



WELCOME TO SRI LANKA

ESCORTED TOUR

26 NOVEMBER – 10 DECEMBER 2019

Surrounded by shining blue water, Sri Lanka is home to one of the oldest civilisations in the world. Nature's treasure chest where written history exceeds 2500 years, the island of Sri Lanka has stunning temples and monasteries, green gardens, amazing wildlife, tea plantations, golden beaches and eight UNESCO world heritage sites. Join Go See Touring as we explore this diverse nation with its friendly hospitable people and amazing culture. Sri Lanka is one of the world's most delightful destinations to visit and we will take in the best of it on this fully escorted tour. Book now to secure your place.

\$4,175
* per person Twin Share
Ex BNE, SYD, MEL

\$1,150
* Single supplement
Ex BNE, SYD, MEL



<p>INCLUSIONS Return economy airfares and taxes ex BNE, SYD or MEL 13 Nights accommodation in 3* and 4* Hotels Daily breakfast and dinner Fully escorted by a Go See Touring escort</p>	<p>HIGHLIGHTS Negombo Fish Markets Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage Sigiriya Rock Fortress Dambulla Cave Temple Jeep Safari in National Parks Matale Spice Gardens Madu River Cruise</p>	 <p>BOOK YOUR TRAVEL INSURANCE WITH GO SEE TOURING & RECEIVE A 25% DISCOUNT</p>
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TERMS & CONDITIONS: *Price is per person Twin Share. Single Supplement applies. Credit card surcharges apply. Deposit of \$500 per person is required to secure tour. Tour requires minimum number of passengers to depart. Prices correct as at 12 October 2018. Prices may fluctuate if surcharges, fee, taxes or currency change and subject to increase for bookings made once current allocation is sold out and/ or after 23 August 2019. Go See Touring Pty Ltd T/A Go See Touring Member of Helloworld QLD Lic No: 3198772 ABN: 72 122 522 276 ATAS Accreditation A11320



Day 1 - Tuesday 26 November 2019

Depart Brisbane 2:45PM - Arrive Colombo 11:55PM

Welcome to sunny Sri Lanka, the tear-drop shaped island in the middle of the Indian Ocean. On arrival you will be met by your local tour guide and transferred to the Pegasus Reef Hotel for check-in. Nestled between lush tropical gardens and the cerulean Indian Ocean, this Colombo Airport hotel is situated just 24 km from the Bandaranaike International Airport and 13 km from the Colombo city centre. With a quiet and tranquil surrounding, it is the perfect base for leisure and corporate travellers alike.

Accommodation: Pegasus Reef Hotel or similar (2 nights)

Day 2 - Wednesday 27 November 2019 (B, D) Negombo

We begin our sightseeing tour visiting Negombo. This seaside town is located at the mouth of Negombo lagoon, set amid a lush grove of coconut palms giving the feel of the spirit of the sea. Here you will visit the famous Negombo Fish Markets, a traditional patchwork of fish drying on hessian sacks followed by a cruise along the calm waters of the jungle-fringed Gin Oya River, listening to the tranquil sounds of the abundant birdlife. We'll watch the sunset before joining a local family for a hosted dinner on the banks of the river.

Day 3 - Thursday 28 November 2019 (B, D) Negombo - Sigiriya

This morning we depart Negombo and travel north into the Sri Lankan highlands. On the way to Sigiriya we'll stop to watch the beautiful elephants from the Pinnawala Orphanage going about their daily life - feeding, playing and bathing in the local river. Continue on to the world heritage site of Sigiriya. Sigiriya is famous for its palace ruins on top of a massive 200-meter high rock surrounded by the remains of an extensive network of gardens, reservoirs and other structures. The rock itself is a lava plug left over from an ancient long extinct volcano. It is also renowned for its ancient paintings (frescoes), which are similar to those found at Ajanta Caves in India. It is generally agreed, however, that the Sigiriya Frescoes exhibit a uniquely Sri Lankan style. Sigiriya may have been inhabited through prehistoric times.

Accommodation: Thilanka Resort and Spa or similar (4 nights)

Day 4 - Friday 29 November 2019 (B, D)

Anuradhapura & Ritigala Excursion

Today, visit the impressive ruins of Anuradhapura, the largest and oldest of Sri Lanka's ancient cities, dating back to the 6th century. We'll explore the gleaming white dagobas and Sri Maha Bodhi, before travelling to the Ritigala Medicinal Forest to discover the ruins of an ancient hermitage, set deep in the jungle. Return to the hotel and enjoy dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Day 5 - Saturday 30 November 2019 (B, D)

Polonnaruwa & Minneriya National Park Excursion

Our day begins with a visit to the medieval capital of Polonnaruwa. Brimming with archaeological treasures, we'll discover the well-preserved ruins of palaces, stupas, bathing pools and exquisite rock sculptures of Buddha. This afternoon we tour Minneriya National Park by jeep, where we'll hopefully spot sambar deer and elephants.

Day 6 - Sunday 01 December 2019 (B, L, D) Sigiriya

Today we explore the famous rock fortress of Sigiriya - 'Lion Rock'. Built by King Kasyapa in the 5th century, this impressive site is located on top of a vast 200-metre-high granite rock, some 750 steps up! Visit a traditional Sri Lankan village and be welcomed into a local home. Learn about daily life and traditional farming, and then feast on local delicacies!

Day 7 - Monday 02 December 2019 (B, D) Sigiriya - Kandy

After breakfast we begin our journey to Kandy, stopping at the stunning Cave Temples of Dambulla. Housing hundreds of statues of Buddha, they are also completely covered in ancient frescoes. We also stop at a

spice plantation in Matale. When we arrive in Kandy later this afternoon we'll visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha.

Accommodation: Thilanka Hotel or similar (2 nights)

Day 8 - Tuesday 03 December 2019 (B, D) Kandy

The former capital of Ceylon and the last seat of the Sinhalese kingdom, Kandy is known as Sri Lanka's cultural heart. This morning we visit the Royal Botanic Gardens of Peradeniya, with its beautiful orchid house, before touring the city. Later we'll be treated to a local dance performance. Return to the hotel for dinner.

Day 9 - Wednesday 04 December 2019 (B, D) Kandy - Nuwara Eliya

We travel to the lush tea-growing region of Nuwara Eliya (Up to Nawalapitiya) by train and road, visiting a tea plantation to learn about Sri Lanka's most famous export. Of course, we'll enjoy a cup while we're there. We continue our tour in the picturesque colonial town of Nuwara Eliya. Built by the British in the 19th century to escape the sweltering heat of the lowlands, this town still retains the charm of bygone days. We'll also visit beautiful Lovers Water Falls.

Accommodation: Araliya Green Hills or similar (1 night)

Day 10 - Thursday 05 December 2019 (B, D)

Nuwara Eliya - Tissamaharama

Enjoy breakfast at the Travelling south towards the coast, we visit the spectacular waterfalls at Ella. This waterfall measures approximately 25 m (82 ft) in height and cascades from an oval-shaped concave rock outcrop. During the local wet season, the waterfall turns into what is said to resemble an areca flower with withering petals. But this is not the case in the dry season, where the flow of water reduces dramatically. This afternoon we arrive in Tissamaharama (or Tissa). Set amongst rice paddies and ruins, it is also the gateway to Yala National Park. **Accommodation:** Chaarya by Chandrika or similar (1 night)

Day 11 - Friday 06 December 2019 (B, D) Tissamaharama - Galle

This Morning we embark on a safari in Yala National Park - the oldest and best-known of Sri Lanka's national parks. Created in 1938, the diverse range of habitats, including scrub jungle, brackish lagoons, lakes and rivers are home to leopards, elephants, wild buffalo, deer, black bears, macaques, jackals and a variety of birds. It's believed to have one of the highest-density leopard populations in the world. The national park also boasts a large number of important cultural ruins indicating that there were previous civilisations. Driving along Sri Lanka's beautiful south coast, we make our way to the Dutch colonial town of Galle. Here we'll take a city tour and visit its UNESCO World Heritage-listed sea fortress. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation: The Palms or similar (2 night)

Day 12 - Saturday 07 December 2019 (B, D) Galle

We enjoy a scenic cruise along the Madu River, watching locals go about their daily lives. We'll stop to visit a hatchery that was set up to conserve the turtle population, then visit a moonstone mine at Meetiya goda. Enjoy a guided tour of the mine followed by some jewellery shopping.

Day 13 - Sunday 08 December 2019 - Galle - Colombo

We make our way to the island nation's capital, Colombo. We'll take a guided tour of the city, including a stop at the famous Cricket Club Café. tonight, we enjoy a group farewell dinner the Galle Face Hotel.

Accommodation: Cinnamon Lake or similar (1 night)

Day 14 - Monday 09 December 2019 (B) Day at leisure in Colombo

Today is at leisure before we bid farewell to Sri Lanka this evening and begin our journey home. Late this evening check-out of the hotel for the transfer to the airport.

Day 15 - Tuesday 10 December 2019

Depart Colombo 1:10AM - Arrive Brisbane 7:45PM