

7 Days Sri Lanka Pilgrimage with Sri Pada Hike



Sri Lanka

In the Indian ocean, south of India lies Sri Lanka. Perhaps the slightly less travelled roots of Southern Asia.

This idyllic Buddhist island resembles a place time forgot where cows roam the lands, ancient monuments and temples are to be found almost everywhere, and rugged landscapes is home to a wonderfully diverse range of animals, especially the elephants.

Great explorers were enticed by the lush greenery, the fragrant spices and its tropical lifestyle. Some wrote chapters about it, some wrote books, and some never left after falling in love with the island and its many hidden treasures. 2000 years of cultural history is recorded at ancient sites and temples some of which are now listed UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The recent past includes the rule of the Dutch and British over this sovereign island later gaining independence in 1948.



EXPLORE

Sri Lanka is an out of this world tropical island which is blessed with an exciting piece of everything possible on earth. Escape to a paradise on earth where you can trot along the golden sands sipping a fresh king-coconut, safari through the lush jungle to see mighty elephants and elusive leopards and perfect your golf swing on a stunning green golf course.

This is an outdoor paradise somewhere to totally escape and fall completely off the grid. Buses, tuk-tuks and mopeds all noisily hurtling along the busy streets. Once known as Ceylon, Sri Lanka was a country that

Sri Lanka is a country whose Buddhist past is as prevalent today as it was thousands of years ago. So, with such a lengthy heritage there's a great array of temples, ancient monasteries and monuments to explore, both in the town and hidden away in the islands' dense forests.

Here you'll find local artists taking their inspiration from Sri Lanka's wildlife. Sri Lankan craftsmanship has a long and vibrant history. Over the centuries the islanders have produced everything from lace work, elaborate metal works & carvings in wood. Buddha's Hindu Gods, traditional Sri Lankan masks and elephants are among the most popular carvings.

The people in Sri Lanka are what makes this wonderful island what it is. The smiles, the ever-so-helpful attitude, the laid-back lifestyle and the rustic architecture all tastefully lingers in your mind every step of the way.

WEATHER & BEST TIME TO VISIT

The weather in Sri Lanka is dictated by two monsoon seasons which bring rain to the west and south-west coasts from May to September; and the east coast and northern region between October and February. The rest of the year is sunny and dry. Temperatures are constant year-round, with coastal regions enjoying average temperatures of 25-30C and the highlands 15-18C on average.

Sri Lanka is a year-round destination since there is something for every discerning traveler. From pilgrim experiences to adventure, culture, honeymoon, or even special interest experiences, there is something you can do in Sri Lanka anytime of the year. With recent weather pattern changes, it is hard to predict when it would rain and when the sun is out, however, making a note that Sri

Lanka is a tropical destination and rain is to be expected anytime of the day, any time of the year; always helps.

Our recommended best time of the year to travel is between November to April. However, its best to keep in mind that this period is also quite expensive to travel as the European winters and the festive year end generally attracts a lot of travelers to Sri Lanka.

VISA

VISA can be obtained online via the government e-visa website – www.eta.gov.lk. If you are a citizen of Singapore, Maldives or Seychelles, you are exempt from the requirement of obtaining visa for 1 month. It could take up to 5 working days for a VISA to process depending on where you are from.

Day 01

Airport - Negombo

Meals
Open

Arrive at Colombo International Airport. Here, you will be met by a designated chauffer guide from Esna Holidays. After the formalities at the airport you will be escorted to your air-conditioned vehicle and proceed to Negombo for check-in. (Travel Time: 20 to 30 minutes)

Day 02

Negombo - Anuradhapura

Meals
Breakfast, Lunch &
Dinner

After breakfast, check-out and proceed to the capital city of North Central Province, Anuradhapura. (Travel Time: 3½ to 4 hours)

The sacred city of Anuradhapura is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Walk through the ruins and discover ancient Buddhist monasteries and temples.

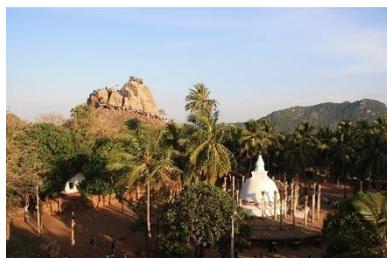


It is the capital city of North Central Province, Sri Lanka and the capital of Anuradhapura District. Anuradhapura is one of the ancient capitals of Sri Lanka, famous for its well-preserved ruins of an ancient Sri Lankan civilization. It was the third capital of the kingdom of Rajarata, following the kingdoms of Tambapanni and Upatissa Nuwara.

The city, now a World Heritage site, was the center of Theravada Buddhism for many centuries. The city lies 205 km (127 mi) north of the current capital of Colombo in the North Central Province, on the banks of the historic Malvathu River. It is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and one of the eight World Heritage Sites of Sri Lanka.

Lunch at a local restaurant and transfer to the hotel for check-in.

Later that evening, drive to Mihintale.



Mihintale is a mountain peak near Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka. It is believed by Sri Lankans to be the site of a meeting between the Buddhist monk Mahinda and King Devanampiyatissa which inaugurated the presence of Buddhism in Sri Lanka. It is now a pilgrimage site, and the site of several religious monuments and abandoned structures.

On completion, return to the hotel and relax.

Day 03

Anuradhapura - Sigiriya - Dambulla

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch &

Dinner

Early that morning after breakfast, check-out and proceed to Dambulla. (Travel Time: 1½ to 2 hours). En-route visit the Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

Sigiriya Rock Fortress: Called by many names including "The Lion Rock" for its initial name of "Sinhagiri", Sigiriya is near the town of Dambulla and is a colossal column of rock nearly 200m high. It was a royal citadel for 18 years (477-495) when it was fortified by King Kasyapa. The architectural and irrigational technologies of Sigiriya, such as the Water Gardens, still baffle engineers. The climb up steep steps of metal with railings passes a wall

decorated with frescoes of bare-breasted women. Art experts consider them unique.

After lunch at a local restaurant, transfer to the hotel for check-in and relax.

Day 04

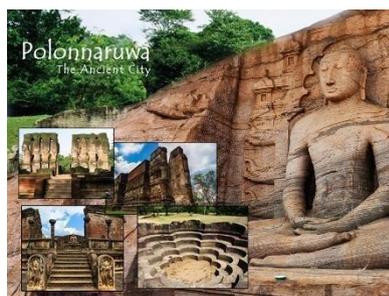
Dambulla - Polonnaruwa - Dambulla

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch &

Dinner

After breakfast, proceed to the ancient city of Polonnaruwa. (Travel Time: 45 mins to 1 hour)



worth the trip.

Enter the Ancient City of Polonnaruwa. Kings ruled the central plains of Sri Lanka from Polonnaruwa 800 years ago, when it was a thriving commercial and religious center. The glories of that age can be found in the archaeological treasures that still give a pretty good idea of how the city looked in its heyday. You'll find the archaeological park a delight to explore, with hundreds of ancient structures – tombs and temples, statues and stupas – in a compact core. The Quadrangle alone is

After lunch at a local restaurant, visit to the famous Dambulla cave temple.

The Dambulla temple has five caves and 157 statues of the Lord Buddha, many paintings on the ceilings and walls that emphasize the artistic talent of ancient days. The history of the caves, rock and temple dates from the 1st century BC. The fascination of these caves is not only the statues but also the many intricate and delicate paintings that cover the ceiling and walls, created with indigenous traditional paints. Because of the history, archaeological and artistic implications,

the premises were declared as one of the UNESCO World Heritage sites in 1991. The temple has been in use for over 22 centuries and still holds a sense of benevolence and spirituality.

Return to the hotel and relax.

Day 05

Dambulla - Hatton

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch &

Dinner

After breakfast, check-out and proceed to Hatton (Travel Time: 5½ to 6 hours). En-route to Hatton, visit to the beautiful Spice Gardens.

Spice Garden: See why Sri Lanka became a globally popular country for its herbs and spices. The environment possesses excellent conditions for growing cinnamon, vanilla, nutmeg, peppercorn, and other flavorful delights. Learn about the process of growing these natural products using ecologically friendly methods. At the end of your visit, stop in the souvenir shop to purchase some exotic spices from the source. The attraction offers

free transport wherever needed between the city and the estate. Note that the law strictly forbids harming cinnamon trees.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Check-in at the hotel and relax.

Day 06

Hatton - Nuwara Eliya - Kandy

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch &

Dinner

At 0000 hours, proceed to the Sri Pada (Adam's Peak) and climb the peak. (Only from December to May)



It is 2,243 m (7,359 ft) tall conical mountain located in central Sri Lanka. It is well known for the Sri Pada, i.e., "sacred footprint", a 1.8 m (5 ft 11 in) rock formation near the summit, which in Buddhist tradition is held to be the footprint of the Buddha, in Hindu tradition that of Shiva and in Islamic and Christian tradition that of Adam, or that of St. Thomas.

Return to the hotel. After breakfast, check-out and proceed to Nuwara Eliya to visit a tea plantation. (Travel Time: 2½ to 3 hours)

Learn about the Productions of Tea in Sri Lanka: The production of tea involves a tedious procedure of plucking, withering, rolling, oxidizing and drying – a process that requires heavy machines and plenty of manpower. Once in the tea factory, you would generally start out in the plantation itself to learn about how tea is cultivated, then visit the factory where ancient machines pre-dating the industrial revolution wither, roll and dry the tea. There is

normally a little time at the end of the tour for a tea tasting, either of one specific type of tea or occasionally of the various specialties of that factory.

After lunch at a local restaurant, proceed to Kandy (Travel Time: 2½ to 3 hours). Check into the hotel and spend the evening relaxing.

Day 07

Kandy - Airport

Meals

Breakfast & Lunch

After a relaxed morning breakfast, visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic followed by the Kandy City tour.



The Temple of the Sacred Tooth (Sri Dalada Maligawa) was originally built by the Kandyan Kings in 1595, to house and honor the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha. Attracting crowds of white-clad pilgrims bearing lotus flowers for means of worship, the Maligawa features a myriad of intricate carvings that speak volumes of the architectural values of Kandy. Today the City of Kandy is a UNESCO World Heritage Site in part because of the Temple of the tooth relic.

Return the hotel and relax.

Later that noon, check-out and then go on a Kandy city tour followed by a technical tour related to the arts such as gem crafting, woodcarving and batiks.

On completion, depending on your departure flight time, transfer to the Airport for departure. (Travel Time: 3 to 3½ hours)

Don't forget to recollect the memories of your trip with your chauffer and write your feedback.

End of tour

Hotels

Location	3 Star Hotel	4 Star Hotel	5 Star Hotel	No. of Nights
Negombo	Full Moon Garden Hotel	Amora Lagoon	The Gateway Airport Garden	1 Night
Anuradhapura	Heritage Hotel	Rajarata Hotel	Forest Rock Garden	1 Night
Dambulla	Sigiriana Resort by Thilanka	Habarana Village by Cinnamon	Cinnamon Lodge Habarana	2 Nights
Hatton	Hotel Slightly Chilled	Hotel Slightly Chilled	Hotel Slightly Chilled	1 Night
Kandy	Thilanka Hotel	Earl's Regent Hotel	Mahaweli Reach Hotel	1 Night

Cost of tour in USD Per Person

3 Star Hotel

Period from 1st September to 31st October 2019

Pax	1	2	4	6	8
Standard Room per Person Rate in USD	976.00	637.00	567.00	536.00	523.00
Single Supplement (USD)		216.00	216.00	216.00	216.00

4 Star Hotel

Period from 1st September to 31st October 2019

Pax	1	2	4	6	8
Standard Room per Person Rate in USD	1,017.00	617.00	547.00	516.00	503.00
Single Supplement (USD)		295.00	295.00	295.00	295.00

5 Star Hotel

Period from 1st September to 31st October

Pax	1	2	4	6	8
Standard Room per Person Rate in USD	1,107.00	780.00	710.00	678.00	666.00
Single Supplement (USD)		367.00	367.00	367.00	367.00

Supplements

Peak Season

3 Star Hotel - 01st July to 31st August 2019

- USD 38.00 Per Person

4 Star Hotel - 01st July to 31st August 2019

- USD 75.00 Per Person

5 Star Hotel - 01st July to 31st August 2019

- USD 70.00 Per Person

Compulsory

Kandy Perahera Supplement (5th August to 15th August)

- USD 80.00 Per Room

Tour Includes

- Accommodation in hotels as per the itinerary (Subject to availability)
- Meal plan on full board basis - Starting from breakfast on Day 02 and ending with Lunch on Day07.
- Transport in an Air-Conditioned well-maintained vehicle with the service of an English-Speaking Chauffeur Guide at your disposal always.
- Entrance Fees to Anuradhapura, Mihintale, Sigiriya Rock Fortress, Polonnaruwa, Dambulla Cave Temple, & Temple of the Tooth Relic
- Adam's Peak Tracker.
- Kandy City Tour.
- All Paging, Parking, Fuel Costs & Highway Tolls.
- Guided Visits to all entrance sights.
- All Taxes and Service Charges.

Tour Excludes

- International Flights & VISA (Visit www.eta.gov.lk for VISA)
- Tips and Porterage.
- All beverages.
- Camera & Video Permit Charges if applicable.
- Any other expense not mentioned in the includes section.

Complimentary

- 1 Liter Bottle of Water Per Person Per Day
- Local SIM Card (On Request)

[Click here to Submit Enquiry](#)

(EH-23/03/2019)