TOUR REFERENCE
LKQBKD3QX6

Chill Out in Sri Lanka (9 Days) by Standard Bus

9 days · 8 nights | Private tour with chauffeur guide

About this experience

This nine-day tour runs from Colombo through the hill-country city of Kandy and the cultural heartland around Dambulla and Polonnaruwa before finishing with three days on the coast at Kalpitiya. Travel is by private vehicle with a chauffeur guide throughout, so the pace and stops are set for you rather than fixed to a group schedule.

Highlights include Kandy's Temple of the Tooth Relic and the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya, a spice garden near Matale, the cave temple at Dambulla, the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, a jeep safari in Minneriya National Park, and a climb of Sigiriya rock fortress combined with a village experience nearby. The final stretch at Kalpitiya is left free for the beach and hotel facilities.

It suits travellers who want to cover Sri Lanka's cultural sites in the first part of the trip and then slow down completely on the coast, without having to plan transport or logistics between stops.



Day-by-day itinerary

Day 1 Airport → Colombo

Arrival day: you are met at Colombo International Airport and driven to your hotel in Colombo to settle in.



Colombo

Transfer from the airport to Colombo and check in to the hotel to relax after the flight.

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Day 2 Colombo → Kandy

After checking out of Colombo you drive to Kandy, then spend the afternoon on foot exploring the old royal capital.



Kandy Town

Walk through the streets of Kandy, the last royal capital of Sri Lanka, taking in its monuments, street food stalls, garland makers, a Hindu temple and a short three-wheeler ride.

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Day 3 Kandy

A full day in and around Kandy taking in its best-known garden and its most sacred temple.



Royal Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya

Visit the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya, laid out in the early 19th century and home to over 4,000 plant species, including orchids, spices and medicinal plants, a cannonball tree and a suspension bridge.

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Temple of the Tooth Relic

Visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built in the 16th century to house Lord Buddha's sacred tooth, with painted halls, carved pillars and gilded statues.

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Day 4 Kandy → Matale → Dambulla

On the way to Dambulla you stop at a spice garden near Matale before visiting the famous cave temple.



Spice Garden, Matale

Tour a spice and herbal garden near Matale to learn about spices such as coriander, chilli, cinnamon, cardamom and nutmeg, and their traditional and Ayurvedic uses.

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Dambulla Cave Temple

Visit the Golden Temple of Dambulla, dating back to the 1st century BC, with ancient murals of Buddha's life, hundreds of statues across five main caves, and a giant golden Buddha statue outside.

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Day 5 Dambulla → Polonnaruwa → Minneriya → Dambulla

A day out from Dambulla combining the ruins of Polonnaruwa with a jeep safari in Minneriya National Park.



Polonnaruwa

Explore the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka's second major capital, flourishing between the 10th and 13th centuries, including the Gal Vihara, Vatadage, the lotus bath, Lankathilaka Temple and the statue of King Parakramabahu.

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Minneriya National Park

Take a jeep safari through Minneriya National Park, known for large elephant gatherings in the dry season between May and October, along with other mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

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Day 6 Dambulla → Sigiriya → Kalpitiya

Climb Sigiriya rock fortress, spend time in a nearby village, then continue to the coast at Kalpitiya.



Sigiriya Rock Fortress

Climb the 5th-century rock fortress of Sigiriya, entering past its lion-paw gateway to see the famous murals, terraced gardens, cisterns and the ruined palace at the summit.

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Village Experience

Visit a local village for a catamaran ride on a calm lake, a walk through paddy fields, a traditional cooking demonstration and a home-cooked lunch served on lotus leaves.



Kalpitiya Beach

Arrive in Kalpitiya and spend the remainder of the day at leisure on the beach and using the hotel facilities.

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Day 7 Kalpitiya (days 7–8)

Two free days at Kalpitiya to enjoy the beach and hotel facilities at your own pace.



Kalpitiya Beach

Spend the days relaxing on the beach and making use of the hotel facilities.

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Day 9 Kalpitiya → Airport

After a final morning at leisure and breakfast, check out and transfer to the airport for departure.



Departure Transfer

Check out of the hotel at Kalpitiya and transfer to the airport, concluding the tour.

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What's included

INCLUDED

- Transport in a Private Vehicle, inclusive of, cost of fuel, parking & highway tolls.
- Service of an English-Speaking Chauffeur Guide throughout the tour.
- All prevailing taxes and service charges (Except for Credit Card Charges).

NOT INCLUDED

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