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TRAVEL & TOURISM
Since 1970

SRI LANKA

8 - Day Itinerary
(May 1 – Oct 31)

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Trip Highlights:

➢ **Shopping experience in Colombo - Most Commercial City in Sri Lanka.**
➢ **Sigiriya Lion Rock - UNESCO World Heritage site.**
➢ **National park Safari**
➢ **Kandy City -UNESCO World Heritage site**
➢ **East Coast beach area.**

Day 1: Airport / Colombo

Our representative will meet outside with a signage of your name at the arrival lounge of the Airport. He will greet you and guide you to the vehicle, there after you can start your journey to Colombo.

Check in to the hotel.

City tour in Colombo with shopping.

Colombo with shopping, like many capital cities in developing countries is fast changing its face. Almost overnight, skyscrapers arise from where old buildings once stood. Yet in some parts, the old world charm is retained. For example, there is a 100-year-old clock tower and several British built colonial buildings. Other places of interest are the Pettah bazaar - where one can shop for bargain, a Hindu and a Buddhist temple, residential areas where you find the stately homes of the affluent, the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH)- an outright gift to Sri Lanka from the People's Republic of China.

Visit Colombo Museum.
Visit Gangarama temple

Back to the hotel.
Overnight stay at a hotel in Colombo.

Driving Distance Between the cities
Airport to Colombo –approx. 1 hr

Activity Time
Colombo City tour with shopping (approx. 3 hrs)

Day 2: Colombo / Pinnawala / Habarana

After breakfast, proceed to Habarana via Pinnawala.

Visit Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage.

Pinnawala is situated in the Sabaragamuwa province of Sri Lanka close to Kegalle town. An orphanage, nursery and captive breeding ground for wild Asian elephants is located at this village remarkably known as 'Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage'. The orphanage has the largest herd of captive elephants in the world and is visited daily by many local and foreign tourists. The main attraction is clearly to observe the elephants bathing and feeding which is quite an experience. The orphanage was launched to provide a lifeline to the orphaned baby elephants and adult elephants lost in the wilderness.

Check in to the hotel.
Rest of the evening at leisure.
Overnight stay at a hotel in Habarana

Driving Distance Between the cities
Colombo to Pinnawala –approx. 2 hrs
Pinnawala to Habarana– approx. 3hrs

Activity Time
Elephant Orphanage -approx. 1 - 1 ½ hrs

Day 3: Habarana / Sigiriya / Minneriya / Habarana

After breakfast, proceed to Sigiriya and climb Sigiriya Lion Rock.

Sigiriya is situated in the Central Province of Sri Lanka close to Dambulla. It is a fortress complex of a ruined palace and one of the World Heritage sites declared by UNESCO. Undoubtedly the most treasured historical monument in Sri Lanka and probably the most visited tourist destinations in Sri Lanka, The most looked forward feature of the fortress is the frescoes. Another fascinating detail is its mirror wall. Every step from the entrance to the top is a marvel on its own, and the interesting surroundings makes the tedious climb to the top easy.

Back to the hotel.

In the late afternoon proceed to National park at Minneriya, Kaudulla or Eco park for evening Safari by Jeep. . (One of these 3 parks will be decided on that day itself, according to the move of the Elephants.)

Minneriya Park is a national park in the North Central Province of Sri Lanka. The park is a dry season feeding ground for the elephant population. Sri Lankan Leopard and Sloth bear which are rare and endangered species also inhabit this area. The park was declared as a wildlife sanctuary in order to protect the watershed of Minneriya tank and the wildlife of the surrounding area. The tank is historically important for the country as it was built by King Mahasen in the 3rd century AD.

Overnight stay at a hotel in Habarana.

Driving Distance Between the cities
Habarana to Sigiriya –approx. 30 minutes one way
Habarana to Minneriya–approx. 15 minutes one way

Activity Time
Sigiriya Lion Rock visit –approx. 3 hrs
Minneriya safari - approx. 3 – 3 ½ hrs

Day 4: Habarana / Trincomalee

After breakfast proceed to Trincomalee.

Visit Hot water Springs (Hot Wells.)

Kanniya Hot Springs is a famous hot well in Sri Lanka from the past. There are seven wells in a square shape. Wells are only 3–4 feet deep and you can clearly see the bottom. The temperature is considerably high but varies from one spring to another. Wells run out of water, when 10-15 buckets of water are taken out. This hot water spring is connected with Hindu culture. Most of the Tamils in Sri Lanka do the religious rites for their lost loved one in this hot water spring according to Hindu culture. It is believed King Ravanan started these religious rites for his mother.

Check in to the hotel.

Visit Koneswaram kovil.

Koneswaram kovil (Temple) is situated on top of the Swami Rock and offers a brilliant view of the surrounding sea. If you manage to visit there early in the morning you can capture some brilliant photos of the sunrise. If it's not a crowded day like a weekday you can go near the kovil from a vehicle. There are some brilliantly colored statues and carvings at the kovil.

The sea below has brilliant blu colour which is rarely seen anywhere in the world. Just before the entrance you can see the "Lovers Leap". As the name suggest it became famous because some couple jumped from it to commit suicide.

Back to the hotel. Overnight stay at a hotel in Trincomalee.

Driving Distance Between the cities
Habarana to Trincomalee. – approx. 2hrs

Activity Time
Kovil visit – approx. 1 – 1 ½ hrs
Hot water springs -approx. 30-40 minutes

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Day 5: Trincomalee

Whales and Dolphin watching in Trincomalee. (USD 45 per person -directly by the guests)

You can take a packed breakfast from the hotel and proceed to the Watersport centre by 05:45am.Whale watching start around 6.00am onward for approx. 3 hours.

Boat ride in Pigeon Island including Snorkelling Equipment, Snacks (USD 30 per person -directly by the guests)

Back to the hotel.

Overnight stay at a hotel in Trincomalee.

Activity Time
Whale watching – approx. 3hrs
Pigeon Island boat ride -approx. - approx.2hrs

Day 6: Trincomalee / Dambulla / Matale / Kandy

After breakfast proceed to Dambulla.

Visit Dambulla Cave temple.

(Entrance fees- USD 10 net per Person directly by the guests)

Dambulla is a popular tourist destination in Sri Lanka. The popular cave temple complex in Dambulla dated to the 2nd century BC is declared as a world heritage site by UNESCO. There are over 80 caves in Dambulla, some of which are used for meditation by monks. The Famous Rock temple has five separate caves containing 153 magnificent Buddha statues, 3 statues of Sri Lankan monarchs and 4 Hindu deities. The Iron wood Forest (Namal Uyana) , the ancient garden with a wide variety of plants built in the 10th century and Rose Quartz Mountain range which is 500 million years old, cannot be missed while in Dambulla.

Continue the journey to Kandy via Matale.

En-route visit SPICE GARDENS You will see many spice gardens at Matale, where Cinnamon, Cardamom, Pepper Creepers and all other spice trees, plants and creepers are planted for visitors to see them. Spice products are also available for those who would like to buy them. At all Spice Gardens visitors are taken round explaining each tree and plant and at the end explaining the use of them in food preparations.

Check in to the hotel.

Rest of the evening at leisure.

Overnight stay at a hotel in Kandy.

Driving Distance Between the cities
Habarana to Dambulla-approx.2 ½ hrs
Dambulla to Matale -1hr
Matale to Kandy –approx. hr

Activity Time
Dambulla temple visit- approx. 1 ½ hrs

Day 7: Kandy

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit Peradeniya Botanical Garden

Peradeniya Botanical Garden is situated in the Central Province of Sri Lanka and visits approximately 02 million people annually. The unusual name is Sinhalese translation of guava plain. The garden is notable for its collection of a variety of Orchids. It is home to various species of plants, spices, medicinal plants and palm trees. It is also one of the largest botanical gardens of Sri Lanka, An artificial lake with water plants including giant water lilies and papyrus seeds is found in the centre of the garden.

Do a city tour while shopping in Kandy.

Visit the Kandy town and Bazaar, the arts & crafts centre, a gem museum and a lapidary. Also if you are interested in Gems & Jewellery you could visit the gem museum shops in the area which is famous for so many years.

Visit the Temple of the Tooth
Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic - ever since 4th Century A.D, when the Buddha's Tooth was brought to Sri Lanka hidden from sacrilegious hands in an Orissan princess' hair, the Relic has grown in repute and holiness in Sri Lanka and throughout the Buddhist world. It is considered Sri Lanka's most prized possession.

In the evening, witness the cultural dance.
Visitors can see these Dance & Music at the daily Cultural Performances held at several places in the city.

Back to the hotel. Overnight stay at a hotel in Kandy

Activity Time
Royal Botanical garden – approx. 1 ½ - 2hrs
Kandy City tour with shopping – approx.. 2 hrs
Cultural show -approx. 45 minutes.

Day 8: Kandy / Airport

After breakfast transfer at the airport to connect the departure flight.

Driving Distance Between the cities
Kandy to Airport –approx. 3 ½ hrs

End of Tour

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