



## Highlights of Sri Lanka

15 days

Fully Inclusive from the UK

From stunning scenery to amazing architecture, Sri Lanka is a tropical paradise island steeped in history and culture. Marvel at magnificent temples, see the UNESCO world heritage listed rock fortress at Sigiriya, discover the fascinating caves at Dambulla and explore the ruined cities of Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura. Also search for the wilderness at Sinharaja Forest Reserve and see the elephants at Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage.

### Fully Inclusive price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals (excluding drinks)
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

### Welcome to Wendy Wu Tours

Sri Lanka continues to amaze, fascinate and thrill our passengers, many of whom have travelled to one country in Asia with us, then another, year after year. We urge you to keep in mind all the rewards, as well as challenges of travelling in a country with a history, culture and attitude so unlike your own.

A typical day's sightseeing may include the bustle and noise of a city street, sights and smells of a local market and interacting with the locals. Travelling in Sri Lanka requires patience as potential delays are to be expected due to standards of service. There is a low level of English spoken throughout Sri Lanka, so your local guides or National Escort will be indispensable during your trip.

Almost everything will be different to what you may be used to. We have found that our passengers who embark with a sense of humour and adventure, who accept that things do not always go to plan, are those who find their experience most rewarding. It is essential that all passengers recognise the demands of factors such as basic facilities and cultural differences they may encounter in some areas.

Book now on **0844 499 3899** visit [www.wendywutours.co.uk](http://www.wendywutours.co.uk) or see your preferred travel agent.



### Your Tour Dossier

This document is designed to be read in conjunction with the other pre-departure information provided by Wendy Wu Tours including the tour itinerary as described in our brochure and/or website. It aims to provide a straightforward description of the physical activities involved in sightseeing or travelling during the tour.

If there are any particular challenges, from the length of time spent on your feet, the length of drives and flights, to the standard of remote accommodation; they will be explained here.

All passengers must read this document to ensure the itinerary is suitable for their interests and physical capabilities. This is not your final itinerary and therefore does not mention all the sites visited.

## Highlights of Sri Lanka - Medium Paced Tour

These tours are not strenuous but do require higher levels of fitness. A typical tour may include longer periods of sightseeing on foot, climbing of stairs and getting on and off boats will be necessary. These tours may involve longer periods of driving; sometimes on poorly maintained roads, and overnight train journeys; as well as some easy hiking. Some Medium Paced Tours may involve several days at altitude.

Anyone with a good level of fitness should be able to complete this itinerary. Of course our local guides always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance, but they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you do have mobility difficulties, please contact us for our range of private tours which are more flexible and can better cater for individual needs.

NB: Please note that times and distances listed in the tour dossier are approximate.

### Day 1-2: UK/Colombo

You will be met at Colombo airport in the arrivals hall by your National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours. Together with all other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will transfer approx. 45 minutes to your hotel and check-in to your rooms. There is no sightseeing today.

### Day 3: Colombo/Sigiriya

At some point today, a tour introduction will be held in the hotel. There will not be food or drinks served at this meeting; it is simply an opportunity for your group to meet and learn more about travelling in Sri Lanka.

Drive approx. 7 hours (Colombo to Pinnewala 90 km and Pinnewala to Sigiriya 115 km) to Sigiriya today and check-in for the next three nights. This road is bumpy at times due to continual road construction.

En-route visit the Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage where you will have the opportunity to observe the elephants & perhaps witness their feeding or bathing time. You will be required to walk approx. 10 minutes from the bus drop off to the entry. There are about 20 uneven steps, without handrails to the viewing area.

*Please note: Your passports are required in order to gain entry into the Elephant Orphanage so please ensure you bring them with you today.*

### Day 4: Sigiriya/Polonnaruwa

After breakfast, head out to visit the Rock Fortress in Sigiriya. There are many steps, most with railings leading up to the top of the Rock Fortress so extra care is needed here. Please ensure you bring plenty of water with you today and you wear a hat for sun protection. The ascent involves a very steep climb, so those who are unfit may have some difficulty. Beware of local 'helpers'. You will spend approx. 2 hours here.

Afterwards depart for Polonnaruwa, a journey of approx. 2 hours. At this UNESCO World Heritage listed site there will be approx. 2 hours of sightseeing on foot whilst exploring the town. Return to Sigiriya.

### Day 5: Sigiriya/Anuradhapura

Travel to Anuradhapura which is approx. 3 hour's drive. Exploration of the ancient city involves approx. 4 hours on foot. Return to Sigiriya for lunch and enjoy the afternoon at your leisure.

### Day 6: Sigiriya/Kandy

Drive approx. 45 minutes to view the Dambulla Cave Temples. The caves have two main viewing areas consisting of approx. 800 steps. We spend approx. 1.5 hours sightseeing on foot.

Afterwards travel approx. 1.5 hours along the Colombo-Kandy road to Matale for the Spice Gardens where there is easy exploration on foot of approx. 1.5 hours. There is a further drive of approx. 1 hour to Kandy. Upon arrival check-in to your hotel for the next two nights.

### Day 7: Kandy

There is a drive of approx. 1 hour to the Peradeniya Royal Botanical Gardens. After approx. 1 hour exploration, there will be a picnic lunch served within the grounds. Later return to Kandy to undertake a city tour involving approx. 4 hours on foot spread across the whole day.

### Day 8: Kandy/Nuwara Eliya

Easy sightseeing en-route to Nuwara Eliya. Today's total driving distance is approx. 4 hours. Proceed to your hotel and check-in for an overnight stay.

### Days 9-10: Nuwara Eliya/Yala National Park

Drive approx. 4 hours to the Yala National Park and check-in for three nights. The road leading into the park is very bumpy and full of pot holes, and has the National Park surrounding the road. This evening is at your leisure.

*Please note: Your passports are required in order to gain entry into the National Park so please ensure you bring them with you today.*

On the next day there will be a morning and evening Safari through the Yala National Park. There are no toilets available during the park excursions. Each safari is approx. 2.5 to 3 hours in length.

### Day 11: Yala National Park/Galle

There will be sightseeing this morning approx. 3 hours, before continuing on to Galle. First stop is the Hummanaya Blow Hole with approx. 30 minutes spent here, then the Mulgirigala Rock Temple. There are many steps (533 in total) leading up to the top of the Mulgirigala Rock Temple so extra care is needed here. Please ensure you bring plenty of water with you today and you wear a hat for sun protection. The ascent involves a very steep climb, so those who are unfit may have some difficulty. Beware of local 'helpers'. You will

spend approx. 2.5 hours here. This will be followed by a short visit to the Dikwella Wevurukanna Temple approx. 1 hour. Afterwards travel onwards to Galle and check-in to your hotel for the next 2 nights.

**Day 12: Galle**

There will be easy sightseeing in the today consisting of approx. 2 hours on foot. Check-in to your hotel.

**Day 13: Galle/Colombo**

The morning is at your leisure. After lunch travel to Galle approx. 2-3 hours. En-route there will be a stop at the Turtle Hatchery where you will have the opportunity to see the baby turtles. Check-in to your hotel upon arrival for an overnight stay.

**Day 14: Colombo**

This morning will entail easy sightseeing in downtown Colombo, approx. 3 hours in duration. After lunch there will be an opportunity to enjoy some free time.

**Day 15: UK**

Today you will checkout of your hotel and transfer to the airport for your flight home.

If you are travelling on a land only basis, then you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel in Colombo on Day 2. On Day 15, you will checkout from your Colombo hotel, and continue as per your own arrangements.

Please refer to the Wendy Wu Tours brochure and/or website for details on departure dates, prices, itineraries, inclusions and tour extensions available as well as full booking conditions.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Before You Leave**

**Itinerary Changes** - The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. The schedules of the domestic airlines in Sri Lanka are subject to frequent changes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your Local Guide or National Escort will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Roads in Sri Lanka have generally been improved over recent years, but some road construction and/or weather conditions may still lengthen the driving times.

**Visas** – At time of print, a visa is not required by UK passport holders, for entry to Sri Lanka, however this is expected to change in the future. Please contact Wendy Wu Tours for up to date visa requirements.

**Vaccinations and Your Health** - We recommend that you contact either your local GP or a travel doctor for advice on vaccinations and travel health. [www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk) is a comprehensive website that you may also find useful.

**Climate** - Please refer to our website or brochure for detailed temperature charts.

**Insurance** - It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

**Suggested Packing List** - A complete list will be provided with deposit documentation and in your final documentation pack.

**What to Expect on Tour**

**Group Size** – All our group tours are guaranteed to run subject to a minimum number of 10 travellers and a National Escort will accompany each group of over 10.

**Your accommodation** - All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty please speak to your National Escort.

**Meals** - All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from the groups' arrival until the day of departure. Our schedule of meals is designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout Sri Lanka.

**Tipping** - As with most countries, tipping is a recognised part of life in Sri Lanka. For our passengers' convenience we ask for a specified amount to be paid at the beginning of our group tours to cover tipping for guides, drivers, restaurant staff etc. Approximate tipping amounts can be found in our brochure and/or website. Exact tipping amounts will be stated in your final documentation, approx. 2 weeks before departure.

**Optional Extras** - A number of optional extra programmes/activities may be offered by your National Escort/Local Guide whilst on tour, time permitting. Please feel free to ask your National Escort/Local Guide about any optional touring they may offer. Book now on **0844 499 3899** visit [www.wendywutours.co.uk](http://www.wendywutours.co.uk) or see your preferred travel agent.

be planning over the next few days and the approximate cost so you can ensure you have the appropriate funds. All the optional extras must be paid for in local currency. If you do not wish to take part in any optional extras, you will have the option of enjoying some free time at leisure or to return to the hotel.

**Personal Expenses** - You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of £150 per week should be sufficient; however for those that can't resist a bargain, consider allocating a higher amount.

### **After Your Booking**

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form, help sheet, and an Indian and Sri Lankan travel guide. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approx. 2 weeks prior to departure, and will include a travel wallet, badge, lanyard, suggested packing list and a phrase book, along with your final itinerary and international e-tickets.

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