

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

TEMPLE TOUR OF SRI LANKA

Day	Date	Location	First Class And Deluxe Hotels	Standard Hotels	Daily Schedule
01		Depart UK			
02		Arrive Colombo	Galle Face Regency Oceanic Deluxe Room	Galle Face Hotel Deluxe Room	>Pick Up From Colombo Airport >Evening Visit To The Kelaniya Temple
03		Anuradhapura	Palm Garden Village Hotel	Hotel Miridiya	>The Rock Citadel Of Yapahuwa >Picturesque Padeniya Temple >>Anuradhapura - One Of The Fabled Ancient Cities Of Asia (DAY 1: Evening Visit To Ruwanveliseya Stupa)
04		Anuradhapura	Palm Garden Village Hotel	Hotel Miridiya	>Anuradhapura - One Of The Fabled Ancient Cities Of Asia (DAY 2: Morning Visit To Ancient City) >The Sacred Monastery At Mihintale
05		Giritale	The Deer Park Hotel	Giritale Hotel New Wing	>The Colossal Aukana Buddha >The Ancient Jungle Monastery Of Ritigala
06		Giritale	The Deer Park Hotel	Giritale Hotel New Wing	>The Fabulous Medieval Capital Of Polonnaruwa
07		Dambulla	Amaya Lake	Kassapa Lion's Rock	>The Vatadage At Medirigiriya >The Magnificent Sigiriya Rock Fortress
08		Kandy	Chaaya Citadel Deluxe Room	Hotel Suisse	>The Golden Cave Temple At Dambulla >The Nalanda Gedige
09		Kandy	Chaaya Citadel Deluxe Room	Hotel Suisse	>The 3 Temples At Kandy >Temple Of The Buddha's Tooth
10					>Beautiful Medieval Frescoes At Degaldoruwa Temple >Drop Off At Beach Hotel Or Colombo Stopover Hotel BEACH STAY FOR NUMBER OF NIGHTS AS REQUIRED
		Depart Colombo Arrive UK			>Transfer To Colombo Airport

Yellow=Beach



Reclining Buddha At Kandy

Day 02 – Colombo**Kelaniya Temple At Night****Kelaniya Temple**

This is on the outskirts of **Colombo** and is one of the centres of **Buddhism** in **Sri Lanka**. The beautifully shaped ancient stupa is next to a gallery covered in **Buddhist** paintings (early 20th C), which are world famous examples of modern **Buddhist Art**.

**Kelaniya Temple Procession****The Famous Kelaniya Murals**

Day 03 – Anuradhapura



Shrine Doors At Yapahuwa



View From Yapahuwa

Yapahuwa Rock Fortress (Capital City 1272 AD-1284 AD)

A rock citadel that was the capital city of **Sri Lanka** for a brief period in the 13TH Century. The main feature of interest, apart from the spectacular views over the plains from the summit, is its famous stone lions and an ornamental staircase that is remarkable for its **South East Asian** influenced design.



Clay Pot At Padeniya Temple

Padeniya Temple

A lovely medieval period village temple with an interesting and well preserved image house.

Day 04 – Anuradhapura



Anuradhapura Stupas At Dusk

Anuradhapura (500 BC To 1073 AD)

One of the fabled cities of the **East** whose fame spread throughout the centuries until it was buried by the jungle tide. Ruins including several huge stupas lie scattered over a vast area.

The **Jethavamaramaya Stupa** at **Anuradhapura** was the tallest structure of the **Ancient World** after the **Third Pyramid at Giza**. Nearby is the **Sri Maha Bodhi Tree** - planted from a sapling of the tree under which the **Buddha** attained '**Nirvana**'- the oldest historically documented tree in existence.



Giant Buddha At Mihintale

Mihintale Monastery

An ancient rock monastery, which is revered as the actual place where **Mahinda**, the son of the great **King Asoka** of **India**, introduced **Buddhism** to the island in 243 BC. A series of 1840 stone steps leads to a hilltop location of huge significance to **Sri Lanka's** Buddhists.

Day 05 – Dambulla



Colossal Buddha's Of Aukana And Sasseruwa

Colossal Buddha Statue at Aukana (5thC AD)

A remarkably beautiful 42ft high standing statue of the **Buddha** carved out of a single rock is the most perfectly preserved in **Sri Lanka**.



Meditation Path And Watch Hut At Ritigala

Ritigala Monastery

One of **Sri Lanka's** hidden treasures is this very ancient **Buddhist** monastery hidden below a huge rock outcrop rising from the plains and covered in dense jungles. There are some lovely meditation paths through the forest and remains of monk's cells, refectories, bathing ponds and other buildings in a remarkable state of preservation.

It is best to travel here during the day as this is a lonely spot and wild elephants come out in the evenings from the jungles near the ruins. This may of course all add to the sense of adventure in travelling to the location for some!



Day 06 – 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.



Aerial View Of Polonnaruwa



Moonstone At The Vatadage Complex

Day 07 – Dambulla



Medirigiriya

Medirigiriya

The 8th century **Mandalagiri Temple** is located atop a low rocky point in jungles to the north of **Polonnaruwa**. A granite flight of steps leads up the hill to the Vatadage or circular image house, which has concentric circles of pillars around the central dagoba.



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!



View From Lion Terrace

Day 08 – Kandy



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.



Inside The Temple Of The Buddha's Tooth

Nalanda Temple

An early **South Indian** style temple set in beautiful wooded surroundings and very much away from the usual tourist trail.



Day 09 – Kandy



Lankatilaka Temple

The '3 Ancient Temples ' Of Kandy

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



Inside The Temple Of The Buddha's 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.

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 10 – To Colombo Or Sri Lanka's Beaches

Interior Of Degaldoruwa Temple

Degaldoruwa Temple

Degaldoruwa Temple was built mid 17th century (1747-1782 A.D). It is famous for its fine wall paintings of medieval **Kandyan** life. The wall paintings at **Degaldoruwa** differ from many of other **Kandyan** style paintings. The colours, dresses of the people are different, unique and beautifully depicted.

**Depart Sri Lanka**

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