

Day 1

Arrive in Negombo, a coastal fishing village and spend the remainder of the day at leisure.



A traditional fishing boat on the beach at Negombo

Day 2

Visit the elephant orphanage and sanctuary at Pinnawala, where you can get up-close and personal with the elephants.



Elephants bathing at the Pinnawala sanctuary

Experience the authentic Sri Lankan village life at Hiriwadunna village.



Ride on a traditional catamaran at Hiriwadunna village

Day 2 (cont.)

Tour of Hiriwadunna includes wading through a shallow stream and crossing a wider tributary in a catamaran of an obliging farmer to inspect Chena cultivation (slash and burn agriculture).

Day 3

Visit the ancient capital of Anuradhapura. It is famous for its well-preserved ruins of an ancient Sri Lankan civilisation. Established around the 4th century BC, it is one of the oldest, continuously inhabited cities in the world. The ruins principally consist of monastic buildings, dagobas and pokunas. Remains of monastic buildings are scattered throughout the region as raised stone platforms, foundations and stone pillars.



An ancient stupa at Anuradhapura

Day 4

Visit the Dambulla Cave temple.



Buddha statues inside the Dambulla Rock Temple

Day 4 (cont.)

The Dambulla Rock Temple is a vast isolated rock mass 500 feet high and a mile around the base. The sacred rock temple (World Heritage listed site) is the largest and best preserved cave temple site in Sri Lanka, containing over a 150 Buddha statues and statues of Hindu deities such as Vishnu and Ganesh, spread across 5 magnificent caves. The famous Rock Temple dates back to the First Century B.C.

On the way to Kandy, visit some of the many Spice Gardens in Matale and Mawanella where cinnamon, cardamom, pepper creepers and several other spice trees, plants and creepers are found.



An assortment of spices

Day 5

Visit the Royal Botanical Gardens in Kandy.



Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya, Kandy

The Royal Botanical Gardens is a majestic botanical gardens set on 147 acres with historical beginnings back in 1374 as a pleasure garden of the Kings of Gampola and Kandy.

Day 5 (cont.)

Kandy, the hill capital of the country, is another World Heritage listed site and is home to the famous Buddhist Temple of the Tooth Relic. It was the last stronghold of the Sinhalese Kings during the Portuguese, Dutch and British rule and finally ceded to the British in 1815.



Temple of the Tooth Relic, Kandy

Day 6

On the way to picturesque Nuwara Eliya, visit the Ramboda Falls. The first section of the falls is high above road-level flowing through the jungle, the second being close to the road and the third section (100m) is below road-level.



Ramboda Falls

Nuwara Eliya, the 'Little England' of Sri Lanka, is set against a beautiful backdrop of mountains, valleys, waterfalls and tea plantations. It is one of the coolest places on the island with the climate being very similar to an English spring day, although the temperature does drop at night.

Day 7

Transfer to Bentota and engage in White Water Rafting on a 5 km stretch of the picturesque Kelani River encountering 5 major rapids and 4 minor ones at Kitulgala.



Thrills of White Water Rafting

Day 8

Relax on a whale and dolphin watching tour at Mirissa in Bentota. The giant blue whales, sperm whales, Bryde's whales and even the occasional killer whale are common in these waters, predominantly between November and April. Dolphins in these waters include bottlenose dolphins, striped dolphins and spinner dolphins.



Whale watching off the waters of Mirissa

Enjoy a safari on the Madu River with mangrove forested islets, including stops at an ancient Buddhist temple, cinnamon island and a fish farm. Witness the abundance of wildlife as you sit back and relax.

Day 8 (cont.)

Visit the Turtle Hatchery at Kosgoda. Operated by the Wild Life Protection Society of Sri Lanka this hatchery was established in 1981 to protect Sri Lanka's turtles from extinction.



Hatchling turtles at Kosgoda

Day 9 & 10

Return to Colombo and spend 2 days sightseeing, shopping and relaxing in Colombo.



Skyline of Colombo

Day 11

Depart Sri Lanka with fond memories of the tour.

www.idestinytravel.com.au **Package Inclusions:** Price includes the following: 10 nights / 11 days in Sri Lanka 4/5-star accommodation Breakfast and dinner included Tour representative meeting and assisting you at the airport Transportation in an air-conditioned Micro Van or Mini Coach with the services of an English speaking chauffeurguide. All applicable taxes and service charges Return airport transfers on a private basis Price excludes the following: Airfares and taxes Entrance fees to sites mentioned in the itinerary Sri Lankan entry visa; please visit www.eta.gov.lk for more details and to submit your visa application Travel insurance Tips and portage Lunch Video/Camera permits Any expenses of a personal nature (e.g., telephone calls, mini bar or alcohol purchases) Have questions? Call us on 1300 200 100 or email us at sales@idestinytravel.com.au