

# PEARL LANKA VOYAGERS

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## **Adventure of Pearl Lanka – 17 Nights / 18 Days Tour In Sri Lanka**

### **DAY 01 – AIR PORT/COLOMBO**

Warmly welcome at the airport and transfer to Colombo.

#### **Colombo**

Colombo is the largest city and commercial capital of Sri Lanka. It is located on the west coast of the island and adjacent to **Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte**. Colombo is a busy and vibrant city with a mixture of modern life, colonial buildings and ruins. Due to its large harbor and strategic position along the East West sea-trade routes. Colombo was known to ancient traders 2000 years ago. In 1978 administrative functions were moved to Sri Jayawardanapura and Colombo was designated as the commercial capital of Sri Lanka. The population of the Colombo District is 2.25 Million.

#### **Colombo City Tour (Depending on the arrival flight details)**

Overnight stay at Colombo

### **DAY 02 – COLOMBO/PINNAWELA/HABARANA**

Have a breakfast at the hotel and early morning proceed to Habarana Via Pinnawala En-route visit Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage.

- **Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage**

The Orphanage was established to feed, nurse and house young elephants abandoned by their mothers and displaced from their natural environment due to development projects. Most orphans cannot be introduced back to the wild as other elephant family groups will not accept them. They enjoy a good life with their human parents and many find good foster homes in zoos around the world. If you could reach the Orphanage by **09:15 hrs or 13:15 hrs** you will be in time to see the baby elephants being bottle-fed. **At 10:00 hrs** the entire herd is taken to the river for a bath. After the Pinnawala elephant Orphanage visit continuous the trip to **Habarana**

- **Habarana**

Habarana- the central point of Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle and the most convenient base for excursions to the Ancient historical cities, Anuradhapura 60 minutes, Polonnaruwa 45 minutes, Sigiriya/Dambulla 30 minutes, Ritigala 15 minutes and Minneriya/Kaudulla National Parks (site of the renowned "Gathering" of over 250 Elephant between June to September) 15 minutes.

Evening Jeep Safari at **Kaudulla or Minneriya National Park**

- **Kaudulla National Park**

Kaudulla National Park is around the ancient Kaudulla tank and provides a 6656 hectare elephant corridor, only 6 km from the main Habarana-Trincomalee road. Herds of Elephants up to 250 could be seen mainly in the month of October.

- **Minneriya National Park**

Minneriya National Park is located at the center of the Cultural Triangle. The dry season from June to September is best time to visit the 8890 hectare park when the ancient tank dries out. During this time it is possible to see herds of up to 150 elephants feeding and bathing. Minneriya closest by car to the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, was upgraded from a Natural Reserve to a National Park because of the increased number of tourists arriving to see the elephants.

Overnight stay at Habarana.

### **DAY 03 – HABARANA/RITIGALA/POLONNARUWA/HABARANA**

After the breakfast proceed to **Ritigala by the bicycles.**

- **Ritigala**

Ritigala- kanada (the Ritigala mountain) lying in the southern part of the North Central Province of Sri Lanka, bears a legendary historical and monastic past unsurpassed by any other mountain retreat in the country. Its unusual structure embodying numerous caves, large boulder masses and steep rocky precipices, afforded a natural sheltered habitation for aboriginal tribes, religious devotees, princes and royal fugitives biding their time to wage war for the kingship; while its strategic position in relation to Anuradhapura, the ancient capital.

After Ritigala trekking Continuous the trip by car/van to Polonnaruwa and **Polonnaruwa Sightseeing by the Bicycle.**

- **Polonnaruwa**

**Polonnaruwa** was mediaeval capital of Sri Lanka, and today it is one of the most beautiful centers of our cultural heritage. Polonnaruwa succeeded Anuradhapura as capital of the island now called Sri Lanka at the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century. The Indian Chola Dynasty ruled the island at that moment but after they were driven out Polonnaruwa remained the capital. The city had its cultural heyday under the leadership of King Parakramabahu 1 in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, the buildings, parks and the large tank date from this period.

Visit the ancient ruins and the **GAL VIHARA COMPLEX**, where three very large Buddha statues are carved out of a single rock. And you will see the **NEW MUSEUM** where you will find all above places displayed with modules.

Overnight stay at Habarana.

### **DAY 04 – HABARANA/SIGIRIYA/HABARANA**

After the breakfast proceed to Sigiriya by Three Wheelers, a very popular taxi among common people of Sri Lanka.

- **Sigiriya**

Climb the 5<sup>th</sup> century **Sigiriya Rock Fortress** – which is a **UNESCO "World Heritage Site"**, built by 'King Kashyapa (477-495 AD)'. The "**Lion Rock**" is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 meters from the green scrub jungle, its perhaps the most memorable place for visitors to Sri Lanka. The site was known from ancient times as a hermitage for Buddhist monks. A well planned monastic complex includes caved temples, bathing pools, lovely ponds and Asia's oldest surviving landscaped gardens. Today Sigiriya is famous for its "**Frescos Painted**" in the pocket of the rock. The "**Lion Stairway**", the "**Mirror Wall**" and the "**Water Gardens**" are the other highlights of Sigiriya.

After the Sigiriya you can get an unforgettable experience in Sri Lankan village life.

#### **Village Tour**

- **Bullock Cart Ride**

Our first vehicle is the Bullock Cart. It was using from beginning until to date. Our ancient peoples, the ministers, Lords, Village headman, even the farmers, were using this bullock carts, riding the last on gravel roads you will see the Birds, Butterflies and the greenly environments.

- **The Canoe Boat Riding**

You can do canoe boat riding after the bullock cart riding. Blooming lotus, water lily, Carper fish, Cranes, Egrets, Cormorants, Kingfisher very occasionally agitators.

- **Farming House**

Visiting a farm house in the village. You can get experience of the pleasure of the village living. You can walk throughout the paddy fields. And also you can enjoy the village tour in a simple home cooking meals, making various kinds of foods, grinding paddy, making flour out of rice.

#### **Sri Lankan Traditional Lunch arrange at Village House**

- **Elephant Ride**

Evening you can have experience of elephant back safari. It's about one hour trip through the village and the lake. Around Habarana/Sigiriya area famous for the Elephant Back Safaris.

Overnight stay at Habarana.

## **DAY 05 – HABARANA/DAMBULLA/MATALE/KANDY**

Have a breakfast at the hotel and morning leaving to Kandy Via Matale En-route visit Dambulla Cave Temple, Matale Spice Garden and also Batik Factory.

- **Dambulla Rock Cave Temple**

Visit **Dambulla Rock Cave Temple** also known as the Golden Temple of Dambulla. Dambulla rock temple was built by 'King Walagambahu' in the 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C and it is **UNESCO "World Heritage Site"**. Comprised of 5 caves and a picturesque facade carved into the side of a steep rock face, the Dambulla Cave Temple houses ancient statues and paintings depicting Lord Buddha and his life. This is the largest and best preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka.

- **Matale Herbal & Spice Garden**

Visit a spice garden in Matale to see different spices for which Sri Lanka is famous for. Here, clients could see different spices and how some of these spices are grown and processed. After visit proceed to Kandy.

- **Kandy**

Kandy was the last capital of the Sri Lankan kings which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The name "Kandy" conjures visions of splendor and magnificence. Many of the legends, traditions and folklore are still lovingly kept alive. Evening visit the Kandyan Culture Show.

- **Kandyan Culture Show**

Witness the **Kandyan Dance** a pageant of traditional Sri Lankan dance that flourished in the hill country during ancient times. The dancers are attired in frilled costumes with glistening head-dresses and breastplates. They skip and whirl to the beat of the drums executing astonishing acrobatics in mid-air. The highlight of the performance is the fire-walking at the end of the pageant.

- **Temple of the Tooth (Dalada Maligawa)**

Visit the "**Dalada Maligawa**" – where the **sacred Tooth Relic** is placed and preserved is undoubtedly the greatest attraction of the city. It is one of the most sacred places for Buddhists all over the world. Watch the traditional rituals performed daily by the religious dignitaries of the temple in keeping with the cultural heritage of country.

Next you will visit the "**Raja Wasala**" – the Royal Palace complex adjoining the Temple of Tooth where the Council Chamber known as the "**Magul Maduwa**" is seen. This is a unique wooden pillared hall dating back to 1784 and the Devala complexes are housed inside.

Overnight stay at Kandy

## **DAY 06 – KANDY/KITULGALA**

After the breakfast at the hotel and morning leaving to Kitulgala. En-route visit Kandy City and Royal Botanical Garden in Peradeniya.

- **Kandy City Tour**

Drive around the Kandy Lake built by the last Sinhala king Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe in 1798. Visit the **Bazaar area, Arts & Crafts center, a gem museum and a lapidary etc.** You could visit a **Gem Museum** & shops in the area which is famous for so many years about the gems & Jewellery industry. Ceylon Gems brings you the highest quality natural gems for provide a wide range of gemstones that include blue, white, sapphires, chrysoberyl, cat's eye, tourmaline, garnet, topaz.

- **Royal Botanical Garden**

Visit the **Royal Botanical Garden** which is located less than four miles from Kandy on the Colombo road. Being 1540 feet above sea level, it covers approximately 150 acres and well known for its large variety of plants and creepers. The best attraction is the orchid house, which houses more than 300 varieties of orchids and the many of nutmeg grove.

After reach to the Kitulgala

- **Kitulgala**

Kitulgala is a small town in the west of Sri Lanka. The Kelani River flowing through Kitulgala and it was the main location where the Oscar winning movie "**The Bridge over the River Kwai**" was filmed. The **Kelani River** is a 145-kilometre-long river in Sri Lanka & ranking as the fourth longest river in the country, it stretches from the Sri Pada Mountain Range to Colombo. It flows through or bordering 05 Sri Lankan districts.

On the hill above Kitulgala there is a prehistoric cave was recently discovered containing skeletal remains from some unknown prehistoric civilization.

### **Overnight at Kitulgala Camping Site.**

#### **DAY 07 – KITULGALA/ADAM'S PEAK**

After the breakfast at the Camping site you will start the activities of Adventure Sports.

Kitulgala is the base for **White-Water Rafting** in Sri Lanka.

- **Adventure Sports**
  - White Water Rafting
  - Waterfall Abseiling
  - Cannoning (Sliding & Confidence Jumps)

After the Adventure Sports proceed to Adam's Peak

#### **Adam's Peak**

Adam's Peak, Sri Lanka's fourth highest mountain (2244m). Various known as Adam's Peak (the place where Adam first set foot on earth after being cast out of heaven), Sri Pada (Sacred Footprint, left by the Buddha as he headed towards paradise), or perhaps most poetically as Samanalakande (Butterfly Mountain; where butterflies go to die).

Adam's Peak or Sri Pada is an important pilgrim site. The devotees of many religions climb the mountain to invoke blessings. It's a between 03 – 04 hour climb to the top. Buddhist people believe the impression on the summit is the footprint of the Buddha. You need take few drinking water bottles and some snacks for your refreshing while the climbing the peak.

Adam's Peak is surrounded, largely by the forested hills, with no mountain of comparable size anywhere round in the vicinity. The region of Peak Wilderness Sanctuary that encompass the Adam's Peak together with Horton Plains National Park and Knuckles Range, all in the Central Highlands of Sri Lanka is recognized as a World Heritage Site in the year 2011.

Overnight stay in a hotel nearby Adam's Peak.

#### **DAY 08 – ADAM'S PEAK/NUWARA ELIYA**

After the breakfast leave for Nuwara Eliya

- **Nuwara Eliya**

**Nuwara Eliya** Which means the "**City of Lights**" is also known as the city of eternal spring, where the air is pure, cool and distilled up through 1884 meters. The city established by the British in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and known as "**LITTLE ENGLAND**" and is a popular holiday resort for Sri Lankans & tourists due to its cool climate and quaint colonial feel with its little bungalows surrounded by hedgerows.

Nuwara Eliya is also the heart of the tea country and you can visit a plantation and a factory En route here and witness how the famous "**Ceylon Tea**" is brewed. A journey through narrow passes, beside deep ravines and over gushing streams to the hill country of Sri Lanka is a very enjoyable one.

Overnight stay at Nuwara Eliya

#### **DAY 09 – NUWARA ELIYA/HORTON PLAINS/TRAIN JOURNEY/ELLA**

- **Horton Plains**

Early morning about 05.15am geared with picnic breakfast leave for **Horton Plains National Park**. This park covers an extent of 3162 hectares and 7200 feet above from sea level. An hour's drive from Nuwara Eliya will meet you the entrance Horton Plains National Park. This is the only one National Park in Sri Lanka could be toured by foot. Endemic Sender Loris and purple monkey are among the important animal species in addition to Sambur and the occasional Leopard. Horton plains area was a paradise of wild elephants until the end of 18<sup>th</sup> century. Thousands of wild elephants

were victim of British and other hunters as the wild animal hunting was a legal hobby in the British period in Sri Lanka. This park is a habitat for a large number of endemic birds and butterflies in Sri Lanka.

**Trek to World's End** a vertical drop of 1312 meters and the **Baker's fall** is an experience. From here you could see the surrounding hills and the mountain ranges.

After the Horton Plains leave to the Nanu-Oya Station for Train Journey.

- **Train Journey**

Leave for **Nanu Oya Railway Station** to board the train to **Ella**. This is a beautiful scenic train ride through tea plantation, many waterfalls and the fascinating mountain area. This train trip will be an unforgettable experience in your Sri Lankan Tour. Most of the time you have to travel in the train standing, along with the local people.

After about the 03 hours journey train will reach **Ella Railway Station**. Your driver will pick you up from Ella Railway Station and take you to the Hotel in Ella.

- **Ella**

Ella is a little village paradise in the central highlands of Sri Lanka. This sleepy mountain village, with a view, is the perfect base for relaxing, whilst also offering lots of fantastic walks through tea plantations to temples and waterfalls. Some of the places you could see in Ella are **Ella Gap**, **Ravana Ella Water Falls**, **Little Adams Peak** and **Bambaragala Peak** among the other many varied pleasant walks with stunning sceneries and through the clean and cheap restaurants and many of small shops.

Ella with its perfect climate soothes your mind and makes your day to day anxieties feel a world away. It reminds one of a hot English summer, hot during the day and cool at night. Most foreign tourists would like to spend a couple of days there. When you are traveling out of town you could find plenty of things to keep you occupied.

### **DAY 10 – ELLA/ADVENTURE PARK/ELLA**

Full Day out in the **Ella Adventure Park** with Adventure activities. Activities at Ella Adventure Park:

Paragliding over the Makaldeniya ridge – (the first time paragliding has been offered in Sri Lanka), canoeing (in sea kayaks on the placid Handapanagala Lake), nature trek, hiking (up to several days, with the chance to rest and eat in a traditional Sri Lankan village), bird watching with knowledgeable guide, abseiling, camping (in two cleared jungle or river settings, with camp fires and BBQs under the stars), rock climbing

Overnight stay at Ella

### **DAY 11 – ELLA SIGHT SEEING VISIT**

After the Breakfast at the Hotel leave for the trekking

Trek through the jungle, see small villages, tea plantations, and climb "**Little Adam's Peak**". And after make a trek to see the "**Nine Arches Railway Bridge**" located 3100 feet above sea level. This is believed to be built entirely on solid rocks, bricks and cement.

Overnight stay at Ella

### **DAY 12 – ELLA/YALA**

After the breakfast leave Ella for Yala.

- **Yala**

Evening make a Safari Trip in the **YALA NATIONAL PARK**

This park is 378 sq. miles in extent and is a most famous and well-developed National Park in the Island. You could observe Elephants in herds of varying sizes, **Leopards**, Wild Boar, Wild Buffalo, Crocodiles, Peacocks Jackals, Sloth Bear and other animals. The Bird life comprises **130 species** including the resident and **Migrant Birds**. Painted Stalks, Serpent Eagle, Sea Eagle and Pelicans add color to the bird life in the park.

Overnight at Yala Camping site.

### DAY 13 – YALA/UNAWATUNA

Early morning from the Camping site make a Safari Trip in the **YALA NATIONAL PARK**. After the Safari leave to Unawatuna. En-route visit Blowhole and Stilt-fishing

- **Blowhole**

On the coast at Kudawella, 6km east of Dikwella, this natural phenomenon attracts a steady flow of sightseers. Ocean wave pressure forces water up through a narrow fissure, causing a surge of foam and spray that shoots up to 10m in to the air. Best time is May to August.

- **Stilt-fishing**

Stilt-fishermen whose unique style of fishing involves casting their lines from perch on a sturdy pole 20-50 meters out to sea.

- **Unawatuna**

**Unawatuna** – One of the best places in Sri Lanka with scuba diving locations. About 5 km south of Galle is the golden beach of Unawatuna. It is also one of the safest beaches in Sri Lanka as it is protected by a reef. Surfing, Snorkeling and Diving are some of the water sports that could be done.

Overnight stay at Unawatuna

### DAY 14 – UNAWATUNA/MIRISSA/UNAWATUNA

Early morning proceed to **Mirissa** for **Whale & Dolphin Watching**

All the boats leave Mirissa harbor at around 07:00 – 07.30hrs for whale & Dolphin Watching journey. Sri Lanka is the best places to watch blue whales and sperm whales. And also you could see hundreds of dolphins throughout the journey. Evening leisure at the Beach

Overnight stay at Unawatuna

### DAY 15 – UNAWATUNA/GALLE/BENTHOTA

After the Breakfast leave for Benthota. En-route visit **Galle City & Gall Fortress**.

- **Galle**

Galle was the center of the Dutch regime in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the majestic Galle Fort bears testimony to this fact. The City of Galle is one of the well preserved **colonial-era cities** in Southeast Asia and has been declared a " **World Heritage City** ". The Dutch Museum, Grootte Kerk (Great Church) and the National Maritime Museum are two famous tourist attractions in Galle. International Cricket Stadium has also contributed to enhance the image of the city as a sports destination.

En route experience a **Madu River boat safari** in Balapitiya. Madu River is the widest river of Sri Lanka. The river is navigable for about 15 km upstream and a boat trip will take you on a leisurely tour of riverside villages and through tropical jungle. Upstream the river forms and inland lagoon, an aquatic maze dotted with small islands and fringed with mangrove swamps.

Visit a **Turtle Hatchery at Kosgoda**. The beaches of Sri Lanka are the nesting grounds for five species of marine turtle.

Overnight stay at Benthota

### DAY 16 – 17 BENTHOTA

- **Benthota**

Spend your time at leisure on Sri Lanka's beautiful coastline at Benthota, where there are fine beaches and many activities to do.

Benthota also forms the "Sun & Fun" water sport capital of Sri Lanka with a gamut of activities from snorkeling/scuba diving along the Barbeyrn reef running very close to the shore or to a distant ship wreck operated by PADI qualified instructors, wind surfing along the coast is sheer exhilaration as nothing beats the powerless cruise along the water, water skiing along the river dragged by an experienced boater, or for the speed freaks the jet ski along the river or if you want a bit more adventure in the squalls of the Indian Ocean and while you do all this what does your kids do? They go for a ride in a banana boat screaming and shouting, perfectly safe in the calm placid waters of Benthota.

A day excursion of fishing along the river for lake fish or join up for deep sea fishing for big game fish from the local “Marina” or canoeing boat safari along this truly exquisite and delightful perennial waterway up river, an excursion to the dark green mangrove forest with its smelly mud and labyrinth of caverns, sometimes surprisingly clear shallow pools teeming with small fish, or an excursion in an open boat to the local lighthouse set in the off shore island to enjoy great outdoor and picnic under the coconut grove that crowns the island are some of the experiences on offer.

#### **Activities available at Benthota Water Sports**

- WINDSURFING COURSE
- WINDSURFING BOARD RENTAL
- WATER SKIING
- BANANA RIDE
- JET SKI
- BODY BOARD
- WAVE SURFING
- TUBE RIDE
- SNORKELING
- DEEP SEA FISHING (GAME FISHING)
- LAGOON FISHING
- RIVER CRUISE
- CANOEING
- DIVING
- DISCOVERY SCUBA DIVING COURSE
- PADI OPEN WATER COURSE(WITH INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE)
- PADI ADVANCE OPEN WATER COURSE
- PADIEFR COURSE
- PADI RESCUE DIVER COURSE

#### **Day 18 – Drop at Air Port for Departure**

**END OF TOUR IN SRI LANKA**