

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

ELEPHANT ISLAND TOUR

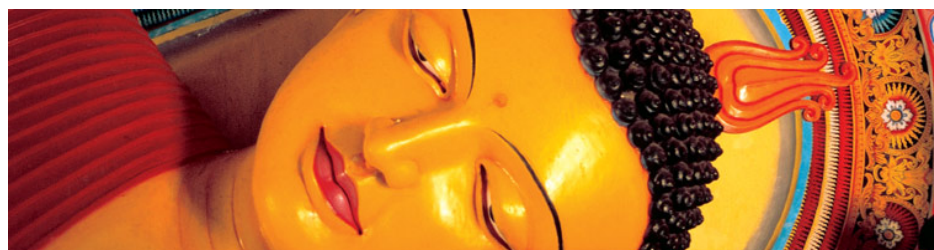
Day	Date	Location	First Class Hotels	Special Choice	Daily Schedule
01		Depart UK			
02		Arrive Colombo	Mount Lavinia Hotel Bay Wing Room	Mount Lavinia House	>Pick Up From Colombo Airport >Relax On Arrival At Colombo
03		Dambulla	Amaya Lake	Kassapa Lions Rock	>Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage >Golden Cave Temples At Dambulla
04		Kandy	Chaaya Citadel Deluxe Room	Hotel Thilanka	>The Sigiriya Rock Fortress, One Of The Wonders Of The Ancient World >Temple Of The Buddha's Tooth
05		Hill Country	Melheim Resort	The Bandarawela Hotel	>By Train Through The Hill Country (Observation Car)
06		Yala	Yala Village	Wild Escape	>Unique Horton Plains Cloud Forests And Worlds End >The Beautiful View Of Sri Lanka's Hill Country At Ella And Haputale Gap
07		Yala	Yala Village	Wild Escape	>Leopards And Wild Elephants At Yala National Park – Exclusive Private PM Jeep Safari
08		Beach	1		>Galle Fort And Ramparts Enclosing A Perfectly Preserved Old Heritage Town >Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery >Drop Off At Beach Hotel
09		Beach	2		
10		Beach	3		
11		Beach	4		
12		Beach	5		
13		Beach	6		
14		Depart Colombo Arrive UK			>Transfer To Colombo Airport

Yellow=Beach

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

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: 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.



Mount Lavinia Hotel 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**.



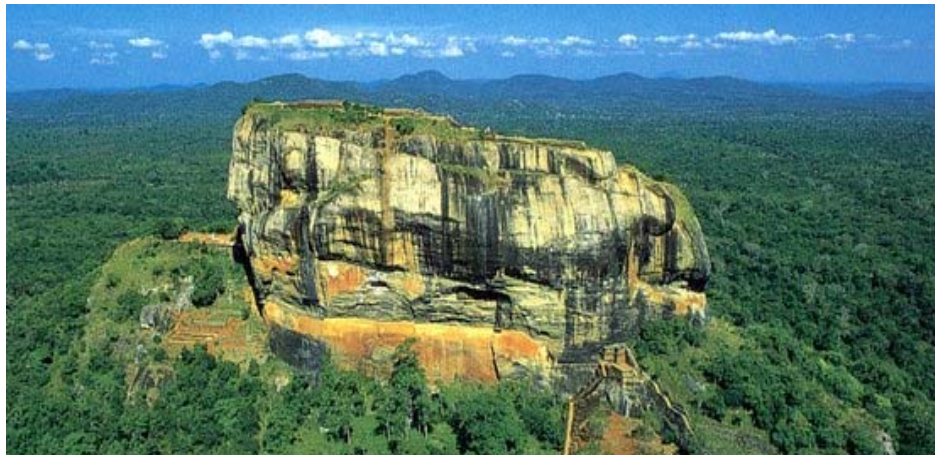
The Golden Cave Temple At Dambulla

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 – 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**.

Lake Drive View

A road high above **Kandy Lake** leads to a viewpoint giving a spectacular panorama of the town and the distant **Dumbara Hills** covered in mist.



Day 05 – 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 06 – Yala



Awesome Views From World's End At Horton Plains

Horton Plains Cloud Forests And World's End

A strange windswept plateau at 6500ft with moss covered forests of rhododendron and sweeping grasslands crossed by crystal-clear streams. A path leads to **World's End**- a sheer precipice of some 3000ft! and the enchanting **Baker's Falls**.

Haputale Gap And Diyaluma Waterfalls

The most amazing views in **Sri Lanka** are seen at **Haputale**, a small hamlet that sits on a ridge giving spectacular views of the southern plains stretching all the way to the **Indian Ocean**. On the way down from **Haputale** you pass the **Diyalauma Falls**, the 2nd highest in **Sri Lanka** (694 ft)



Sambar Deer At Horton Plains



Day 07 – 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 08 - To Sri Lanka's Beaches



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.

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**.

Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery

Here you may see baby turtles that are conserved for release into the ocean at an important turtle-nesting beach.



Baby Turtles At Kosgoda Hatchery

Depart Sri Lanka