

7 DAYS SRI LANKA CULTURE TOUR WITH BEACH HOLIDAY

Negombo – Pinnawala – Sigiriya – Polonnaruwa – Kandy - Hikkaduwa

Day 01

Our tour guide will await your arrival at the Colombo International Airport (Flight at your own arrangement). Depending on your time of arrival, enjoy a tour of Negombo to discover the Negombo fishing village and other places of interests. Dinner and overnight stay at Paradise Beach Hotel or similar.

Day 02

After breakfast travel to Dambulla. en route visit Pinnawella Elephant Orphanage. (early morning departure, times will be communicated at the time of booking). PINNAWALA ELEPHANT ORPHANGE was initially established in 1972 and was relocated to its present site in 1975. Situated on route to Kandy, it is built on an extent of 25-acres, on an old coconut plantation on the banks of the Maha Oya river. The orphanage was initially created to house the many orphaned elephants that are found in the wild, as young elephants left alone in the jungle without the proper care and survival skills invariably die. This orphanage is now home to more than 84 elephants with the number increasing regularly. We will continue our travel to Dambulla and visit SIGIRIYA ROCK which is a fascinating hideout fortress built in the 5th century AD by Prince Kassype while he was hiding from his half brother Mugalaan. A visit to this site will explain why it was an excellent hideout and the majestic layout and design will fascinate any visitor. Sri Lankans' like to think of Sigiriya as the World's 8th Wonder. Proceed to Polonnaruwa City. POLONNARUWA was ancient Sri Lanka's 2nd capital city. The Cholas from India that invaded the country decide to build their empire and make Polonnaruwa their capital city. This the year 1055AD a courageous and strong-minded Sinhala king from the southern part of Sri Lanka overpowered the Indian invaders and took over the capital that later fell into the hands of Magha a notorious prince from Kalinga of India who was more intent on looting than ruling. Today the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, is a site that is so popular and much visited and contains ruins of the both Sinhala (Sri Lankan) and Indian culture. Dinner and overnight stay at Hotel Kassapa Lion Rock or similar.

Day 03

After breakfast at hotel and leave for your Kandy Tour. En route visit the Dambulla Rock Cave Temple, The CAVE TEMPLE DAMBULLA dates from the 1st century BC and houses the most impressive and venerated Buddhist cave temples in Sri Lanka. This 160metre (52 ft) rock has attracted millions of pilgrims since they were created by the formerly exiled King Valagambahu¹ in the 1st Century BC. He sought refuge in the caves for 14 years after losing his throne to Tamil invaders, and built the caves in gratitude after successfully reclaiming his throne in Anuradhapura. Proceed to Spice Garden in Matale. Visit the spice garden at matale where spices and herbs used for Sri Lankan cuisine and medication are grown. Spices of Sri Lanka attracted the early sea faring merchants who made the long voyages to purchase this precious merchandise. We will then travel to Kandy.

On arrival in Kandy visit the ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDEN of Peradenya which was a pleasure garden of a Kandyan King of the 16th Century and later made in to a Botanical Garden during the British regime. This garden; one of the best in Asia, is a place of beauty and most popular amongst bird watchers. It is bounded on three sides by the Mahaveli River, which snakes around the 60-hectare gardens. Peradeniya is the second largest botanical garden in Asia. It has an orchid house which botanists should visit. In 1905 an avenue of palms were planted and now is one of the most photographed places in the gardens. The oldest tree here is a 150 year old double coconut tree. The Giant Fig tree on the Great Lawn is another notable tree. During World War II, it served as a base for Lord Mountbatten. Today it is a popular haunt for day trippers, botanists and birdwatchers.

Next visit KANDY CITY - Today Kandy is not only the second largest city in the island but is one of the most important cities owing to the presence of the Temple of the 'Sacred Tooth' of the Buddha. The ancient walk ways and alley are a great way to discover this hill country station and the breathtaking lake in the heart of Kandy city adds to its romantic reputation. Overnight Stay at Albetross Golfing Resort , Digana or similar.

Day 04

After Breakfast leave the hotel for Galle, en route visit Royal Botanical Garden – Peradeniya. We will set off towards the west coast of Sri Lanka and to your beach stay destination: UNAWATUNA. Unawatuna Beach has grown in popularity and offers arguably one of the best beach strips on the West Coast of Sri Lanka. Enjoy your Sri Lanka Beach Holiday Stay. Before we get to your hotel we will enjoy a Galle City Tour where we will visit the famous Dutch fort, Galle natural museum and the maritime museum which will give you a glimpse into the history of the people of Galle, their handicrafts & lifestyle. Galle city was captured by all major maritime powers that invaded Sri Lanka and still displays a vibrant mix of culture and style. Dinner and overnight stay at Unawatuna Beach Hotel or similar

Day 05 & 06

Enjoy the day at leisure on the beaches of Unawatuna. Optional – In the evening enjoy a scenic boat ride on Madu River which is regarded as the backwaters of Sri Lanka. Dinner and overnight stay at Unawatuna Beach Hotel or similar

Day 07

Checkout of your hotel and transfer to Colombo International airport. If time permits we can stop at the Turtle Hatchery in Kosgoda. Your tour of Sri Lanka end here. Have a nice flight and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Note: Hotel stipulates checkout is before 12:00hrs noon time. Late Checkout between 12:00-18:00 requires half of the room rate. Any checkout after 18:00 will cost one extra night room rate.