



TOUR REFERENCE
LK2T25YCSB

Relaxation and Adventure (12 Days)

11 days · 10 nights

Private tour with chauffeur guide

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About this experience

This twelve-day tour runs from the west coast to the hill country, on to the Cultural Triangle, across to the east coast at Trincomalee and back to Colombo, giving a broad sweep of Sri Lanka's landscapes and historic sites. Travel is by private air-conditioned vehicle with a chauffeur guide throughout, so the route links beach, hill country, ancient cities and coast without the traveller needing to arrange separate transport.

Highlights include the temples and tea country around Kandy and Nuwara Eliya, the Cultural Triangle sites of Dambulla and Sigiriya, a safari at Minneriya National Park, the ruins of Polonnaruwa, and an extended stay on the east coast at Trincomalee with time for Nilaveli Beach, Pigeon Island and the Koneswaram Temple. The tour closes with a tour of Colombo before departure.

It suits travellers who want a mix of cultural sightseeing, wildlife and beach time in one trip, with the pace set by longer stays in Kandy and Trincomalee rather than a different town each night.



Day-by-day itinerary

Day 1 Negombo

On arrival at Colombo Airport you are met by your chauffeur guide and driven to Negombo, a beachside town known for its fishing harbour and golden beaches, to rest after the flight.



Negombo

A beachside resort town valued for its proximity to Colombo and the airport, with a vibrant fishing harbour, golden beaches and water sports.

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Day 2**Kandy (days 2–4)**

Three days based in the hill country capital combine elephant welfare, temples, tea and a side trip up to Nuwara Eliya.

Millennium Elephant Foundation

A foundation funding the care, medical treatment and mahout salaries of sick and displaced elephants, including a Mobile Veterinary Unit that travels the country.

**Cultural Show**

An hour-long Kandyan cultural show featuring fire dancers, sword dancers and Kandyan dancers performing to drumming.

Arian Zwegers · CC BY 2.0

Temple Run Tour

A visit to the carved Embekke Temple, the Gadaladeniya and Lankatilaka temples, the painted Degaldoruwa Cave Temple, and the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic with its cream and gold interiors.

Tea Factory Visit

A tour showing how tea is picked and processed, covering fermentation, rolling, drying, cutting, sieving and grading, followed by a tea tasting.

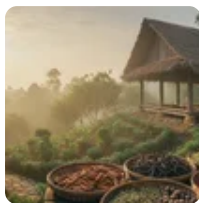
**Nuwara Eliya**

A highland town once the main hill station for the British, with cottages and mansions, the old red-brick post office, Queen Victoria Park and the shores of Lake Gregory.

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Day 5 Dambulla (days 5–6)

Two days around Dambulla take in a spice garden, the ancient cave temple, Sigiriya rock fortress, a village experience and a safari at Minneriya.



Matale Spice Tour

A visit to a spice and herbal garden in Matale, covering Sri Lankan spices, fragrant herbs and Ayurvedic medicine.

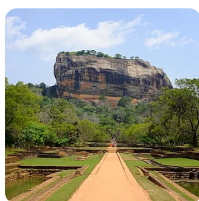
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Dambulla Cave Temple

The Golden Temple caves dating to the 1st century BC, with murals of the Buddha's life, hundreds of Buddha and deity figures across five main caves, and a giant golden Buddha statue outside.

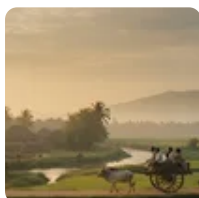
Lankapic · CC BY 2.5



Sigiriya Rock Fortress

The 5th-century rock fortress of King Kasyapa, entered through the lion's paws, with its famous murals, terraced gardens, working cisterns and palace ruins at the summit.

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Local Village Experience in Sigiriya

An oxen cart ride, a catamaran safari on a calm lake, a walk through paddy fields, a traditional cooking demonstration and a home-cooked lunch served on lotus leaves.

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Minneriya National Park

A safari through the park, with a chance to see elephants gathering in large numbers during the dry season between May and October, alongside other mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Stuart Pinkney · CC BY 2.0

Day 7 Trincomalee (days 7–10)

Four days on the east coast, reached via the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, combine beach time at Nilaveli with temples, a fort, hot springs and Pigeon Island.



The Ancient Kingdom of Polonnaruwa

The ruins of Sri Lanka's second major capital, flourishing from the 10th to 13th century, including Gal Vihara, the Vatadage, the lotus bath, Lankathilaka Temple and the statue of King Parakramabahu.

Bernard Gagnon · CC BY-SA 3.0



Nilaveli Beach

A beach regarded as one of the finest in Sri Lanka, with swaying palms and clear blue sea.

Anton 17 · CC BY-SA 4.0



Koneswaram Temple

An ancient temple with a cave shrine dating to 1580 BC and a main temple developed around 400 BC, with murals depicting its history and a statue of King Ravana.

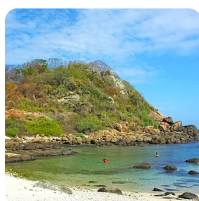
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Fort Frederick

A fort originally built by the Portuguese in 1624, later dismantled and rebuilt by the Dutch, incorporating stones from the destroyed Koneswaram temple.

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Pigeon Island

A national park of a smaller and larger pigeon island surrounded by coral reef, home to breeding rock pigeons and varied coral and marine life.

AntanO · CC BY-SA 4.0



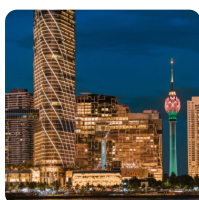
Kanniya Hot Springs

Natural hot springs at Kinniya for a relaxing soak.

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Day 11 Colombo

The return to Colombo brings a city tour of its landmarks and shopping districts before departure.



Colombo City Tour

A tour of the capital's landmarks, including the Old Lighthouse, the Old Parliament, Galle Face Hotel, Galle Face Green, Gangarama Temple and the National Museum, along with boutique shops and malls.

Gihanud2001 · CC0

Departure

After breakfast, check out and transfer to the airport for departure.

What's included

INCLUDED

- Transport in a Private Vehicle, inclusive of all chauffeur accommodation.
- Service of an English-Speaking Chauffeur Guide throughout the tour.
- All prevailing taxes and service charges.

NOT INCLUDED

- Hotel Accommodation.
- International / Domestic Airfare.
- Any expenses of personal nature.
- Entrance fees to the respective sites.

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