

Tour Of Sri Lanka
With A Driver Guide In Your Own Exclusive Air-Conditioned Vehicle.

COMPLETE ISLAND TOUR

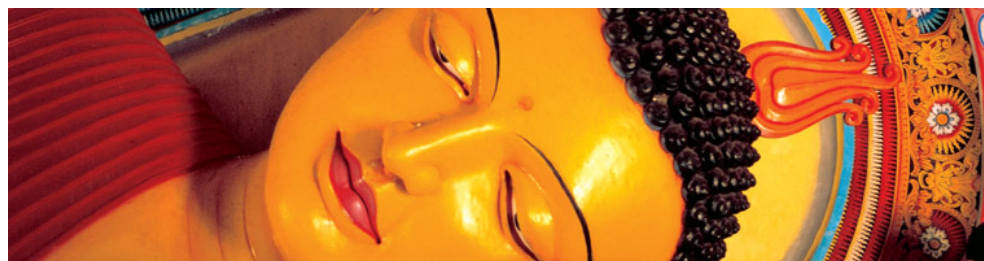
Day	Date	Location	First Class Hotels	Special Choice	Daily Schedule
01		Depart UK			
02		Arrive Colombo	Galle Face Regency Oceanic Deluxe Room	Mount Lavinia House	>Pick Up From Colombo Airport >Relax On Arrival At Colombo
03		Dambulla	Amaya Lake	Kassapa Lions Rock	>Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage >Golden Cave Temples At Dambulla
04		Dambulla	Amaya Lake	Kassapa Lions Rock	>The Ancient Medieval Capital Of Polonnaruwa >Elephant Back Ride At Habarana
05		Kandy	Amaya Hills	Hotel Thilanka	>The Sigiriya Rock Fortress, One Of The Wonders Of The Ancient World >Temple Of The Buddha's Tooth
06		Kandy	Amaya Hills	Hotel Thilanka	>Peradeniya Gardens And Its Orchid Houses >The 3 Beautiful Medieval Temples Around Kandy
07		Hill Country	Melheim Resort	The Bandarawela Hotel	>By Train Through The Hill Country (Observation Car)
08		Yala	The Safari Superior Room	Wild Escape	>The Beautiful View Of Sri Lanka's Hill Country At Ella And Haputale Gaps
09		Yala	The Safari Superior Room	Wild Escape	>Leopards And Wild Elephants At Yala National Park – Exclusive Private PM Jeep Safari
10		Galle	The Fort Printers	Mammas Galle Fort	>Sri Lanka's Famous Stilt Fishermen At Koggala >Galle Fort And Ramparts Enclosing A Perfectly Preserved Old Heritage Town
11		Beach	1		>Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery >Drop Off At Beach Hotel
12		Beach	2		
13		Beach	3		
14		Depart Colombo Arrive UK			>Transfer To Colombo Airport

Yellow=Beach

Note: From 15 September – 30 October Yala National Park May Sometimes Be Closed To Visitors. In This Event, Uda Walawe National Park Will Be Used With Comparable Accommodation At Uda Walawe.

Note: Special Choice – An Eclectic Choice Of Properties Providing Accommodation At Affordable Prices

Note: Melheim Is A Small Boutique Hotel With One Of The Most Amazing Views In Sri Lanka.



Reclining Buddha At Kandy

Day 01 – Depart UK

Day 02 – Colombo



Aerial View Of Colombo

Relaxation At Colombo

Colombo is an ideal location for rest and relaxation. Surrounding the city centre or **Fort** is the shopping area called **Pettah** with colourful bazaars and markets lining the streets. The best restaurants in the island are to be found in the city as well as a collection of world famous **Old Empire** hotels that hark back to a bygone era.



The Galle Face Regency At Colombo



Sri Lanka's Fabulous Tropical Beaches



Day 03 – Dambulla



Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage

Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage

Set in a pretty riverside location, this is home to about 70 **Elephants**- the largest group of orphaned **Elephants** in the world! Most have been found injured or abandoned in the wild. Baby calves, some only a few weeks old are fed by bottle and the whole herd is then bathed in the adjoining river. A tour highlight for many visitors to **Sri Lanka**.



The Golden Cave Temple At Dambulla

The Golden Cave Temple At Dambulla

An extremely ancient series of 5 cave temples containing thousands of **Buddhist** images and paintings, which date back 2000 years. **Sri Lanka's** artistic masterpiece and a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of prime importance.



Day 04 – Dambulla



Gal Vihare Sculptures At Polonnaruwa

The Ancient City Of Polonnaruwa

The capital of medieval **Sri Lanka** from 11th-14th Century contains ruins of stupas, temples and monasteries, which are still excellently preserved. The **Gal Vihare** with 3 huge rock-cut images of the **Buddha** is one of the world's great works of **Buddhist** sculpture.



Elephant Back Ride At Dambulla

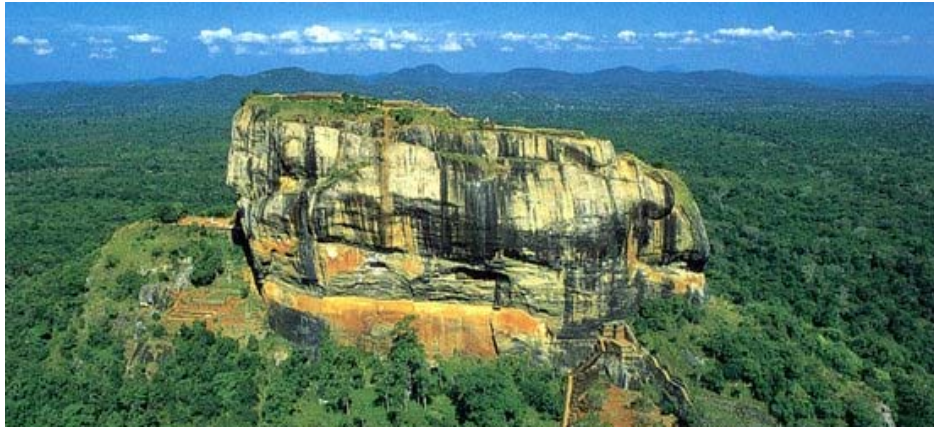
Elephant Back Ride At Dambulla

You will be taken on **Elephant Back** through a very pretty landscape near **Dambulla** where the forest is interspersed with villages and lakes. Travelling on **Elephant Back** is a unique way of having a glimpse of rural life. Villages and paddy fields are set around ancient man-made lakes surrounded by patches of forest.



Polonnaruwa

Day 05 – Kandy



Sigiriya Rock Fortress

Sigiriya Rock Fortress

The remarkable 'fortress in the sky'. A magnificent rock citadel with beautiful frescoes hidden in a natural cave dating from 470 A.D. The climb to the top from the huge stone **Lions Paws** is a dizzying experience with superb views over surrounding forests and distant hills. The newly excavated **Royal Pleasure Gardens** at the foot of the rock are some of the earliest from antiquity. Thought by many to be the **8th Wonder Of The Ancient World!**



Temple Of The Tooth

Temple Of The Buddha's Tooth

Arrive in **Kandy**, the island's prettiest town and the last capital city of the **Sri Lankan Kings**. The best time to visit its world famous shrine, containing the revered tooth of the **Buddha** is the evening 'pooja' ceremony when the temple is illuminated with flickering lamps - a magical experience.

A beautiful view of **Kandy** can be seen from **Lake Drive** above the pretty **Kandy Lake**. You may also visit the **Old Town** area adjacent to the temple, which contains some very early **British** colonial and **Kandyan** period buildings in a narrow maze of streets. **UNESCO** has designated the whole area as a **World Heritage Site**.



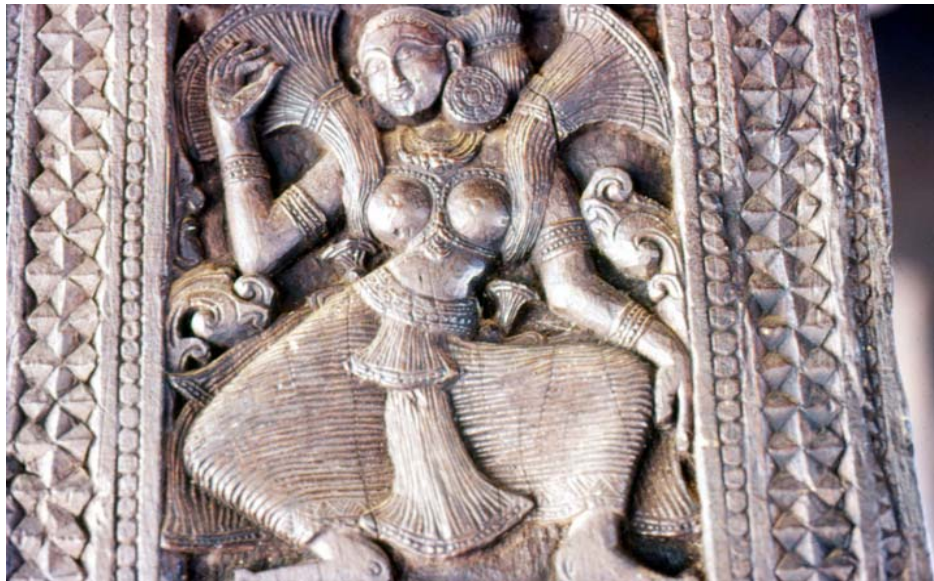
Day 06 – Kandy



Inside The Temple Of The Buddha's Tooth

Peradeniya Botanical Gardens

One of the finest botanical gardens in the East including an **Orchid House** with 300 varieties. **Lord Mountbatten's South East Asia Command Headquarters** were located here during WW 2.



Wooden Carvings At The Embekke Temple

The '3 Ancient Temples ' Of Kandy

Three **Medieval** temples, **Lankatilaka Vihare**, **Gadaladeniya Vihare** and **Embekke Devale** are situated around **Kandy** that display the mastery of **Kandyan** sculpture and design.

The **Gadaladeniya Temple** (14th C) is located on a beautiful hilltop setting. The **Lankatilaka Temple** (14th C) contains an image house with ancient frescoes. The **Hindu Embekke Temple** is famous for its exquisite carved wooden pillars. All are located in beautiful hamlets and villages.



Day 07 – Hill Country



Hill Country Express

By Train Through Sri Lanka's Hill Country

Without doubt **One Of The Most Beautiful Train Journeys In The World**. The **Observation Car** gives magnificent views of the **Hill Country** while passing cascading waterfalls.

The Hill Country Of Sri Lanka

Tea estates cover the mountains of the island in a vast expanse of green as far as the eye can see. Legendary **Hill Stations** of the **British** tea planters who came to **Ceylon**, as it was then known include **Nuwara Eliya** and **Bandarawela**. Amazing views from the southern escarpment of the **Uva Hills** can be experienced at **Haputale** and **Ella**.



Hill Country Near Nuwara Eliya



Tea Estates Near Nuwara Eliya



Day 08 – Yala



Tea Overlooking The Ella Gap

Ella And Haputale Gaps

Perhaps the prettiest view in **Sri Lanka** is seen from the garden of the **Ella Rest House**, where isolated hills on the plains below can be seen 'popping up like islands in the mist'. The **Haputale Gap** presents the most magnificent view in **Sri Lanka** with the southern escarpment of the **Hill Country** suddenly giving way to the forests of the **Deep South** of the island.



Idyllic Tea Estates And Waterfalls At Ella



Day 09 – Yala**Leopard Crossing Road At Yala****Encounters With Leopards And Wild Elephants At Yala National Park-Jeep Safari**

The largest wildlife park in **Sri Lanka** is very reminiscent of the **African** savannah and is where the greatest variety of wildlife can be observed. Herds of **Spotted Deer**, solitary **Sambar** or **Elk** and **Wild Boar** are common. **Peacocks** are plentiful in the jungles. **Monster Crocodiles** are to be seen at some of its watering holes.

Yala is now gaining an international reputation as the best place to watch **Leopards** in **Asia**. It has the highest population density of **Leopards** in the world and is one of the few locations where they can be observed during daylight hours.

**Sloth Bear At Yala**

Day 10 – Galle



Old Galle

The South Coast Road

The journey to your beach hotel will be on one of the most beautiful roads in the world. Hugging the coast for long stretches through a picture-postcard tropical coastline you will have many opportunities to stop and enjoy the view along the way.

Tangalle

Tangalle has perhaps the most beautiful area of coastline in the whole of **Sri Lanka**. Still unspoilt with miles of deserted beaches and an ocean of the deepest shade of blue. You can choose to relax by the beach or explore the surrounding areas which have bird-filled lagoons and turtle nesting beaches.

The Old Dutch Fort Of Galle

An ancient port with its commanding **Dutch Fort** (1640) enclosing a perfectly preserved **Old Town** of great historical and architectural value. **UNESCO** has designated some 200 buildings inside the fort as a **World Heritage Site**. You can walk down streets that have remained unchanged for over 300 years! The recently renovated **New Oriental Hotel (Amangalle)** is thought to be the oldest hotel in **Asia**.



Galle Lighthouse



Day 11 – To Sri Lanka's Beaches

The South Coast Road

Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery

Here you may see baby turtles that are conserved for release into the ocean at an important turtle-nesting beach. Turtle eggs are collected from nearby beaches and hatched in large tanks. Depending on the time of day, it may be possible for you to release a handful into the ocean and watch them disappear with the breaking waves.



Baby Turtles At Kosgoda Hatchery

Depart Sri Lanka

Elephant Island - Holidays In Sri Lanka - (ATOL 9128)