

Wild-Adventure

11 Days/ 10 Nights

If you like going off the beaten track and getting close to nature, this is the trip for you. A mix of jungle safari, a journey back in time and an opportunity to relax and recover at some of the island's best beach resorts, this wild adventure will bring you into close proximity with Sri Lanka's abundant wild life, from ponderous elephants and sinuous leopards to the myriads of birds and fishes that grace our forests, plains and seas. You will visit less traveled parts of the country, meet its indigenous peoples and be afforded a glimpse of a wilderness steeped in history and romance.

Destinations:

Polonnaruwa – Kadulla National Park – Minneriya – Angammedilla Mahiyangana – Bandarawela – Dunhindha Falls – Rawana Falls – Yala National Park – Hikkaduwa- Sandy Beach – Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery – Induruwa Beach – Bentota

Day- 01

Arrival Our representative at Bandaranayake International Airport will meet and welcome you to Sri Lanka and see you safely on your way to begin your adventure in the wild. You will travel through many of the small towns and villages of the country on your way to your base for the next few days at Polonnaruwa, the medieval capital of the island.

Day- 02

Polonnaruwa-Kaudulla National Park After breakfast you travel to Kaudulla National Park which Bird Life International has identified as an important bird area. Historically Kaudulla was one of the 16 irrigation tanks (reservoirs) built by in the 3rd century AD by King Mashsena. Abandoned over hundreds of years it had reverted to the wild but was reconstructed and brought back into use in 1959. It now attracts and supports a variety of plant and animal life, including large mammals, (such as elephants), fish and reptiles all of which you will have an opportunity to observe going about their daily business in their natural habitat. After a day spent in the wilds, you will return to base at The Royal Lotus Hotel, Polonnaruwa for a well-earned rest and dinner.

Day- 03

Polonnaruwa-Minneriya After Breakfast your journey continues to another adventure in Minneriya National Park in the North Central Province of Sri Lanka. A wildlife sanctuary since 1938, the area was designated as a national park in 1997 with a view to protecting the flora and the wildlife of the surrounding area. Built by King Mahasena in the 3rd century AD the tank is of historical importance as well as being an attraction for the wildlife of the area and its park is a dry season feeding ground for the population dwelling in forests of the near-by districts of , With luck, you will see the huge pachyderms feeding happily on the lush grasses and playing ponderously in the waters of the tank. Back to base at The Royal Lotus Hotel, Polonnaruwa for rest, relaxation and dinner.

Day- 04

Polonnaruwa*-Angammedilla After breakfast you check out of your hotel and move on to other adventures with your tour guide and a safari jeep. Your destination is Angammedilla National Park, one of the newer national parks in Sri Lanka. Angammedilla was originally a forest reserve within

the Minneriya-Girithale Sanctuary dating back to 1988. Its purpose is to protect the drainage basin of Parakrama Samudra (the Sea of Parakrama) one of the biggest tanks in the island. Angammedilla also secures the drainage basins of the Minneriya and Girithale irrigation tanks, water sources in Sudu Kanda ("White Hill") and the habitats and wildlife of the adjacent forests. Elephants, Axis deer, water buffalo, wild boar, and peacocks are the common species of the park. The Red Slender Loris, Tufted Gray Langur and Purple-faced Langur are the primates to be seen in the park. Leopards, Grizzled Giant Squirrels and Jungle fowl are rarer but you might be lucky. You sleep in a basic forest campsite to experience the excitement of listening to the jungle as it comes to life at sundown and of watching the animals as they come down to the water to drink and bathe. After a light breakfast the next morning you continue your journey to Mahiyangana the traditional home of the Veddhas, Sri Lanka's aboriginal people.

Day- 05

Mahiyangana

Mahiyangana is a town in the Uva Province of Sri Lanka again an area of great historical significance. The Lord's first visit to Sri Lanka was said to have been to Mahiyangana to stop a war raging between two races of that time – the Yakksas (demons) and the Nagas (serpents). During His lifetime a dagoba (monument) was erected on the spot where He preached to commemorate His visit. You will also visit Bintenna, a Veddha village, whose origins are part of the oral history of Sri Lanka. Legend has it that when the Sinhala race first landed on the island in 510 BC, Prince Vijaya, their leader, met and married Princess Kuveni, the leader of the Demon people of the country. Their children, a son and a daughter are said to be the progenitors of the Veddha race and you will be privileged to be given a glimpse into the Veddha life style which they have preserved carefully over the centuries. After Lunch you will continue on into the cool hill country

where you will spend the night at a Hotel Bandarawela, a hill station famous for its salubrious climate and its succulent fruit and vegetables.

Day-06

Bandarawela -Yala After breakfast your journey continues to Yala National Park for another wildlife adventure but en route you will visit the magnificent Dunhinda and Rawana waterfalls.

Dunhindha Falls Dunhinda is one of Sri Lanka's most beautiful waterfalls and is said to be the fourth longest waterfall in the world at 210 feet (64 m) long. Its name alone invokes romance (the word "Dun" means "mist" or "smoke") and To reach the waterfall you will have to walk somewhat more than a kilometer along a foot path but the beauty of the fall makes it well worth the effort. Along the path many vendors sell herbal drinks with which you can refresh yourself. The path ends in a secure platform from which you can view the falls in safety. The more intrepid might wish to climb down to the foot of the falls and cross the river to view it from the other side.

Ravana Falls You next move onto the Ravana Falls (known in Sinhala as the Ravana Ella) As one of the widest waterfalls in the country it is a popular sightseeing attraction in .It is approximately 25 m (82 ft) high and cascades down from an oval-shaped concave rock

outcrop. During the local wet season, the waterfall is said to resemble an areca nut flower. The falls which are within the Ravana Ella Wildlife Sanctuary have been named after the demon king Ravana of the famous Indian epic, the Ramayana. Legend has it that King Ravana kidnapped Princess Sita, and hid her in the caves behind this waterfall, now simply known as the Ravana Ella Cave. At the time, the cave was surrounded with thick forests in the midst of wilderness. It is also believed that Sita bathed in the pool that forms at the base of the waterfall. The Ravana Ella Cave lies 1,370 m (4,490 ft) above sea level at the base of a cliff. The cave is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Sri Lanka..

Yala National Park Spend the evening and night in a Hotel Yala Village in the Yala National Park Area and get ready for the next day's adventure

Day-07 / 08

Yala National Park After breakfast your journey continues to Yala National Park also known as Ruhuna National Park, the second largest and most visited national park in Sri Lanka. Yala is situated in the southeast region of the country, and lies in Southern and Uva Provinces. It covers 979 square kilometers (378 sq mi).and was designated as a wildlife sanctuary in the 1900s. The park is best known for being the home of a wide variety of animals and birds and plays an important role in the conservation of Sri Lankan Elephants and aquatic birds. Yala is one of the 70 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Sri Lanka harboring 215 bird species including six endemic species of Sri Lanka. Forty four different kinds of mammals have been recorded in the park and it has one of the highest leopard densities in the world. The area was also the centre of Sri Lanka's

Package Includes

- * Accommodations Twin Sharing Basis
- * Meals on Bed & breakfast basis
- * Air-conditioned private transport
- * Entrance fees at Locations
- * English speaking chauffeur-guide

Package Excludes

- * Visas
- * Insurance
- * Optional tours and activities
- * Flights
- * Airport taxes
- * Camera & Video permits at Cultural sights
- * All expenses of personal nature
- * Tips and port rage
- * Lunch and Dinner

Notes

1. Quote is subject to availability and price fluctuations prior to booking.
2. All drive times are approximate and are subject to change
3. All reservations subject to availability at time of booking
4. The standard check out time in Sri Lanka is 12 noon

ancient civilization and two important pilgrim sites – Sithulpahuwa and Magul Vihara – are situated within the park's boundaries.

Day-09

Hikkaduwa-Sandy Beach After breakfast you will check out of your hotel in Yala and continue your journey along Sri Lanka's magnificent coastline to its renowned southern beaches arriving in the late afternoon at Hikkaduwa a fun coastal town and the first of Sri Lanka's beautiful beaches to be discovered by tourists in the 1960s. With the reef close in-shore, snorkeling and diving in the clear waters are the major past-time along this stretch of sea – a very environmentally friendly way to see the colorful fish that abound in these waters. There is a coral sanctuary on the coast of Hikkaduwa which is worth a visit. The night will be spent at the Amaya Reef Hotel, Hikkaduwa and you will have an opportunity to enjoy seafood fresh from the sea.

Day-10

Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery The next morning will take you to near-by Kosgoda to see its famous turtle hatchery- operated by the Wild Life Protection Society of Sri Lanka. Established in 1981 to protect Sri Lanka's turtles from extinction the hatchery pays local fishermen for the eggs that they collect at night along the sandy beach. Visitors can see huge tanks filled with new born turtle hatchlings. After being cared for over two or three days the baby turtles are taken down to the sea and released during the hours of darkness when there are fewer

predators. **Bentota** Bentota is a paradise of unlimited sun, sea and sand. Nestled in peaceful surroundings with lush tropical foliage bordering the coast, Bentota has become an area not only for a relaxed holiday, but also for many activities such as windsurfing, water skiing and diving to explore the treasures of the underwater world. Its beach is one of the best on the west coast, and has the added interest of the Bentota River which also lends itself to water sports. Having explored what Bentota has to offer during the day, leave for Colombo Sri Lanka's capital city and an overnight stay at the Galle Face Hotel, an elegant vestige of Sri Lanka's colonial past and one of the city's first hotels.

Day-11

Departure After break fast, there will be a last meeting with our representatives and an opportunity to give us your feedback about the tour and your suggestions for our future growth. Depart on time for the Airport and your next destination taking with you fond memories of your wild adventure on "Pearl Island".