



## Soft Adventure and Nature - 13 Days (#19761)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **05-04-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### Overview

Marsh boat ride in Muthurajawela.

Visit Dambulla Cave Temple Heritage Site.

Pre-Dinner arrack Cocktail.

Climb The Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

Sri Lanka cooking demonstration and tasting of spicy curries with rice.

Jeep Safari at Minneriya National Park.

Sightseeing tour in Kandy by TUK TUK.

Peradeniya Botanical Garden & Traditional Kandyan Dance Performance.

Local Train Ride.

Visit Tea Plantation & Tea Factory.

Zip Line.

Mini Adams Peak & 9 arch bridge.

Safari at Yala National Park - Leopards & Elephants.



Overnight Cruise and Whale & Dolphin watching.

Galle Fort and Dutch Town.

Madu river Boat Ride.

## Trip Highlights

Wattala-Sigiriya-Knuckles-Mahiyanganaya-Ella-Tissamaharama-Sinharaja-Mirissa-Wattala

## Detailed Itinerary

### Day 01

### Day 1 | Airport – Sigiriya (Travel Time - Approx. 30 Minutes | 27 kms)

A Warm Welcome await you at the arrival lounge of the Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA), Katunayake.

Your personal guide will give you a brief introduction and commence the trip to Sigiriya.

Check in to hotel rest of the day at leisure.

Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel

**Meal:** Dinner

### Day 02

### Day 02 | Wattala - Sigiriya (Travel Time -Approx. 3 1/2 hours | 168 kms)

.Early Morning Proceed to Muthurajawela and Marsh boat ride at Muthurajawela

The vertebrate fauna documented included 40 species of fish, 14 species of amphibians, 31 species of reptiles, 102 species of birds and 22 species of mammals. Among the total vertebrate species documented, 17 are endemic, while 26 are nationally threatened. A total of 36 species of vertebrates are new records to Muthurajawela.

Return to the hotel for the breakfast. Thereafter proceed to Sigiriya.

Enroute, visit Dambulla Cave Temple, the magnificent rock temple in Dambulla, a world heritage site built in the first century BC. It is recognized to be the largest cave sanctuary in the world with its 2000 m<sup>2</sup> of walls and ceilings painted with more than 150 Buddha images,



the largest of which is engraved in the rock and reaches 14 meters.

Check in to the hotel for High tea with local refreshment.

Pre Dinner arrack cocktail

Dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 03

### Day 03 | Sigiriya

After early breakfast climb the Sigiriya Rock Fortress (Lion's Rock), one of the most extraordinary artistic complexes of its time (477–498 AD). This magnificent citadel, declared as a UNESCO heritage site in 1982, allures artistic and architectural curiosity from around the globe.

Return to the hotel and join a cooking demonstration to prepare a few spicy Sri Lankan dishes. Enjoy a Sri Lankan rice and curry lunch. In the afternoon Exclusive jeep safari in Minneriya National park. More spectacular than possibly any other wildlife event in Sri Lanka is what is known as the 'Gathering'. During the dry season (July to September) when water supplies start to diminish, more and more animals congregate around the Minneriya reservoir where the grasses are rich and fertile. For several months of this drought season different herds of wild elephants gather at the reservoir. They come from areas beyond Minneriya, and at any one time it is possible to witness up to 300 to 400 elephants. They are not migrating, they are simply 'gathering', to socialize, bathe, drink, feed and possibly mate. Other time visit Eco park or the Kaudulla Wildlife national park.

Return to the hotel for dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 04

### Day 04 | Sigiriya - Knuckles (Travel Time – Approx. 2 1/2 hrs | 100 kms)

After breakfast proceed to Knuckles Enroute Visit a spice garden in Matale to see many different types of spices Sri Lanka is famous for. Just 25 km from the hill capital of Kandy, the Matale spice gardens are among the best on the island. You will be introduced to different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown and processed. Gardens are open to visitors, a delightful place to stroll in fragrant greenery and learn about nutmeg, pepper vines, clove trees and curry, cinnamon and the precious cardamom, a relative of ginger. It grows in the shade of high jungle trees and can only be harvested by hand.



Arrive, check into hotel.

Afternoon walk Mini Adams peak and Pitawala Patana. The ecology and dynamics of the grassland vegetation at Pitawala Pathana is worth examining. The open meadows hold the deepest secrets compared to any habitat in Sri Lanka. With an ecology expert, you can discover its biota including amphibians, small mammals, lizards, tree frogs and a few endemic plants. Due to extreme winds, only small plants survive the rocky flat terrain.

Return to the hotel for dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 05

### Day 05 | Knuckles

Early morning trek to Knuckles mountain. Diversity of species and the great diversity in the forest cover support the well-established ecosystem in the range. Biodiversity is thus a hotspot of nature at Knuckles range that assures home to many endangered and endemic animal species and plants. Knuckles range is the home for many mammals such as spotted deer, barking deer, mouse deer, wild boars, elephants, sambars, giant squirrels, purple faced leaf monkeys, mongoose, porcupines, leopards, wild oxen, and many others.

Return to the hotel and leisure.

Dinner & overnight stay in Ella.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 06

### Day 06 | Knuckles - Mahiyanganaya (Travel Time – Approx. 2 hrs | 76 kms)

After breakfast proceed to Mahiyanganaya.

Check in to the hotel.

Afternoon visit Veddhas. Meet and greet this forest dwelling people who endeavour to maintain their distinctive cultural identity and traditional lifestyles by living in mud huts, speaking their own distinctive Vedita language and engaging in some remarkable rituals and customs. Staying with the Vedita people in the remote village of Dambana would mean you get a closer opportunity to understand their culture and lifestyles.



Return to the hotel for Dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 07**

**Day 07 | Mahiyanganaya - Ella (Travel Time - Approx - 2 hrs 30 min / 75 kms)**

After breakfast proceed to Ella.

Check in to the to the hotel.

Afternoon visit 9 arch Bridge. Thereafter hike to Little Adams peak. The hike begins on relatively flat ground and it is quite picturesque as you're surrounded by tea bushes, and the higher you go, the steeper the trail, so it's best advised to wear a pair of walking shoes. Despite the minimal effort needed for the trek, the view from the top is truly magnificent, as you overlook a deep valley and its surrounding hills – leaving you breathless.

Return to the hotel and leisure.

Dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 08**

**Day 08 | Ella**

Early Morning visit Horton Plains and Worlds End a beautiful, silent, strange, cloud forest area located in the shadows of Sri Lanka's second and third highest mountains – Kirigalpotta (2395m) and Totapola (2359m). The plains themselves form an undulating plateau over 2,000m high, covered by wild grasslands and interspersed with patches of thick forest, rocky outcrops, filigree waterfalls and misty lakes. The plateau comes to a sudden end at World's End, a stunning escarpment that drops almost straight down for 880m. We enjoy a guided 9 km circuitous walk through the forest and grassland to World's End where, on a clear day, you can see all the way to the Indian Ocean - over 50 kilo meter away.

Return to the hotel and leisure.

Afternoon enjoy Zip Line at Ella.



Dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 09**

**Day 09 | Ells - Yala / Tissamaharama (Travel Time - Approx - 2 1/2 hrs | 108 kms)**

After breakfast transfer to Yala / Tissamaharama.

Arrive, check into the hotel.

Afternoon set on a jeep safari at the Yala National Park. The Yala National Park is situated in the South East of Sri Lanka and offers wildlife enthusiasts an approach of life time to see wild boar, deer, leopards, crocodiles, monkeys in their national surroundings.

Return to hotel for dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 10**

**Day 10 | Tissamaharama - Sinharaja (Travel Time – Approx - 3 hrs | 129 kms)**

After breakfast proceed to Sinharaja.

Enroute visit hot spring at Madunagala. Earlier, there were only the well and two - three tanks on an empty land. But it has been properly constructed recent past. Water flows from tank to tank on both sides, creating different temperatures in different tanks. Remember that, water in first tank is significantly hot.

Arrive and check in to the hotel.

Dinner & overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Day 11**

**Day 11 | Sinharaja - Mirissa (Travel Time – Approx. 2 1/2 hrs | 86 kms)**



With packet of breakfast trek to Sinharaja. Sri Lanka is home to 830 endemic species, of which 217 trees and woody climbers are found in the low land wet zone. Of these, 139 (64%) have been recorded in the reserve including 16 rare species. Faunal endemism is particularly high for birds with 19 (95%) of 20 species recorded in the property being endemic to Sri Lanka. Endemism among mammals and butterflies are also greater than 50%. A number of threatened, endangered and rare species occur within the reserve including leopard, Indian elephant, endemic purple faced langur, Sri Lanka wood pigeon, green billed coucal, Sri Lanka

white-headed starling, Sri Lanka blue magpie, ashy-headed babbler and Sri Lanka broad-billed roller.

Thereafter proceed to Mirissa.

Check in to the Cruise and overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 12

### Day 12 | Mirissa - Wattala (Travel Time – Approx. 2 1/2 hrs | 164 kms)

After breakfast whale and dolphin watching tour.

Thereafter proceed to Wattala.

Enroute visit Galle Fort and Dutch Fort. set on a tour of the Galle Fort its and Fortifications. This is a city that exudes an essence with a perfect blend of past and present. Declared as an UNESCO heritage site in 1988, the presence of Portuguese, Dutch and English is very evident in the fascinating architectural styles of the Galle Fort.

Thereafter river safari at Madu River.

check in to the hotel for Dinner and overnight stay.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 13

### Day 13 | Wattala Airport

After breakfast leisure at the hotel

afternoon proceed to the airport to connect with departure flight.



**Meal:** Breakfast

## Inclusions

Accommodation sharing Double room on Half board basis commencing with dinner on Day 1 and ending with Breakfast on Day 13.

Lunch on Day 03.

Transport in a private a/c vehicle with an English speaking Chauffeur guide.

Entrance fees at places (Jeep for Safari) of sightseeing as per the program.

Daily supply of mineral water during excursions / sightseeing.

Meet and Greet at the Airport.

Government Taxes.

## Exclusions

Extras of a personal nature such as liquor, tips, laundry etc.

lunch during the tour (except day 3).

Early Check-In and Late Check Out.

Airfare, Visa & Travel Insurance.

Services not included in "Price Includes".

## Note

### Hotels Envisaged OR Similar

Wattala - Pegasus Reef Hotel or similar

Sigiriya - Sigiriya Jungles or similar

Knuckles - Sir John Bungalow or similar

Mahiyanganaya - Kevan Casa or similar

Ella - Mountain Heaven or similar

Tissamaharama - Chaarya Resort or similar

Sinharaja - Rain forest Eco Lodge Or Similar

Mirissa - Cruise

Wattala - Pegasus Reef Hotel or similar





**Peak Period Supplement - :**

20.12.24 - 10.01.25 - AUD 75 per room per night

11.01.25 - 31.03.25 - AUD 59 per room per night

X'Mas Eve Dinner Supplement - AUD 167 per person

New Year Gala Dinner supplement - AUD 187 per person

**Kindly Note**

-The standard check-in time is 14:00 hrs. The standard check-out time is 12:00 hrs.

-Every month we celebrate Poya Holiday which is the Full Moon day. On this day, no alcohol will be sold or can be purchased. It is not a good day for shopping as most shops are closed.

-The above mentioned hotels will be confirmed on availability at the time of booking. In the event of unavailability of rooms a suitable alternative will be suggested prior to confirmation.

-The Travel Time & Distance mentioned are approximate time and distance from point A to B. This is not considering the enroute stops, traffic & weather conditions.

## **Program Touring / Guide**

Private touring

## **Periodic Departure**

**01 Nov, 2024 to 30 Apr, 2025**

02 pax

AUD 3,895 P P twin share

AUD 5,748 P P single

AVAILABLE

03 pax

AUD 3,753 P P twin share

AUD 5,607 P P single

AVAILABLE

04 pax

AUD 3,581 P P twin share

AUD 5,435 P P single

AVAILABLE

