

# **Nationalparks of Sri Lanka**

### Wilpattu Nationalpark

The Wilpattu Nationalpark measures 1,317sqkm and is characterised by waterholes, ponds and lakes. The uniqueness of this Nationalpark is characterized by the "Willus" (natural lakes). Therefore this Nationalpark is an eldorado for waterbirds. On the shores of the wetlands you can observe axis deer and water buffalos. Wilpattu Nationalpark is also popular for the lepard population and the rare sloth bears. Also the Wilpattu Nationalpark has one of the biggest elephant populations of Asia. This nature reserve is almost 90sqkm in size and during the dry season between June and September you have the chance to see up to see 300 animals at the water reservoir. Due to the huge water reservoir the park is also one of the most important places for birds.

#### **Minneriya Nationalpark**

The Minneriya Nationalpark has one of the largest elephant populations in Asia. This nature reserve has around 90 km<sup>2</sup>. During the dry season between June and September, you have the chance to see up to 300 animals at the water reservoir. Due to the huge water reservoir, the park is also one of the most important areas for birds. In addition, you can see various species of monkeys, deer and bears.

### **Gal Oya Nationalpark**

The Gal Oya Nationalpark is on of the most untouchable Nationalparks of Sri Lanka. The SenanayakeSamudra reservoir is the middle point of the park and is embedded in a impressive landscape of treed. The boat safari where you can observe swimming elephants and other animals is unique. In Gal Oya Nationalpark the Veddas, the indigenous inhabitants of Sri Lanka have found a place to live. The represent their original homeland and their life as hunter and gatherers.

### **Udawalawe Nationalpark**

One of the most popular national parks is Udawalawe, primarily because of the large elephant population. But also various species of birds, crocodiles, water buffalos, monkeys and much more can be seen.

## **Yala Nationalpark**

There are several superlatives for the Yala Nationalpark. It's the most popular, oldest and largest nationalpark of Sri Lanka. It covers an area of around 1,500 sqkm. With around 30 leopards Yala has the worldwide largest density of the world. Furthermore you can admire around 30 mammal species such as elephants and bears, also you can find 130 birds species. Blue and sperm whales you can observe in the beach bays.