

## 4 Days

**Day 1** According to your request pick up at the airport or hotel

**Transfer to Sigiriya**

**Overnight Sigiriya**

**Day 2** Polonnaruwa

**Transfer around 1,5 hours**

Polonnaruwa was the capital of the second oldest kingdom of Sri Lanka. Its heyday reached the kingdom under Parakrama Bahu (1153-1186 AD), during this time the tooth relic of Buddha was also kept here. The park of Polonnaruwa is one of the tourist attractions with numerous Buddha statues, huge dagobas and temple complexes. Particularly impressive are four Buddha statues carved into the rock, called the Buddha statues of Gal Vihara.

**Minneriya Nationalpark**

This national park has one of the largest elephant populations in Asia. Furthermore you can see different species of monkeys, leopards, deers and bears.

Due to the huge water reservoir, the park is also one of the most important bird areas.

**Overnight Sigiriya**

**Day 3** Sigiriya

One of the most fascinating sights of Sri Lanka is the 200m high Lion's rock (Singha Giri). You will go up early in the morning. On the top you will see the foundation walls of the palace as Sigiriya was a former kingdom. About half way up you can admire frescoes also known as „cloud maidens“ under a rock overhang. Since 1982 Sigiriya has been UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Dambulla**

The cave temple of Dambulla covers an area of 2.100m<sup>2</sup> and is herewith the largest temple complex of Sri Lanka. King Valagamba of Anuradhapura once used it as an exile when the city was occupied by the Indians. In many cave temples paintings and statues can be admired. Since 1991 Dambulla is UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Transfer to Kandy approx. 2,5 hours**

**On the way: Visiting a Spice Garden**

**Overnight Kandy**

#### Day 4 Kandy

The last kingdom of Sri Lanka was Kandy which was able to hold this status against numerous conquests by the colonial power (Portugal, Netherlands, United Kingdom) for a long time. Kandy is located in the Central Highlands at an altitude of just 500m. Here also flows the Mahaweli river the longest river of Sri Lanka with 335km longitude.

#### Royal Botanical Garden Peradeniya

With an area of 80 hectares it is the largest botanical garden of Sri Lanka. You can observe around 4,000 plant species with a variety of orchids, spice plants, medical plants and plants from temperate zones. Certainly you also find different palm species, bamboo plants, ficus trees and much more.

#### Tooth Temple (Sri Dalada Maligawa)

In the Tooth Temple the upper left canine tooth of Buddha Siddharta Gautama is kept as a relic. The tooth keeps the spiritual power of Buddha. It symbolises good harvest and protects the land from drought. The tooth temple is considered to one of the most pilgrimage sites for Buddhists. In the early morning, late morning and in the evening the shrine with the tooth is opened in a ceremony and the pilgrims are allowed to take a brief look at it.

#### Overnight Kandy

#### Day 5 Nuwara Eliya

##### **Transfer from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya approx. 2,5 hours**

The meaning of Nuwara Eliya is „City of Light“. Nuwara Eliya is located at 1,990 over the sea level and surrounded by tea plantations. In this region you also find vegetable and dairy farming. The city was founded in the 19th century by Samuel Baker and served as a resort for the British colonial officers. Many of the buildings from this time still exist.

#### Tea Factory and Tea Tasting

Experience which stages tea leaves have to go through to become an aromatic drink. Finally you are cordially invited for a tea tasting.

#### Sightseeing Nuwara Eliya

The reason why Nuwara Eliya is also known als „Little England“ you can recognize on the architecture of the buildings. You can take a boat trip on the Gregory Lake or drive with the bicycle around the lake. In the Victoria Park you can admire different species of plants and birds.

#### Overnight Nuwara Eliya

### **Day 6 Train Tour Nuwara Eliya-Ella/Nine Arch Bridge**

This train tour is one of the most popular rides in Sri Lanka. You pass the beautiful landscape and can enjoy the atmosphere of going by train in Sri Lanka.

The train tour lasts around 3,0 hours.

### **Nine Arch Bridge**

This imposing viaduct bridge stands for railroad construction in the British colonial era. The bridge is approx. 90m long and 24,5m high. It was built in 1921 using only stone and mortar, no iron and steel was used.

**End of the tour**

**At the end of the tour we will drop you to your desired destination**