



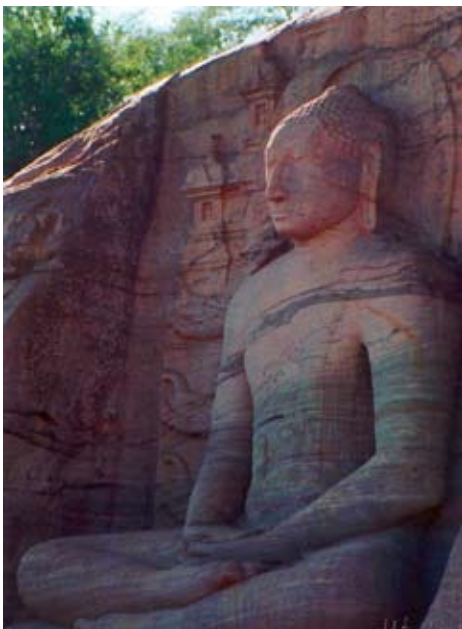
BEST OF SRI LANKA

Tour Route: Colombo (2) – Habarana (2) - Sigiriya (2) – Kandy (2) – Colombo

Tour Duration: 8 nights / 9 days

Located at the southern tip of India, the island of Sri Lanka is surrounded by the warm Indian Ocean. Indian mythology claims that Ravana, the erstwhile ruler of Sri Lanka, was a descendent of 'Astral Desh' (Australia), supporting the theory of Australia and Sri Lanka being one continent before the start of continental drifting!

This tour takes you to some of the most beautiful places of Sri Lanka, including the capital city of Colombo, the elephant orphanage at Pinnawela, the ancient cities of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa, the majestic Sigiriya rock, spice gardens and the beautiful hill resort of Kandy.





Day 1: Colombo (L / D)

Arrival in Colombo, the capital city of Sri Lanka. After clearing airport formalities, meet your local guide and transfer to your hotel for 2 nights stay. Enjoy an evening at leisure in Colombo.

Day 2: Day in Colombo (B / L / D)

Today take a city tour of Colombo visiting the commercial city centre, built by the Portuguese in the 16th century. See the busy markets and bazaars of Pettah, visit a Buddhist and a Hindu temple, an Old Dutch church and continue to the Cinnamon Gardens residential area. Enjoy an evening at leisure.

Day 3: Colombo to Habarana (via Pinnawela) (B / L / D)

After an early breakfast drive to the Elephant Orphanage at Pinnawela. This elephant orphanage was set up by the Sri Lankan government to rescue and rehabilitate elephants orphaned by poachers in the jungles. This morning witness the feeding of elephants, where baby elephants are bottle fed with milk. After the feed, see the elephants being taken to a nearby river for their daily bath. Continue drive to Habarana and upon arrival, enjoy an evening at leisure.

Day 4: Day in Habarana (Excursion to Anuradhapura) (B / L / D)

After breakfast, drive to Anuradhapura, an ancient city founded in the 5th century B.C., home to the largest number of monuments of the great Sinhala civilization. Visit the ancient royal palaces, shrines, dagobas and Sri Mahabodhi. Also visit the "Bodhi tree" which is over 2200 years old, grown from a branch of the tree under which Lord Buddha attained enlightenment. Return to Habarana and enjoy an evening at leisure.

Day 5: Habarana to Sigiriya (B / L / D)

After breakfast drive to Sigiriya. This afternoon, visit the Sigiriya rock built by King Kassapa in the 5th century AD. The Lion Rock is a citadel of unusual beauty, rising 200m from the scrub jungles. See the world famous frescoes of the 'Heavenly maidens' of Sigiriya in a sheltered pocket of the rock.

Day 6: Day in Sigiriya (Excursion to Polonnaruwa) (B / L / D)

This morning drive on to Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka's

medieval capital from 11th to 13th century AD. A short tour of this ancient city includes a visit to some well preserved ruins of ancient halls, chambers, royal pavilions, sculptures, beautiful parks and water reservoirs. Return to Sigiriya and enjoy an evening at leisure.

Day 7: Sigiriya to Kandy (via Dambulla and Matale) (B / L / D)

After breakfast, drive to Kandy. Enroute visit the rock cave temple of Dambulla, where King Valagambahu took refuge in the 3rd century B.C. Dambulla is the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. The complex of five caves with over 2000 sq. meters of painted walls and ceilings found here are over 2,000 years old. The caves contain over 150 images of the Buddha, of which the largest is the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock and spanning 14 meters.

Also stop at Matale to visit spice gardens and batik factory. Upon arrival in Kandy, enjoy an evening at leisure.

Day 8: Day in Kandy (B / L / D)

Today, explore Kandy, Sri Lanka's most beautiful town, set 488 meters above sea level. Drive along the Upper Lake road to get a panoramic view of the lake and its surrounds. Visit the focal point of the town, the golden-roofed 'Dalada Maligawa', where the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha is enshrined. Later, wander around the beautiful bazaars of Kandy. This evening, enjoy a Sri Lankan cultural show.

Day 9: Kandy - Colombo to Australia (B)

After an early breakfast, drive to Colombo, where you will be transferred to the airport to catch your flight back home.

PRICE INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation on twin sharing basis at 4*/ heritage hotels or best available hotel in the region.
- All meals included (i.e. breakfast, lunch and dinner)
- All monument entrance fees included.
- Meeting and assistance on arrival and departures.
- Local English Speaking Guide for sightseeing tours. English speaking escort to accompany the group for minimum group size of 8 passengers.
- Chauffeured air-conditioned vehicles for all transfers, excursions and sightseeing tours.
- All currently applicable taxes.
- Sri Lankan cultural show in Kandy.

PRICE EXCLUSIONS

- Expenses of personal nature like laundry, telephone, fax, internet, beverages, camera / video camera fee at monuments, medical expenses, airport departure tax etc.
- Local payments in domestic currency, such as tips and gratuities.
- Sri Lanka Visa Fees and departure tax
- Any other services not mentioned in Price Inclusions above.
- International airfare and airport tax.

DEPARTURES

Best Of Sri Lanka

The special interest tour is quoted on minimum of 4 passengers or above (Land only).		
Traveling period	Twin share price	Singleroom supplement
01 Oct 2010 - 15 Apr 2010	A\$ 1,500	A\$ 580
16 Apr 2010 - 15 Sep 2010	A\$ 1,420	A\$ 480
01 Nov 2010 - 30 Apr 2011	A\$ 1,650	A\$ 630