



Ayubowan!

*(Typical Sri Lankan way of wishing the recipient a long life, as a greeting or a goodbye)*

**Hayleys Tours**  
Spirit of Sri Lanka





## Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is a lush, tropical island paradise, known to Arab traders as Serendib – hence "serendipity", meaning discovery by happy accident. Set in the Indian Ocean in South Asia, the tropical island nation of Sri Lanka has a history dating back to the birth of time. It is a place where the original soul of Buddhism still flourishes and where nature's beauty remains abundant and un-spoilt.

There are 8 world Heritage sites in Sri Lanka. The 3 ancient and magnificent cities of Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and Sigiriya were inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1982 followed by Galle, Kandy, and the Sinharaja Forest Reserve in 1988. The Golden Temple of Dambulla in 1991 and finally the Central highlands were added in 2010. These places of historical and natural significance are not to be missed for any visitor to Sri Lanka.

Having a history marked by four centuries of colonial rule, the country still manages to safeguard remnants from the past in their original grandeur. Some of the more renowned historic sites are the Galle Fort built originally by the Portuguese, Colombo Harbour and the ancient city of Polonnaruwa all confirm Sri Lanka's ancient and colourful past. The rock temple of the Buddha, Gal Vihara is one of the finest examples of the religious heritage. Temples play an important part in everyday life and a visit to one should be a must for all visitors.

Sri Lanka's wildlife is as varied as the island itself, ranging from elephants and leopards to Whales – it is the only place in the world to find all three in such close proximity. Sri Lanka is ranked amongst the world's best biodiversity hot spots. As a country with a high rate of endemism, it has many groups of animals including birds, mammal, reptiles and amphibians which can't be found anywhere in the world. With over 12 per cent of the country designated for wildlife protection it is easy to get a taste of Sri Lankan wildlife.

Being an ancient kingdom, Sri Lanka has preserved its most precious treasures, its culture and tradition. An integral part of this is its cuisine. Sri Lankan cuisine has many influences from varied destinations such as North and South India, Persia, Malaysia, Holland and Portugal. Rice, which is usually consumed daily, can be found at any special occasion, while spicy curries are a favourite dish for lunch and dinner. Fish curry is a particular specialty.

## Mr. Gerhard & Party ( 15 Nights Tours )

<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>Airport / Negombo</b>
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Arrival at Colombo International Airport: Here, you will be met by a professional chauffeur guide from Hayleys Tours. After the formalities at the airport you will be escorted to your air conditioned vehicle.

Next, transfer to Negombo.

**Overnight stay at Goldi Sands Hotel or similar.**

<b>Day 02</b>	<b>Negombo / Dambulla / Hiriwaduna</b>
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After breakfast check out of the hotel and proceed to Dambulla

( Negombo to Dambulla: Approx 03 - 04 hrs )

On completion proceed to Hiriwaduna trek for a village experience and and enjoy a village lunch

**Hiriwadunna** is a super jungle and village experience which is popular with most clients. Where we begin a scintillating walk over village paths, a tank (ancient reservoir) bund and forest. Cross a little jungle rivulet by catamaran to reach a farmers simple "wattle and daub" house where the breakfast is consumed. The villager will provide some tea and may be sweetmeats. Proceed half an hour by foot and bullock cart to a point where a vehicle meets you for the transfer to the hotel, a truly Sri Lankan experience.



In the afternoon visit DAMBULLA ROCK CAVE TEMPLE

The beautiful Royal Rock Temple complex sits about 160m above the road in the southern part of Dambulla. Five separate caves contain about 150 absolutely stunning Buddha statues and paintings, some of Sri Lanka's most important and evocative religious art. Buddha images were first created here over 2000 years ago, and over the centuries subsequent kings added to and embellished the cave art. From the caves there are superb views over the surrounding countryside; Sigiriya is clearly visible some 20km distant



**Dinner & Overnight stay at Amaya Lake or similar.**



**DAY 3****Dambulla / Sigiriya / Minneriya / Dambulla**

Breakfast at the hotel

In the morning visit Sigiriya Rock Fortress (World Heritage Site)

(Dambulla to Sigiriya: Approx 30 min)

Referred by locals as the Eighth Wonder of World, this ancient palace and fortress complex has significant archeological importance and attracts thousands of tourists every year. The palace is located in the heart of the island between the towns of Dambulla and Habarana on a massive rocky plateau 370 meters above the sea level. Sigiriya rock plateau, formed from magma of an extinct volcano, is 200 meters higher than the surrounding jungles. Its view astonishes the visitors with the unique harmony between the nature and human imagination.



In the afternoon visit Minneriya National Park

(Sigiriya to Minneriya: Approx 40 min)

Minneriya is yet another haven for the elephants that migrate from surrounding jungles to enjoy the lush grass fields on the banks of the Minneriya reservoir, during the dry season. Reports of elephant sightings range from a mere 100 to an astounding 700. The central feature of the park is the ancient Minneriya Tank (built in 3rd century AD by King Mahasena). This tank is generally known as a place to observe the elephants that come to bathe and graze on the grasses as well as the huge flocks of birds that come to fish in the shallow waters.



Dinner & Overnight stay at Amaya Lake or similar.

**DAY 4****Dambulla / Anuradhapura / Dambulla**

After breakfast proceed to Anuradhapura for a day excursion

(Dambulla to Anuradhapura: Approx 01 1/2 - 02 hrs )

Founded around 5th Century BC, Anuradhapura is the oldest city in the Cultural Triangle and Sri Lanka's first capital lasting for about 1500 years until the 10th century AD. In its heyday, tens of thousands of people lived in a city of royal palaces, monasteries, temples topped by glittering jewels, houses of two or three storeys, shops, pleasure gardens, bathing pools and wooded parks. One of the most visited places in the city is the Sri Maha Bodhi or the sacred bo tree, a slender fig or *Ficus religiosa* supported by iron crutches is the oldest historically documented tree on earth, this grew from a sapling taken over 2,200 years ago from the very same tree under which Lord Buddha gained enlightenment.



**Dinner & Overnight stay at Amaya Lake or similar.**

**DAY 5**

**Dambulla / Matale / Kandy**

After breakfast check out of the hotel and proceed to Kandy

En route visit Matale Spice Garden

( Dambulla to Matale: Approx 01 1/2 - 02 hrs )

Sri Lanka has always been renowned for its spices. Over 15 different spices call Sri Lanka home and many of them are traded in the international spice market. Cinnamon especially is endemic to Sri Lanka, and highest quality 'true cinnamon' can be obtained here. All offer free tours of their gardens with an English-speaking guide who can explain the merits and health properties of herbs, spices and plants including cocoa, vanilla, cinnamon, cloves, coriander, coffee, nutmeg, pepper, cardamom, aloe vera, iriweriya and the henna plant.



On completion proceed to Kandy and visit Royal Botanical Gardens



( Matale to Kandy: Approx 01 - 01 1/2 hrs)

Located in Peradeniya near Kandy, the gardens are noted for its rich and varied collections of tropical woody plants. Occupying 59 hectares (146 acres), it has about 4,000 species of plants. The most important specimens of the garden include palms, some of which are planted in impressive avenues. Significant, too, are the collections of orchids, gymnosperms, and flowering trees.



**Dinner & Overnight stay at The Kandyan Manor ( Home Stay ) or similar.**

<b>DAY 6</b>	<b>Kandy City Tour</b>
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Breakfast at the hotel

Thereafter take part in a Cookery demonstration programme

( Home Stay Package - Activity Program, Village Market tour by Tuk Tuk, Cookery Demonstration with lunch )

Late afternoon proceed to do a city tour of Kandy

Kandy is a lovely city, the Hill Capital and last stronghold of the Sinhala Kings retains an aura of grandeur, which time has not affected. Encircled by hills, with a tranquil lake in its center, it is the site of the renowned "Temple of the Tooth". Kandy and its satellite villages is the center of the island's handicraft industry and its traditional dances are the most spectacular in the country. Since ancient times, the relic has played an important role in local politics because it is believed that whoever holds the relic holds the governance of the country. Kandy was the last capital of the Sinhalese kings and is a UNESCO world heritage site partly due to the temple.



**Visit Temple of the Tooth Relic (A World Heritage Site)**

In the crown jewel of the city, Kandy is the famed Sri Dalada Maligawa, also known as the Temple of the Tooth. The golden-roofed Temple of the Sacred Tooth houses Sri Lanka's most important Buddhist relic – a tooth of the

Buddha. The entire complex is over three centuries old at least, and has seen many a king's rise and fall. It has seen bloody wars and peaceful reigns and is one of the most historical places still standing in the island. The entire temple complex, from peaked tiled roofs to white walls with large airy windows, is built using classical Kandyan architecture.



In the evening visit Cultural Dance

These classical dance forms are associated with the performance of various rituals and ceremonies which are centuries old and are based on the folk religion and folk beliefs going back to times before the advent and acceptance of Buddhism by the Sinhalese people in the third century B.C. These rituals and ceremonies reflect the values, beliefs and customs of an agricultural civilization of Sri Lanka.



**Dinner & Overnight stay at The Kandyan Manor ( Home Stay ) or similar.**

<b>Day 07</b>	<b>Kandy / Nuwara Eliya</b>
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After breakfast check out of the hotel and proceed to Nuwara Eliya

En route visit Tea plantation and Ramboda Falls

(Kandy to Nuwara Eliya: Approx 03 hrs)

Pure Ceylon Tea is regarded as the finest tea in the world and visiting a tea estate will be an unforgettable experience for any visitor to Sri Lanka. There is an oasis of calm and quiet in the middle of a tea estate. Tea estates in Sri Lanka are wonderful places to chill out and breathe in the fresh mountain air while enjoying great views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Tea plucking is an initial step in the tea making process. It is a delicate act that is artfully done by hand in order to eventually produce the finest quality tea. If desired, the visitor can join the tea pluckers, collecting unforgettable memories to take back. The heart behind the tea process is the tea factory. It is a vast building where all the miracles happen to help create the perfect cup of tea.

**Dinner & Overnight stay at Araliya Green Hills Hotel or similar.**



**DAY 8****Nuwara Eliya / Horton Plains / Nuwara Eliya**

In the morning visit Horton Plains with packed breakfast ( Trek )

Horton Plains is the most coolest and windiest place in Sri Lanka. Horton plains is the destination for nature lovers and nature researchers alike with its rich biodiversity and consist 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. It also holds an ecological importance of being in Sri Lanka's most important catchment area of almost all major rivers and containing most of the endemic plants and animals representative of the country's wet and Montane zones.



In the afternoon visit Nuwara Eliya City Tour

Nuwara Eliya is a mountain station at 1,868 m (6,128 ft) of altitude, in a splendid landscape. The city is particularly well-kept and neat, and the design of the locality exudes an air of "colonial British style". Nuwara Eliya was built entirely during the 19th century and its architecture mimics that of an English country town, with red-brick walls, country house like hill club and mock-Tudor half-timbering. Blessed with salubrious climate, breathtaking views of valleys, meadows, mountains and greenery; it's hard to imagine that Nuwara Eliya is only 180 Km from the hot and humid Colombo.



**Dinner & Overnight stay at Araliya Green Hills Hotel or similar.**

**DAY 9****Nuwara Eliya / Ella**

After breakfast check out of the hotel and proceed to Ella

(Nuwara Eliya to Ella by train : Approx 03 1/2 - 04 hrs )



The train routes in Sri Lanka are some of the most beautiful in the world. Travelers dream of taking the train to the hill country, through old pine forests and foggy tea estates. The Nanu Oya to Badulla train journey is one of the most scenic, epic train journeys in Sri Lanka. The views on both sides of the rail are breathtaking. The train winds through the mountains overlooking farms and villages and of course vast tea plantations. The train also passes through a multiple of tunnels. You don't want to miss this beautiful opportunity.



### Explore Ella

Ella is blessed with some of the most beautiful views, you could find in Sri Lanka. Only 8 km from Bandarawela, this small town is used as a base for plenty of trekking expeditions to the surrounding countryside. A taste of the breathtaking scenery of Ella could be had, if you just walk into the Garden of the Grand Ella Motel (Formerly Ella Rest House), where you seem to be standing at the edge of the world, and everything around you seems to disappear at your feet.



Check into the hotel and relax

**Dinner & Overnight stay at 98 Acres or similar.**

### DAY 10

### Ella/ Mirissa

After breakfast check out of the hotel and proceed to Mirissa

( Ella to Mirissa : Approx 03 1/2 - 04 1/2 hrs )

Check into the hotel and relax

**Dinner & Overnight stay at Mandara Resort, Mirissa or similar.**

**DAY 11****Mirissa Whale Watching**

Early this morning proceed to Mirissa along with breakfast packets, for whale watching.

( Leave the hotel around at 05.45 am. as the whale watching boat leaves 06.00 am. in the morning )

Catch a glimpse of some of the largest creatures on earth in an exhilarating whale watching boat ride, with unforgettable memories from the Indian Ocean. Whale and dolphin watching is one of the most exciting excursions you can do during your visit to Sri Lanka. During whale watching season, you will be able to witness groups of whales while on an organized boat ride to the middle of the ocean. Get ready to spot sperm and blue whales, false orcas, spinner and bottlenose dolphins during this excursion. Whilst this tour may take approx. 3 - 5 hours, there's a 98% chance of spotting of Blue Whales swim freely. Whale watching season runs from November - April in the South Coast and May - September in the East Coast



Return to the hotel and relax

**Dinner & Overnight stay at Mandara Resort, Mirissa or similar.**

**DAY 12****Mirissa - Leisure**

Breakfast at the hotel

Spend the day at leisure

**Dinner & Overnight stay at Mandara Resort, Mirissa or similar.**

**DAY 13****Mirissa / Weligama / Galle**

After breakfast check out of the hotel and proceed to Galle

In the morning visit Weligama and Mirissa Coconut Tree Hill

This is no ordinary fishing, there might be several methods of catching a fish but this one is mind-boggling. Fishermen in Sri Lanka use stilts to catch a fish. Stilt Fishing is an old tradition practiced by around 500 fishing families in Galle, in southwestern-most Sri Lanka, especially around the towns of Koggala, Kathaluwa, and Weligama.



They usually fish during sunset, noon and sunrise, with each one taking their elevated position and balancing about 2 meters above the water. As you can see in the picture front slider, there is a vertical pole engrafted into the sea bed, attached to it is a cross bar, called petta, on which the fishermen do the balancing act. So with one hand they hold the stilt and the other hand they have a fishing rod or a line to catch spotted herrings and small mackerels, which are then kept in a plastic bag tied around their waist or the pole



On completion proceed to Galle and check into the hotel

**Overnight stay at Amari Galle or similar.**

<b>DAY 14</b>	<b>Galle City Tour</b>
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Breakfast at the hotel

In the afternoon visit Dutch Fort Galle

Dutch Fort at Galle, close to the island's southernmost point, 173km from Colombo, has the distinction of being the best-preserved sea fort in South Asia. A living heritage site, this 90 hectare (222 acre) attraction is a superb blend of architecture, with fortifications that resemble those in the coastal areas of Portugal. When it comes to fortified towns, nothing can compete with the Dutch Fort in Galle. This World Heritage Site on the south coast was the main port of call for ships sailing between the East and Europe.



**Overnight stay at Amari Galle or similar.**

<b>DAY 15</b>	<b>Galle - Leisure</b>
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Breakfast at the hotel

Spend the day at leisure

**Overnight stay at Amari Galle or similar.**

**DAY 16**

**Galle / Airport**

Today after the Breakfast you will be transferred to the Colombo Airport via Express way to catch your flight back home accompanied with all the happy memories of the tropical isle; Sri Lanka once known as **TAPROBANE**.

( Galle to Airport : Approx 02 - 02 1/2 hrs )

**\*END OF SERVICES\***





**General Package for the period (01 Mar 21 - 31 Mar 21)**

Location	Hotels	Nights	Meal Plan	Room Type
Negombo	Goldi Sands Hotel	1	BB	Standard
Dambulla	Amaya Lake	3	HB	Superior
Kandy	The Kandyan Manor	2	HB	Standard
Nuwara Eliya	Araliya Green Hills Hotel	2	HB	Deluxe
Ella	98 Acres	1	HB	Standard
Mirissa	Mandara Resort	3	HB	Superior
Galle	Amari Galle	3	BB	Deluxe Ocean View

Period	Valid from 01 Mar 21 - 31 Mar 21
	Based on minimum of 04 Adults
<b>Per Person in a Double Room</b>	<b>USD 1900/-</b>

**Package includes:**

- Accommodation in hotels specified in the itinerary or in hotels of a similar standard.
- Meal plan on Half Boat basis except Negombo and Galle ( Negombo & Galle - Bed & Breakfast basis )
- Air conditioned transport with services of an English speaking Chauffeur Guide throughout the Round tour.
- Entrance fees to
  - Dambulla Rock Cave Temple
  - Hiriwadun Village Trek
  - Minneriya National Park
  - Anuradhapura City Tour
  - Sigiriya (World Heritage Site)
  - Cookery Demonstration
  - Cultural Dance
  - Royal Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya
  - Temple of the Tooth Relic (A World Heritage Site)
  - Horton Plains
  - One way Train journey from Nanuoya to Ella
  - Tea plantation and factory
  - Whale/ Dolphin watching, Mirissa
- Transport fees to
  - One Jeep at Minneriya National Jeep
  - One Jeep at Horton Plains Jeep
- All applicable current local taxes, but subject to change at the time of booking.

### **Package excludes:**

- Any meals not mentioned in the inclusions list.
- Expenses of personal nature.
- Cost of optional excursions.
- Cost of beverages throughout the tour.
- Tips and Portages.
- Visa fee <http://www.eta.gov.lk>

### **Notes**

- Please note that standard check-in time is 1400hrs and standard check-out time is 1200hrs.
- This is only an offer without any obligation on the hotel rooms, until such time the tour is confirmed and availability is checked.
- When making payment, kindly ensure that the entire amount given in our offer (finally in our invoice) is made without any deductions to us. All bank charges to be borne by remitter. As such total amount in our final invoice to be credited to our account without any deduction please. In the event of any deductions, such differences are to be collected in cash on arrival of the guests.
- If required, you may reach out to your Chauffeur / Guide for comfort stops and photo opportunities while en-route.
- If payment is to be made via credit card, then a 2.75% to be added on top of the quote we made in our offer and represented in our final invoice for payment.
- Please note that Hayleys Tours shall not be held liable for any claims arising from missed international flights, due to delay of seaplane/speedboat transfer caused by adverse weather conditions, force majeure and acts of God. In such situations the clients are expected to find their own accommodation in Male at their own expense.
- Seaplanes operate during daylight hours only. Guests arriving in Male on an international flight, landing after 15:30hrs, will need to find their own overnight accommodation in Male at their own expense.

### **Cancellation Policy**

- Cancellation within 29 days of arrival full cancellation will be charged.
- Cancellation before 30 days of the arrival date free of charge.

**APPLICABLE RATE FOR AN ADULT WILL BE DEPENDED ON THE NUMBER OF ADULTS ON TOUR AND THE APPLICABLE RATE BRACKET. PLEASE NOTE THE CHILDREN WILL NOT BE COUNTED WHEN ESTABLISHING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ON TOUR FOR THE PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING THE APPLICABLE RATE BRACKET.**

### **Good to know**

- On Arrival at the Airport, you will first reach Immigration, then to collect your 'checked-in' baggage. Once you clear customs, our representative will page you and meet you just outside the arrival hall. In an unlikely event if you are unable to locate him, you may kindly proceed to our flagship hotel counter THE KINGSBURY and report your arrival in Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka being a tropical county, ideal clothing would be cotton and comfortable clothing. Shorts and T shirts are ideal other than when visiting the temples. Ladies are required to cover the shoulders as well.
- Temperature throughout the year in lowland areas ranges between 25 to 35 C and in hill country between 20 to 25 C during day time. During the nights it can drop little below 15 C in certain months of the year.



- Liquor will NOT be served on Poya days and on any other Religious holidays. These are considered dry days. There is a Poya day for each calendar month. ( **11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 - Poya day** )
- All major credit cards will be widely accepted in all reputable outlets (restaurants / shops etc.)
- Tipping is customary, but not obligatory. But if you are keen to know what is acceptable in local terms, it ranges between US\$.5/- per day up to US\$.25/- per day depending on the level of satisfaction of your driver when it comes to individual / family travel. For group travel other than the guide, the coach crew is to be tipped too. The amount for a day can vary depending on group size, but the recommended amount is US\$.15/- to 40/- per day.

**On Arrival at the Airport, you will first reach Immigration, then to collect your 'checked-in' baggage. Once you clear customs, our representative will page you and meet you just outside the arrival hall. In an unlikely event if you are unable to locate him, you may kindly proceed to our flagship hotel counter THE KINGSBURY and report your arrival in Sri Lanka**