

# PEARL LANKA VOYAGERS

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## **Pearl Lanka In Brief – 9 Days / 08 Nights Tour In Sri Lanka**

### **DAY 01 – AIR PORT/PINNAWELA/KANDY**

Warmly welcome at the airport and transfer to Kandy via Pinnawela.

- **Pinnawela 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 visit the orphanage proceed to Kandy.

- **Kandy & Kandy Sightseeing**

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of **Kandy** which is a **UNESCO world heritage site**. The historic city about surrounded by mountains was known Sri Lanka as Kanda Udarata, which means the hill country. Kandy was home to Sri Lanka's last independent Kingdom, which survived two centuries of colonial incursions before finally falling to the British at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Take a drive to the **UPPER LAKE** and enjoy the panoramic view of the city of **Kandy**. Evening witness of the traditional Kandyan dance.

- **Kandyan Dance**

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.

After the dancing show visit **Temple of the Tooth (Dalada Maligawa)**

- **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.

Next you will visit the "**RAJA WASALA**" – the Royal Palace complex 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 in Kandy hotel.

### **DAY 02 – KANDY/PERADENIYA/NUWARA-ELIYA**

Breakfast at Hotel and morning visit Peradeniya Royal Botanical Garden

- **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 than 300 orchid and the nutmeg grove. Kandy is also famous for its **SHOPPING** for **Gems and Jewellery, Handicrafts, Traditional Art & Crafts, Batiks, Silks etc.** And you will have the opportunity of browsing to your heart's content. After the shopping visit proceed to Nuwara Eliya via Tea factory.

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.

- **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. Overnight stay in Nuwaraeliya hotel.

### **DAY 03 – NUWARA-ELIYA/HORTION PLAINS/ADEAM'S PEAK**

Breakfast at Hotel and morning leaving to visit the Horton Plains National Park

- **Horton Plains**

Around 06:00 hrs after bed tea and geared with picnic breakfast leave for **Horton Plains National Park**. This park covers an extent of 3162 hectares and 7200 ft above sea level. An hour's drive from Nuwara Eliya will bring you to these Plains which is the only one that could be toured by foot. Endemic Sander Loris and purple monkey are among the important animal species in addition to Sambhur and the occasional Leopard. Wild elephants have been found in the very early days. This park is a habitat for a large number of endemic birds and butterflies.

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

After the trekking in Horton Plains proceed to Adeam's Peak

Overnight stay in a hotel closet Adeam's Peak

- **Adams Peak**

Afternoon at 02:00 hrs. you will start your up to Adeam's peak and it takes 4-5 hours to reach the peak by foot. Adam's Peak, Sri Lanka's fourth highest mountain (2244m).

Variously 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. Buddhist believes the impression on the summit is the footprint of the Buddha.

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.

The pilgrimage **season runs from** Unduwap full moon poya (**December**) to Wesak full moon poya (**May**) at this time, there is a constant stream of pilgrims and the top can get very crowded. The busiest period is during January to February. It is from Dalhousie, the starter (7km) and more frequently used route. The climb is up steps you will get to the top in 3 to 4 hours. It is recommended to bring plenty of water and snacks if you for your refreshing while the climbing to the top.

Overnight stay in a hotel nearby Adam's Peak.

### **DAY 04 – ADEAM'S PEAK/KITULGALA**

After breakfast leave for Kitulgala.

- **Kitulgala**

Kitulgala is a small town in the west of Sri Lanka. The Kalani river (the broadest river in Sri Lanka) flowing through Kitulgala and it was the main location where the Oscar winning movie "**The Bridge Over the River Kawi**" was filmed. Check in to the hotel in Kitulgala.

Afternoon visit on the Beligala Caves where a prehistoric cave was recently discovered containing skeletal remains from some unknown prehistoric civilization.

Overnight stay in Kitulgala hotel.

### **DAY 05 – KITHULGALA/SINHARAJA**

After the Breakfast at Hotel and leaving for white water rafting which starts a few kilometers up stream near Kitulgala. After the rafting proceed to Sinharaja Rain Forest.

En-route you can visit Gem mining in Rathnapura. Rathnapura is very popular area for gem mining. Its a large

industry in this area. If you are interested in Gems & Jewellery you could visit a **Gem Museum & Shop** in the area which is famous for so many years. Ceylon Gems brings you the highest quality natural gems for provide a wide range of gemstones that include blue, white, sapphires, chrysobery cats eye, tourmaline, garnet, topaz etc. Overnight stay at Sinharaja

#### **DAY 06 – SINHARAJAYA/YALA**

After the breakfast leaving to Sinharaja Rain Forest by a jeep and commence tracking.

- **Sinharaja Rain Forest**

**Sinharaja Rain Forest** – You will discover the giant rain forest canopy trees that reach over 125 feet, and the rare or endangered trees of the sub-canopy forest and undergrowth. You will see some of the most rare, beautiful and endangered orchids, epiphytes and bromeliads growing among the tree branches. Among the animal life here are mammals such as the leopard, sambar, barking deer and wild boar, 45 species of reptiles, 21 of which are only found in Sri Lanka. Of the beautiful birds nearly ninety percent of the endemic birds of Sri Lanka are found at Sinharaja. In 1989 it was declared a **UNESCO "World Heritage Site"**.

Overnight stay in Sinharaja Hotel

#### **DAY 07 – YALA/GALLE/HIKKADUWA**

After breakfast leaving for Yala. Afternoon Yala National park visit by 4x4 jeep.

##### **Yala**

Yala National 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 colour to the bird life in the park.**

Overnight stay in Thissamaharamaya hotel.

#### **DAY 08 – Thissamaharamaya/Hikkaduwa**

After Breakfast leave for the beach hotel, En-route visit to see the blow hole at Hummanaya, traditional stilt fishermen at Ahangama and Gall Fortress at Galle.

- **Galle Fortress**

Galle Fortress is a World Heritage Site. The Galle Dutch Fort is a rare historical jewel protected by dark, thick stone walls – with the endless ocean on one side. The roads inside the Galle Fort have hardly changed, like the squares on a chess board crisscrossing in regular patches. Straight and narrow lanes branch in and out inviting the visitor to a delightful walk into the 17th century. Galle Fortress was originally built by Portuguese in 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D and later rebuilt and extended by the Dutch is still fine preservation. Most of the administration of Galle still takes place from the fort. The view from the ramparts is superb.

**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, Groote 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.

Overnight stay at Hikkaduwa

#### **DAY 09 – HIKKADUWA/COLOMBO**

Morning visit **Coral Reef Garden** by the Glass Bottom Boat. Hikkaduwa is one of the famous beach coast in Sri Lanka who looking for beach leisure.

En route experience a **Madu River boat safari** in Balapitiya. 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.

**Transfer to Colombo Airport**

**END OF TOUR IN SRI LANKA**