

## Classic Tour of Sri Lanka

<b>Duration:</b>	11 days / 10 nights
<b>Tour Type:</b>	Tour with Private Transfers
<b>Group Details:</b>	Group of 10-12 Pax or FIT
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Star Class Hotels and Boutique Hotels
<b>Meal Plan:</b>	All Bookings done on HB basis (please inform us of any preferences/allergies in advance)
<b>Ideal For:</b>	Experiential Travellers
<b>Rate:</b>	On Request

<b>Day 1</b> <b>Colombo</b>	<p>Welcome to Sri Lanka! Arrive at Bandaranaike International Airport in Katunayake and be met by a Jungle Fowl representative.</p> <p>Be driven to your hotel in Colombo for your overnight stay.</p>
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<b>Day 2</b> <b>Cultural Triangle</b>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive to the Cultural Triangle (Drive time 3 ½ Hours).</p> <p>Check into your hotel and relax</p> <p>Evening climb to Sigiriya Rock. The Rock Fortress is one of Sri Lanka's World Heritage sites. There is a stone stairway leading from the base to the top of the mountain. The top of this rock contains ruins of an ancient Palace complex, built during the reign of King Kasyapa (477AD – 495 AD).</p> <p>Return to hotel for dinner and overnight stay.</p>
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<b>Day 3</b> <b>Cultural Triangle</b>	<p>Have breakfast at the hotel and drive to Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura to visit the ruins.</p> <p>Kings ruled the central plains of Sri Lanka from Polonnaruwa 800 years ago, when it was a thriving commercial and religious centre. The glories of that age can be found in the archaeological treasures that still give a pretty good idea of how the city looked in its heyday. You'll find the archaeological park a delight to explore, with hundreds of ancient structures – tombs and temples, statues and stupas – in a compact core. The Quadrangle alone is worth the trip.</p> <p>The ruins of Anuradhapura are one of South Asia's most evocative sights. The sprawling complex contains a rich collection of archaeological and architectural wonders: enormous dagobas (brick stupas), ancient pools and crumbling temples, built during Anuradhapura's thousand years of rule over Sri Lanka. Today, several of the sites remain in use as holy places and temples; frequent ceremonies give Anuradhapura a vibrancy that's a sharp contrast to the museum-like ambience at Polonnaruwa.</p>
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	<p>Head back to the hotel for dinner and overnight stay.</p>
<p><b>Day 4</b> <b>Kandy</b></p>	<p>Have Breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive to Kandy (approx. 3 hours).</p> <p>On the way we can arrange a visit to the Dambulla Cave temples, one of Sri Lanka's World Heritage Sites. A sacred pilgrimage site for 22 centuries, this cave monastery, with its five sanctuaries, is the largest best preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. The Buddhist mural paintings are of particular importance as are the 157 statues.</p> <p>Arrive in Kandy and check in to your hotel.</p> <p>Kandy was the last capital of the ancient king's era of Sri Lanka. It is set on a plateau surrounded by mountains, which are home to tea plantations and bio diverse rainforest. The city's heart is scenic Kandy Lake (Bogambara Lake), which is popular for strolling. It was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1988.</p> <p>There are optional excursions in Kandy that can be arranged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kandy City Tour</li> <li>- The Temple of the Tooth. The Temple of the Tooth houses the most important Buddhist relic – a tooth of the Buddha. The golden canopy over the main shrine and the golden fence which encircles the main shrine are other notable features. The tooth relic is encased in seven golden caskets which engraved with precious gemstones.</li> <li>- An optional visit to a Cultural Show can be arranged this evening. The show starts around 5 pm and lasts about an hour.</li> </ul> <p>Dinner and overnight stay in Kandy.</p>
<p><b>Day 5</b> <b>Nuwara Eliya</b></p>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>You will be driven to the train station in Peradeniya for your scenic train ride to Nuwara Eliya today. The train will leave around 12.30 pm and you should arrive in Nanu Oya/Nuwara Eliya by around 4 pm in the afternoon. Your driver will pick you up from the train station and drive you to your hotel.</p> <p>Check in and relax at the hotel.</p> <p>Dinner and overnight stay.</p>
<p><b>Day 6</b> <b>Yala</b></p>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel and check out. There are a few options for you to do today.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-You can visit a functioning tea factory.</li> <li>Or</li> <li>-Your driver can take you sightseeing in Nuwara Eliya today.</li> <li>Or</li> </ul>

	<p>-You can choose to visit Horton Plains National Park today.</p> <p>Nuwara Eliya means “City on the Plain” or “City of Light”, and at an altitude of 1,868 m, is overlooked by Pidurutalagala, the highest mountain in Sri Lanka. Still referred to as ‘Little England’, Nuwara Eliya served as a sanctuary for British civil servants and planters in colonial times.</p> <p>If sightseeing in Nuwara Eliya, you can spend the day visiting Hakgala Gardens and Victoria Park for bird watching. Lake Gregory offers a splendid and peaceful environment for sightseeing and boating. Boats can be hired from the area. Enjoy an afternoon tea at one of the many historic old colonial hotels in town. Playing golf is also an option, along with heading to the racecourses. These are both traditions left over from the colonial era.</p> <p>The mountains in the central province of Sri Lanka and near to Nuwara Eliya are adorned with many picturesque waterfalls including Dunhinda Falls, Diyaluma Falls, Baker's Falls, St. Claire's Falls, Ravana Ella, Lovers Leap, and Bridal Falls.</p> <p>Alternately, if you feel like a trek, you can visit Horton Plain National Park to see the magnificent view from World’s End. You will leave early morning around 7am to the park from the hotel (about a 1 hr drive). It is about a three hour hike and consists of ecosystems such as Montane evergreen forests, grasslands, marshy lands and aquatic ecosystem. At an altitude of 2,100 meters above sea level, Horton Plains spreads across over 3,169 hectares of the highest tableland of the island. In view of the large number of endemic flora and fauna species, Horton Plains was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site on 30th July 2010.</p> <p>Drive onwards to Yala for dinner and overnight stay (Drive approx. 3 ½ hours).</p>
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<p><b>Day 7</b></p> <p><b>Yala</b></p>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel. You can choose to do either a morning or afternoon Safari at Yala National Park today. A morning Safari will mean you will be picked up by 5:00am, so you can see the Jungle come alive, and you will return to the hotel for breakfast by 9:30am.</p> <p>Or you can spend the morning at leisure and head out for an afternoon Safari. You will be picked up at approx. 2pm after your lunch, and will return around 6:30pm, after the park closes.</p> <p>Yala combines a strict Nature Reserve with a National Park. Divided into 5 blocks, the park has a protected area of nearly 130,000 hectares of land consisting of light forests, scrubs, grasslands, tanks and lagoons. Two blocks are currently open to the public. Yala was designated a wildlife sanctuary in 1900 and a national park in 1938. Yala is home to 44 varieties of mammal and 215 bird species. Among its more famous residents are the world’s biggest concentration of leopards, majestic Elephants, Sloth Bears, Sambars, Jackals, Spotted Deer, Peacocks and Crocodiles.</p> <p>Dinner and overnight stay in Yala.</p>
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**Day 8**  
**South**

Breakfast at the hotel and check out.

Today you will drive to the southern beaches (Drive time approx. 3.5hrs).

Visit the Galle Fort in the early evening for Sunset and Dinner.

Basking on the southern coast of Sri Lanka in the bay of Galle, the Fort was first built by the Portuguese in 1588 before being extensively fortified by the Dutch in the mid-1600s. Recognized by UNESCO for its cultural heritage value, the Fort was declared a World Heritage Site in 1988 as a unique exposition of "an urban ensemble which illustrates the interaction of European architecture and South Asian traditions from the 16th to the 19th centuries".

Whether on a guided walk or strolling along the narrow cobble stone streets, today you will see clear and well maintained evidence of the Dutch influence in the Galle Fort. Although these days there are some notable differences to 400 years ago. Today a Museum occupies the stables, jewelry shops abound; cafes emerge from behind restored columns; interior design shops mingle with book stores and fashion outlets. The streets are dotted with Dutch Colonial Villas and there's a welcome absence of vehicular traffic. Of the many colonial buildings, perhaps the most absorbing is the Dutch Reformed Church, containing ornately carved memorials to the city's Dutch settlers. The Fort also hosts some of the island's most exclusive boutique-style accommodation in former villas restored to their colonial glory.

Dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 9**  
**South**

Early Morning Whale watching with Breakfast, depending on the weather.

Whale watching tours generally start around 6am. Breakfast & water will be provided. The tour lasts around 4 hours.

Return to your hotel and relax.

Dinner and overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 10**  
**Colombo**

Breakfast at the hotel and you can be taken for snorkelling by 8.30 am.

Return to your hotel by 11am and check out.

Drive to Colombo.

En route visit the Turtle Care Centre in Kosgoda. This is very popular as all five species of turtles that visit Sri Lanka nest in Kosgoda. The centre functions mainly as a hatchery and makes huge efforts to increase the rate of hatching and survival of baby turtles in their very initial stages. The Care centre also works on sick or injured adults, treating them and releasing them back into the ocean.

Check in to your hotel, Dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 11**  
**Colombo-**  
**Airport**

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. This is your last day in Sri Lanka.

Depending on your departure flight time, you can do some Colombo sightseeing and shopping.

You will be driven to the airport for your return flight.

We wish you a safe return journey, and look forward to welcoming you again in Sri Lanka!

Optional Excursions

- Dambulla Cave Temple
- Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura Ruins
- Kandy City sightseeing and shopping
- Kandy Temple of the Tooth
- Cultural Show in Kandy
- Scenic Train Ride to Nuwara Eliya
- Sightseeing in Nuwara Eliya
- Visit to a Tea factory
- Horton Plains trek
- Yala Safari tour
- Galle Fort walking tour
- Whale Watching
- Snorkeling
- Visit Kosgoda Sea Turtle Conservation
- Shopping and sight-seeing in Colombo

Package Includes the following:

- Accommodation for 10 nights.
- Half Board Basis at all hotels (Breakfast and Dinner).
- English speaking driver and air conditioned vehicle for entire stay, also including highway toll charges, all driver accommodation and driver meals for the entire stay.
- Mileage covering all geographical areas mentioned on the itinerary. The driver will be at your disposal to do the sightseeing and excursions & pick up and drop off at the airport.

Terms & Conditions & Payment:

- 50% payment to be made once the Itinerary is confirmed. Balance to be paid 60 days before travel.
- Hotels are subject to availability at the time of booking. If the suggested hotels are not available, similar category hotels will be provided.
- Any cancellation within 30 days of travel will result in full cancellation fee being applicable.
- Flights to Sri Lanka & Travel Insurance are not included.