

# Sri Lanka Island Tour (13D/12N)

## AIRPORT - NEGOMBO

### DAY 01

Arrival at the Bandaranayake International Airport, meet and transfer to the first hotel in Negombo. Relax at the hotel.

Overnight at THE VILLA GREEN INN - <http://www.thevillagreeninn.com/>

## NEGOMBO

### DAY 02

After breakfast Visit,

- Colonial Dutch Fort

Close to the seafront near the lagoon mouth are the ruins of the old Dutch fort, which has a fine gateway inscribed with the date 1678. Also here is a green, called the Esplanade, where cricket matches are a big attraction. As the fort grounds are now occupied by the town's prison, the only way you'll get a peek inside is by committing a serious crime. You'd need to be very interested in old Dutch architecture to go to such lengths.

- Dutch Canal

The boat ride/safari that takes you along the old Dutch canal which runs through Waikkal, gives you snap shots of bird life, essentially comprising waders, stunning kingfishers, rare pied kingfishers, bee-eaters, Brahminy kites, etc. Water monitors, bearing an uncanny resemblance to crocodiles, are also bound to make an appearance, so keep your eye out for a glimpse! You can prolong your boat journey by following the canal onto the sea, where you can continue onwards to Negombo where you can hop into the town, do some shopping and return via boat to Waikkal.( boat safari USD 15 pp )

- 2nd biggest Fish Market in Sri Lanka

Negombo Fishing Village also known as the Lellama by the locals is located across the lagoon bridge, near the Old Dutch Gate. The large open air fish market is the second largest in the country. It gives you an unpretentious insight into the local fisher community. The market is loud, vibrant and smells like fish! You will be able to witness the fishermen in hundreds of boats bringing in their days catch. See how the wholesalers and restaurateurs trade and watch the packing and loading of fish for distribution across the country as well as for export – worldwide. The retail area is a bustling hive of activity – with customers negotiating prices with mom and pop fish vendors.

Overnight at THE VILLA GREEN INN - <http://www.thevillagreeninn.com/>

## NEGOMBO – SIGIRIYA

### DAY 03

After breakfast leave for Sigiriya. On the way visit,

- Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage

It is established in 1975 as place for shelter and cares the wounded elephants and abandoned baby elephants found in jungle. This is covered an area over 24 acre land. It was under the department of Department of Wildlife but now under the National Zoological Garden. The main daily activities taken place in the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage are feeding milk to baby elephants and the bathing sessions (entrance fee USD 18 pp)

- Dambulla Cave Temple(UNESCO HERITAGE Site)

Dambulla Cave Temple located at an elevation of 1118 feet from the sea level raises a massive rock from the surrounding plains of Dambulla of 600 feet high and over 2000 feet in length. It is home to the world's most acclaimed Cave complex of magnificent Buddha Images and Rock Paintings of vivid colors and shapes constructed and painted from around 2nd Century BC (Anuradhapura era ) and continued up to the Kandyan era of the 18th Century. The five main temple caves cover over 1000 square meters, these were formed out of a deep cavern, part natural and part excavated. One cave consists of a reclining Buddha over 15 meters in length and another holds 50 statues in a variety of positions and is decorated in glowing colors. The ceiling of this ancient monastery is covered with the colorful frescoes. Long strips of narrative paintings depict episodes of a story such as the life of Buddha or the coming of Buddhism to Sri Lanka.( entrance fee USD 9 pp )

Overnight at KASSAPA LIONS ROCK - <https://www.kassapalionsrock.com/>

## SIGIRIYA

### DAY 04

After breakfast visit,

- Sigiriya Lions Rock(UNESCO HERITAGE Site)

Sigiriya is an archeological site in North Central Sri Lanka. It contains the ruins of an ancient palace complex, built during the region of King Kasyapa (477AD - 495 AD). It is one of the 7 world heritage sites in Sri Lanka and is one of its most popular tourist destinations. The Sigiriya site consists of a 180m tall granite rock, whose sides are so steep that at some points the top overhangs the base. At the top of the site there is a palace complex. The ruins of various chambers, stairways and pools can be seen at the top. There is a stone stairway leading from the base to the top of the mountain. About half way to the top, there is a pair giant pair of lions paws which is in fact the ruin of a huge head of a lion whose open mouth served as the entrance to the royal palace. Surrounding the palace complex are the ruins of a garden complex consisting of two moats, various pools ( entrance fees USD 30 pp )

- Hiriwaduna (local village)

Hiriwadunais just 02 Km (05 minutes - drive from Sigiriya, Trek through the archetypal Sri Lankan Typical village. The trek begins with an awesome walk along a bund of a Wewa or manmade reservoir. The reservoir itself, the surrounding scrub jungle, marshland and village are a hive of early morning or an evening activity. The amazing birdlife, butterflies and possible sightings of crocodile only add to the charm of seeing the villagers as they go about their early morning tasks of fishing, or washing clothes at the periphery of the lake. Initially one wades through a shallow stream and thereafter crosses a wider tributary in a catamaran of an obliging farmer to inspect Chena cultivation (slash and burn agriculture). Enjoy the farmer's humble hospitality. With the guidance of the farmer, pick some fresh vegetables from the plot and join in the preparation of a simple meal prepared in the traditional method using earthenware pots and firewood as fuel. This is great opportunity to sample authentic local cuisine. The journey continues through dense shrub forests, home to many forest birds and other wildlife including monkeys, bear, python and even elephant. In Hiriwaduna you can do bicycle trip, oxcart trip or boat trip. (entrance fee USD 15 pp )

Overnight at KASSAPA LIONS ROCK - <https://www.kassapalionsrock.com/>

## SIGIRIYA

### DAY 05

After breakfast visit,

- Ancient City of Polonnaruwa

The second most ancient of Sri Lanka's kingdoms, Polonnaruwa was first declared the capital city by King Vijayabahu I, who defeated Chola invaders in 1070 to reunite the country once more under a local leader. In Polonnaruwa you can see traces of a great kingdom that once existed and historically valuable in Sri Lanka. Today the ancient city of Polonnaruwa remains one of the best planned archaeological relic cities in the country, standing testimony to the discipline and greatness of the Kingdom's first rulers. Its beauty was also used as a backdrop to filmed scenes for the Duran Duran music video Save a Prayer in 1982. The ancient city of Polonnaruwa has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO. ( entrance fee USD 25 pp )

- Minneriya National Park

Minneriya National Park was designated as a national park on 12 August 1997, having been originally declared as a wildlife sanctuary in 1938. The reason for declaring the area as protected is to protect the catchment of Minneriya tank and the wildlife of the surrounding area. The park is a dry season feeding ground for the elephant population dwelling in forests of Matale, Polonnaruwa, and Trincomalee districts. Along with Kaudulla and Girithale, Minneriya forms one of the 70 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) of Sri Lanka. Large numbers of Sri Lankan elephants are attracted to grass fields on the edges of the reservoir during the dry season. The Minneriya tank contributes to sustain a large herd. Elephants gathered here is numbering around 150-200. Some reports account number of elephants to as high as 700. They migrate here from Wasgamuwa National Park and benefit from food and shelter of the park's forest. Tourists visit Minneriya largely because of elephants, especially in dry season. ( entrance+4 wheel jeep USD 45 pp )

Overnight at KASSAPA LIONS ROCK - <https://www.kassapalionsrock.com/>

## SIGIRIYA – KANDY

### DAY 06

After breakfast leave for Kandy. On the way visit,

- Matale Spice Garden

During past history Sri Lanka known as Taprobane, was world renowned for its Quality Spices. In the 16th century Ceylon, as it was then known, was discovered by Portuguese who soon began trading in cinnamon and other spices. The Dutch and British followed bringing with them their own history and influences, forming a strong Western presence which created a history of food expressed with spices which can be tasted in the dishes today. Spices are an essential element of the cuisine of Sri Lanka and the Ayurvedic tradition and a visit to a garden specializes in the cultivation of these substances and an excellent way for purposes of new uses of certain ingredients that perhaps though they knew well. Find cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, vanilla, cardamom and black pepper, to name a few. Europeans can buy the products in their natural state or in the form of oils and potions that are used by Ayurvedic medicine, during the Dutch, very famous spices of Sri Lanka

On arrival visit,

- Kandy Temple of the Tooth (UNESCO HERITAGE Site)

Temple of the Tooth Relic in Kandy. Sri Dalada Maligawa in Kandy is the most prominent and sacred Buddhist shrine in Sri Lanka, even in the world. The relic of the tooth is kept in a two-story inner shrine fronted by two large elephant tusks. The relic rests on a solid gold lotus flower, encased in jeweled caskets that sit on a throne. The temple is joined to the Pattiripuwā (Octagon) tower, built in 1803, that was originally a prison but now houses a collection of palm-leaf manuscripts. The king's palace is also in the temple compound. (entrance fee USD 9 pp )

Overnight at MELHEIM RESORT KANDY - <http://www.melheimkandy.com/>

## KANDY – ELLA

### DAY 07

After breakfast leave for Ella.

- From Kandy – Ella by train.

Ella is a small town in the Badulla District of Uva Province, Sri Lanka governed by an Urban Council. It is approximately 200 kilometres (120 mi) east of Colombo and is situated at an elevation of 1,041 metres (3,415 ft) above sea level. The area has a rich bio-diversity, dense with numerous varieties of flora and fauna. Ella is surrounded by hills covered with cloud forests and tea plantations. The town has a cooler climate than surrounding lowlands, due to its elevation. The Ella Gap allows views across the southern plains of Sri Lanka ( 3<sup>rd</sup> class ticket )

Overnight at ELLA ROCK HOTEL – <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Hotel---Lodging/Ella-Red-Rock-237820310131046/>

## ELLA

### DAY 08

After breakfast visit,

- Little Adams Peak

Whether considering the word 'Little', it is named after the sacred Adams Peak (Sri Pada –where the foot print of Lord Buddha is preserved) regarding the similarity between the two mountains. Therefore the mountain was called as Little Adams Peak. It is 1141 m in height. Little Adam's Peak attracts many travelers who come to Sri Lanka. Gradually with an easy hike up to the mountain of Little Adams Peak you can consummation a worth panoramic view. You have to walk through lush green tea plantations, waterfalls and paddy fields while enjoying the sceneries. It will be priceless if you could visit the place in the morning when the clouds roll in. Further places like Little Adams Peak deliberates 'How far Sri Lanka is worth and rich with beautiful natural destinations of Sri Lankan tourism'. It will feel like a neck exercise for the visitors as you have to rotate your body to seek the views outstanding for 360 degrees.

- Nine Arch Bridge

The Nine Arches Bridge also called The Bridge in the sky is one of the most iconic bridges in Sri Lanka and is one of the best examples of British railway constructions when Ceylon was yet a colony of the British Empire. It is located in Demodara, between Ella and Demodara railway stations. As of the past decade the surrounding area has seen a steady increase of tourism due to the bridge's architectural ingenuity and the profuse greenery in the nearby hillsides. Loosely founded, albeit popular rumours suggest that when construction work commenced on the bridge, the Great War began between the empires of Europe and the steel consignment assigned for this site was reallocated to Britain's War related projects at the battlefield. As a result when the work came to a standstill the locals came forward and built the bridge with solid stone bricks and cement without steel.

- Rawana Water Fall

The Ravana Falls popularly known as Ravana Ella is a popular sightseeing attraction in Sri Lanka. It currently ranks as one of the widest falls in the country. This waterfall measures approximately 25 m (82 ft) in height and cascades from an oval-shaped concave rock outcrop. During the local wet season, the waterfall turns into what is said to resemble an areca flower with withering petals. But this is not the case in the dry season, where the flow of water reduces dramatically

Overnight at ELLA ROCK HOTEL – <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Hotel---Lodging/Ella-Red-Rock-237820310131046/>

## ELLA – BENTOTA

### DAY 09

After breakfast leave Bentota via Rathnapura.

- Relax at the hotel. Enjoy your stay at the beach.

Facing the Indian Ocean, a tropical lagoon and a major river, Bentota Beach offers water sports possibilities nowhere else to be found in Sri Lanka. Apart from swimming, body-surfing or diving in the sea, you can jet-ski, windsurf, parasail or enjoy a river safari on the river and lagoon. Being one of the most established beach resorts in Sri Lanka, Bentota is known for its professional touristic infrastructure. Overnight stay at the hotel in Bentota

Overnight at COCO ROYAL BEACH RESORT - <http://www.cocoroyalbeach.com/>

## BENTOTA

### DAY 10

- Relax at the hotel. Enjoy your stay at the beach.

Overnight at COCO ROYAL BEACH RESORT - <http://www.cocoroyalbeach.com/>

## BENTOTA

### DAY 11

- Relax at the hotel. Enjoy your stay at the beach.

Overnight at COCO ROYAL BEACH RESORT - <http://www.cocoroyalbeach.com/>

## BENTOTA

### DAY 12

- Relax at the hotel. Enjoy your stay at the beach.

Overnight at COCO ROYAL BEACH RESORT - <http://www.cocoroyalbeach.com/>

## BENTOTA - AIRPORT

### DAY 13

After breakfast transfer back to the airport for the departure

#### Package Inclusion

- Accommodation on bed and breakfast for 12 nights from breakfast on day 02 to breakfast on day 13 at hotels specified or similar standard
- Sightseeing without entrance fees

- Private transport from airport to airport in an A/C luxury vehicle with the service of an English-speaking Chauffeur guide.

#### **Package Exclusion**

- Visa fees and international / domestic flights
- Medical Insurance.
- Anything not specified in the package inclusions.
- Peak season and special event surcharges if applicable.
- Meals other than specified.
- Entrance fees.
- Items of personal nature.
- Tipping and portorage.

Price validity from 01.Apr to 30.June

2 pax - USD 530 pp sharing a double room

4 pax - USD 430 pp sharing a double room

6 pax - USD 400 pp sharing a double room

Half board supplement – USD 70 pp.