

## **Heritage Tour**

### **DAY 1**

Arrive at Colombo. You will be transferred to the Cinnamon Lakeside hotel.

### **DAY 2**

Drive to Dambulla (4 ½ hour drive). Visit the Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage on the way. This 24 acres large Elephant Orphanage is also a breeding place for elephants and has the greatest herd of elephants in captivity in the world. Climb the Sigiriya (Lion's rock), a World Heritage site in the evening. It is an ancient rock fortress and palace ruin, surrounded by the remains of an extensive network of gardens, reservoirs, and other structures. Sigiriya is renowned for its ancient paintings (frescos). You will be staying at a standard chalet in the Amaya lake hotel or similar.

### **DAY 3**

You will visit the Polonnaruwa ancient city, a World Heritage site in the morning. A major highlight is the group of Buddha statues carved from a solid banded granite outcrop. In the evening explore the Dambulla Cave Temples, another World Heritage site. There are more than 80 documented caves in the area. Major attractions are spread over 5 caves that are under a vast overhanging rock. You will be staying at a standard chalet in the Amaya lake hotel or similar.

### **DAY 4**

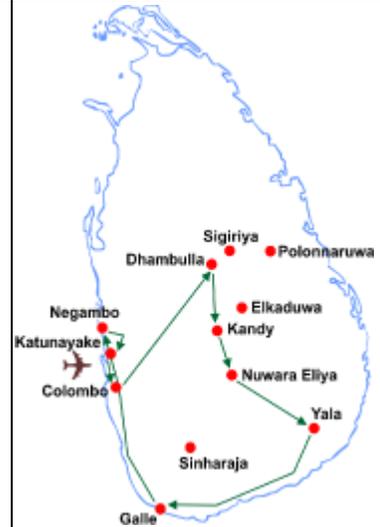
Drive to Kandy. Visit the Royal Botanical Gardens, Temple of the Tooth Relic, and enjoy a Cultural Dance. The Temple which houses the Sacred Tooth Relic of The Buddha, is one of the most sacred for Buddhists. It is also an architectural marvel built by the Sri Lankan kings of Kandy and the reason for the city been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. Botanical Gardens is situated in a slope of the Mahaweli river. They are considered to be one of the most beautiful botanical gardens in the world. You will be staying at Amaya Hills or similar hotel.

### **DAY 5**

Drive to Nuwara Eliya and visit a tea estate and a factory on the way. Nuwara Eliya is a mountain station at 6,128 ft. of altitude, in a splendid landscape. It is blessed with salubrious climate, breathtaking views of valleys, meadows, mountains and greenery. Rest and relax or go for a walk along the tea plantations. You will be staying at a deluxe room in St.Andrews' or similar.

### **DAY 6**

You will be driven to Yala (Approx: 5 ½ hours). Experience a jeep safari in the Yala National Park. It includes multifarious ecosystems ranging from Moist monsoon forests, to dry monsoon forests, semi deciduous forests, thorn forests, grasslands, fresh water and marine wet lands and sandy beaches with wide varieties of wild animals and plants. There are many excellent photographic opportunities. You will be staying at Yala Village or similar.



**DAYS 7 – 10**

A 4 hour drive to Galle and the beaches! Galle was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988. Located facing the Indian Ocean in the town of Galle, on the southern coast of Sri Lanka, Galle Fort is one of the best preserved examples of 17th century colonial fortifications in the world. Galle is also a good place to shop for unique mementoes to take back with you. You will be staying at the Lighthouse Hotel & Spa or similar.

**DAY 11 – 12**

4 hour drive to Negombo. Relax at the Beach hotel or similar and enjoy the Dutch and Portuguese heritage of the town. Departure. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home.

