

## 10 Days

**Day 1** According to your request pick up at the airport or hotel

Transfer Galle

**Day 2** Galle

The most popular sight of Galle is the Fort which was built by the Portugese in the 16th Century as a fortification around the old town and was extended by the Dutch. The Fort is considered the largest preserved building of its kind in South Asia. In 1988 the Fort was declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The old town of Galle with its imposing houses from the colonial era invites to stroll around or dine in one of the appealing restaurants.

Transfer Tissamaharama (Yala) approx. 2,5 hours

Overnight Yala/Tissamaharama

**Day 3** Yala Nationalpark

In the morning: Jeep-Safari Yala Nationalpark

There are several superlatives for the Yala Nationalpark. It's the most popular, oldest and largest nationalpark of Sri Lanka. It covers an area of around 1,500 sqkm. With around 30 leopards Yala has the worldwide largest density of the world. Furthermore you can admire around 30 mammal species such as elephants and bears, also you can find 130 birds species. Blue and sperm whales you can observe in the beach bays.

Overnight Yala/Tissamaharama

Transfer Ella approx. 1,5 hours

On the way: Ravana Waterfall

The river Kirindi Oya is the source of the Ravana Waterfall and 25mm high. The waterfall was named after the King Ravana of Sri Lanka.

Overnight Ella

**Day 4** Ella

Nine Arches Bridge

This imposing viaduct bridge stands for railroad construction in the British colonial era. The bridge is approx. 90m long and 24,5m high. It was built in 1921 using only stone and mortar, no iron and steel was used.

Little hiking to Little Adam's Peak

The ascent to the Little Adam's Peak lasts around 45 min. A cosy hiking with a beautiful view from the top. On your way you pass an adventure park where you can join some activities.

Cooking demonstration Srilankan Curries

You learn how to cook the popular Srilankan Curries and which spices are used for it. After the cooking you enjoy your prepared food in a cosy atmosphere.

Overnight Ella

#### **Day 5 Train Ride Ella – Nuwara Eliya**

This impressive train ride lasts around 3,0 hours and leads through the Highland. Fascinating vegetation, tea plantations and the beautiful landscape provide an exciting train ride.

##### **City-Tour Nuwara Eliya**

The meaning of this city is „City of Light“. Nuwara Eliya is located at 1,990 over the sea level and is surrounded by tea plantations. In this region you also find vegetable and dairy farming. The city was founded in the 19th century by Samuel Baker and served as a resort for the British colonial officers. Many of the buildings from this time still exist.

##### **Overnight Nuwara Eliya**

#### **Day 6 Hiking Horton Plains**

The Horton Plains national park is located near Nuwara Eliya and belongs to the „Central Highlands of Sri Lanka“. It lies at an altitude of 200m and is the most important watershed of the country and contains the most extensive cloud forest area. Therefore, to have a clear view you should start the tour early in the morning. There are around 750 plant species, many of them are endemic. Also animals like Sambar (horse deer), amphibian species or birds species are located here. If you reach the World's End you have an amazing view maybe all the way to the sea on a clear day. World's End is a steep slope of 870m. The Baker's Falls are also located in this national park and spring from the river Belihul Oya.

#### **Transfer Kandy approx. 2,5 hours**

##### **On the way: Tea Factor**

Guiding through the Tea Factory and Tea tasting.

##### **Ramboda Waterfall**

The waterfall is 109m high and the eleven highest waterfall of Sri Lanka. The waterfall is formed from the river Panna Oya.

##### **Overnight Kandy**

#### **Day 7 Kandy**

##### **Cultural Dance Kandy**

Traditional dances of the highlands are presented. A cross-section of the most important dances is shown at this event: dances for patron gods, temple dances, drum dances, mask dances and much more. At the end of the show a fire walk is presented.

##### **Tooth Temple (Sri Dalada Maligawa)**

Where does the name tooth temple comes from? The upper left canine tooth of Buddha Siddharta Gautama is kept here as a relic. The tooth keeps the spiritual power of Buddha. It symbolises good harvest and protects the land from drought. The tooth temple is considered to one of the most pilgrimage sites for Buddhists. In the early morning, late morning and in the evening the shrine with the tooth is opened in a ceremony and the pilgrims are allowed to take a brief look at it.

##### **Overnight Kandy**

**Day 8 Botanical Garden Peradeniya**

With an area of 80 hectares and thus the largest botanical garden of Sri Lanka. Here you can observe around 4000 plants: Orchids, spice plants, medical plants, different palm species, bamboo plants, ficus trees and much more.

**Transfer Sigiriya approx. 2,5 hours**

**On the way: Sight Seeing Spice Garden**

**Dambulla Cave Temple**

The cave temples of Dambulla cover an area of 2.100m<sup>2</sup> and is herewith the largest temple complex of Sri Lanka. King Valagamba of Anuradhapura once used it as an exile when the city was occupied by the Indians. In many cave temples paintings and statues can be admired. Since 1991 Dambulla is UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Overnight Sigiriya**

**Day 9 Polonnaruwa/Minneriya Nationalpark**

**Transfer approx. 1,0 hour**

**Polonnaruwa**

Polonnaruwa was the capital of the second oldest kingdom of Sri Lanka. Its heyday reached the kingdom under Parakrama Bahu (1153-1186 AD), during this time the tooth relic of Buddha was also kept here. Now its kept in the Tooth Temple of Kandy. The park of Polonnaruwa is one of tourist attractions with numerous Buddha statues, huge dagobas and temple complexes. Particularly impressive are four Buddha statues carved into the rock, called the Buddha statues of Gal Vihara.

**Minneriya Nationalpark**

The Minneriya Nationalpark has one of the largest elephant populations in Asia. This nature reserve has around 90 km<sup>2</sup>. During the dry season between June and September, you have the chance to see up to 300 animals at the water reservoir. Due to the huge water reservoir, the park is also one of the most important areas for birds. In addition, you can see various species of monkeys, deer and bears.

**Overnight Sigiriya**

**Day 10 Sigiriya Rock**

One of the most fascinating sights of Sri Lanka is the 200m high Lion's rock (Singha Giri). You will go up early in the morning.

On the top you will see the foundation walls of the palace as Sigiriya was a former kingdom. About half way up you can admire frescoes also known as „cloud maiden“ under a rock overhang. Since 1982 Sigiriya has been UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**End of the tour**

**At the end of the tour we will drop you to your desired destination**