



## Glimpse of Sri Lanka

8 Nights

25 December 2017 – 03 January 2018



### Summary

A 9-days cultural tour of Sri Lanka which includes natural discovery, ethnic encounters and enchanting beaches. Explore the Pearl of the Orient and discover its richness and beauty. Climb Sigiriya Rock Fortress, admire the temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic and make a stopover in Dambulla Cave Temple without forgetting the beach activities in Beruwela's.

### Wild Discovery Advantages

- A proven expertise in organizing successful holidays
- Experienced and knowledgeable staff
- High quality service & strong commitment to customer satisfaction
- Permanent assistance from Wild Discovery Head Office at any moment
- Attention to details that make the difference

### Overview

**Dates:** 25 December 2017 – 03 January 2018

**Interest:** couple, family, group

**Level of Comfort:** 4/5

**Minimum # of passengers:** none

**Maximum # of passengers:** none

### Information about the destination

**Currency:** Sri Lankan Rupee

**Language:** Sinhalese, Tamil and English

**Dialing Code:** 94

**Recommended vaccines:** Malaria risk exists throughout the year, except in the districts of Colombo, Galle, Gampaha, Kalutara, Matara and NuwaraEliya. Always better to have a Malaria medication while visiting during the monsoons

**Banks & currency exchange:** many banks in the airport  
will exchange currencies, all rates are similar

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**Day 01: Airport – Waskaduwa**

Upon arrival at Colombo's airport, meet greet and transfer to Negombo  
Rest of the day at leisure

**Day 02: Waskaduwa – Madhu River Boat Ride – Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery**

In the morning, proceed for Madu River Boat Ride

Later on, visit the Marine Turtle Conservation in Kosgoda. Globally, all seven species of marine turtles are endangered. Of these seven, five come ashore to nest in Sri Lanka. The process of marine turtles nesting, hatchlings being born, and swimming back to sea is fascinating to observe.

**Day 03: Waskaduwa – Galle City Tour – Yala**

One of the most iconic scenes you're bound to see in Sri Lanka is stilt fishing. An old tradition around Sri Lanka, stilt fishing had disappeared after the devastating tsunami that hit the country and other parts of the Indian Ocean, but soon the people returned to their customs, and now you can spot them sitting on their uncomfortable stilts, hoping to catch something.

Then, proceed to Galle Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Originally built by the Portuguese and then further developed by the Dutch and the British, covers nearly four sq kms, and is protected by 12 bastions and connecting ramparts. During the early 18th century the Old Dutch Gate was the entrance point to the Fort. Subsequently the British built the Main Gate which is still used today. Buildings of interest include the Dutch Reformed Church, All Saints Church, Amangalla Hotel (formerly the New Oriental Hotel), and the lighthouse and bell tower.

**Day 04: Yala National Park - Nuwara Eliya**

Yala, situated in the south east corner of the island, is home to the greatest variety of Sri Lanka's wildlife. Its varying habitats, consisting of scrub plains, jungles, rocky outcrops, fresh water lakes, rivers and beaches, provides home to many species of animals including sloth bear, herds of elephants, buffalo, monkeys, sambar, deer, crocodiles and the endangered leopard subspecies, Panthera Pardus Kotiya, which is only found in Sri Lanka.

Visit the Yala National Park with a total protected area of 126,768 hectares, Yala consists of scrub plains, lagoons and rocky sections and offers the broadest cross-section of the country's flora and fauna. In terms of game-viewing this is probably the best place to see all of the 'big three': elephant, leopard and water buffalo. It is estimated that Yala is home to about 35 Leopard making it one of the world's densest leopard populations. Countless other animals including sloth bear, deer, wild boar, crocodiles, monkeys and numerous species of birds can also be seen.

**Day 05: Nuwara Eliya – Tea Plantation – Ramboda Falls – Temple of Tooth Relic – Kandy**

Today you will enjoy a "Tea experience", which involves a visit a plantation to observe firsthand the process, starting from the plucking field where it all begins with the picking of "two leaves and a bud" to the factory where the processing begins.

Then, proceed to Nuwara Eliya. The 'Little England' of Sri Lanka is set against beautiful backdrops of Mountains, Valleys, Waterfalls and Tea Plantations. It is supposed to be one of the coolest places in the Island, but it is really just like an English spring day, although the temperature does drop at night. All around Nuwara Eliya you will see evidence of the British influence, houses like country cottages or Queen Ann style mansions. The Victoria Park, in the middle of the town, is a lovely place for a stroll or a picnic and is also good for Birding as you get some rare birds in this Park. Later on, visit Kandy, including Upper Lake Drive, Market Square, Arts & Crafts Centre, Gem Museum & Temple of Tooth Relic. Kandy the hill capital, venue of the annual Perahera.

Kandy is an example of the Buddhism's influence in Sri Lanka today. Temple's shrines and monasteries keeping alive Buddhist traditions are everywhere.

Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic - ever since 4th Century A.D, when the Buddha's Tooth was brought to Sri Lanka hidden from sacrilegious hands in an Orissan princess' hair, the Relic has grown in repute and holiness in Sri Lanka and throughout the Buddhist world. It is considered Sri Lanka's most prized possession.

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**Day 06: Kandy – Peradeniya botanical Garden – Spice Garden – Dambulla**

Today you will visit the Royal Botanical Gardens in Peradeniya. This Majestic botanical garden is 147 acres in extent and started in 1374 as a pleasure garden of the Kings of Gampola and Kandy. There are more than 5,000 species of trees, plants and creepers. Some which are rare and endemic, as well as flora from the tropical world are found in the gardens. The Spice Garden and Orchid House are popular with tourists. There are 5 Palm Avenues beautifying the gardens, the earliest and tallest, Royal Palm Avenue, was planted in 1905 and the Double Coconuts from the Seashells Island, with the largest seed of all plants in the world, is one such avenue.

Later on, proceed to visit the Spice Garden in Matale to see the different spices, which Sri Lanka is famous for. You will be introduced to different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown and processed.

**Day 07: Sigiriya Rock Fortress – Minneriya National Park - Dambulla Cave Temple**

Sigiriya is a “Unesco World Heritage Site” and the 5th Century “Fortress in the Sky” which is perhaps the most fantastic single wonder of the Island. It is also known as Lion Rock because of the huge lion that used to stand at the entrance to the Palace on the summit of the 600-foot high rock. On its summit are the foundations of the Royal Palace, Water Tanks to supply water and all other buildings and at the edges the guardhouses. On one of the stairways the only known ancient work of Sinhala secular painting survived in the form of Frescoes of 21 life sized damsels still shining in their original colors. The Water Gardens, Fountain Garden, Summerhouses, Boulder Gardens and the Caves within the enclosed area should not be missed.

Then, visit Dambulla Cave Temples. It is a vast isolated rock mass 500 feet high and a mile around the base.

Here is found the famous Rock Temple dating to the First Century B.C.

In the first Cave is a recumbent image of the Buddha 47ft long cut out of the Rock.

In the Second Cave, the finest and the largest of all, there are 150 life-size statues of the Buddha in various postures with few statues of Gods and Kings. The ceiling is also covered with frescoes, which depict great events in the life of the Buddha and landmarks in the history of the Sinhalese people.

**Day 8: Sigiriya – Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage – Colombo Shopping & city Tour**

Today you will visit Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage. The orphanage started in 1975 to house abandoned and wounded elephants. The number of elephants has increased to more than 65 now; including baby elephants brought from various parts, as well more than 25 babies born as a result of the captive breeding program.

Then proceed to Colombo. A drive through the city taking you to the busy commercial areas as well as the tree lined residential, Cinnamon Gardens, Visit Fort, the former British administrative centre and military garrison, Sea Street - the Goldsmiths quarters in the heart of Pettah, the Bazaar area, where is also a Hindu Temple with elaborate stone carvings, and the Dutch Church of Wolfendhal dating back to 1749. Also visit the BMICH, see the replica of Avukana Buddha & the Independence Square.

Start shopping in Colombo, Visit ODEL, House of Fashion, Arcade Independence square, Race Course, and Beverly Street, visit bargain market in Colombo Pettah.

**Day 9: Colombo – Airport**

Though it will be difficult to say goodbye, all good things come to an end. Your representative from Jetwing Travels will meet you on time at the hotel lobby to return you by way of a scenic drive to the international airport for your departing flight and a safe journey home.

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#### Selected hotels (or similar)

| Nights | Regions      | 5* hotels           |
|--------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2      | Waskaduwa    | Citrus Waskaduwa    |
| 1      | Kataragama   | Tamarind Lake       |
| 1      | Nuwara Eliya | Araliya Green Hills |
| 1      | Kandy        | Grand Kandyan       |
| 2      | Dambulla     | Jetwing Lake        |
| 1      | Colombo      | Cinnamon Lakeside   |

#### Prices Include

Round trip ticket to Colombo ( economy class )  
 Round trip transfer: airport – hotel – airport  
 8-night accommodation at hotels  
 Meal: daily breakfast  
 Transportation in an A/C vehicle  
 English speaking driver/ guide  
 Early check in  
 New year Gala Dinner  
 Half day Madhu River boat ride  
 Half day Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery  
 Half day Galle fort visit  
 Full day visit of Nala National Park  
 Half day Tea Plantation visit  
 Half day visit of Ramboda falls and Temple of tooth relic  
 Half day tour of Kandy  
 Half day Peradeniya Botanical Garden  
 Half day visit of a spice garden  
 Half day Sigiriya Rock Fortress visit  
 Half day Dambulla Cave temples visit  
 Half day visit of Pinnawala elephant orphanage  
 Half day visit of Colombo  
 Assistance of our representative in Srilanka

#### Prices Exclude

Airport taxes  
 Fuel surcharge  
 DIP surcharge \$5/ticket  
 Optional Tours  
 Visa fees  
 Travel insurance  
 All other expenses

#### Starting price per person in US\$

| Category  | Triple | Double | Single | Child |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 5* Hotels | 1790   | 1895   | 2405   | 1275  |

- Prices may change without prior notice and subject to availability at time of booking

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#### Flight Schedule

| From    | To      | Date             | Flight No | Departure | Arrival   |
|---------|---------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Beirut  | Doha    | 25 December 2017 | QR 417    | 12:35     | 17:45     |
| Doha    | Colombo | 26 December 2017 | QR 662    | 19:25     | 02:55 + 1 |
| Colombo | Doha    | 03 January 2018  | QR 657    | 09:45     | 13:20     |
| Doha    | Beirut  | 03 January 2018  | QR 420    | 14:45     | 18:15     |

#### Booking terms & conditions

##### Payment conditions:

- 30% down payment upon confirmation
- 100% payment is required for all bookings done 30 days before departure

##### Cancellation Conditions & Modification fee:

- Up to 30 days prior to departure
- Between 29 to 15 days prior to departure
- 14 days prior to departure

##### Cancellation

\$300 per person  
50% / package  
Full charge

##### Modification

\$50 per way  
\$55 per way  
Not allowed

Payment facilities available with CFC

CODE: LK-NY18 –GLIMPSE OF SRILANKA

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