

Explore Sri Lanka (WINTER) Family Tour “12 nights / 13 days”





Sri Lanka

AM Arrive at the Airport.
Meet & Assistance on arrival by a representative of Connaissance de Ceylan.
Transfer to Negombo
(Approx. 30mins drive from Airport to Negombo)

PM To recover after a long flight you can check in at the hotel and have a long rest for the remainder of the day.

Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel

Day 2

NEGOMBO – DAMBULLA - SIGIRIYA

Meals (HB)

AM After early breakfast morning, visit Negombo fishing village.

Afterwards transfer to Dambulla (Approx. 3 Hour drive)

The Dambulla temple, also known as the Golden Temple, was founded in the 1st century AD by King Valagamba who is said to have fled to the caves during an invasion from South India. This UNESCO World Heritage site is filled with various sculptures and paintings of Lord Buddha and his devotees, various Hindu divinities and gods as well as Sri Lankan Kings. Spread out over 5 caves, each cave depicts statues and paintings from a different period of Sri Lanka's rich history thus showcasing the evolution of Sri Lankan artistic style.

PM Proceed to Sigiriya and check into the hotel. (Approx. 30 min drive)
In the evening engage in a relaxing bike tour in the village, while witnessing the nature and exploring the local village life style.
Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel

Day 3

SIGIRIYA – POLONNARUWA – MINNERIYA - SIGIRIYA

Meals (HB)

AM After Breakfast proceed to Polonnaruwa, visit Polonnaruwa mediaeval capital. (approx. 1h15 drive)
Polonnaruwa was established as the capital city after the fall of Anuradhapura and is known as the mediaeval capital of Sri Lanka. Polonnaruwa contains the ruins of some of the masterpieces of Buddhist sculpture and remarkable feats of engineering that were well ahead of their time. Most outstanding amongst these is the Gal Vihara temple with its famous rock carvings of the Buddha and Parakrama Samudra, a vast manmade reservoir covering an area of over 23 kilometers.

PM Evening proceed to visit Minneriya national park by safari jeep. It will be either Minneriya / Eco Park or Kaudulla National Park – The park will be decided by the elephant movements on the day
(Approx. 45 mins drive from Polonnaruwa to Minneriya National Park)

‘Indian jeeps or double cabs not 4x4 vehicles’

Minneriya National park is one of the best places in the country to see wild elephants, which are often present in huge numbers, and wading birds. Dominated by the ancient Minneriya Tank, the park has plenty of scrub, forest and wetlands in its 88.9 sq km to also provide shelter for toque macaques, sambar deer, buffalo, crocodiles and leopards. The dry season, from May to September, is reckoned to be the best time to Elephants, which can number 200 or more, come to feed and bathe during what is known as ‘the Gathering’. However, it's also possible to see large numbers of elephants here at other times of year too.

After continuing the visits, return back to the hotel.
Dinner and overnight stay.

Day 4	SIGIRIYA	Meals (FB)
AM	After breakfast you will engage with a Pottery demonstration at the hotel on how to manufacture the earthen pottery used in traditional Sri Lankan cooking. After that Enjoy a wood fire cooking demonstration on a traditional wood fire stove using clay pots and spice remedies followed by a vegetarian lunch.	
PM	In the evening engage in a relaxing nature trail to spot the endemic and avifauna in the region. Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.	

Day 5	SIGIRIYA- KANDY	Meals (HB)
AM	After Breakfast check out from the hotel and proceed to Kandy (Approx. 02h40 drive from Hotel to Kandy)	
PM	In the afternoon arrive to Kandy and Check into the hotel. In the evening proceed to visit Traditional dancing school in Kandy along with the Sacred Temple of Tooth Relic Visit a Traditional Dancing School Learn about the traditional art form and experience the drums of Sri Lanka. Complete with an optional workshop at the end Visit the Temple of Tooth Relic The Kandy Temple, which houses the famous tooth relic of the Buddha is the star attraction of the city. Puja ceremonies (Thevava) are held every morning noon and evening to honor the relic and visitors may view the casket where the sacred tooth relic is held within the chamber during these times. Observing these ritualistic	

proceedings to the accompaniment of traditional drums is a must for any traveler to the sacred city of Kandy.

Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel

Day 6	KANDY – MANDARAM NUWARA	Meals (HB)
AM	After breakfast proceed to Mandaram Nuwara. (Approx. 02h30 drive from Hotel to Mandaram Nuwara)	
PM	Afternoon arrive and check into the Lost in the hills of Kabaragalla in Mandaramnuwara, an old tea estate established in the late 1800s sits amidst misty hills away from the hustle and bustle of city life. Abandoned for 28 years, this little gem hide –out was tenderly restored to its original glory as, “ Tea & Experience Factory”. What is unique about this factory is that, the tea pledged the best price at the first ever tea auction held in Sri Lanka on 30 July 1883. Stay relax at the beautiful tea factory hotel, dinner and over night stay.	

Day 7	MANDARAMNUWARA	Meals (HB)
AM	After breakfast proceed to exploring the “Leaf to Cup” Unique Experience. “Clients for the first time in Sri Lanka will be able to assist in all stages of the tea production process. If clients participate in the tea production process, they will go home with tea that they have produced from scratch individual packed for them.”	
PM	Later in the afternoon proceed to do a waterfall trek. To reach the waterfall you need to hike through the tea estate for about 1 hour to reach a mini hydro project. From there you need to walk up the stream for a short distance to reach the waterfall. Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel	

Day 8	MANDARAM NUWARA – ELLA	Meals (HB)
AM	After breakfast and transfer to Nanuoya railway station, via Nuwara Eliya. (Approx. 2h drive). Proceed to Nuwara Eliya Town. Enjoy a city walk in Nuwara Eliya and a pony ride. Nuwara Eliya is the highest town in Sri Lanka (1,868) and was designed to resemble a typical English village. Used as a retreat by British colonialist to remind them of home, the town is home to an 18-hole golf course, race course and various buildings that are	

remincent of British country houses. With their brick facades, the post office and hill club are two stircking examples of such architecture that transports you to the setting of an Agatha Christie mystery; with all the charm and cosiness of old England. At Nuwara Eliya you have the opportunity to enjoy a pony ride (approx 10 minutes duration).

PM

Afterwards take the train from Nanoya station to Ella

(train tickets are subject to availability)

The train ride to Naanu oya will allow you the best view of the hill country from a perfect vantage. As the train winds its way round the sloping hills you will witness the many wonders of this unique locale; the valleys, meadows, mountains and greenery with the occasional flash of a distant waterfall.

Arrive at Ella station, and meet our transport at Ella Station. Check into the hotel Ella. Dinner and over night stay.

Day 9	ELLA – WELIGAMA	Meals (HB)
AM	<p>After breakfast check out from the hotel and and visit 9-arch bridge Situated close to the town of Ella, “little Adams Peak” is a mountain of 1141 meters above sea level. The hike takes you through luscious tea plantations and vegetation until you arrive at the summit which offers panoramic views of the south of Sri Lanka, perfect for a photo-op. Visit the 9-arch bridge in Ella. Optionally you can experience an adventurous session of zip lining in Ella. (Supplement – 20 US\$ per person)</p> <p>Afterwards transfer to Weligama (<i>Approx. 03h15 drive from Hotel to Weligama</i>)</p>	
PM	<p>Evening arrive and check into the hotel at Weligama Weligama is a unique Bay and Beach with a wide and long sandy beach located in Mathara district of Southern province close to Mathara town. The tiny island once owned by Frenchman Count de Maunay has built a beautiful house on it. The Bay is famous for its remarkable fishermen doing stilt fishing and handmade lase, Devil Dance Shows and its seafood. Weligama is also a wonderful Scuba Diving and Surfing Location. Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel</p>	
Day 10	WELIGAMA	Meals (HB)

AM
boat).

Transfer to Mirissa Harbor early morning to enjoy a whale watching tour (in a shared
(boats will leave the Mirissa Jetty at 06.30 am)

Whale watching in Mirissa

Few miles off the coast, the waters are often visited with Whales and Dolphins that can be seen through organised whale watching tours that depart from Mirissa's port. Leave early during the season to have the best chance of seeing the giants of the sea and beat the heat.

Optional – Whale watching in a luxury cruise (shared cruise) US\$ 70 per person
(experience the world's largest Mammal, the Blue Whale, along with many other species of whales and dolphins in a luxury cruise. Possible for snorkeling during the tour in deep sea.

Price is included with snacks on board / snorkeling gear / paddle boarding)

PM Rest of the day stay relax at the hotel.
Dinner and over night Stay at the hotel

Day 11 **WELIGAMA** Meals (HB)

AM/PM Full day leisure at the beach
Optional Surfing in Weligama

Weligama's surf has gained a reputation for being perfect for beginner surfers.

(Chauffeur and vehicle will not be available during the stay)

Day 12 **WELIGAMA - AIRPORT**

AM **Your amazing holiday in Sri Lanka has reached to the final day.**
After Breakfast proceed to the Airport for the departure.

(Approx. 2Hrs30 drive from Weligama to the Airport)

We wish you a safe flight back home.... Ayubowan!

----- **END OF SERVICES** -----

Proposed Accommodation

Hotels mentioned below are subject to availability at the time of reservation

City	Hotel	Hotel Category	Room Category	Nights	Website
Negombo	Villa Hundira	Boutique	Standard	01	https://www.villahundi.ra.com/
Sigiriya	Aliya Resort & Spa	4*	Deluxe	03	https://www.themerorts.com/aliyaresort/
Kandy	Mount Batten Bungalow	Bungalow	Bungalow rooms	01	https://www.themerorts.com/mountbattenbungalow/
Mandaram nuwara	Tea & experience factory	Boutique	Sinna Dorei	02	https://www.themerorts.com/teaandexperiencefactory
Ella	Secret Ella	Boutique	Deluxe	01	http://www.thesearethotels.com/ella/
Weligama	22 Weligama Bay	Semi Botique	Super Deluxe	03	http://www.22weligambay.com/

Price Includes –

- Welcome assistance on Arrival and on departure.
- Accommodation on Half board basis.
- Private air-conditioned vehicle and an English-speaking Chauffer Guide for the duration of the trip (including pickup and drop-off at the airport).
- All the sites mentioned in the program above are included.
- Local government taxes & service charges.

Price does not include -

- Lunch during the tour
- Photo and video camera permit at the sites.
- Juices, Soft drinks and Alcoholic beverages
- Supplements of excursions
- Tips and gratitude's
- Flights.
- Airport taxes.
- All expenses of personal nature.

Price does not include services other than those specified

Notes:

- For Online visas please follow the link - <http://www.eta.gov.lk/slvisa/>
- All drive times are approximate and are subject to change.
- All reservations subject to availability at time of booking.

- The standard check in time in Sri Lanka is 1400 hours and the Checkout time is 11am.
- On Poya and other religious days alcohol will not be served at hotels and restaurants.
- Please note that plucking of Tea leaves is not done on public holidays & Sundays. As such the Tea production process does not take place, however a tour of the factory will be arranged where the process is explained.
- When visiting religious sites such as Kandy Temple, Dambulla Temple your attire should cover up to ankle length and sleeveless tops/shirts/t-shirts will not be allowed. It is also advised to bring a pair of socks as you will be asked to remove slippers/shoes when entering sacred temples.
- Cancellation Policy:
 - If cancelled 61 days prior to your arrival 75% refund made.
 - If cancelled 60 - 31 days prior to your arrival 75% cancellation charged.
 - If cancelled less than 30 days prior to your arrival 100% cancellation charged.