

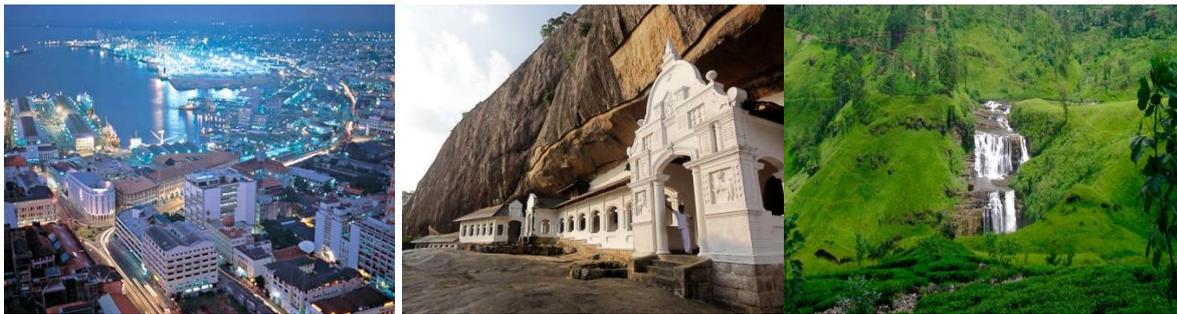


Welcome to Cultural Sri Lanka. This quick tour introduces you to the cultural triangle, hill stations and the vibrant city.

## Sri Lankan Cultural Experience

8 Days / 7 Nights

**Tour Highlights Dambulla → Kandy → Nuwara Eliya → Colombo**



### **Day 1: Arrive Colombo - Dambulla**

Meeting and assistance on arrival at Colombo Airport .

#### **Transfer to Kandy via Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage.**

Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage – set amongst the verdant hills of Kegalle is a unique orphanage, where the tiny tots weigh 60 kg or more. This is the Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage, the world's first and only elephant orphanage established to feed, nurse and house young elephants lost or abandoned by their mothers. Other occupants are elephants displaced from their natural environs by development projects or those found wounded. Visitors could see the baby elephants being fed milk from gigantic feeding bottles or bathed in the river which flows nearby – an unforgettable sight! Established in 1975, by the Wildlife Department and National Zoological gardens which subsequently led to a breeding programme through which more than twenty five elephants have been born since 1984.

#### **Transfer to Dambulla**

Overnight at hotel.

## **Day 2: Dambulla**

**(B)**

Today visit the Dambulla Cave Temple and Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

Dambulla – located in the north central province this UNESCO World Heritage Site which dates back to the 01st century BC, is an amazing complex of 05 caves, first used as a refuge by an ancient king who on regaining his throne, commissioned magnificent carved images within the living rock. Later kings made further improvements and the caves contain over 150 images of the Buddha of which the largest is a colossal figure spanning 15 meters. Cave inscriptions from the 2nd Century BC are found and on the walls are many paintings most of which belong to the Kandy period (early 19th century). This temple is a perfect location to view evolution of ancient Sri Lankan art and is an important historical site due to the amalgamation of the material from many eras.

Sigiriya – this UNESCO World Heritage Site, a spectacular Rock Fortress, is one of Sri Lanka's major attractions. The most impressive facets of the unique complex are the Water Gardens, the Frescoes of beautiful maidens, the Mirror Wall with ancient graffiti, the Lion platform and the Summit of 1.6 hectares, which was completely covered by buildings during the period of Sigiriya's glory. Built by King Kashyapa (477-495 A.D), the "Lion Rock" is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200m from the scrub jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town and the base is ringed by a moat, rampart, and extensive gardens. The world-renowned frescoes (originally 500, of which only 19 remain today) which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway are painted in earth pigments on plaster. The old stairway to the top led through the mouth of a crouching lion but today only the huge paws remain giving an indication of the massive proportions of the head. Remains of the handsome royal citadel are on the summit and several caves for meditation, audience platforms and baths complete the unique site.

Overnight at hotel.

## **Day 3: Dambulla - Kandy**

**(B)**

### **Transfer to Kandy.**

Proceed on a half day city tour of Kandy.

The last capital of the Sri Lankan kings which is a world heritage site. The name Kandy conjures visions of splendor and magnificence. Many of the legends, traditions and folklore are still lovingly kept alive. Drive around the Kandy lake built by the last Sinhala king Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe in 1806, visit the Kandy town and bazaar, the arts and crafts center and a gem museum and lapidary. The evening is the best time to visit the temple of the tooth relic and thereafter witness a traditional cultural dance show.

Overnight at hotel.

**Day 4: Kandy - Nuwara Eliya****(B)****Transfer from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya**

Proceed on a half day city tour of Nuwara Eliya.

Misty steep roads, twisting through lush green blankets of tea bushes in a cool climate, remind visitors that they are within the range of the renowned British colonial retreat, Nuwara Eliya. Augmented by an English countryside atmosphere, the city of light - once governed by English & Scottish planters - is still studded with colonial bungalows, hedgerows & one of the finest 18-hole golf courses in the world. A hike through the green grass and red-brick walls should present breathtaking views of a buzzing countryside hamlet. Drive through green valleys of the hill country pierced by endless waterfalls & dotted by tea pluckers draped in bright-colored saris. Or rent a bike for a gentle ride along the banks splashed by the waters of Lake Gregory.

Overnight at hotel.

**Day 5: Nuwara Eliya****(B)**

Free day at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

**Day 6: Nuwara Eliya - Colombo****(B)****Transfer from Nuwara Eliya to Colombo.**

Rest of day at leisure (no transport services).

Overnight at hotel.

**Day 7: Colombo****(B)**

Proceed on a Half Day shopping tour of Colombo.

**Day 8: Leave Colombo****(B)**

In time transfer to Colombo Airport for flight back home.

**\*\*\*\*\*TOUR ENDS\*\*\*\*\***

- **CHECK-IN TIME IS 14h00 & CHECK-OUT TIME AT ALL THE HOTELS IS 12 NOON**

## **RATES AND CONDITIONS**

### **ACCOMMODATION:**

<b>City</b>	<b>4*+ Hotels</b>	<b>Number of nights</b>
<b>Dambulla</b>	Arika Villa	02
<b>Kandy</b>	Grand Kandyan	01
<b>Nuwara Eliya</b>	Heritance Tea Factory	02
<b>Colombo</b>	Ozo	02

**PRICING per person for shared twin/double. ie 2 people per room**

Rates are valid from 01 February 2018 to 20 March 2018

<b>4* Package from:</b>	<b>R 28 930.00 per person sharing</b> <b>Inclusive of airfares ex Johannesburg</b>
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### **Our Services include:**

- Return airfares ex Johannesburg with airport taxes
- Accommodation in a shared twin or shared double room in selected hotels
- Meals as mentioned (B= Breakfast)
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by private air conditioned vehicle unless stated otherwise

### **Excludes:**

- Visas
- Entrance fees to monuments, approx R 4250.00 per person
- Other meals than mentioned
- Personal expenses (drinks, laundry, telephone, tips etc)
- Travel insurance
- Laundry

- Tipping
- Other services not clearly indicated in the package inclusions above

#### **All you need to know about our tours:**

- The above itinerary is a guideline of what we can offer you in Sri Lanka. These tours are tailor made to suit you and can be chopped and changed to your liking.
- We personally ensure that the hotels we chose are up to South African Standards. We do not sell local trains or budget/3\* hotels in Sri Lanka.
- Our Sri Lanka tours are all on a private basis so you will not be part of a group
- All our transfers and tours are conducted in private aircon vehicles with a driver, the driver will also serve as your guide
- Free time at leisure means you get to catch a tuk tuk or a taxi and explore the city at your own pace
- The best time to visit India weather wise would be from October to March.

#### **Standard Terms & Conditions:**

- Prices quoted are per person sharing in a Double/Twin room which means min 2 people have to share a room to avail the rate quoted
- Rates are a guideline only and is subject to change with no prior notice based on availability and currency fluctuations