

Trip Info

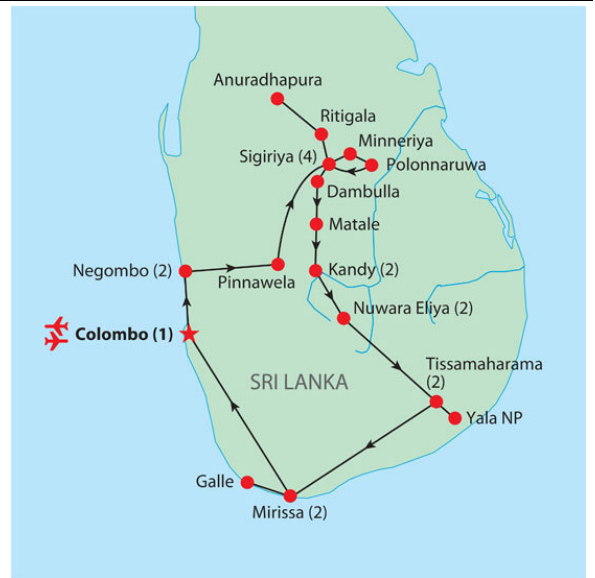
Group Size: Min: 4 | Max: 18

Transportation: Coach, Boat, Jeep, Train, Car

Tips: Pre-paid tips, \$120 AUD pp

Destinations Visited: Colombo, Negombo, Pinnawela, Anuradhapura, Sigiriya, Dambulla, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Yala National Park, Galle & Unawatuna

Sri Lanka is Asia's hidden gem. You'll discover a whole world of unspoilt natural beauty, lush green jungle, ancient sites and even an elephant orphanage. Everyone who visits Sri Lanka is touched by its magic.



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Solo Traveller departure(s) available for this tour under Dates & Prices section.

Smile...

Our Sri Lanka tour starts with a tour of Negombo followed by a visit to the world famous Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage. You'll definitely need your camera here as we watch the young elephants play, eat palm leaves, drink bottles of milk and bath in the river. It's an unforgettable experience.

Enjoy the tropical scenery

From here we explore Sri Lanka's secluded monastic ruins of Ritigala. Located in a lush forest the ruins are hidden within a beautiful forest setting of streams and pools. Next stop Sigiriya, here we'll visit the famous rock fortress, considered one of the wonders of the ancient world.

Soak up the atmosphere

We head to the coast next, stopping at Kandy on the way, if you take this tour in July it's here you'll experience the colourful Kandy festival. When we arrive at the coast you'll love the relaxed atmosphere, stunning beaches and crystal clear waters.

Itinerary

Day 1 Australia - Negombo

On arrival we will be met by our Sri Lankan guide and transferred to our hotel in nearby Negombo.



Day 2 Negombo

Enjoy the morning at leisure to unwind after your flight. In the afternoon we enjoy a city tour of Negombo, once a trading port for the Portuguese and Dutch, followed by an evening boat ride on the Gin Oya River. This evening we enjoy a barbecue dinner set up by a local family. [B,D]

Day 3 Negombo - Sigiriya

An amazing morning as we visit one of Sri Lanka's major attractions, the worldfamous Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage. After a big feed, the elephants are led to the local river for a bath and a refreshing swim. We then head to Sigiriya, arriving in the late afternoon. [B,D]

Day 4 Sigiriya

A day of history and culture as we visit the spectacular site of Anuradhapura. We then travel back to Sigiriya via the Ritigala Medicinal Forest and see ancient ruins which lie hidden within a beautiful forest setting of streams and pools. [B,D]

Day 5 Sigiriya

Today we get back to nature as we visit the ancient capital of Polonnaruwa, one of Sri Lanka's most beautiful cities. We then go to Minneriya National Park in search of wild elephants, sambar deer and leopards. [B,D]

Day 6 Sigiriya

Learn about Sri Lankan life as we take a unique opportunity to meet the locals in a small rural village. We visit the famous rock fortress and palace of Sigiriya set amongst beautiful gardens. This amazing ancient monument is considered one of the wonders of the world. [B,D]

Day 7 Sigiriya - Kandy

An early morning visit to the surreal cave temple of Dambulla, home to statues and paintings related to Lord Buddha and his life. We then enjoy the vivid colours and enticing aromas of the Matale spice plantations before continuing to Kandy to see the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, one of the most important sites of the Buddhist religion. [B]



Day 8 Kandy

We start in the Royal Botanical Gardens which is famous for its collection of orchids. We then continue with a tour of the city including a visit to its impressive historical museum. The day ends with a dazzling performance by local dancers and a mesmerising Sri Lankan fire walk demonstration. [B]

Day 9 Kandy - Nuwara Eliya

Today we travel via road and local train up to the lush tea-growing region of Nuwara Eliya, home of the famous Ceylon tea. [B,D]

Day 10 Nuwara Eliya

Today we tour Nuwara Eliya and visit a tea plantation to learn about the tea-making process and sample the local brew. [B]

Day 11 Nuwara Eliya - Tissamaharama

A beautiful scenic drive through the mountains and a visit to the Ella Waterfalls before arriving into Tissamaharama, gateway to the Yala National Park. [B,D]

Day 12 Tissamaharama - Yala National Park - Tissamaharama

Today is all about animals and nature as we go on safari in the Yala National Park. Here we can spot leopards, elephants, wild buffalo and black bears. The park is also home to a large number of important cultural ruins that are evidence of the earlier civilizations who populated this area. [B,D]

Day 13 Tissamaharama - Mirissa

We take a drive along the beautiful southern coastline to the secluded beach resort of Mirissa. This is a relaxed coastal town whose beach has been named one of the world's best! [B,D]



Day 14 Mirissa

This morning is at leisure to enjoy the sun, sea and sand. In the afternoon we take a guided tour of the great walled city of Galle including the huge Dutch Fort which holds a commanding position on the seafront. [B,D]

Day 15 Mirissa - Colombo

On the way to Colombo we visit a turtle hatchery. We then take a tour which includes a visit to the popular Cricket Club Café which is run by two Australians. [B]

Day 16 Depart Colombo

Enjoy a day at leisure before we transfer to the airport for our late flight home. [B]

Day 17 Arrive in Australia



Inclusions

Travel

- Return economy class flights from Australia to Sri Lanka
- Airport transfers on the first and last day of tour
- All touring conducted in air-conditioned vehicles
- Pre-paid tips - \$120 (based on minimum numbers)

Accommodation & Meals

- 15 nights accommodation in good quality hotels with private facilities (3-4 star)
- Enjoy a special Sri Lankan BBQ dinner prepared by a local family
- 15 breakfasts and 10 dinners, including group welcome and farewell dinners

Sightseeing

- English-speaking local guides
- English-speaking national guide (based on minimum numbers)

Tour Negombo and Pinnewala Elephant Orphanage

- Observe the true life of Negombo at the local fish markets
- Take a boat safari along the Gin Oya River to watch the sunset
- At the Pinnewala Elephant Orphanage you can photograph young elephants eating palm leaves and drinking bottles of milk, before heading to the river to watch their daily swim

The ancient ruins of Anuradhapura, Ritigala and Polonnaruwa

- Take a fascinating journey through one of the oldest and largest of Sri Lanka's ancient cities, also home to the oldest documented tree in the world, the Sri Maha Bodhi
- Tour the secluded monastic ruins of Ritigala located in a lush forest rarely visited by tourists, and visit the picturesque ruins of Polonnaruwa which was built alongside a large artificial lake

Sigiriya, safaris, spices and serene temples

- Enjoy a 4 night stay at our spectacularly located hotel in Sigiriya, with views of the imposing Sigiriya rock fortress
- Tour the ancient rock fortress of Sigiriya
- We take an afternoon jeep safari in Minneriya National Park
- Get an insight into the life of a local family and visit children at the village school in a unique village tour
- Visit the Matale spice plantations which grow a variety of spices such as cinnamon, pepper and nutmeg
- Take a trip to the serene Cave Temples of Dambulla with hundreds of hand-carved statues and hand-painted frescoes

Explore lively Kandy, the cultural heart of Sri Lanka

- Tour the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, the Royal Botanical Gardens, the historical museum with artefacts, weapons and jewellery from the Kandian era and watch a local dance performance

Unwind with a cup of Ceylon tea at Nuwara Eliya

- Join the locals and marvel at the stunning highland scenery as we travel by train up to the colonial city of Nuwara Eliya
- Learn about the tea-making process and sample some high-grade Ceylon tea at a plantation

Discover the natural beauty of Yala, Galle and Mirissa

- Enjoy a jeep safari in Yala National Park with its diverse range of habitats including scrub jungle, brackish lagoons, lakes and rivers. It is home to approximately 400 elephants and 120 leopards, wild buffalo, black bears, deer and numerous species of birds.

- Drive along the stunning south coast to the great walled city of Galle where we see the World Heritage-listed Dutch Fort
- Stay 2 nights at the relaxing coastal resort town of Mirissa whose beach has been named one of the world's best
- Learn about the endangered leatherhead and loggerhead turtles at a local turtle hatchery

Cosmopolitan Colombo

- Tour Sri Lanka's bustling capital Colombo and stay overnight in the historic Galle Face Hotel

Dates & Prices

No dates available for this tour at present. Please [send us an enquiry here](#) to keep in touch with any upcoming dates.

Price Valid From: Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane & Perth

Other Cities: Clients ex Adelaide require day use in Singapore. This will be at your own expense, please contact our office for details.

Tips: Total cost includes - Tipping Made Easy - \$120 AUDpp pre-paid

Taxes: Total cost includes air taxes of \$633

Single From \$660 (subject to seasonality)

Supplement:

Day/Date Due to airline flight schedules day of arrival & day of departure may vary depending on your
Variations: city of departure.

***Taxes & Fuel** Taxes & fuel surcharges change regularly so above levies shown as guide only.

Costs:

Private Price on application

Departures:

Extensions: 5 Day Sri Lanka Beach Stay from \$500pp

Solo Traveller: Dedicated solo tour date, please click [here](#) for details

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share.

Prices and itineraries correct at current time but are subject to change.

Please call for more details. View our [full terms & conditions here](#).

Accommodation

Hotels listed are subject to change and the below list should be used as a guide only. Every effort is made to avoid any hotel changes however if a change becomes necessary then a hotel of a similar standard will be used.

Sigiriya Hotel, Sigiriya

Enveloped amongst lavish foliage and steeped in timeless legend and royalty is the unforgettable Hotel Sigiriya. Located in the Cultural Triangle and in a world-heritage site as declared by UNESCO.



Grand Hotel, Nuwara Eliya

The Grand Hotel has a heritage exceeding 100 years, and is the former residence of Sir Edward Barnes, Governor of Sri Lanka from 1830 to 1850. It is an excellent example of a mansion from the Elizabethan era and retains the stateliness and grandeur of a Colonial Mansion and rightfully claims its place as one of the best hill country hotels in Asia.



Galle Face Hotel, Galle

Overlooking the Indian Ocean, Galle Face Hotel is located in the commercial city and in front of the Galle Face Green promenade, and perfectly located close to the tourist attractions and the business centre. The hotel has spacious guestrooms that are furnished in an elegant Galle Face Hotel style along with all modern international facilities. All rooms and suites offer beautiful views of the Indian Ocean, the world renowned Galle Face Green promenade or the colourful bustling city. You can also dine at the hotel's onsite restaurant, which serves a wide range of delicious dishes to suit every taste.



Hotel Suisse, Kandy

This colonial style hotel rises amidst three acres of landscaped splendour, ideally located right beside the historic 'Kandy Lake' and cradled between two mountain ranges. The hotel is only a few minutes walk from the city centre and other places of historic interest.



Goldi Sands Hotel, Negombo

At Goldi Sands Hotel, the combination of Sun, beach and the ever attentive staff is guaranteed to rejuvenate your body, mind and soul. Take a stroll down the sandy beach and enjoy the invigorating sea breeze or simply relax in rooms which benchmark elegance and luxury.



Add-ons

Long holidays are good holidays! To help you make the most of your holiday we offer a range of tour add-ons and stopover options. These can be done before or after your tour.



India - Shimla Hill Station

5 Days from \$625



Sri Lanka Beach Stay - 4 star

5 Days from \$519



Sri Lanka Beach Stay - 5 star

5 Days from \$495

Weather

The driest months in Sri Lanka tend to be from December to March for the west coast, the south coast and the hill country, and from April to September for the ancient cities region and the east coast. The annual Kandy festival happens in either July or August, depending on the cycle of the moon, and is also a popular time for travel.

Colombo	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ave Max C	30	31	31	31	31	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
Ave Min C	22	22	23	24	26	25	25	25	25	24	23	22
Rainy Days	7	6	8	14	19	18	12	11	13	19	16	10

Currency

Australian dollars and other major currencies can be exchanged for Sri Lankan rupees at banks in all major cities, and ATMs can be found throughout the country. Credit cards can be used at most hotels, but smaller guesthouses may accept only cash.

The currency of Sri Lanka is the Rupee. US dollars are widely accepted throughout the country. Money can be changed in Australia before you go, but you are likely to get a better rate changing Australian Dollars or traveller's cheques in Singapore or Sri Lanka. There is an exchange at the airport in both Singapore and Colombo. Money can also be changed at the hotels at a lower rate or at banks and money changers in Colombo, Kandy and Nuwara Eliya. Breakdown currency into smaller notes, as vendors never seem to have change. ATMs are available in major centres. Change Rupees back into hard currency before you leave the country for the best rates.

Optional Tours

SIGIRIYA

Elephant Ride in Habarana - 1 hr USD20pp

A fantastic opportunity to ride through the jungle on an Elephant's back, which is a whole different experience from the traditional transportation methods - jeep or other vehicle. You will through forest by the lakeside.

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

The above tour is based on minimum 2 participants and is subject to availability. The length of tour advised is an approximate only. Tour can be booked on tour directly with your Tour Director. Price is a guide only and are subject to change without notice. Payment must be made to your Tour Director by cash only.

Disclaimer

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share. Prices and itineraries are correct at time of downloading from the website but are subject to change. Taxes and fuel surcharges change regularly so levies shown as a guide only. For full terms and conditions please visit our website or call 1300 664 170 for details.