TOUR REFERENCE
LKWQ98AGRD

Amazing Sri Lanka (25 Days)

15 days · 14 nights | Private tour with chauffeur guide

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About this experience

This 25-day tour covers Sri Lanka from the west coast to the hill country, the cultural triangle, the south-east and the southern coast, moving at a relaxed pace with several multi-day stays rather than a rush between towns. It opens in Negombo near the airport, spends four days based in Dambulla for the cultural triangle sites, climbs into the hills at Kandy and Nuwara Eliya, crosses by train to Ella, continues to Yala for safari, and finishes with ten days around Galle on the south coast.

Travellers get a mix of ancient monuments, hill-country scenery and tea estates, national park safaris, a scenic train ride, village life, and coastal time in Galle's historic fort town. The pace allows for both sightseeing and leisure, with several days left free at the hotel for rest.

The tour runs in a private vehicle with an English-speaking chauffeur guide throughout, who takes care of the road between destinations.

Day-by-day itinerary

Day 1 Negombo (days 1–2)

The tour begins with arrival and a stay in Negombo, a beach town close to the airport known for its long-standing fishing industry.

Negombo City Tour

Spend time on Negombo's sandy beaches and watch the town's centuries-old fishing trade. Try water sports or diving to see the coral and a decades-old shipwreck just off the coast.

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Day 3 Dambulla (days 3–6)

Based in Dambulla at the heart of the cultural triangle, these days cover the area's major historic sites, a village experience and a safari.

Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage

Visit this home for young elephants displaced or lost from the wild, now host to one of the largest captive groups of elephants in the world.

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Golden Temple of Dambulla

Enter the cave temples dating to the 1st century BC to see murals of the Buddha's life and hundreds of Buddha and deity figurines across the five main caves, including the Cave of the Divine King and the Cave of the Great King, plus the golden Buddha statue outside.

Lankapic · CC BY 2.5

Sigiriya Rock Fortress

Climb the 5th-century rock fortress of King Kasyapa, entering through the lion's paws, to see the ancient murals, the terraced gardens, the old cisterns and the palace ruins on top.

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Sigiriya Village Tour

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

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Polonnaruwa

Walk through the ruins of this former capital, which flourished from the 10th to 13th centuries, taking in Gal Vihara, Vatadage, the lotus bath, Lankathilaka Temple and the statue of King Parakramabahu.

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Minneriya National Park

Go on safari in search of elephants, which gather here in large numbers in the dry season between May and October, along with other mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

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Day 7 Kandy (days 7–8)

The route climbs into the hills to Kandy, with visits to a spice garden, the city's most sacred temple and its botanical gardens.

Spice Garden

Visit Euphoria Spice and Herbal near Matale, Sri Lanka's spice capital, to learn about local spices, herbs and the uses of Ayurveda on a guided spice tour.

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Temple of the Tooth Relic

Visit this UNESCO World Heritage Site, built in the 16th century to house the Buddha's sacred tooth relic, with its painted halls, carved pillars and golden statues.

A.Savin · FAL

Royal Botanical Gardens

Walk through the Peradeniya gardens, founded in the early 19th century, home to over 4000 species including orchids, spices and medicinal plants, plus the cannonball tree and a suspension bridge.

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Day 9 Nuwara Eliya (days 9–10)

The drive to Nuwara Eliya passes through the scenic central highlands, taking in a waterfall and a tea estate before exploring the town and nearby Horton Plains.

Ramboda Falls

See Ramboda Falls, the 11th tallest in the country, along with the Hakgala Botanical Gardens and a walk along the shores of Lake Gregory.

A.Savin · FAL

Tea Factory and a plantation

Tour a tea factory and plantation to learn how Ceylon Tea is made, a trade introduced commercially to the island in the 1850s by James Taylor.

Nuwara Eliya

Explore this hill town built by the British in the style of an English countryside settlement, with period homes, an Anglican church, a golf course and a cool highland climate.

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Horton Plains National Park

Walk through the montane grasslands and cloud forests of Horton Plains, taking in the views from World's End and the spray of Baker's Falls, and look out for the park's endemic wildlife.

Faslan at en.wikipedia · CC BY-SA 3.0

Day 11 Nuwara Eliya → Ella (days 11–12)

A scenic train journey takes the tour from the hill country down to Ella, an area known for its walking trails and nearby towns.

Train Ride To Ella

Ride the train from Nanu Oya to Ella through tea plantations, misty villages and the landscapes around Haputale, with mountains, woodland and waterfalls along the way.

Day 13 Yala (days 13–14)

The tour heads to the south-east coast for a safari in Yala National Park, with free time at the hotel afterwards.

Yala National Park

Join a jeep safari in Sri Lanka's second-largest national park, with a chance to see leopards, wild water buffalo, sloth bears and elephants among its many species of mammals, birds and reptiles.

Ranmith Welikala · CC BY-SA 4.0

Day 15 Galle (days 15–24)

The final ten days are spent around Galle on the south coast, combining a visit to an unusual coastal landscape with time exploring the fort town and relaxing by the beach.

Ussangoda Beach

Visit this bare coastal plateau, where toxic heavy metals in the serpentine rock have left the ground largely treeless, a site also tied to legends from the Ramayana.

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Galle

Explore Galle Fort, one of the best-preserved fortifications in Asia and once a Portuguese and Dutch stronghold, along with its museums, lighthouse and cobblestoned streets, with leisure time at the hotel and departure from here at the end of the tour.

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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.