



THE BEST OF SRI LANKA
11 Nights/ 12 Days



Let your imagination soar

Welcome to Sri Lanka

The tear drop shaped island of Sri Lanka lies in the Indian Ocean just off the southern tip of India. With its golden sandy beaches, azure blue waters and warm tropical climate, Sri Lanka is a year round destination for holidaymakers seeking sun, sand and sea.

The island has a rich cultural heritage that dates back over 2,000 years which is linked to the origins of Buddhism in the country with magnificently constructed stupas and the ruins of ancient kingdoms. Controlled from the 16th century onwards by the Portuguese, Dutch and finally the British prior to gaining full independence in 1948, the influences of colonial powers remain visible in architecture and a number of forts across the country.

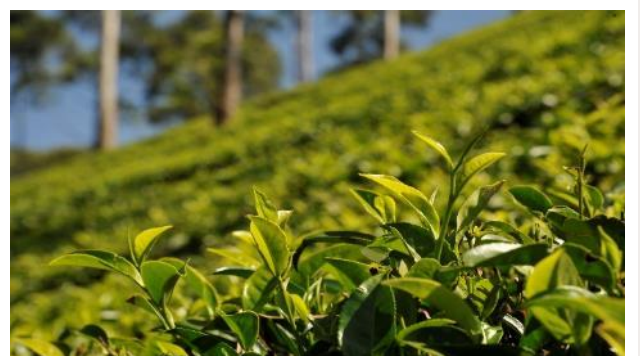
Sri Lanka is recognised as a global biodiversity hotspot with a rich variety of endemic flora and fauna, and incredibly for a small island, can boast of large iconic animals such as the Asian Elephant, Leopard and the largest animal to have inhabited our planet, the Blue Whale. From palm fringed beaches to scrub jungles and numerous man-made lakes in the lowlands to tropical rainforests, cloud forests and highlands laden with waterfalls at its centre, this resplendent isle is abundant in natural beauty.

Highlights of the Itinerary:

- Visits to the ancient cities Anuradhapura & Polonnaruwa
- Climb & visit the awe inspiring Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- A guided tour of the Dambulla Cave Temples
- See Asian Elephants in the wild
- Visits to the Sacred Temple of the Tooth Relic
- Visit to the Peradeniya Botanical Gardens
- Scenic Train journey to Hatton
- Tea Experience at Tea Trails
- Scenic Cinnamon Air flight to Galle
- A tour of Colombo by car

Specially created for

- Wildlife & Culture Enthusiasts



At a glance



11 nights / 12 days

1 - Horathapola Estate (Day 1)

2 - Water Garden , Sigiriya (Day 2,3)

3 - Kings Pavilion , Kandy (Day 4)

4 - Ceylon tea trails , Dickoya (Day 5,6,7)

5 - Amanwella , Tangalle (Day 8,9,10)

6 - Shangri La - Colombo (Day 11)

AN &BEYOND CUSTOM-DESIGNED ITINERARY		
DATE	SERVICE	ACCOMMODATION
Day 1	Met on arrival by a representative and transfer to Horathapola Estate, Wadumunnegedara (approx 1 hour drive)	
	Overnight at Horathapola Estate, Wadumunnegedara - 01 Night	Standard Room - HB
Day 2	Morning after breakfast leave for Anuradhapura (approx.3 ½ hour drive)	
	Engage in a guided tour of the ancient capital	
	Thereafter travel to Sigiriya (1 ½ hour drive)	
	Spend 02 nights at Water Garden Resort, Sigiriya	Deluxe Villa - HB
Day 3	Morning visit the ancient city of Polonnaruwa (approx. 1 hour's drive)	
	Afternoon visit the Minneriya / Kaudulla National Parks (approx. 1 hour drive to either parks)	
	Overnight at Water Garden Resort, Sigiriya	Deluxe Villa - HB
Day 4	Morning visit & climb the Sigiriya Rock	
	Drive to Kandy thereafter (approx. 3-hour drive)	
	If time permits, stop for a visit to the Dambulla Cave Temples en route (Optional)	
	Evening visit the Sacred Temple of the tooth	
	Overnight at Kings Pavilion, Kandy - 01 Night	Suite Room - HB
Day 5	After breakfast visit the Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya	
	Proceed to the Kandy Railway station in time to board your train to Hatton.	
	Transfer you to your bungalow at Tea Trails, Dick Oya (approx. 30 mins)	
	Spend 03 nights at Tea Trails, Dick Oya	Luxury Room - AI
Day 6	Morning engage in a Tea experience Tour hosted & conducted by the resident Planter	
	Spend afternoon at leisure.	
	Overnight at Tea Trails, Dick Oya	Luxury Room - AI
Day 7	Breakfast at the Bungalow	
	At leisure (The bungalow has many activities on offer)	
	Overnight at Tea Trails, Dick Oya	Luxury Room - AI
Day 8	This morning take Cinnamon Air Scheduled flight to Koggala from Castlereigh Reservoir. (Flying time - Approx. 01 hour 15 minutes)	
	Transfer to your resort in Tangalle (Approx. 2 hours)	
	Overnight at Amanwella, Tangalle - 03 Nights	Garden Pool Suite - BB

Day 9 & 10	Breakfast at hotel	
	Spend the rest of the days at leisure	
	Overnight at Amanwella, Tangalle	Garden Pool Suite - BB
Day 11	Transfer to Colombo (Approx. 3 hours & 40 mins)	
	Overnight at Shangri La Hotel, Colombo	Deluxe Ocean View - BB
Day 12	Transfer to Colombo Airport in time for departure flight (Approx. 1 hour)	
	(We recommend that you be at the airport at least 03 hours prior to departure flight)	
	** End of Tour **	

GLOSSARY

BB = Bed and Breakfast Basis (Breakfast with accommodation only)

HB = Half Board (Dinner and Breakfast with accommodation only)

AI = All Inclusive (Lunch, Dinner and Breakfast with accommodation with extras)

DBL = Double Room (2 pax sharing one double bed)

Castlereagh - Castlereagh Reservoir

Koggala - Koggala Lagoon (entrance through Koggala Domestic Airport)

ENTRY/VISA REQUIREMENTS

- As for all international travel, the visitor to Sri Lanka is required to be in possession of a valid passport and visa. Travellers from all countries need a visa.
- We highly recommend you to apply for online visas (US \$ 35 for Tourist Visa) to avoid unnecessary delays in trying to obtain Visa on arrival, which can take an hour or so of waiting in line. SAARC Nationals pay US \$ 20 online, and US \$ 25 if applying on arrival.
- A valid passport not less than 6 months, a confirmed return or onward air ticket and sufficient funds for the stay are the entry requirements to the country. If obtaining a visa on arrival, please pay by cash (US \$ 40 for Tourist Visa) since payment by credit cards can take longer to process. You must carry a passport sized photograph if obtaining a visa on arrival.
- Please note that the above details are subject to change, when the government authorities revise their policies.

- **SATELLITE PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN SRI LANKA**

Expect the extraordinary

Day 1- Airport - Wadumunnegedara

Met on arrival by an &Beyond representative and transfer to Horathapola Estate, Wadumunnegedara (approx. 1 hour drive)

Horathapola Estate, Wadumunnegedara

Hidden amidst the beautiful lush landscapes of rural Sri Lanka lies Horathapola Estate, a plantation bungalow surrounded by a working organic coconut plantation. An hour and a half's drive from the Bandaranaike International Airport, this grand plantation bungalow dates from the early 1900. It has been beautifully restored to host five spacious luxury guestrooms and is a fully functioning organic coconut estate of roughly 50 acres. It sustains the livelihoods of about 30 families living in the neighbouring village. An ideal place to break journey after your long flight in to Sri Lanka, Horathapola Estate will help you relax and unwind before you set out to explore the rest of the Island.

Spend 01 night at Horathapola Estate. Accommodation is in a standard Room. Your stay is on Half Board basis.



Day 2 - Wadumunnegedara - Anuradhapura - Sigiriya

This morning travel to Anuradhapura. (approx. 3 ½ hour drive) an engage in a guided tour of the ancient capital.

The Ancient City of Anuradhapura

Spend your day exploring the various sites located within the ancient city of Anuradhapura. Here, Buddhism has prevailed from its introduction to the current period. On religious days, the city is filled with devotees who travel from all across the Island to pay homage to the various religious sites within the ancient city by first cleansing themselves in the manmade lake and then offering flowers and prayers to the Gods. On such days, the city can be a busy place but this is a part of the wonderful experience of witnessing Buddhism through a living ancient city.

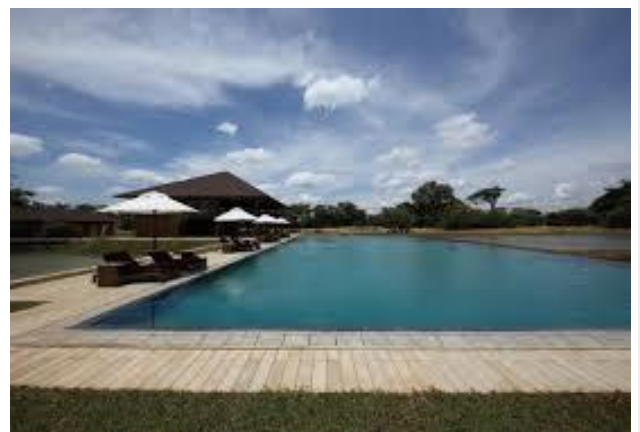
Dating back to at least 1000 BC, Anuradhapura was capital of much of Sri Lanka between the 5th century BC and the 11th century AD. It was here that Buddhism was adopted by the rulers in the 3rd century BC. Thera Mahinda, the son of the great Indian Emperor Ashoka, introduced Buddhism to the country. The city grew and was a major secular and religious site that today covers over 40 sq. km. Many places are still sites of worship and prayer.

Transfer to Water Garden, Sigiriya thereafter. (approx. 1 ½ hour drive)

Water Garden, Sigiriya

Spread across 35 acres with the magnificent Sigiriya Rock Fortress as the backdrop, Water Garden was designed by renowned Sri Lankan architect Channa Dasawatte as a tribute to the ancient water gardens that once surrounded Sigiriya Rock Fortress. The hotel has been built using some of the finest materials in the world and is furnished tastefully, highlighting several creative pieces done by local artists. Take refuge from the sun in the open-plan reception area before you are taken to your respective villa in a buggy. Water Garden offers accommodation in 30 villas in three categories - 13 Standard Villas (950sqft), 13 Deluxe Villas (1282sqft) and 4 Duplex Villas (2135sqft).

Spend 02 nights at Water Garden, Sigiriya. Accommodation is in a Deluxe Villa. Your stay is on Half Board basis.



Day 3 - Sigiriya - Polonnaruwa - Minneriya - Sigiriya

After breakfast visit the ancient city of Polonnaruwa. (Approx. 1 hour drive)

Ancient city of Polonnaruwa

Known as the second most ancient kingdom of Sri Lanka, Polonnaruwa is an ancient site containing the archaeological remains of ancient structures of governance, temples and statues that reflect the great works of the ancient Kings of Sri Lanka.

Polonnaruwa took its place in history after King Vijayabahu I defeated the invading Cholas and moved the capital from Anuradhapura to Polonnaruwa. While King Vijayabahu is credited with the creation of Polonnaruwa as the second ancient capital of Sri Lanka, real change came to Polonnaruwa during the golden reign of King Parakramabahu I. The King was instrumental in monumental changes and development from an agricultural perspective to Polonnaruwa where his royal decree was that not a single drop of rain should be wasted. New irrigation and waterways were constructed as well as the enormous man-made tank titled the Parakrama Samudraya that forms almost a ring around the city and functions both as a protective barrier as well as an enormous catchment area for the collection of rain water to irrigate the agricultural land around the city of Polonnaruwa. It is said that the man made tank is so vast that if you stood on one side of it, you would not be able to see the other side due to its enormity. Polonnaruwa is a UNESCO listed world heritage site.

Afternoon visit the Minneriya / Kaudulla National Parks (approx. 1 hour drive to either parks)

Minneriya - Kaudulla National Park (May - October only)

'The Gathering of Elephants', which is ranked among the world's top wildlife viewing spectacles runs from June - October each year. Each afternoon, around 150 - 200 individual elephants come out of the forest in to the open to graze on the fresh green pasture by the water's edge at Minneriya and Kaudulla national parks.



You have excellent opportunities here to observe the social dynamics of the Asian Elephant as the large bulls in musth compete among each other and seek the females within the herd, while young calves with carefree abandon get up to their mischievous antics often to the displeasure of its alert mothers within the herd. Other large animals found here include Jackal, Spotted Deer, Grey Langur and Toque Macaque are the other large animals found here, while flocks of Painted Stork, Spot-billed Pelican, Asian Open bill and Indian Cormorant are found at the water's edge by the tanks. Grey-headed Fishing Eagle and White-bellied Sea Eagle soar above the tanks preying on fish and other small animals.

Overnight at Water Garden, Sigiriya. Accommodation is in a Deluxe Villa. Your stay is on Half Board Basis.



Day 4 - Sigiriya - Kandy

After breakfast visit & climb Sigiriya.

Sigiriya Rock Fortress

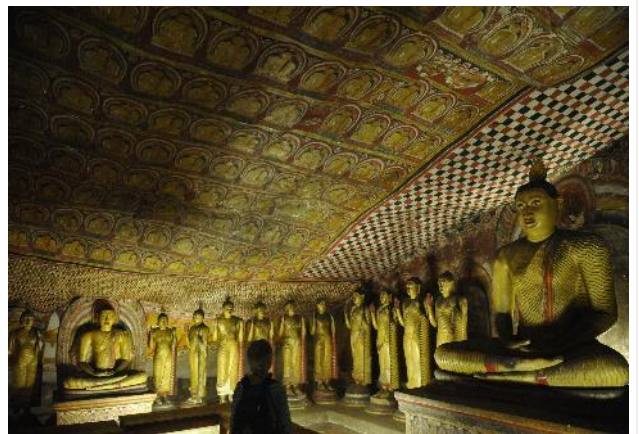
Referred to as 'The Lion Rock' by locals, Sigiriya became the capital during the reign of King Kashyapa in the 4th century A.D. After slaying his own father, King Dhatusena of Anuradhapura to take the throne and fearing a retaliatory attack from the rightful heir Moggallana who fled to neighboring India, the new King constructed his royal palace on the summit of this 200 meter high rock with a fortress for his own protection. Walk through the meticulously landscaped Royal Gardens and ascend towards the summit where only ruins of the royal palace now remain. A visit to the fresco gallery with its ancient paintings of the King's maids in waiting and the Mirror Wall with ancient transcripts that closely match the modern day Sinhalese language should also not be missed. In 495 A.D, Moggallana returned from his exile and defeated the King re-instating Anuradhapura as the capital. Sigiriya was then used as a Buddhist monastery until the 14th century prior to being mysteriously abandoned.

There is a lot to see and explore at the lower levels of Sigiriya and for those wishing to climb, please note that there are occasional seasonal visitations from Hornets at the higher levels. This is usually during the middle of the day and in response to noise and other disturbances. We therefore schedule early morning visits for those wishing to climb to the top.

Drive to Kandy thereafter. (Approx. 3 hour drive). If time permits stop for a visit to the Dambulla Cave Temples en route.

Dambulla Cave Temple (optional)

Dambulla is famous for its rock paintings and is among the best preserved monastic temple cave complexes in Sri Lanka. There are about 150 Buddha statues with over 2000 square metres of painted walls and ceilings within a complex of five separate caves which also includes some Hindu deities. Dambulla's origins as a place of worship dates back to the reign of King Valagamba in the 1st century BC, who took refuge in these caves when driven out of Anuradhapura by Chola invaders. Once he regained the throne, the king had the interior of the caves transformed in to magnificent rock temples.



More paintings and statues were added over time by later kings. One of the most notable modifications was made by King Nissanka Malla, who had the caves' interiors gilded giving it the name 'Ran Giri' or 'Golden Rock' Temple.

Kings Pavillion, Kandy

Kings Pavilion is a nine-bedroom boutique hotel located in the suburbs of Kandy surrounded by greenery and birdlife, Spread across three acres with a large garden overlooking the Hunnasgiriya and Knuckles mountain range, this contemporary style hotel blends in seamlessly with its environment providing guests a comfortable place to relax.

Evening visit the Sacred Temple of the Tooth Relic.

Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic Kandy

Referred locally as the Sri Dalada Maligawa, the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic is the most revered site in the country. The Temple was built in the 16th century AD and is located adjacent to the Royal Palace complex of the former Kingdom of Kandy and overlooks the expanses of the Kandy Lake. Housing the sacred tooth relic of the Lord Buddha, the building has held a significant role in local politics since ancient times, with a belief that whoever holds the relic has the right to govern the country. The sacred tooth was smuggled in to Sri Lanka from India by a princess in the 4th century AD and was initially kept in Anuradhapura and then moved across the country over time before being housed in Kandy. This sacred temple attracts thousands of white-clad pilgrims on a daily basis bearing lotus blossoms and frangipani for their offerings which are known as pujas. Ensure that you dress appropriately, wearing clothes that cover your legs and shoulders and please do remove your shoes before entering the holy temple.

Spend 01 night at Kings Pavilion, Kandy. Accommodation is in a suite room. Your stay is on Half Board basis.



Day 5 - Kandy - Dickoya

This morning make a visit to the Botanical Gardens in Peradeniya

Royal Botanical Gardens Peradeniya

The Royal Botanical Gardens is the largest of Sri Lanka's botanical gardens with over 4,000 different species of plants and is regarded among the finest in Asia. The origins of the Botanical Gardens date to 1371 when King Wikramabahu III took to the throne and kept his court at Peradeniya near the Mahaweli, where the gardens were reserved exclusively for Kandyan Royalty.

The highlights include the Orchid collection and an avenue of Royal Palm Trees. In addition to a multitude of flowering plants, there is also an expansive collection of medicinal plants and spices which can be seen during a stroll across the gardens.

Thereafter proceed to the Kandy Railway station in time to board your train to Hatton.

Transfer to your bungalow at Tea Trails, Dick Oya (approx. 30 mins)

Ceylon Tea Trails:

Sri Lanka's first Relais & Chateaux resort, comprises five luxurious colonial era tea planters' bungalows, connected by walking trails through stunningly beautiful Ceylon tea gardens. Each of the five bungalows is different. Summerville with an air of a country cottage, Castlereagh with an eclectic style of its own, the high colonial Tientsin, one of the first planter's residences to be built in Ceylon, the more modern Norwood abounding with 50's character and Dunkeld, the new bungalow offering spectacular views of Castlereagh Lake and the Great Western mountain range. Built between 1888 and 1950, the bungalows offer a taste of gracious living thanks to butler service & period furnishings, accompanied by gourmet meals. Follow the Tea Trail from one unique bungalow to the next, staying a night or two at each or just laze in one. Trek, bike or picnic at spectacular locations each day in cool comfort. You can book a room or the entire bungalow and relish a luxury holiday in the heart of Sri Lanka's breath taking Ceylon tea country.

Spend three nights at Tea Trails, Dick Oya. Accommodation is in a Luxury Room. Your stay is on All Inclusive basis.



Day 6 - Dickoya

This morning, join the Ceylon Tea Trails Tea Experience with their resident planter.

This is the essential Tea Trails experience. Their Resident Tea Planter will show you first hand the age-old tea making process. First, follow the trail of the planters of old Ceylon, as they trekked through the dense jungle looking for the best slopes on which to plant tea. Then on to watch the tea pluckers pick two leaves and a bud with deft hands. Then to the factory where the all-important conversion to “made” black tea happens. The machinery used is of very traditional British design, some as old as 100 years. The process is a very artisanal one, unchanged for a century. The daily complimentary tour ends with a tasting of different grades of this great brew. Together with tea-infused cuisine, tea based spa treatments and trekking trails that traverse tea-blanketed hills, you can literally lose yourself in tea. You will leave Tea Trails with a newly found appreciation of this wonder herb “Camellia Sinensis” & the terroir of Ceylon Tea.

Overnight at Tea Trails, Dick Oya. Accommodation is in a Luxury Room. Your stay is on All Inclusive basis

Day 7 - Dickoya

Breakfast at the hotel. Spend full day at leisure.

Take a leisurely walk or an adventure trek, a delightful way to experience the varied landscapes, exotic flora, abundant birdlife and the sweet rhythm of life in a tea garden. Take in vistas of mountain lakes, manicured tea gardens, forests and doll’s house villages. A guide can be provided or self-walk on our marked trails which are selected for varying levels of ability. Many of our guests walk from one Tea Trails bungalow to another for a meal or cup of tea.

Do not miss the Scrumptious afternoon high teas in gardens curiously English and exotic at the same time.

Overnight at Tea Trails, Dick Oya. Accommodation is in a Luruy Room. Your stay is on All Inclusive basis



Day 8 - Dickoya - Tangalle

This morning, transfer to Castlereigh Reservoir & board your domestic scheduled flight to Koggala. (Flying time - Approx. 01 hour 15 minutes)

Transfer to your villa in Tangalle thereafter (Approx. 02 hours)

Amanwella, Tangalle

Situated amidst a mature coconut grove, fronting a crescent-shaped beach lies Amanwella, your luxury boutique beach experience in southern cost of Sri Lanka.

The resort derives its name by combining the words aman, or “peace” in Sanskrit, and wella, the Sinhalese name for “beach”. Sri Lanka’s most notable modern architect, Geoffrey Bawa, has influenced the design and aesthetics of Amanwella in the use of traditional materials that create a luxury retreat along the southern coast’s rugged terrain. Steps lead to a unique 47 meter rectangular swimming pool with panoramic views of the Indian ocean. Overlooking the pool are two large sun terraces with sun loungers. Located in a coconut grove within walking distance from the sea is the Beach Club, an open pavilion with a wooden deck ideal for lounging with light informal dining. All 30 suites of this contemporary beachfront resort feature their own plunge pool and terrace. The property is linked by pathways with suites interspersed along the hillside to the west of the public areas, providing views of the ocean and beach flanked by two rocky headlands.

Spend three nights at Amanwella, Tangalle. Accommodation is in a Garden Pool Suite. Your stay is on Bed & Breakfast basis.

Day 9 & 10 - Tangalle

Spend full days at leisure relaxing by the beach.

Overnight at Amanwella, Tangalle. Accommodation is in a Garden Pool Suite. Your stay is on Bed & Breakfast basis.



Day 8 - Tangalle - Colombo

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Colombo.

Colombo

Colombo is an open and attractive city with a fascinating mix of 19th and 20th century colonial buildings, and more recent modern architecture. In the last few years, considerable renovation and restoration work has been undertaken in the capital. The Colombo Racecourse and Independence Square are such examples of recently renovated Colonial architecture. Places to see in Colombo are the Gangaramaya Temple with its eclectic mix of Sri Lankan, Thai, Indian, and Chinese architecture, the serene Seema Malakaya temple located on the Beira Lake, the Independence Square which is a national monument built to commemorate the independence of Sri Lanka from British rule, the old Dutch Hospital in Colombo which was built during the period where Sri Lanka was under Dutch rule and the Galle Face Green, especially at night, when it comes to life with street hawkers and locals enjoying the kebabs and the sea breeze.

Check in to your hotel & spend rest of the day at leisure

Shangri La Hotel, Colombo

The newly opened Shangri-La Hotel, Colombo, located in a prime location by the sea that is in the heart of the business district and buzzing social hotspot. A personal tropical sanctuary that is perfect for escaping the city, it offers some of the finest, most modern accommodation in the country, with 500 luxurious guest rooms and suites, and 41 serviced apartments. An exciting new dining and social scene has come to life around the hotel's outstanding group of restaurants and bars, and the exclusive Horizon Club Lounge is the largest of its kind in Colombo. Shangri-La's world-renowned CHI, The Spa presents 7 private rooms and a soothing selection of traditional Sri Lankan and Asian treatments and therapies. The spa is complemented by a state-of-the-art, 24-hour Health Club and one of the largest outdoor swimming pools in Colombo.

Spend 01 night at Shangri La, Hotel, Colombo. Accommodation is in a Deluxe Ocean View Room. Your stay is on Bed & Breakfast basis.

Day 12 - Colombo - Airport

Transfer to Colombo airport in time for departure. (Approx. 1 hour)

We recommend you check in at least 3 hours prior to your international flight departure.



Journey overview

Accommodation

DATE	DESTINATION	ACCOMMODATION	DETAILS
Day 01	Wadumunnegedara	Horathapola Estate	1 x Standard Room Half Board
Day 02	Sigiriya	Water Garden	1 x Deluxe Villa Half Board
Day 03	Sigiriya	Water Garden	1 x Deluxe Villa Half Board
Day 04	Kandy	Kings Pavilion	1 x Suite room Half Board
Day 05	Hill Country	Ceylon Tea Trails	1 x Luxury room All Inclusive
Day 06	Hill Country	Ceylon Tea Trails	1 x Luxury room All Inclusive
Day 07	Hill Country	Ceylon Tea Trails	1 x Luxury room All Inclusive
Day 08	Amanwella	Tangalle	1 x Garden Pool Suite Bed & Breakfast
Day 09	Amanwella	Tangalle	1 x Garden Pool Suite Bed & Breakfast
Day 10	Amanwella	Tangalle	1 x Garden Pool Suite Bed & Breakfast
Day 11	Colombo	Shangri La	1 x Deluxe Ocean View Bed & Breakfast

What's included:

- Accommodation at the Hotels and as per the meal plans mentioned above.
- All transport services using 01 Air-conditioned Car based on options provided.
- All sightseeing and related entrance charges as mentioned in the itinerary.
- We will be providing an English speaking Chauffeur Guide throughout the tour.
- Bottle water during sightseeing tours and long drives.
- All presently applicable government taxes.
- Ceylon Tea Trails All Inclusive package includes: Bed tea, full English or Sri Lankan breakfast, 3-course lunch or rice and curry (gourmet packed lunch if on excursion), traditional afternoon cream tea (scones, clotted cream; jams; cakes; sandwiches), pre-dinner cocktails, 4-course gourmet dinner, a selection of international wines, premium spirits & liqueurs, beer (Alcohol will not be served on Poya full moon days and other days prohibited by the Govt.), juice and soft drinks, tea & coffee, laundry, calls within Sri Lanka, the "Tea Experience" tea fields & factory tour with our planter/naturalist-in-residence & bungalow amenities including Wi-Fi.

What's not included:

- Sri Lankan Visa
- Lunch and Dinner unless stated otherwise
- Beverages, unless stated otherwise
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, phone calls etc.
- Any hotel early check ins or late check outs unless stated otherwise.
- Any Insurance
- International and domestic airfare unless stated otherwise.
- Tips to guides, airport and hotel porters and restaurants. (Tipping is expected!)
- Any change in tax structure resulting from the hike in published tariff.
- Any other item not explicitly mentioned under included price.