

Sri Lanka – 12 day Itinerary



General Information

This will be a 12 day / 10-night tour to **Sri Lanka**, often referred to as the Pearl of the Indian Ocean, an island off the southern coast of India. Famous for the production and export of tea, coffee, rubber and coconuts, Sri Lanka also boasts a progressive and modern industrial economy. The natural beauty of Sri Lanka's tropical forests, beaches and landscape and rich cultural heritage make it a famous destination for tourists worldwide. The national sport in Sri Lanka is cricket and they have achieved considerable success recently, rising from underdog status to winning the 1996 Cricket World Cup.



Day 1 – In Flight

You will assemble at Heathrow for your overnight flight to **Colombo**.

Day 2 – Colombo (Free Day – Acclimatisation)



On arrival in Colombo International airport you will be met by a local bi-lingual representative and transferred to your hotel, **Grand Oriental Hotel**, where you will spend the next 4 nights. The rest of the day will be free for you to recharge your batteries before venturing out to explore you new surroundings. In the evening you will have the choice of dinner at the hotel or a local restaurant – assistance on where to go can be provided by your tour guide.

Day 3 – Colombo (Free Day – Practice Session)

Today will be a free day to relax and unwind following the previous day's travelling. You may wish to spend the morning exploring the city and perhaps a chance for some early souvenir shopping. In the afternoon you will have the chance to get acclimatised to the local conditions with a practice session arranged at a local venue. There will also be the chance to listen an ex Sri Lankan international cricketer and perhaps get some coaching from him. The evening will be free for you to enjoy a meal at the hotel before the preparations begin for tomorrow's first tour fixture.

Day 4 – Colombo (Fixture Day)

After breakfast the morning will be free to allow you to prepare for the first fixture of your tour:

1st Fixture vs. Local Opposition

Once you have enjoyed some post-match hospitality with your hosts you will return to your accommodation to continue your celebrations.



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Day 5 – Colombo (Fixture Day)

After breakfast the morning will be free to allow you to prepare for the second fixture of your tour:

2nd Fixture vs. Local Opposition

Once you have enjoyed some post-match hospitality with your hosts you will return to your accommodation to continue your celebrations.

Day 6 – Colombo to Kandy (4 hours)

After breakfast you will check out of the hotel and travel to **Kandy**. En route you will visit the **Elephant Orphanage** to see the world's largest herd of domestic Elephants – including babies who are still being fed by the bottle. When you arrive in Kandy there will be the chance to undertake a City Tour including the Upper Lake Drive - a place where one could have a bird's eye view of the city below, visit the Royal Botanical Gardens and a Gem Museum to see how the valuable gems that you see on a shop shelf are turned out from a raw stone with the back ground history.



In the evening watch a Cultural Performance by traditional Kandyan Dancers and Drummers including devotional "Fire Walking" and walk across in the star lit night to the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Buddha - by far the most important place of worship for Buddhists world over. Overnight at the Swiss Residence Hotel, Kandy (3 nights).

Day 7 – Kandy (Fixture Day)



After breakfast the morning will be free to allow you to prepare for the third fixture of your tour:

3rd Fixture vs. Local Opposition

Once you have enjoyed some post-match hospitality with your hosts you will return to your accommodation for your evening meal.

Day 8 – Kandy (Fixture Day)

After breakfast the morning will be free to allow you to prepare for the fourth and final fixture of your tour:

4th Fixture vs. Local Opposition

Once you have enjoyed some post-match hospitality with your hosts you will return to your accommodation for your evening meal.



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Day 9 – Kandy to Giritale (4 hours)

After breakfast you will leave for Polonnaruwa - the Medieval Capital of Sri Lanka. En route walk in to a Spice Garden and take part in a conducted tour to get some knowledge about the growth and use of spices in the day to day life.

In Polonnaruwa you will visit the many sites of archaeological and historical interest in the Sacred City including the Grate Statue, Quadrangle, Royal Palace, Vatadage, Hatadage, Siva Devalaya, Gal Viharaya, Alahana Pirivena Complex, Kumara and Lotus Ponds and Thiwanka Image House.

In the early evening you will undertake a Jeep Safari of the Minneriya / Kaudulla National Park and will see wild elephants in their natural habitat. Overnight at the Royal Lotus Hotel, Giritale (1 night)



Day 10 – Giritale to Negombo (5 hours)



After breakfast you will depart for your final destination, Negombo. En route you will stop-off to climb the Rock Fortress of Sigiriya, a Royal Citadel for 20 years, built in the 5th Century AD by King Kasyapa - highlights being the Frescoes, Mirror Wall and the Lion's Paw – it is considered as the 8th Wonder of the modern world.

In the afternoon you will visit the Dambulla Cave Temple, considered to be the largest painted caves in the world with more than 22,000 sq ft of painted surfaces, including many paintings, sculptures and statues of Lord Buddha. Overnight stay at Goldi Sands Hotel, Negombo (2 nights).

Day 11 – Negombo (Free Day)

After breakfast the final day of the tour will be free to relax and unwind in the magnificent beach resort of Negombo. Dinner will be taken at the hotel and will provide an excellent opportunity for an end of tour awards presentation.

Day 12 – Negombo to Colombo (40 mins) / In Flight

After breakfast you will have the morning free before you check out of your hotel and transfer to Colombo airport for your return flight.