



Incredible Indian Tours

Incredible Sri Lanka

18 Days / 17 Nights

11 - 28 September 2022

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Maximum Group Size 10

Accommodation 18 nts hotels

Transport Airport Transfers, Private vehicle, Train

Meals 17 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 11 dinners

Entrance Fees Included for all sites visited as part of the itinerary

Starts in Negombo

Finishes in Colombo

Cost September 2022 departure: US\$4490 per person twin share (US\$5280 with *optional* single supplement)

Sri Lanka, the 'Wonder of Asia', has something to offer everyone, and this trip has it all. Ancient ruins, tea plantations, wildlife safaris, World heritage sites, natural beauty, amazing beaches, fabulous food, spices and ayurveda, not to mention standout shopping.

We meet up at the beach resort town of Negombo before exploring the ancient capital of Anuradhapura and checking out the wildlife in Wilpathu National Park. We then head over to the east coast for 3 nights, experiencing some of the stunning coastal areas and beaches of Sri Lanka. Heading back to the ancient cities of Sigiriya and Dambulla we take a trip into the Elephant reserve of Minneriya NP before exploring the hills and tea plantations around Kandy and Nuwara Eliya. Heading south, we have a night at a beach resort on the South Coast before checking out the colonial history in charming Galle. We finish up our journey in Colombo, full of fabulous sights and amazing shopping. With many more hidden surprises, our travels around Sri Lanka will bring you face to face with fascinating culture, a beautiful people, fabulous food and an ancient and varied history just waiting to be discovered.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Negombo

Arriving at Bandaranaike International Airport, you will be met and driven to nearby Negombo and our hotel by the beach to spend the rest of the day at leisure before enjoying a welcome dinner tonight.

Day 2 Negombo

Today we visit the fish markets, and some of the interesting sights around Negombo including the Dutch canals and some of the religious buildings in what is known as Little Rome.

Days 3-4 Anuradhapura

Driving north to Anuradhapura - the old capital, we spend the afternoons visiting some of the remarkable sights, including the Sri Maha Bodhi, the oldest documented tree in the world, as well as Buddhist Dagobas or stupas and crumbling temples.

On the morning of day 4 we depart early for a jeep safari in Wilpattu National Park, Sri Lanka's largest national park, home to elephants, leopards, deer, sloth bears and more.

Days 5-6 Nilaveli

We have a morning drive east to Trincomalee via the stunning Mihintale holy mountain. Spend the afternoon swimming in the beautiful ocean here in Nilaveli or watching the local fishermen bringing in their catch.

On day 6 there is the option to visit the pristine Pigeon Island sanctuary, excellent for some reef snorkeling before an afternoon relaxing at our stunningly located beach resort.

Days 7-8 Sigiriya

After a morning visit to the astonishing Koneshwaram temple in Fort Fredrick, Trincomalee, we head back inland to Sigiriya today and the heart of the Ancient Cities. We visit Minneriya National Park, a haven for

huge herds of elephants, regularly spotted around the enormous water tank (lake) and even on the roads nearby. On day 9 we make an early morning climb up the legendary "Lion Rock", probably the most impressive sight in Sri Lanka. Half way up are the Celestial Maiden frescoes and a little more effort to get to the top is well worth it for the views and ruins. We also take a village tour and enjoy a typical Sri Lankan lunch.

Days 9-10 Kandy

Driving today into the hills, we visit first the beautiful Dambulla Cave Temples which house hundreds of Buddha statues, many carved out of the rock itself. Continuing on we come to beautiful Kandy where we'll catch the evening ceremony at the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic and a traditional dance performance. We will take a guided tour of Kandy city, enjoying free time for exploring or shopping (Kandy is famous for its gemstones and batik) and visit the stunning 60 hectare botanical gardens.

Days 11-12 Nuwara Eliya

We spend the day heading high into the hills (one of the most picturesque train journeys in the world), through the tea plantations to Nuwara Eliya. Visiting a tea plantation we also explore the colonial hill station and have a morning trek to 'Worlds End', with some of the best panoramic views in Sri Lanka.

Day 13 Tangalle

Heading south today, we stop for lunch at the friendly little village of Ella before driving down through Ella Gap to the south coast where we stop for the night on the stunning Sri Lankan south coast beaches near Tangalle.

Days 14-15 Galle

Today we drive eastwards along the South Coast to Galle, enroute passing by the Stilt Fishermen around Koggala. Galle City, the major port on the south coast has the charming 17th century Fort, with Portuguese, Dutch and English heritage. You have a free day to explore the ramparts and buildings and wandering through the quaint streets steeped in history, not to mention fabulous boutiques, bars and cafes.

Days 16-17 Colombo

We have a full day to explore the sights and the shopping in Colombo, including the Gangaramaya Temple and the markets of Pettah. Sri Lanka has a large clothing export industry and many of the seconds find their way into the outlet stores in Colombo. There are also many other wonderful buys, from homewares and textiles to gems and of course, Sri Lankan souvenirs.

Day 18 Colombo

There are no activities today. You can depart at any time.

Contact: Debbie Kindness

www.incredibleindiatours.com

E-mail: info@incredibleindiatours.com

Ph: +91 95490 02876

