new parliament in Sri Jayawardenapura and the folk art center are some of the places of interest that one can visit to. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 15

Day 15 || Colombo departure

After breakfast check out from hotel and transfer to airport to connect flight to onward destination.
