

Sri Lanka Family Adventure: Kandy, Pinnawala and Cultural Triangle 5-Night

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Sri Lanka



Duration
5 Nights 6 Days



Starting from
Rs. 42,000 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

📍 **Negombo · 1N**

📍 **Kandy · 2N**

📍 **Habarana · 2N**

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Overview

Sri Lanka Family Adventure: Kandy, Pinnawala and Cultural Triangle — 5-Night

Embark on a memorable family-friendly Sri Lanka tour package that blends wildlife, culture, and gentle adventure. This carefully crafted Sri Lanka Adventure tour package covers iconic highlights: Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, the scenic hill city of Kandy, the sacred Temple of the Tooth, the cave temples of Dambulla, and the dramatic Sigiriya Rock Fortress in the Cultural Triangle. Ideal for families seeking a balanced mix of wildlife encounters, cultural discovery, and relaxed travel.

Highlights:

- Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage: up-close elephant feeding & bathing
- Kandy City & Temple of the Tooth: cultural heart of Sri Lanka
- Dambulla Cave Temples: UNESCO World Heritage site
- Sigiriya Rock Fortress: ancient fortress with panoramic views
- Minneriya/Kaudulla Elephant Safari: wild elephant herds (seasonal)
- Family-friendly activities: village visit, cultural show, easy walks

This 5-night Sri Lanka Adventure package is ideal for families and small groups. For travelers wanting a slightly longer trip, this itinerary pairs well with optional Colombo extensions to form a 6 Sri Lanka Adventure tour package.

Tip: Early starts for Sigiriya and Minneriya safaris give the best wildlife and cooler climbing conditions.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Comfortable private transfers in an air-conditioned vehicle
- ✓ 5 nights accommodation: 1 night Negombo, 2 nights Kandy, 2 nights Habarana/Cultural Triangle (family-friendly hotels)
- ✓ Daily breakfast (hotel) and selected meals as per itinerary
- ✓ Entrance fees to Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, Kandy Temple, Dambulla Cave Temples, Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- ✓ Guided jeep safari in Minneriya/Kaudulla National Park
- ✓ English-speaking guide/driver throughout the tour
- ✓ Local taxes and service charges

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ International airfare to/from Sri Lanka
- ✗ Visa fees and travel insurance
- ✗ Meals not specified in inclusions and personal beverages
- ✗ Optional activities and entrance fees (unless listed above)
- ✗ Gratuities for guides/drivers and personal expenses
- ✗ Early check-in/late check-out charges where applicable

✓ Special: child-friendly rooms and activities available on request.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival, Transfer and Beachside Relaxation — Negombo

Arrive at Bandaranaike International Airport and meet your private driver. Transfer to Negombo for a gentle introduction to Sri Lanka with a beachside hotel close to the airport. Spend the afternoon unwinding after your flight.

Activities: settle into your hotel, stroll the lagoon and beach, optional short boat ride on Negombo Lagoon, and sample fresh seafood at a local restaurant.

Important: Flights arriving early can request an early check-in; please confirm in advance.

Day

2

Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage and Scenic Drive to Kandy

After breakfast depart for Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage to watch feeding and bathing of rescued elephants — a highlight for families. Continue inland through lush countryside to Kandy, the hill capital.

Activities: elephant feeding/bathing and photo opportunities at Pinnawala; scenic stops en route; evening stroll around Kandy Lake.

Note: Pinnawala can be busy at feeding times; mornings are recommended for a quieter visit.

Day

3

Kandy Cultural Tour and Temple of the Tooth

Explore historic Kandy — visit the sacred Temple of the Tooth Relic (Sri Dalada Maligawa) and learn about Buddhist traditions. Enjoy a guided walk through the Royal Botanical Gardens (Peradeniya) or free time for shopping and local markets.

In the evening, attend a lively Kandyan cultural dance show featuring drummers and traditional dancers — a colorful highlight for kids.

Tip: Dress respectfully when visiting temples — shoulders and knees should be covered.

Day

4

Transfer to Cultural Triangle via Dambulla Cave Temples

Drive from Kandy to the Cultural Triangle. En route visit the Dambulla Cave Temples, a UNESCO site with impressive Buddha statues and murals. Continue to your Habarana-area hotel for an evening at leisure or an optional village visit.

Activities: explore the cave temples, short nature walk around Habarana, optional traditional village experience or cookery demo.

Important: The Dambulla climb has steps—wear comfortable shoes and carry water.

Day

5

Sigiriya Rock Fortress and Afternoon Elephant Safari

Early ascent of the iconic Sigiriya Rock Fortress—explore ancient frescoes, royal gardens, and panoramic views from the summit. After lunch, enjoy a wildlife safari in Minneriya or Kaudulla National Park (seasonal) to see free-roaming elephant herds and other wildlife. Return to your hotel for dinner.

Activities: Sigiriya climb, archaeological site visit, afternoon jeep safari for wildlife viewing.

Tip: Start Sigiriya early to avoid heat; bring sun protection and comfortable footwear.

Day

6

Return to Colombo / Departure via Negombo

After breakfast, check out and drive back toward Colombo. Depending on your flight time you can stop at a spice garden, visit the ancient city of Polonnaruwa (optional early start add-on), or head straight to Negombo/airport. Transfer to Bandaranaike International Airport for your departure.

Note: For afternoon/evening international flights allow at least 3–4 hours for transfer and airport formalities from Habarana.

Frequently Asked Questions

? **When is the best time to visit Sri Lanka?**

Sri Lanka has two monsoon patterns, so the best time depends on your destination. For the west and south coasts (Colombo, Galle, Mirissa) and hill country (Kandy, Ella, Nuwara Eliya), visit December to March for dry, sunny weather. For the east and north coasts (Trincomalee, Arugam Bay, Jaffna), May to September offers the best conditions. December to February brings cool, misty weather in the highlands with temperatures dropping to 6-12°C, so pack warm layers. March to May is warm but pleasant, while monsoon seasons (May-September for west/south, October-January for east/north) offer fewer crowds and better deals in affected regions.

? **How can I reach Sri Lanka from India?**

The easiest way is by air to Bandaranaike International Airport (CMB) in Colombo. Direct flights operate from major Indian cities including Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kochi, Mumbai, Delhi, Trichy, Madurai, Coimbatore, and Thiruvananthapuram. Flight time is typically 1-3 hours depending on your departure city. Other airports include Ratmalana (RML) near Colombo and Mattala (HRI) with limited operations. Occasional ferry services between South India and North Sri Lanka have operated but aren't consistently regular - check current status before planning. As an island nation, road or rail connections from India aren't available.

? **Do Indians need a visa to visit Sri Lanka?**

Yes, Indians typically need an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) or e-visa obtained online before travel through the official Sri Lankan government portal. The process is straightforward and usually processed within 24-48 hours. However, Sri Lanka periodically offers visa fee waivers or promotional schemes for Indian tourists, so check the latest requirements and fees before booking your trip. Keep your passport valid for at least 6 months from arrival date. The ETA allows stays up to 30 days for tourism purposes. Always verify current visa requirements as policies can change.

? **What are the local transportation options in Sri Lanka?**

Sri Lanka offers diverse transport options. Trains provide scenic routes like Colombo-Kandy-Ella and Colombo-Galle - book seats early for popular sectors. Buses are economical and frequent with AC coaches on main routes. Tuk-tuks are ubiquitous; use the PickMe app or agree on fares beforehand. Ride-hailing includes PickMe (island-wide) and Uber (mainly Colombo). For comfort and flexibility, hire chauffeur-driven cars or taxis. Domestic flights and seaplanes offer limited seasonal services for longer distances. For circuits, many travelers prefer hiring a car with driver due to local knowledge and convenience.

❓ **Where should I stay in Sri Lanka and what accommodation options are available?**

Sri Lanka offers accommodations across all budgets. In Colombo, stay near Galle Face or Cinnamon Gardens for convenience. For beaches, choose Galle Fort for heritage charm, Mirissa/Weligama for whales and surfing, or Unawatuna for nightlife. Hill country options include Kandy for culture, Ella for scenery, and Nuwara Eliya for tea estates. Wildlife enthusiasts should stay near Yala or Udawalawe national parks. Options range from luxury resorts (Shangri-La, Amangalla, Cape Weligama) to mid-range hotels (Jetwing properties, Cinnamon chain) and budget guesthouses. Tea estate bungalows and eco-lodges offer unique experiences. Book advance during peak season (December–March).

❓ **What are the must-visit attractions in Sri Lanka?**

Top attractions include Sigiriya Rock Fortress with its 5th-century sky palace and frescoes, and the UNESCO-listed Galle Fort with Dutch colonial architecture. Experience the scenic Kandy–Ella train journey through tea plantations, visit Kandy's Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, and explore the ancient capitals of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa. For nature, safari in Yala National Park for leopards and elephants, whale-watch from Mirissa (December–April), and trek Horton Plains to World's End cliff. Don't miss Dambulla Cave Temple, the hill town of Ella with Nine Arch Bridge, Nuwara Eliya's tea estates, and cultural Jaffna in the north.

❓ **What local food and cuisine should I try in Sri Lanka?**

Sri Lankan cuisine offers rich flavors familiar yet distinct from Indian food. Must-tries include rice and curry platters with multiple vegetable and meat curries, hoppers (bowl-shaped fermented pancakes) and egg hoppers, string hoppers (idiyappam) with pol sambol, and kottu roti (stir-fried chopped bread with curry). Sample Jaffna crab curry, ambul thiyal (sour fish curry), and lamprais (rice in banana leaf). For desserts, try buffalo curd with kithul treacle and watalappam. Don't miss Ceylon tea from garden to cup. Vegetarians will find excellent options including dal curries, vegetable dishes, and coconut-based preparations. Street food is generally safe at busy stalls.

★ **Traveller Reviews**



Arjun Mehta

★★★★★ 5/5

Amazing Experience in Sri Lanka

The tour package was well organized and covered all major attractions. Our guide was knowledgeable and friendly. Highly recommend!



Priya Sharma

★★★★★ 5/5

Memorable Trip to Sri Lanka

Had a fantastic time visiting Sri Lanka. The cultural sites and natural beauty were breathtaking. Will cherish these memories forever!



Siddharth Verma

★★★★☆ 4/5

Excellent Package

Everything was perfectly planned from start to finish. The accommodations were top-notch and the itinerary was well thought out.



Anjali Rao

★★★★★ 5/5

Beautiful Beaches

Enjoyed relaxing on the beautiful beaches of Sri Lanka. The water activities were a highlight of my trip!



Ravi Kumar

★★★★☆ 4/5

Cultural Delight

Sri Lanka's rich culture was fascinating. The tour provided a deep insight into local traditions and history.

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