13 DAY INSIGHTS OF SRI LANKA

Asia Vacation Group - Authentic Asia!

Local knowledge, adventures of a lifetime.

Discover <u>Asia</u> with our team of experts, and a carefully selected, value-packed exploration of Asia's most iconic destinations. Our tours offer must-visit sights, rich experiences and quality inclusions all at an unbeatable prices. Your bucket list dreams are ticked off on these all-encompassing vacations.

Travel with the confidence. Your trip has been carefully crafted by <u>our team</u> with you in mind and it's that same team that takes you on the journey. One amazing team to help and guide you, not only as your local travel expert but also as a friend with helpfulness and sincerity.

Specialists in Asia touring since 2015, <u>Asia Vacation Group</u> is proud to be the people who craft your itinerary, help you at each step, plus guide and operate your tour.

Small Group Tour	Returned Flight Included	7 Day Change Of Mind
Australian Company owned		

Day by Day Itinerary

Negombo, Sigiriya, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Ella, Tissamaharama, Mirissa, Bentota, Colombo

HIGHLIGHTS

• Return flight included

- Incredible sightseeing, including Galle Fort, Yala National Park safari, Nine Arch Bridge, a tea experience in Nuwara Eliya, elephants of Minneriya National Park, Sigiriya Lion Rock fortress and more
- Comfortable group experience with no more than 20 persons
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of tour
- 11 nights accommodation in centrally-location
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily breakfast buffet, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- In-depth sightseeing and all entry fees as per the itinerary

ITINERARY

Day 1: Negombo Arrival

Welcome to Sri Lanka!

Upon arrival at the airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel for check-in. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Meals: In-flight meal

Accommodation: Regal Reseau Hotel & Spa 4*or similar

Day 2: Negombo - Dambulla Golden Cave - Sigiriya

After breakfast, drive to Damballa **(160 km / 4 hours)**. Upon arrival, visit **Dambulla Golden Cave Temple**, designated as a world heritage site dating from the 1st century BC Dambulla temple is located on a gigantic rock towering more than 160 m above the surrounding area. The Rock itself is more than 1.5 km around its base and the summit is at 550m. The caves on this rock were the refuge of King Walagamba when he was in exile for 14 years and feature a mixture of religious and worldly paintings and sculptures. Several reclining Buddha statues include the 15-meter-long sculpture of the Buddha which is carved to the rock.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: Tropical Life Resort & Spa 3*or similar

Day 3: Lion Rock Fortress - Polonnaruwa - Sigiriya

After early breakfast, you will climb the Sigiriya Rock Fortress (Lion's Rock), one of the most extraordinary artistic complexes of its time. This magnificent citadel, declared as a UNESCO heritage site in 1982, allures artistic and architectural curiosity from around the globe. Sigiriya is a rock fortress built in the 5th century A.D.This majestic Citadel in the sky was the refuge of King Kasyapa and is world-renowned for its Mirror Wall', which consists of poems and paragraphs carved by some of the thousands of visitors who visited the rock many years ago, and for its magnificent frescoes, like the Ajantha frescoes of India. After that, you will transfer to Polonnaruwa. Along the way, experience the authentic flavors of Sri Lanka with a farmer's lunch prepared by a local family, showcasing the island's culinary traditions. Savor the taste of freshly prepared rice and curry dishes, carefully crafted using local ingredients.

After lunch, drive to visit the Polonnaruwa Ancient Kingdom is Sri Lanka's second oldest kingdom and features a plethora of ruins and places of religious worship. Some of the many interesting places to visit in Polonnaruwa include the Gal Viharaya (Stone temple), Lankathilake, Thivanka Image House, Nissanka Latha Mandapaya, the Audience Hall and the Vatadage. Then return to the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

Accommodation: Tropical Life Resort & Spa 3* or similar

Day 4: Sigiriya - Kandy

After breakfast, proceed to Kandy city (90 km / 2 hours) enroute visit a Spice Garden in Matale. You will learn the ingredients for cooking curry, distinguish species, experience massage and shopping for some product nature stay here. Thereafter, go ahead to Kandy City.

Upon arrival, explore the city tour by foot. Visit Central market, Old Bogambara Prison from outside, stroll around Kandy Lake will entice you to spend some time here. Also, visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic of the Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. The sacred relic was brought to Sri Lanka in the 4th century A.D. The sacred relic has ever since been the symbol of sovereignty for its ruler and is always enshrined in great splendor. Embark on a sightseeing tour in the city of Kandy. Thereafter, enjoy a typical Sri Lankan cultural performance. **Meals**: Breakfast.

Accommodation: Hotel Topaz 4* or similar

Tips & suggestions: During the visit of Temple of the Tooth please wear clothing covering knees and shoulders, as a sign of respect. You will also be required to leave your shoes at the shoe counter near to the entrance before entering the temple

Day 5: Kandy - Tea Factory - Nuwara Eliya

After breakfast, you will leave for Nuwara Eliya.

Along the way, you will visit Peradeniya Botanical Gardens once enjoyed by a Kandyan queen; this rose garden is enclosed next to a large bend in the Mahaweli River. Residence of Kandyan princes in the 1st Century. There are 4,000 different plant species here, considered one of the most advanced in Asia.

Afternoon visit a tea plantation and a factory. Here you will enjoy the absolute tea experience, taking you from the moment the young tea leaves are plucked from the plantation to being processed in the factory to make a steamy cup of tea. If you are interested, the tea factory is the best place to purchase good quality tea. Next, proceed to Nuwara Eliya and admire the amazing views here. Arrive and check in to the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: Lynden Grove Hotel 3* or similar

Tips & suggestions: Please note you will be driving to an altitude of 1900 meters and therefore the temperature in Nuwara Eliya will be 20-25c during the day, and 10-15c during the night. Warm clothing is recommended

Day 6: Nuwara Eliya - Ella

After breakfast, enjoy your time at leisure and check out at 10.00 am.

Thereafter, embark on one of South Asia's most famous train rides, The mystical **train ride from Nanu Oya to Ella**. The t**rain journey from Nanu Oya to Ella** in Sri Lanka is widely regarded as one of the most extraordinary and visually stunning experiences in the world. Spanning approximately 25 kilometers (15.5 miles), this scenic route traverses the captivating landscapes of Sri Lanka's hill country. As the train ascends gradually into the mountains, passengers are treated to breathtaking panoramic vistas of verdant tea plantations, ethereal valleys veiled in mist, captivating waterfalls, and dense forests teeming with life. Upon arrival, you will be taken to the hotel for check in. **Meals**: Breakfast.

Accommodation: 88th Ella Hotel 3* or similar

Special note: that it is not possible to confirm the train ticket reservation due to the fact that Sri Lanka Railway has a manual system for reservations. Tickets can only be booked 30 days prior to departure. On the rare occasion the train is fully booked we'll conduct the route by road.

Day 7: Ella - Nine Arches Bridge - Tissamaharama

Today we leave to Tissamaharama. Enroute we witnessed the picturesque waterfall, Rawana Waterfall before checking into our hotel. This afternoon we visited Nine Arch Bridge. The Nine Arches Bridge also called the Bridge in the Sky is one of the best examples of colonial-era railway construction in the country. The construction of the bridge is generally attributed to a local Ceylonese builder, in consultation with British engineers. It is located in Demodara, between Ella and Demodara railway stations. The surrounding area has seen a steady increase of tourism due to the bridge's architectural ingenuity and the profuse greenery in the nearby hillsides. Thereafter, we drove to Tissamaharama.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

Accommodation: Chaarya Resort & Spa 4* or similar

Day 8: Tissamaharama - Yala National Park - Mirissa Area

Today, you are free at leisure or you can purchase our optional visit to Yala National Park. Thereafter, drive to Mirissa and Weligama beach area. Stay overnight at the resort in Mirissa Area **Meals**: Breakfast.

Accommodation: Mandara Resort 4* or similar

Day 9: Mirissa Area - Galle - Bentota

Breakfast at the hotel, you are free at leisure or you can purchase our optional Whale Watching Tour. After check-out, you will be transferred to visit Galle Fort is a town situated on the southwestern tip of Sri Lanka, 119 km (74 mi) from Colombo. Galle was known as Gimhathiththa (although Ibn Batuta in the 14th century refers to it as Qali) before the arrival of the Portuguese in the 16th century, when it was the main port on the island. Galle reached the height of its development in the 18th century, before the arrival of the British, who developed the harbor at Colombo.Then you will be transported to the Bentota beach area. Check in at the hotel and enjoy your stay here.

Meals: Breakfast. Accommodation: EKHO Surf Bentota 4* or similar

Day 10: Bentota

You have free time at leisure to enjoy a swimming pool or play a sports game as you wish. **Meals**: Breakfast. **Accommodation**: EKHO Surf Bentota 4* or similar

Day 11: Bentota - Colombo

Today you will transfer to Colombo city. Upon arrival, check in to the hotel for the rest of the day at leisure and overnight stay at the hotel. **Meals**: Breakfast. **Accommodation**: Steuart by Citrus 3* or similar

Day 12: Colombo - Home

Today, you are free at leisure until transferred to the airport for the flight back home. **Meals**: Breakfast. **Accommodation**: On Plane

Day 13: Home

You arrive at your home today and end of your amazing vacation with Asia Vacation Group. See you in the next trip!

INCLUSIONS

- Returned International flights
- 02 water bottles per person per day
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of tour
- 11 nights accommodation in centrally location
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily Breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- In-depth sightseeing and all entry fees as per the itinerary

EXCLUSIONS

- Meals and drinks are not mentioned in the program
- Visa fee in Sri Lanka
- Tipping for driver and tour guide (AUD10/per person/day)
- Personal expenses
- Camera permits to sites.
- Compulsory New Year & Christmas Eve supplements
- Perahera Supplement whilst in Kandy.
- Travel insurance (we strongly recommend you hold a valid travel insurance policy for all domestic and overseas travel)
- Trip delay or interruption by airline schedule change
- Extra cost or missing tour caused by flight delay or cancel
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the program

DEPARTURE DATES: PRICE IS QUOTED IN AU\$ PER PERSON

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Friday 17 May 2024	Wednesday 29 May 2024	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 14 Jun 2024	Wednesday 26 Jun 2024	AU\$3,499		Book
Wednesday 26 Jun 2024	Monday 08 Jul 2024	AU\$3,999		Book
Friday 12 Jul 2024	Wednesday 24 Jul 2024	AU\$3,999		Book
Friday 09 Aug 2024	Wednesday 21 Aug 2024	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 23 Aug 2024	Wednesday 04 Sep 2024	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 06 Sep 2024	Wednesday 18 Sep 2024	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 20 Sep 2024	Wednesday 02 Oct 2024	AU\$3,199		Sold Out
Friday 04 Oct 2024	Wednesday 16 Oct 2024	AU\$2,999	School Holiday	Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	ΝΟΤΕ	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Friday 18 Oct 2024	Wednesday 30 Oct 2024	AU\$2,999	School Holiday	Sold Out
Friday 08 Nov 2024	Wednesday 20 Nov 2024	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 22 Nov 2024	Wednesday 04 Dec 2024	AU\$3,299		Book
Friday 06 Dec 2024	Wednesday 18 Dec 2024	AU\$3,699		Book
Friday 10 Jan 2025	Wednesday 22 Jan 2025	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 24 Jan 2025	Wednesday 05 Feb 2025	AU\$2,999		Book
Friday 07 Feb 2025	Wednesday 19 Feb 2025	AU\$3,299		Book
Friday 21 Feb 2025	Wednesday 05 Mar 2025	AU\$3,299		Book
Friday 07 Mar 2025	Wednesday 19 Mar 2025	AU\$3,399		Book
Friday 21 Mar 2025	Wednesday 02 Apr 2025	AU\$3,399		Book
Friday 28 Mar 2025	Wednesday 09 Apr 2025	AU\$3,399		Book
Friday 04 Apr 2025	Wednesday 16 Apr 2025	AU\$3,399		Book
Friday 18 Apr 2025	Wednesday 30 Apr 2025	AU\$3,399		Book
Friday 02 May 2025	Wednesday 14 May 2025	AU\$3,199		Book
Friday 16 May 2025	Wednesday 28 May 2025	AU\$3,199		Book
Friday 06 Jun 2025	Wednesday 18 Jun 2025	AU\$3,199		Book
Friday 20 Jun 2025	Wednesday 02 Jul 2025	AU\$3,199		Book

OPTIONAL TOURS



FINE PRINT

FLIGHT INFORMATION

This package includes international flights from Sydney/Melbourne and surcharge from Adelaide/Brisbane/Perth or other city if requested when selecting your departure city.

Interstate Surcharge

Surcharge of \$400 for departures from Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth

In this packages, we will use some different airlines such as: Sri Lanka Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, or similar (20-23kg for checked baggage per passenger and 7kg hand luggage per passenger).

- Some flights will require a minimum of 1 transit (maximum 2).
- All tickets will include 23 kilos checked baggage per person, along with 7 kilos of hand luggage.
- Despite the airlines baggage allowance, we recommend travelling with 20 kilos per person due to restrictions with internal flights (where applicable), as well as coach and train transportation. Also, you will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters is not included. If travelling over this amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable direct.
- Once ticketed, flights are non-refundable. Any changes will be subject to the airline rules, Airline change fees and an Asia Vacation Group change fee of \$250 per person.
- Full names as per passport (including all middle names) are required. Any error in the names submitted will be subject to an Asia Vacation Group name change fee of \$150 plus any applicable fees charged by the airline, or the ticket may be non-refundable with the purchase of a new ticket required.
- Any airline schedule changes or cancellations are beyond our control. It is important that you, as the customer, stay up-to-date with the latest airline schedule information prior to your departure. If a schedule change results in extended transits or an earlier/later departure from your destination, any additional accommodation or alternative arrangements will be at the traveler's expense.
- Any airline 'extras' such as pre-allocated seating is at your own arrangement (additional charges apply)
- After booking, the price payable may be subject to change as a result of factors beyond the control of Asia Vacation Group. Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to increase the price payable and this will be reflected on the customer's invoice. Increases may be in relation to, but not limited to, currency fluctuations, airline taxes, airfare increases and fuel surcharges.
- Internal airfares (where applicable and included in the itinerary) will be using a local carrier and may include low-cost carriers without meals or entertainment. Checked baggage will still be included for each passenger. Any additional baggage required is payable at time of check-in.
- If you are travelling with another party on a separate booking, we cannot guarantee that the same flights will be booked for all parties, as this strictly depends on availability.
- You will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters are not included. If travelling over the recommended amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable directly.
- In the event of that you no-show on your scheduled flight, please be aware the airline will require you to pay a no show fee, Airline reissue fee plus any additional airfare and taxes. Asia Vacation Group will also charge a \$250 admin fee to assist re accommodating you on the next available flight. Please note that depending on the airline's policy, purchasing a new ticket may be required.

Flight requests, amendments or preferences

We understand customers may wish to request changes to their included airfares. If you wish to fly with a certain airline, land at a certain time or change your flight in other ways we will gladly provide you with a personalized quote tailored to your specific requirements.

We would be more than happy to provide you with a quote for the following requests:

- Airline Preferences You may wish to fly with a particular airline
- Cabin Preferences These include upgrading to premium economy or business class

- Extensions (start and end cities must remain the same) - You may request to extend your stay pre or post tour.

- Meal Requests - You may request a specific meal for dietary requirements.

- **Seat Requests** – If you would like to request particular seating. However please note, not all airlines allow the selection of pre-purchased seat arrangements.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Physical Requirements

A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

Tipping

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Please be advised that tipping for tour guides, drivers and bellmen are required and will be collected by your travel consultant 7 days before you depart. A gratuity of 10AUD per person/day can make a big difference to locals employed in the tourism industry as they have done an impeccable job to serve you through your holiday.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Single supplement is \$515 per person in addition to the twin share price.

Paired Solo Traveler

Not available.

Group size: 6-20 pax

Triple Share

Upon your request except for cruises

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is recommended to protect yourself against the unexpected. In addition to the support that a policy may provide, you may be asked to present a copy of your travel insurance documentation while traveling.

We have partnered with NibTravel Insurance to offer our customers competitive rates for their travel insurance. You can book Comprehensive or Essentials cover for your domestic, international or multi-trip journeys simply with us.

Visa & Passport information

It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return and must have more than 2 blank pages.

Sri Lanka

An e-visa is required for entry into Sri Lanka. The Department of Immigration and Emigration launched a system called "Electronic Travel Authorization – ETA" in order to grant prior approval for a visa online for foreign nationals who visit Sri Lanka. You can visit <u>http://eta.gov.lk/slvisa/</u>to purchase your visa online.

E-Visa's are only valid for 30 days, so you can only apply closer to your travel dates. Please do not apply for your visa until you have your travel documentation. It will take 3 business days to be approved. The cost is US\$50 per person.

Please note that these details are subject to change without notice. We recommend visiting <u>https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/</u> for up-to-date information in terms of entry requirements.

Tour Documentation

Final documentation, including e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Children

Children must be 2 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are the same price as adults.

Tour Length

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day-by-day itinerary for the time spent on land.

HOW TO EXTEND YOUR STAY

You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Pre Tour Accommodation

• \$213 per room, per night including one-way airport transfer based on double/twin room share

Post Tour Accommodation

• \$213 per room, per night including one-way airport transfer based on double/twin room share Please select the number of extra nights required in the 'Additional Nights Accommodation' field when making your purchase. The additional cost for these arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

ASIA VACATION GROUP

Australia Call: 1800 229 339