

DESTINATION ITINERARY

Sri Lanka

7-9 Days

From INR 31,000 per person

Best: Jan, Feb, Mar, Jul, Aug, Dec

Sri Lanka packs an improbable range into an island a fraction of India's size, with direct and one-stop air links from India. Within a week you can move from ruined stupas in the cultural triangle to the cool tea country around Nuwara Eliya, ride a slow hill train through Ella, look...

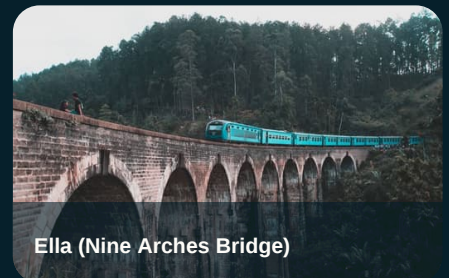
FEATURED IN THIS JOURNEY



Sigiriya Rock Fortress



Kandy Temple of the Tooth



Ella (Nine Arches Bridge)

INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY PLANNING BRIEF

Destination overview

Sri Lanka packs an improbable range into an island a fraction of India's size, with direct and one-stop air links from India. Within a week you can move from ruined stupas in the cultural triangle to the cool tea country around Nuwara Eliya, ride a slow hill train through Ella, look for leopard at Yala, and finish on the southern beaches. The interior holds Buddhist and Hindu sites many Indian travellers already half know from the Ramayana; the coast holds surf towns, Dutch fort walls and whale-watching boats. Roads wind but distances stay modest, so a circuit with a car and driver works well. It suits families, couples and older travellers alike, and anyone who wants heritage, wildlife and coastline inside one manageable itinerary.

PACKAGE DURATION

7-9 Days

STARTING PRICE

From INR 31,000 per person

BEST TIME

Peak: Jan, Feb, Mar, Jul, Aug, Dec | Shoulder: Apr, Jun, Sep, Nov | Avoid: May, Oct

TRIP TYPES

beach, heritage, wildlife, hill

8 APPROVED SUBLOCATIONS

Places you'll visit


Sigiriya Rock Fortress
HERITAGE SITE | HALF DAY

A granite outcrop rising abruptly from the plain, topped by the ruins of a fifth-century royal citadel. Visitors climb staged staircases past frescoed rock galleries and the polished mirror wall, through a gateway once shaped as a lion's paws, to palace foundations and water gardens laid out below.


Kandy Temple of the Tooth
TEMPLE | 2-3 HOURS

The Sri Dalada Maligawa beside Kandy lake, which houses a relic held to be a tooth of the Buddha. Visitors join the crowds at the daily puja hours when the inner chamber is opened, walk the painted corridors and museum rooms, and see the precinct that hosts the Esala Perahera.


Ella (Nine Arches Bridge)
VIEWPOINT | HALF DAY

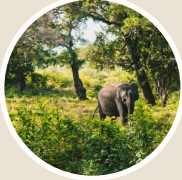
A stone-and-brick railway viaduct curving through jungle near the hill town of Ella, built without steel during the colonial period. Visitors walk in along a tea-estate path to watch the trains cross, and usually combine it with the climbs up Little Adam's Peak and Ella Rock.



Galle Fort

HERITAGE SITE | HALF DAY

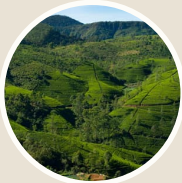
A walled seaside town on the south coast, fortified by the Portuguese and rebuilt by the Dutch. Visitors walk the ramparts towards sunset, look in at the lighthouse, the Dutch Reformed church and the old warehouses, and browse gem and craft shops along a grid of shaded lanes.



Yala National Park

NATIONAL PARK | HALF DAY

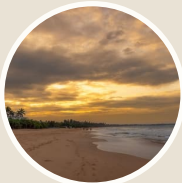
Sri Lanka's best known reserve, a mix of scrub, lagoon and rock outcrop on the south-east coast. Jeep safaris run at dawn and in the late afternoon, with leopard, sloth bear, elephant and crocodile among the possible sightings. Part of the park closes seasonally each year.



Nuwara Eliya tea estates

VALLEY | FULL DAY

High hill country planted with tea since the nineteenth century, with cool air, colonial-era bungalows and a racecourse in the town itself. Visitors tour a working factory to follow leaf from plucking through to grading, taste the grades, and walk between estates past the Devon and St Clair's falls.



Bentota beaches

BEACH | FULL DAY

A stretch of the south-west coast where the Bentota river meets the sea, giving both a wide beach and calm backwaters behind it. Visitors take boat trips through the mangrove lagoons, try water sports at the river mouth, and stop at the turtle hatcheries along the Kosgoda shore.



Cultural Triangle ancient cities

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REGION | 1-2 DAYS

The interior circuit links major Buddhist and archaeological landscapes beyond Sigiriya. Travellers visit for ruined stupas, reservoirs and long historical context; sequence sites by route and avoid compressing several large complexes into one day.

7 DAYS

Suggested day-by-day plan

01

DAY 1

Sigiriya Rock Fortress

Visit Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

02

DAY 2

Kandy Temple of the Tooth

Visit Kandy Temple of the Tooth.

03

DAY 3

Ella (Nine Arches Bridge)

Visit Ella (Nine Arches Bridge).

04

DAY 4

Galle Fort

Visit Galle Fort.

05

DAY 5

Yala National Park

Visit Yala National Park.

06

DAY 6

Nuwara Eliya tea estates

Visit Nuwara Eliya tea estates.

07

DAY 7

Bentota beaches

Visit Bentota beaches.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Travel essentials

CURRENCY

The Sri Lankan rupee is the local currency and is distinct from the Indian rupee. Cards work in cities, while cash suits smaller towns.

LANGUAGE

Sinhala and Tamil are official languages, and English is widely spoken in hotels, transport and tourist areas across the island.

TIME DIFFERENCE

Sri Lanka uses the same time as Indian Standard Time (IST).

WEATHER

Tropical and warm, shaped by two monsoons that affect opposite coasts at different times, with cooler, misty conditions in the hill country around Nuwara Eliya.

CONNECTIVITY

Local SIMs are inexpensive and available at the airport, eSIMs are supported, and Wi-Fi is standard in hotels, cafes and homestays.

VISA AND PERMITS

Indian passport holders must obtain the applicable Electronic Travel Authorisation before travel. Sri Lanka currently lists a free 30-day tourist ETA for Indian nationals, effective from 25 May 2026; verify that time-sensitive policy before booking.

Food and culture

Sri Lankan meals pair rice with several vegetable curries, sambols and coconut gravy, alongside hoppers and kottu roti. Vegetarian food is straightforward, though chilli can be strong. At temples, remove shoes and hats, cover shoulders and knees, and never pose with your back to a Buddha image.

AIR, RAIL AND ROAD

Getting there from India

AIR

Bandaranaike International Airport near Colombo is the main gateway, with direct and one-stop flights from several Indian cities.

RAIL

There is no active passenger rail link from India. Sri Lanka's rail network is useful after arrival for selected coastal and hill-country sectors.

ROAD

There is no routine road connection from India. A car with driver is practical for multi-stop circuits, while trains suit selected scenic legs.

Official guidance: Sri Lanka official ETA fee and eligibility page - https://www.eta.gov.lk/slvvisa/visainfo/fees.jsp?locale=en_US
(checked 2026-08-30)

FROM OUR PLANNERS

Practical notes

- The Sri Lankan rupee is a separate currency from the Indian rupee; change money at banks or the airport rather than with street traders.
- Traffic drives on the left, and most visitors hire a car with a driver, as the hill roads are narrow and slow going.
- Photographing yourself with your back to a Buddha statue, or displaying a Buddha tattoo, causes real offence and can bring legal trouble.
- The island has two monsoons - the south-west coast is wettest from May to September, the east and north from October to January.
- The Kandy to Ella train is scenic and slow; reserved seats are taken well ahead, and the unreserved carriages fill quickly.
- Small tips for drivers, guides and hotel staff are expected, and many restaurants already add a service charge.

**PLAN WITH ORBITZ HOLIDAYS**

Orbitz Holidays Pvt. Ltd.
B-7/37(S) Central Park, Kalyani, West Bengal 741235, India
Phone: +91 98304 89892
Email: info@orbitzholidays.com
Website: www.orbitzholidays.com

Explore
Experience
Remember

This itinerary is a planning guide based on the approved destination information held by Orbitz Holidays. Final services and inclusions depend on the confirmed booking.