

# Tea Plantations and Scenic Train: Ella to Nuwara Eliya 5-Night Tour

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination  
**Sri Lanka**



Duration  
**5 Nights 6 Days**



Starting from  
**Rs. 46,500 / person**

## ITINERARY ROUTE

↶ Colombo · 1N

↶ Kandy · 1N

↶ Ella · 1N

↶ Nuwara Eliya · 2N

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sri-lanka/sri-lanka-5-nights-6-days-package-784>

## 📌 Overview

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Experience the best of Sri Lanka with this carefully curated 5-night / 6-day Sri Lanka tour package that combines lush tea-country landscapes, iconic viewpoints and the unforgettable scenic train ride from Ella to Nuwara Eliya. Ideal for travelers seeking a relaxing yet adventurous escape, this Sri Lanka Adventure tour package highlights the cultural hub of Kandy, the laid-back charm of Ella, and the cool climes and tea estates of Nuwara Eliya.

### Highlights:

- **Scenic Train Ride:** Enjoy the world-famous rail journey from Ella to Nuwara Eliya with sweeping views of tea terraces and mountains.
- **Tea Plantations & Factories:** Visit working estates and learn tea-processing at Nuwara Eliya's tea factories.
- **Iconic Sights:** Explore Nine Arch Bridge, Little Adam's Peak, Temple of the Tooth (Sri Dalada Maligawa) and Gregory Lake.
- **Cultural & Nature Mix:** A balanced Sri Lanka Adventure package blending heritage, hiking and scenic drives.

Note: This package is designed as a 5-night, 6-day itinerary (also suitable for travelers searching "5 and 6 Sri Lanka Adventure tour package"). Train seat reservations are recommended in advance for the Ella–Nanu Oya segment.

### ✓ What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation for 5 nights (standard/comfort category; upgrades available on request)
- ✓ Daily breakfast (as detailed in itinerary)
- ✓ Private transfers in air-conditioned vehicle as per the itinerary
- ✓ Train tickets (standard class) for the Ella 'Nanu Oya segment (advance reservation recommended, upgrade available)
- ✓ Guided visits to tea factory, Peradeniya Botanical Gardens and local attractions listed
- ✓ Entrance fees for listed attractions (where specified)
- ✓ English-speaking driver/guide
- ✓ Bottle water during transfers

### ✗ Not Included

- ✗ International flights to/from Sri Lanka
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in the inclusions (lunches & dinners unless specified)
- ✗ Personal expenses (tips, laundry, phone calls)
- ✗ Travel insurance (recommended)
- ✗ Optional activities and feasible upgrades (e.g., first-class train reservations, private guides at museums)
- ✗ Peak season surcharges, visa fees, or items of a personal nature
- ✗ Important: Train seat reservations and timings can change; confirm schedules at the time of booking.

## Day-by-Day Itinerary

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Day

1

### **Arrival in Colombo and Transfer to Kandy**

Arrive at Bandaranaike International Airport (Colombo). Meet your driver and embark on a scenic drive to Kandy (approx. 3–4 hours). En route, stop for refreshments and enjoy glimpses of rural Sri Lanka. Check into your hotel in Kandy. In the evening, visit the Temple of the Tooth (Sri Dalada Maligawa) for a spiritual introduction to Sri Lanka’s Buddhist heritage and optionally watch a traditional cultural dance performance.

Tip: Carry a shawl for temple visits and be mindful of shoe-removal policies.

Day

2

### **Kandy Sightseeing and Scenic Drive to Ella**

After breakfast, explore the Royal Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya — a lush collection of tropical plants and orchids. Take a short city walk around the Kandy lake and markets. Post-lunch, begin a scenic drive toward the hill country to reach Ella (approx. 4–5 hours). Stop at viewpoints and tea plantations along the way to soak in the verdant landscapes.

Note: The drive includes winding hill roads; travel times vary with traffic.

Day

3

### **Explore Ella — Nature & Iconic Viewpoints**

Spend a day exploring Ella’s relaxed charm. Hike to Little Adam’s Peak for sunrise or an early morning walk with panoramic views. Visit the famous Nine Arch Bridge and enjoy a leisurely lunch in a café overlooking the valley. Afternoon options include visiting a local tea shop or relaxing at your hotel.

Important: Wear sturdy shoes for short hikes and carry water, sunscreen and insect repellent.

Day

4

### **Scenic Train Journey: Ella to Nuwara Eliya (Nanu Oya Station)**

Board the legendary train for the Ella 'Nuwara Eliya (Nanu Oya) route — one of the most scenic rail journeys in the world. Sit back and enjoy sweeping views of tea terraces, tunnels and waterfalls. Arrive at Nanu Oya and transfer to Nuwara Eliya (approx. 30–40 minutes). In the afternoon, visit a tea factory to learn about Ceylon tea production and sample fresh brews.

Tip: Window seats on the right side (when traveling westbound) often offer spectacular vistas. Advance reservation for reserved seats is strongly recommended.

Day

5

## Nuwara Eliya — Tea Country & Colonial Heritage

Explore Nuwara Eliya — nicknamed 'Little England' for its colonial architecture and cool climate. Visit Gregory Lake, stroll through the town, and stop at a strawberry farm or local market. Afternoon options include a visit to a tea estate for more immersive plantation walks or relaxing at your hotel with mountain views.

Weather note: Nuwara Eliya is cooler than the lowlands; pack a light jacket for evenings.

Day

6

## Return to Colombo & Departure

After a relaxed breakfast, begin your transfer back to Colombo (approx. 4–5 hours). En route, stop for scenic photo opportunities or shopping for Ceylon tea. Arrive in Colombo with time for a short city tour depending on your flight schedule — highlights could include Galle Face Green or the colonial district. Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

If you have a late flight, consider a short Colombo city tour or an upgrade to a late check-out.

## ? Frequently Asked Questions

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### ? 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.

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## ❓ **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.

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## ❓ **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.

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## ❓ **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.

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## ❓ **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).

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## 🔍 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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