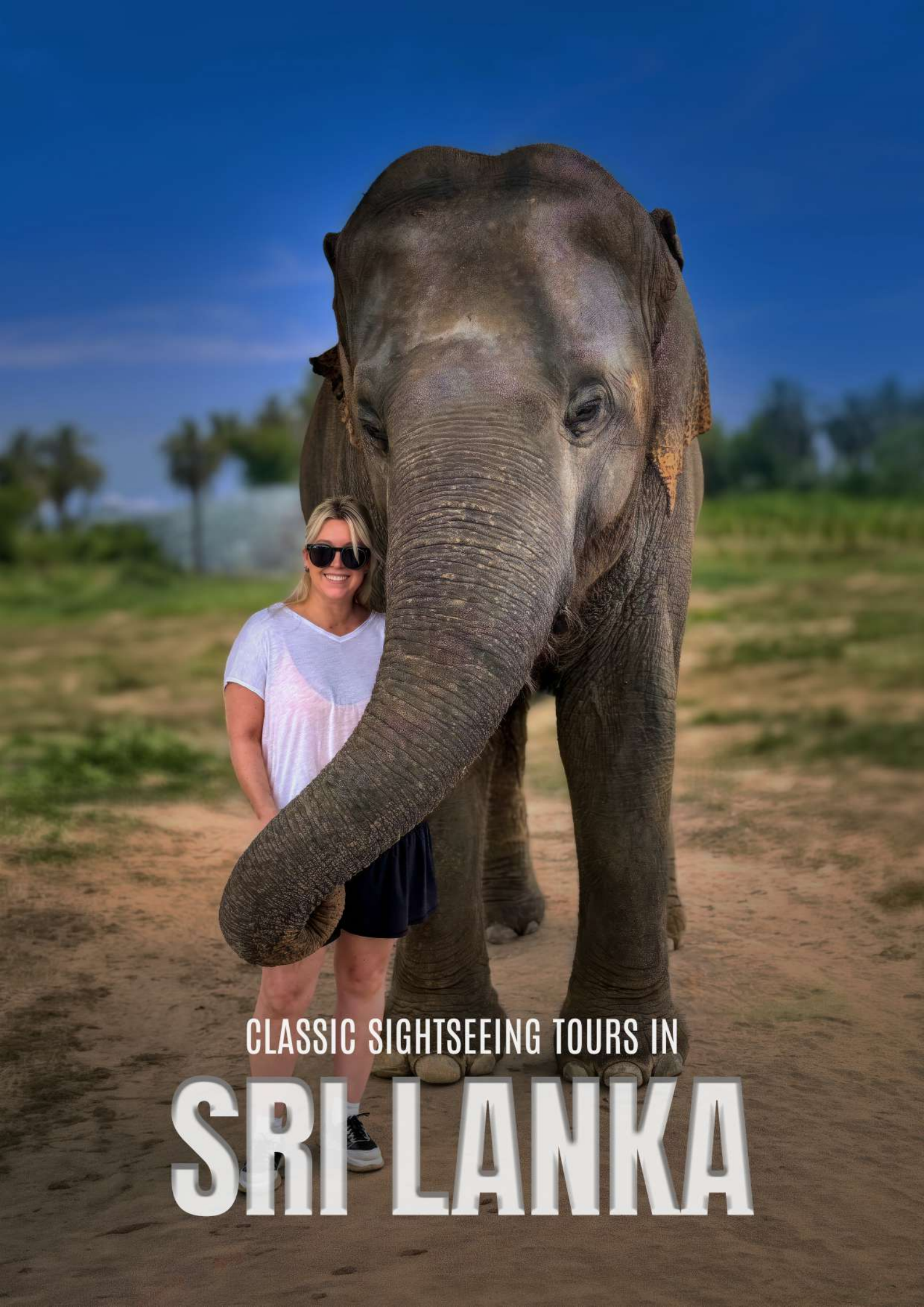
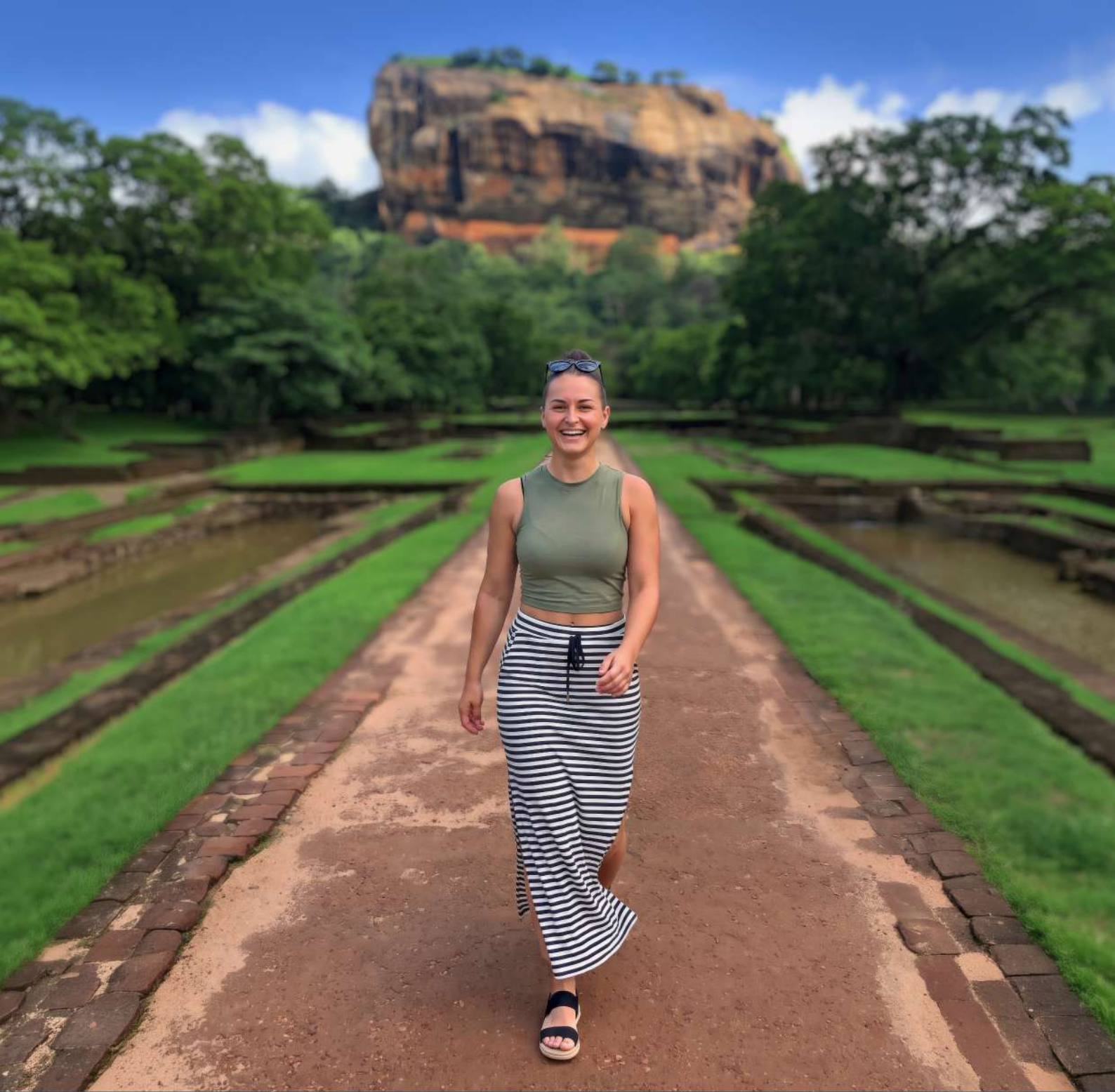




CLASSIC SIGHTSEEING TOURS IN

SRI LANKA



ABOUT THE SIGHTSEEING TOUR

Our classic sightseeing tour is designed for travelers who want to visit Sri Lanka's most famous tourist attractions within a limited travel period, with carefully selected key destinations and highlights. This is not a traditional guided tour where a guide spends the day explaining historical facts at every attraction. Instead, your tour is led by an experienced Sri Lankan travel photographer who will introduce you to the authentic side of Sri Lanka. You will also have the opportunity to capture amazing photographs of Sri Lanka while exploring the island with your travel photographer and guide. So, this tour is perfect for solo travelers who are photography enthusiasts and would like to explore Sri Lanka with a travel photographer while learning photography along the way. Instead of traveling with an ordinary tourist driver, you will have a photographer who can help you with camera settings, composition, lighting, and other photography techniques. Regular tourist drivers are excellent at their duties, but they may not have the photography knowledge and experience you can gain from traveling with a travel photographer throughout your Sri Lanka photography journey.



ABOUT THE TOUR GUIDE

Saman Weeratunga is a professional travel photographer and videographer based in Kandy, Sri Lanka. He guides photography tours in Sri Lanka for beginners, enthusiasts, and professionals. He specializes in people photography in Sri Lanka, cultural photography tours, and travel photography experiences across the island, helping photographers capture authentic moments of local life and traditions. With international travel experience across Switzerland, Austria, France, Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Kenya, Czech Republic, Singapore, and Malaysia, he brings strong creative insight and global photography knowledge to every Sri Lanka photography tour. Saman has deep local knowledge and strong connections with local communities in Sri Lanka, allowing him to guide you around the country and help you experience the real lifestyle, culture, and daily life of local people. If you are interested in photography, he will also guide you step by step in camera settings, composition, lighting techniques, and creative storytelling. He can also take beautiful photos of you with local people, cultural attractions, scenic location across the country.



HASSLE FREE DRONE CLEARANCE

We handle all the hassle of obtaining official clearance for drone flights in Sri Lanka, making the entire process simple and stress free. Drone usage in Sri Lanka requires approvals from several authorities, and all communication is managed on behalf of clients. This includes the civil aviation authority, the central cultural fund, and the department of archaeology, each of which has its own set of rules and procedures that must be followed carefully. Obtaining drone permissions can be even more challenging when it comes to protected archaeological and heritage sites such as Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa. These locations are strictly regulated to preserve their cultural and historical value, so special approvals are required before any drone activity can take place. Understanding and managing these requirements can be time-consuming and complicated for visitors. That is why full responsibility is taken for the entire process, including preparing documents, submitting applications, and coordinating with relevant authorities. By handling everything from start to finish, the stress and confusion are removed, ensuring a smooth and well managed approval process.



TRAVEL AGENT COLLABORATION

The cost details provided in this itinerary cover only our service charges, giving full flexibility for partners or tour operators to add their own profit margin and offer the tour to their clients at a price that best suits their market. This structure is designed to make collaboration simple and transparent, while allowing complete control over final pricing. Payments can be collected directly from guests, with only the agreed service cost required to be transferred to us, ensuring a smooth and efficient financial process. Please note that the tour cost does not include hotel accommodation, which allows full freedom for partners to select and book hotels independently based on their clients' preferences. However, we are happy to provide suitable hotel recommendations based on budget, comfort level, and proximity to key photography locations to make planning easier. Similarly, meals and beverages are not included in the tour package, as dining preferences can vary widely among travelers. Guests are free to choose their own food options throughout the journey and make payments directly at restaurants, ensuring maximum flexibility and a personalized travel experience.



MODE OF TRANSPORT – A MODERN SEDAN CAR

Travel comfortably in our modern, clean, and air conditioned sedan. The sedan features comfortable seats, ample legroom, and two large luggage storage compartments in the boot. An experienced driver ensures a safe, smooth, and comfortable travel experience throughout your Sri Lanka tour.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

STILT FISHERMEN IN HABARADUWA

Stilt fishermen are traditional Sri Lankan fishermen who balance on wooden poles planted in shallow coastal waters while fishing with simple rods. This unique and iconic practice, mainly seen along the southern coast, is a traditional method of fishing known as stilt fishing, where fishermen sit on crossbars fixed to wooden poles above the sea. It is a skill that requires great balance and patience, often practiced during calm early mornings. The elevated position allows fishermen to fish without disturbing the water, helping them spot and catch fish more easily and more effectively.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

TEA PLUCKERS ON TEA FIELDS IN HAPUTALE

Sri Lanka's tea pluckers are an essential part of the country's world famous tea industry, especially in the central highlands. Early in the morning, tea pluckers begin their work as they move carefully through the plantations, hand picking the youngest tea leaves and buds that produce high quality Ceylon tea. Most of them are skilled women who have inherited this traditional occupation through generations, working with precision and speed while maintaining strict quality standards. They carry woven baskets on their backs or shoulders, gradually filling them with freshly plucked leaves.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WILPATTU NATIONAL PARK IN WILPATTU

Wilpattu national park is the largest national park in Sri Lanka, where the name “Wilpattu” comes from two Sinhala words, Wil meaning natural lakes, and Pattu meaning area or region. Wilpattu is home to a wide variety of animals. The most famous resident is the Sri Lankan leopard, and also elephants, sloth bears, spotted deer, water buffalo, and golden jackals. The park is also a paradise for birds, where over 200 bird species have been recorded. Many birds like painted storks, open bill storks, Sri Lanka jungle fowl, peacocks, and various eagles, owls, and kingfishers can be seen there.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE IN PINNAWALA

The orphanage was established in 1975 by the Sri Lankan government, the orphanage was created to rescue, rehabilitate, and care for orphaned, injured, and abandoned elephants found throughout the country. Over the years, it has grown into one of the world's largest captive elephant care facilities, providing a safe home for elephants that cannot survive in the wild. One of the most memorable experiences at Pinnawala is watching the elephants walk together through the village streets to the nearby Maha Oya River for their daily bath twice every single day.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

CULTURAL DANCE SHOW IN KANDY

The dance show is a vibrant, colorful stage performance that showcases traditional Kandyan dancing, drumming, and cultural rituals of Sri Lanka. There are three main traditional dance styles in Sri Lanka: Kandyan dancing from the hill country, known for energetic movements and drumming; Low Country dancing from the southern coastal areas, famous for mask and ritual dances and Sabaragamuwa dancing from the Sabaragamuwa Province region. The fire walking segment at the end of the show is thrilling and leaves a strong and unforgettable impression on audiences.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

SIGIRIYA ROCK FORTRESS IN SIGIRIYA

Sigiriya is an ancient rock fortress and palace complex in Sri Lanka dating back to the 5th century AD, built by King Kashyapa as his royal residence and stronghold after he seized the throne. It functioned as a royal palace and fortress, and later became a Buddhist monastery after the king's death. To reach the summit, visitors climb approximately 1,200 steps, passing through gardens and terraces. At the site, visitors can see fresco paintings, mirror wall graffiti, lion's paw entrance, summit palace ruins, ancient stairways, water gardens and panoramic views of the surrounding landscape.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

PIDURANGALA ROCK IN SIGIRIYA

Pidurangala rock is one of the best viewpoints, offering a breathtaking panoramic view of Sigiriya rock fortress rising above the surrounding forests and plains. Pidurangala has deep historical and spiritual significance, once serving as an ancient Buddhist monastery where monks meditated in its caves. Today, it is a popular hiking spot with stunning sunrise and sunset views. The trail passes through forest paths and stone steps, ending near a large reclining Buddha statue. From the summit, visitors enjoy one of Sri Lanka's most iconic views, especially the perfect sight of Sigiriya rock.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

DAMBULLA CAVE TEMPLE IN DAMBULLA

The Dambulla cave temple is one of Sri Lanka's remarkable historical and cultural sites, known for its ancient rock caves filled with Buddhist murals and statues. The complex features five main caves, each adorned with preserved murals covering the ceilings and walls, along with over a hundred Buddha statues in various poses. The site houses more than 150 statues, including reclining Buddha figures and finely detailed seated and standing statues, all arranged in a harmonious and atmospheric setting. Its elevated location offers stunning panoramic views of the countryside.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

HISTORIC GALLE DUTCH FORT IN GALLE

The fort was originally built by the Portuguese in 1588 to protect their trading interests along the southern coast. Later, in 1640, the Dutch captured Galle and extensively rebuilt and expanded the fort, strengthening its ramparts, gates, and bastions to create a powerful coastal defense system. The design of the fort reflects classic Dutch military architecture, carefully planned to withstand attacks from both land and sea. Today, the fort is a living heritage site where colonial buildings, old churches and narrow cobblestone streets still preserve its historic charm beautifully intact.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

SEEMA MALAKAYA TEMPLE IN COLOMBO

Seema malakaya temple is one of Colombo's most peaceful and picturesque Buddhist temples, gracefully situated on the tranquil waters of Beira lake in the heart of the city. The temple consists of several beautifully designed pavilions connected by wooden walkways over the lake, creating a serene atmosphere enhanced by the gentle movement of the water. One of the most striking features of the temple is its impressive collection of Buddha statues. The temple houses beautifully crafted Buddha statues in different sizes and postures, which were donated by Buddhist countries.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WEHERAHENA TEMPLE IN MATARA

Weherahena temple is a remarkable Buddhist temple in southern Sri Lanka, famous for its enormous seated Buddha statue and beautifully painted underground temple. The temple's giant seated Buddha statue rises approximately 39 metres, making it one of the tallest seated Buddha statues in Sri Lanka. Beneath the statue lies the temple's underground shrine, whose walls and ceilings are covered with vibrant murals depicting scenes from the life of the Buddha, important events in Buddhist history, and stories from Jataka tales, which recount the Buddha's previous lives.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

TEMPLE OF THE SACRED TOOTH RELIC IN KANDY

The temple of the tooth is one of the most sacred Buddhist sites in Sri Lanka, housing the tooth relic of Gautama Buddha. The history of the temple dates back to the 4th century AD, when the relic was brought to Sri Lanka from India and became a symbol of authority, as it was believed that whoever possessed the relic had the right to rule. Today, it remains an active place of worship, where daily rituals are performed, and it is also the focal point of the Esala Perahera, a procession that honors the sacred tooth relic with traditional dancers, drummers, decorated elephants, whip crackers.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

LIPTON'S SEAT VIEWPOINT IN HAPUTALE

Lipton's seat is one of the most scenic viewpoints in Sri Lanka. The location was named after Sir Thomas Lipton, the Scottish tea planter who used to sit here and admire his vast tea estates during the colonial era. On clear days, you can see parts of the Hambantota district, Monaragala district, Ampara district, and Matara district from the viewpoint. The area is often covered with cool mist and moving clouds, creating a peaceful and scenic atmosphere, especially during the early morning hours, offering breathtaking views and fresh mountain air all around, truly unforgettable experience.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

RAVANA ELLA WATERFALL IN ELLA

Ravana Ella Waterfall is one of the most famous and easily accessible waterfalls in Sri Lanka. The waterfall is about 25 meters high and is especially powerful during the rainy season when the water flow increases significantly. The waterfall flows down from rocky cliffs surrounded by dense forest and green hills. Beyond its natural beauty, Ravana Falls is also deeply connected to Sri Lanka's ancient history and mythology. According to the legendary Ramayana epic, it is believed that King Ravana once hid Princess Sita in the caves behind or near this waterfall, during his reign in Lanka.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY FROM HAPUTALE TO NANUOYA

The train journey is a relatively short but scenic ride through Sri Lanka's hill country. Along the way, passengers can enjoy views of tea plantations, misty mountains, small villages, waterfalls, and forest covered hills. The train passes through tunnels and over valleys, offering changing landscapes at every turn. A better way to enjoy the scenery is to sit by the window and relax, as it offers a view throughout the journey. Many foreign passengers prefer standing at the doors for photography and open air views, but it can be dangerous due to sudden tunnels, narrow sections.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

A TRAIN PASSING OVER THE NINE ARCHES BRIDGE IN ELLA

The bridge was built during the British colonial period entirely out of stone, brick, and cement, without the use of steel, and stands as a remarkable example of early railway engineering and local craftsmanship. The area around the bridge is popular with travelers who come to enjoy scenic walks along the railway tracks. One of the best experiences at the nine arch bridge is watching a train slowly pass over its nine elegant arches. As the train curves gently along the track, framed by thick greenery and rolling hills, it creates a perfect, postcard like moment with breathtaking views.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

TUK TUK RIDE THROUGH GREEN VALLEY IN HAPUTALE

This is an amazing journey in a vibrant three wheeler, where you can enjoy spectacular views of the mountains and tea fields. This small, open vehicle lets you truly see and feel the beautiful landscapes, from misty mountain peaks to endless green tea plantations. As the three wheeler winds its way through narrow village roads, you can breathe in the fresh mountain air, catch the aroma of freshly plucked tea leaves, and hear the gentle rhythm of daily village life around you. This kind of experience and fresh air is something you cannot enjoy when traveling by car or bus.



TOUR EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

GIRAGAMA TEA FACTORY IN PILIMATHALAWA

Visiting a tea factory, the visitors can learn the full tea manufacturing process, starting from freshly plucked green leaves brought from nearby plantations to the final graded product ready for export. The process typically includes withering, rolling, oxidation, drying, and sorting, each stage carefully controlled to develop the tea's flavor and aroma. This guided tour is led by knowledgeable staff, followed by a tea tasting session where guests can sample freshly brewed Ceylon tea and also have the opportunity to buy fresh factory made Ceylon tea directly from the tea factory.

TOUR COST DETAILS FOR 12 DAYS

COST FOR PERSONS

Total cost for the sightseeing tour US\$ **1,150** for **01** person

Total cost for the sightseeing tour US\$ **1,390** for **02** persons

INCLUDES

Air Conditioned Modern Sedan Car
Entrance Fee For The Attractions
Wilpattu National Park Entrance Fee
Wilpattu Safari Jeep Charges
Second Class Train Tickets From Demodara To Nanu Oya
Tuk Tuk Charges From Haputale To Dambethenna And Return
Photography Tour Guide Service Fee

EXCLUDES

Hotel Accommodation
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Beverages
Air Tickets And Visa Charges
Drone Security Clearance (If Any)
Tips & Other Similar Charges (If Any)

FOODS AND BEVERAGE COST

Our tour cost does not include hotel accommodation, breakfast, lunch, dinner, beverages, or any other meals. We will recommend quality hotels to suit your budget that are conveniently located near the places you will visit, and you can book them directly. Meal costs are not included, as they may vary, giving you the freedom to choose where and what you would like to eat according to your own preferences.

PAYMENT METHOD

ADVANCE DEPOSIT

To confirm your reservation, a deposit of **US\$ 100** is kindly required for each participant. This deposit secures your booking and ensures your place on the tour.

BALANCE PAYMENT 01

Fifty percent (50%) of the total tour cost for each participant is kindly requested to be settled within three (03) days after arrival.

BALANCE PAYMENT 02

The remaining balance payment for each participant is kindly requested to be settled within eight (08) days after arrival.

REFUND POLICY

If any photography session is canceled during the tour for any reason, the cost of entrance tickets or any related expenses (excluding transport costs) will be refunded. Please note that this does not apply to tickets that have been purchased in advance, if applicable. Kindly be advised that advance deposits are non refundable in the event that a participant is unable to join the photography tour due to personal reasons.

PAYMENT MEDIUM

Kindly note that payments are accepted in cash only, in USD / EUR / GBP

PASSPORT INFORMATION SUBMISSION

Passport details are required when booking train tickets. Therefore, please submit an image of the bio page of your passport. Your passport information will be stored securely and will be permanently deleted once the tour has ended. This is required for smooth coordination and official approvals.

TIPS FOR SRI LANKA THAT MIGHT HELP

Flying drones is prohibited in national parks and metropolitan areas like Colombo, Kandy. Special permission is required from the civil aviation authority, department of archaeology, central cultural fund, and Sri Lanka police for flying drones at archaeological sites like Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa, Galle.

When visiting Buddhist or Hindu temples, cover your legs and shoulders, and remove your shoes and hats. Thick socks can help protect your feet from hot sand. Never pose with your back to Buddha statues when taking photos, as it is considered highly disrespectful in Sri Lankan culture. Always face the statue respectfully.

The tropical sun can be very strong, protect your skin and eyes by applying sunscreen, wearing a hat, and using sunglasses. In the hill country, temperatures can be cooler, so it's a good idea to bring a light jacket or sweater.

Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted, but American Express may not be accepted everywhere. Small shops may not accept credit cards, so keep some Sri Lankan rupees on hand for small purchases and local restaurants. The standard voltage in Sri Lanka is 230 V with a frequency of 50 Hz. Plug types used are D and G, so you may need a plug adapter.

Sri Lanka has relatively few mosquitoes, mainly in the evenings, so use insect repellent and wearing light, long sleeved clothing is recommended for protection. Public restrooms may lack toilet paper or soap, so carry tissues and hand sanitizer.

Buy a SIM card at the airport for easy connectivity. Dialog and Mobitel offer the best coverage across the island. eSIMs are also available for purchase at the airport. Buying a local SIM or eSIM is recommended because hotel Wi-Fi is often very slow.

When traveling in rural areas, you may encounter many poor children who gather around you. Bringing small, inexpensive chocolates or sweets can make them very happy, as they love receiving something from foreigners. Stationery or educational materials are less practical, as there are often many children, but small packets of sweets are easy to distribute fairly among them.

