

## 5 DAYS CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

(Validity : 01 May 2018 - 31 Oct 2018)

### DAY 1 *(Airport - Dambulla - Sigiriya)*



**HIGHLIGHTS** ■ DAMBULLA

**MEALS** ■ DINNER

Welcomed at Bandaranaike International Airport, set off the tour with a transfer to Dambulla.

Visit the historical Dambulla Rock Cave Temple (A UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Dambulla Rock Cave Temple is the largest and best preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. This cave complex dates from the 3rd century B.C, when it was a large monastery. King Valagambahu is traditionally thought to have converted the caves into a temple in the 1st century B.C.

The rock towers 160 meters over the surrounding plains and its murals cover an area of 2,100 square meters, which is the largest area of ancient wall paintings known in the world. The major attractions are spread over 5 caves that contain statues and paintings that are related to Lord Buddha and his life. There are a total of 153 Buddha statues of which the largest colossal figure of Buddha is carved out of rock, spanning 14 meters. 3 statues of Sri Lankan kings and 4 other statues of Hindu gods and goddesses are also found.

Proceed to the hotel in Sigiriya.

Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.

### DAY 2 *(Dambulla -Polonnaruwa - Sigiriya - Dambulla)*



**HIGHLIGHTS** ■ POLONNARUWA ■ SIGIRIYA

**MEALS** ■ BREAKFAST ■ DINNER

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to Polonnaruwa.

Visit the historical city of Polonnaruwa (A UNESCO World Heritage Site).

The second most ancient of Sri Lanka's kingdoms, Polonnaruwa was Sri Lanka's splendid medieval capital since first declared the capital city by King Vijayabahu I in the 11th century AD and maintained its status until the 13th century.

Polonnaruwa today is a showcase of the great ancient Sri Lankan architecture dating back to 12th Century AD, which was interwoven with many Buddhist monasteries and monuments which were built by the King Parakramabahu I (1153 - 1186 A.D). Later King Nissankamalla (1187 - 1196 A.D) of Kalinga dynasty also had contributed to the development of Polonnaruwa.

The ruins of the ancient city stand on the east shore of a large artificial lake, Parakrama Samudraya, built by King Parakramabahu I, who is regarded as the greatest King who ruled Polonnaruwa. It was a time with numerous constructional activities.

Polonnaruwa architecture, art and sculpture is well displayed at Gal Viharaya, Thuparamaya Image House, Lankatilaka Image House and many other sites scattered throughout the Polonnaruwa ancient city.

Proceed to Sigiriya.

Visit the historical Sigiriya Rock Fortress (A UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Regarded even as one of the wonders of the world, Sigiriya presents a unique concentration of the 5th century urban planning, architecture, gardening, engineering, hydraulic technology and art.

The rock fortress is the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town, executed daringly on a stupendous scale; it prompts one to marvel at the creative vision that was behind this structure. The summit of this rock was the unlikely setting for a courtly paradise of elegant pavilions, amid water gardens and pools, all perched 600 feet above the surrounding jungle. The two enormous artfully sculpted lion paws are all that remains of the giant recumbent lion to which the rock was transformed into, giving the rock its name.

Painted under an overhanging rock, of the original 500 or so frescoes which vie with those in Ajanta in Western India, only 21 remain. The figures are portraits of 'Apsaras' (celestial nymphs) and attendants above clouds, offering flowers, scattering petals or bathing.

Return to the hotel.

Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.

## DAY 3 *(Dambulla – Matale –Kandy)*



**HIGHLIGHTS** ■ SPICE GARDEN ■ KANDY ■ CULTURAL SHOW

**MEALS** ■ BREAKFAST ■ DINNER

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to Kandy en route visiting a spice garden in Matale.

In the past, Sri Lanka was world renowned for its quality spices, and it was through the spice trade the world had their links with Sri Lanka. Spices are an essential element of the Ayurvedic tradition and of the Sri Lankan cuisine.

A visit to a garden that specializes in cultivation and processing of these substances would give the opportunity to the visitor to experience the traditional as well as the new uses of some of these ingredients. The products are offered in their natural state or in the form of processed oils and potions as prescribed in Ayurveda.

On arrival in Kandy, check in at the hotel.

Do a sightseeing tour of Kandy (A UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Being the seat of the last traditional monarchy of Sri Lanka and the home for the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha, Kandy has a lot to offer its visitors in terms of history, culture, serenity, spirituality and much more. It is also the site of one of the world's most impressive annual religious festivals, the Esala Perahera.

Visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic, the Royal Palace, the historical Kandy Lake, the market of traditional arts and crafts, gems and other authentic Sri Lankan decorative items.

In the evening, witness a cultural show of traditional Sri Lankan ceremonial and ritual dances and featuring a live fire-walking show.

Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.

## DAY 4 *(Kandy – Colombo)*



**HIGHLIGHTS** ■ BOTANIC GARDENS ■ ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE ■ COLOMBO

**MEALS** ■ BREAKFAST ■ DINNER

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit the Royal Botanic Gardens.

With its history dating back to the 14th century, the Botanic Gardens comprises of endless picturesque settings with its Flower Garden, Spice Garden, Orchid House, the lake and with an interesting collection of bamboo and palm trees. It spans over an area of 60 hectares giving home to over 4000 species of indigenous and foreign plants.

Proceed to Pinnawala.

Visit the Elephant Orphanage in Pinnawala.

Just as the name suggests, the Elephant Orphanage holds a unique disposition in the ex-situ animal care. It provides care and sanctuary to orphaned elephants found in the wild, and has the largest herd of captive elephants in the world.

Visitors can view many different aspects of the daily routine of care such as feeding of the elephants with bottle-feeding its calves. The opportunity to observe the herd bathing at close quarters from the broad river bank as they play and interact socially is also an interesting experience.

The feeding takes place daily at 9:15 am, 1:15 pm and 5:00 pm. The herd gets their river baths from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon and from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Proceed to Colombo.

Do a sightseeing tour of Colombo.

Colombo is the commercial capital and the largest city of Sri Lanka. It is a busy and a vibrant city with a mixture of modern and colonial forms. Due to its large harbour and its strategic position along the East-West sea trade routes, Colombo was known to ancient traders since thousands of years ago.

It has been the capital of the island since the British colonial time. The city is home to a majority of Sri Lanka's corporate offices, shopping and entertainment venues. The modern shopping malls and speciality stores carry high quality goods at good prices.

The famous landmarks in Colombo include the Galle Face Promenade, the twin tower World Trade Centre, British time buildings in Colombo Fort, the Town Hall, Vihara Maha Devi Park, Nelum Pokuna Theatre, the Gangarama Temple, the Independence Square and Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall.

Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.

## DAY 5 (Colombo -

Airport)

### MEALS ■ BREAKFAST

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer to Bandaranaike International Airport for the departure flight.

## HOTEL CHOICES:

	Standard	Superior	Deluxe
<b>SIGIRIYA</b>	Pelwehera Village Resort Royal Retreat	Fresco Water Villas Oak Ray Elephant Lake	Cinnamon Lodge ( <i>Habarana</i> ) Amaya Lake ( <i>Dambulla</i> )
<b>KANDY</b>	Senani Hotel Hotel Hilltop	Earl's Regent Royal Kandyan	Mahaweli Reach Grand Kandyan
<b>COLOMBO</b>	Hotel Sapphire Global Towers	OZO Colombo Fairway Colombo	Galadari Hotel The Kingsbury Colombo

## TOUR PRICES - 1/4/2018 TO 31/10/2018:

Hotel Category	Min Pax	Single	Sharing Double	Sharing Triple	Child
STANDARD	2	485	340	323	236
	3	455	310	295	218
	4	435	290	276	206
	10	425	280	267	200
	15	410	265	253	191
	30	400	255	243	185
SUPERIOR	2	565	385	365	263
	3	535	355	337	245
	4	515	335	318	233
	10	505	325	309	227
	15	490	310	295	218
	30	480	300	285	212
DELUXE	2	740	485	458	323
	3	710	455	430	305
	4	690	435	411	293
	10	680	425	402	287
	15	665	410	388	278
	30	655	400	379	272

Prices are in U.S Dollars

Prices are nett and inclusive of all currently applicable taxes, levies and service charges

Prices are per person, as per his/her room occupation, and as applicable for the size of the group

Child rate is applicable for children below 12 years sharing room with 2 adults

### TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation in standard rooms for 4 nights in hotels specified for the package category or at other similar category hotels
- Half board meal plan at the hotels, starting with dinner on day -1 and ending with breakfast on day - 3
- Transportation on the detailed itinerary, starting from Airport and ending at Airport by an air-conditioned private tour vehicle with seating and baggage capacity for the group
- Highway toll charges
- Sri Lanka Tourist Board licensed and experienced English speaking Guide
- Two 500ml bottles of mineral water per person, per day during travel

### PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Entrance fees for the sites visited
- Surcharges of Kandy hotels in Perahera period (Falls in August)
- Video and camera permits at sites where applicable
- Tips and porter fees where applicable
- Any expenses of personal nature
- Passage to and from Sri Lanka
- Visa

[Click here to Submit Enquiry](#)

(IT-080318)