



## 7 Days Ramayana Trail

### DAY 01

#### AIRPORT - CHILAW

Arrival at the Bandaranayke International Airport, you will get your first taste of warm Sri Lankan hospitality. A local representative from an **Esna Holidays** will welcome you at the airport and transfer to **Chilaw**

**\*MANNAWARI TEMPLE** ,Rama is believed to have installed a shiva lingam, an icon of Lord Shiva, at Manawari Kovil in Chillaw, It was a remedy to get rid of & Isquo Brahmahathi Dosham & rsquo; for having killed Ravana who was a Brahmin.

**\*MUNNESWARAM KOVIL** It is believed that Munishwaram predates the Ramayana and a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva was located here. Munishwaram means the first temple for Shiva (Munnu + Easwaran). A Shiva Lingam was already here when Lord Rama visited this place. Lord Rama after his victorious battle left for Ayodhya with Sita in one of King Ravana's Vimanas. He felt he was being followed by a Bramhaasthi Dosham (a malevolent black shadow) as he had killed King Ravana who was a Brahmin.

**Dinner Overnight Stay at Hotel in Chilaw**

## DAY 02

### CHILAW - TRINCOMALEE - DAMBULLA

After early Breakfast at the hotel leave for Trincomalee

visit **\*The Koneswaram Kovil** is found on Swami Rock, just above Fort Frederick. Forgive my lack of knowledge of Hinduism, but apparently this rebuilt temple is dedicated to Siva. The unbelievably intricate designs of Hindu temples, with their ornately carved figurines, are an incredible sight and this one is no exception. The temple is built on top of the cliff, tottering right on the edge of the Indian Ocean, and there are fantastic views of the narrow strip of land that is Trinco town. Among the sights of the place are the **seven hot springs** of Kanniya, on the road to Trincomalee. About a mile on a side road branching from the main route, the springs are worth a visit. The water is mildly hot; the temperature varies but slightly in each. Transfer to Hotel.

Then proceed to Dambulla

#### ***Dinner and overnight Stay at Hotel in Dambulla***

## DAY 03

### DAMBULLA – HASALAKA - KANDY

Breakfast at Hotel and leave for Kandy via Hasalaka

**(OPTIONAL – US\$ 30/- PER PERSON) Sigiriya Lion Rock Fortress** declared a World Heritage Site and often touted as the Eighth Wonder of the World, Sigiriya is located in the middle of the Cultural Triangle and houses the ruins of a fortress with a palace, water gardens and the world famous Sigiriya frescoes.

The ancient paintings of ladies (Sigiriya frescoes) believed to be either concubines or members of King's harem showcase the artistic talents of painters back in the days. February to April is the perfect season to visit Sigiriya and if you prefer to avoid midday heat and beat the crowds get there around 7 am or late afternoon.

#### ***Visit Gurulupotha***

Gurulupotha is believed to have served as an aircraft repair center in the capital city of King Ravana, because the Sinhalese name Gurulupotha means "parts of birds". In Valmiki's depiction of King Ravana's Pushpaka Vimana, the "flowery vehicle", resembled a cloud. But is also believed to have had the shape of a huge peacock, and was therefore called Dandu Monara, "flying peacock". But sometimes the Pushpaka Vimana and the Dandu Monara are said to have been different kinds of prehistoric aircrafts used by Ravana.

#### ***Visit Sita Kotuwa***

It is situated close to Gurulupotha, Hasalaka. It is a beautiful remote spot, surrounded by streams and waterfalls and limestone caves and abundant flora and fauna, where ruins of a typical forest monastery from the late Anuradhapura centuries (7th to 10th century) can be visited. But the name Sita Kotuwa meaning "Sita's fortress" connects it to the Ramayana Trail. The area is said to have been the beautiful palace of queen Mandothari. Sitadevi was held captive in this palace until she was moved to Ashoka Vatika. Sita Kotuwa means Sita's fortress.

#### ***Visit Yahangala,***

Yahangala means bedrock. The Ramayana Trail legend interprets this name in the following way: King Ravana's dead body was kept upon this rock for his fellow countrymen to allow them to pay their last respects to their departed highly respected king. There is another local legend giving an alternative version of the meaning of Yahangala telling Ravana did not really die but only became unconscious. His body remains hidden in the rock, laid on his left side. In 2012 he was supposed to turn to right side. And one day he will wake up again.

By the night experience a colourful show where you will be taken to mind blowing Sri Lankan culture extravaganza... Get ready for Heavy drumbeat and acrobatic act.

Transfer to the Hotel

#### ***Dinner & Overnight Stay at Hotel in Kandy***

Breakfast at Hotel leave for Nuwara Eliya

visit \*Sri Baktha Hanuman temple at Ramboda. On these hills of Ramboda where Hanuman was searching for Sitadevi, Chinmaya mission of Sri Lanka built a temple with Hanuman as the presiding deity. On every full moon day special pooja's are conducted and witnessed by thousands of devotees. This temple is called Sri Baktha Hanuman temple. The image of Lord Hanuman here is 16 feet.

**Visit Gayathri Peedam**

Gayathri Pitam, also spelled as Gayaththri Peedam, is within the Nuwara-eliya town, the first and most significant temple built for Gayathri Amman in Sri Lanka. Gayathri being an aspect of Saraswati and the Universal Mother. The temple was founded by the Gayathri Siddhar Swami Murusegu. The Shiva Lingam for this Tamil temple was brought from the Holy River Narmada. Gayathri Pitam is said to be the place from where King Ravana's son Meghanath propitiated Lord Shiva with penance and worship and in turn was granted super natural powers by the mighty god.

Visit \*Seetha Amman temple The stream that runs from the hill, catered to the needs of Sitadevi during her stay at Ashok Vatika. She is said to have bathed in this stream. About a century ago of three idols was discovered in the stream, one of which was that of Sita. It is believed that the idols have been worshipped at this spot for centuries. Now there is temple for Lord Rama, Sitadevi, Luxshmana, and Hanuman by the side of this stream. It is interesting to note that foot prints akin to Lord Hanuman's are found by this river and some are of small size and some are of large size, which tells us of the immense powers of hanuman transforming himself into any size  
Proceed to Nuwara Eliya

**Dinner and overnight Stay at Hotel in Nuwara Eliya**

After Breakfast at the hotel Transfers to Kataragama Via Ella

**visit \*Rawana** Ella Cave is in the huge Ella Rock. In addition, Hanuman is said to have climbed up Ella Rock, in order to find Seetha in the cave. Seetha lived in this Cave for some time. It is said that Shiran Deraniyagala excavated this cave and found some pre historic fossils.

**Visit Katharagama Temple**

Kataragama, the domain of God Skanda (Lord Murugan Katirkaman, Kadirkamam, Subrahmanya, Kandasamy, Kadiradeva, Katiradeva, Katiravel, Kartikeya, and Tarakajith) located in the Deep South of Sri Lanka, adjoining the popular Ruhuna Yala National Park and ancient Sithulpawwa Buddhist Monastery, is a multi-religious sacred city that contains a Buddhist temple, Hindu shrine and Islamic Mosque. Kataragama, one of the Solosmasthanas (Sinhala: 16 principal sites of Buddhist pilgrimage), features in the history since the era of King Dutugamunu (161-137 BC), the Hero of the Nation. Mahawamsa, the great historical chronicle of Sri Lanka reveals the participation of warriors of Kshatriyas clan from Kataragama on the occasion of the arrival of the Bo sapling of Bodhi Tree, under which Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment in Bodh Gaya (Gaya district of the modern Bihar state of India) was brought to the city of Anuradhapura 2,300 years ago

**Dinner and overnight Stay at Hotel in Kataragama**

**DAY 06****KATARAGAMA – GALLE - COLOMBO**

Breakfast at Hotel leave for Colombo Via Galle

Galle is a historical jewel to Sri Lanka wonderful to explore on foot. Among the endlessly exotic old trading port blessed with imposing Dutch-colonial buildings, ancient mosques and churches, grand mansions and museums the ancient Dutch fort which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site attracts the hearts of tourists. Stroll around the ancient city where you will find a gourmet of fancy restaurants and coffee shop to chill and relax. The beach side is surely a bliss which will make you want to lock yourself up in this sun kissed island and indulge in the sea breeze and endless blue waters.

Proceed to Colombo Visit to Panchamuga Anjaneyar Temple in Dehiwala the only Temple in the world to have a chariot for Anjaneyar. Hanuman's mother is Anjan. Hanuman is known as Anjan + Aiyar = Anjaneyar in South India (Hanuman in North India).

Start \*Shopping in Colombo, Visit ODEL, House of Fashion, Arcade Independence square, Race Course, and Beverly Street, visit bargain market in Colombo Pettah.

***Dinner and overnight Stay at Hotel in Colombo*****DAY 07****COLOMB - AIRPORT**

After Breakfast at the hotel

City tour of \*Colombo a drive through the city taking you to the busy commercial areas as well as the tree lined residential, Cinnamon Gardens, Visit Fort, the former British administrative centre and military garrison, Sea Street - the Goldsmiths quarters in the heart of Pettah, the Bazaar area, where is also a Hindu Temple with elaborate stone carvings, and the Dutch Church of Wolfendhal dating back to 1749. Also visit the BMICH, see the replica of Avukana Buddha & the Independence Square.

Lunch at Local Restaurant

Transfer to the airport for departure

**-END OF THE TOUR-**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Hotel</b>
Chilaw	Ananthaya Beach Resort, Chilaw
Dambulla	Sigiriana Resort, Dambulla
Kandy	Topaz Hotel, Kandy
Nuwara Eliya	Lourdes Hotel, Nuwara Eliya
Yala	Oakray Wild, Yala
Colombo	Galadari Hotel, Colombo

***Rates Valid till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019***

<b>2 Pax</b>	<b>4 Pax</b>	<b>6 Pax</b>	<b>8 Pax</b>	<b>12 Pax</b>
US\$ 417.00	US\$ 372.00	US\$ 366.00	US\$ 338.00	US\$ 328.00

**Supplements**

Peak period supplement 1<sup>st</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> August - USD 35.00 Per Person  
 Kandy Hotel Supplement **16<sup>th</sup> Aug'18 to 26<sup>th</sup> Aug'18 – Kandy Perahara** – US\$ 40.00 Per Person Per Night

#### **COST INCLUDES:**

- 6 Nights' accommodation in above mentioned hotels or similar.
- Meals on Half board Basis
- Transport throughout the tour in an A/C luxury Vehicle
- Service of an English-Speaking Chauffeur guide for 08 Pax/ English Speaking National Guide for 09 Pax and above
- Paging, Parking, Highway Tariffs.
- All Taxes & Service Charges

#### **Compliments from Esna Holidays:-**

- 02 Mineral water bottles per person, per day
- Discounted Shopping Vouchers (**ODEL & COTTON COLLECTION**)

#### **COST EXCLUDES:**

- Lunch
- Optional Visits
- Entrance Fees
- Tips & Portage
- Visa Fees (please log on to [www.eta.gov.lk](http://www.eta.gov.lk))
- Any fluctuations in the dollar component will affect the costing.
- Early check in or late checkout charges.
- Camera or Video permits.
- Expenses of a personal nature.

#### **IMPORTANT**

- The above mentioned hotels will only be confirmed on availability at the time of booking. If otherwise suitable alternatives will be suggested prior to confirmation.
- The consumption of alcohol during "Poya Days" at bars, clubs and other public areas of the hotel and operation of similar forms of entertainment establishments is prohibited by law in Sri Lanka. It is recommended that clients contact the Reception to obtain their respective formalities during their holiday.
- Please note that the transfer duration if mentioned is an approximate only. Transfer durations are subject to change due to weather, traffic, road conditions, according to the chosen route, or issues beyond our control.
- **IMPORTANT – Kindly note that check in time to all hotels will be at 1400 hrs and check out is at 1200. – *Early check-in and the Late Check-out confirmed by only on the availability basis***
- Management will not be responsible for any belongings that are lost or stolen or damaged during the tour.
- All transfer times mentioned above are subject to variations depending on traffic flow and road conditions.
- The guests should carry their passports with them at all times.

[Click here to Submit Enquiry](#)

(EH-28/06/2019)