

## Information on Sri Lanka



<b>Location</b>	An island in the Indian Ocean and separated from India by the Palk Strait
<b>Capital</b>	Colombo
<b>Language</b>	Sinhalese (official), Tamil (official) and English
<b>Climate</b>	Tropical Climate with little variations in humidity and conditions.
<b>Currency</b>	Sri Lankan Rupee (SLR)
<b>Country Code</b>	94
<b>Activities</b>	Beach tours, hiking, wildlife tours, diving exercises, mountain hikes, water sports, excursions.

Sri Lanka is a great place to indulge in some wonderful and refreshing recreational activities that are sure to rejuvenate every fiber of your being. From reveling in the beauty of the lush green tea estates to wandering through the majestic ruins of the temples and palaces, you can really have a wonderful time.

Other activities include mountain hikes, wildlife tours, diving exercises, water sports and so on. In fact, the beaches are so magnificent to behold that just lazing around on one of them can be a wonderful experience.

You will also be able to visit some of its most famous attractions like the Nuwara Eliya hill resort, the cascading waterfalls like the Devon and St Clair's, the Horton Plains, Sri Pada and so on. Besides, you can go on excursions to some of its historic sites like Mihintale, Dambula and Kandy.

## **Geographic Details of Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka is a small pear shaped country located right at the southern tip of India. It is also known as the “tear drop island” because of the way it looks in the map of the world or Asia. Its geographic co-ordinates are 7 degrees north and 81 degrees east. Its total area is 65,610 square kilometers.

The land area is 64,740 square kilometers and the area covered by water is 870 square kilometers. Its coastline is 1,340 kilometers long and it has no land boundary. The territorial sea of Sri Lanka is 12 nautical miles and its contiguous zone is 24 nautical miles. The exclusive economic zone of Sri Lanka is 200 nautical miles long and its continental shelf is 200 nautical miles.

The terrain of Sri Lanka is primarily flat, ranging from rolling plain to flat. In the interiors of the south central region of Sri Lanka there are the mountains. The highest point in Sri Lanka is Pidurutalagala, which is 2,524 meters long.

## **How to Reach**

Sri Lanka is easily accessible by air from all the major countries in the world. The international airport at Colombo receives direct flights from Europe, Asia, Australia and the Middle East. Besides, a huge number of flights from Indian cities like Chennai, Mumbai, Trichy and Thiruvananthapuram also fly to Sri Lanka regularly.

## **Climate of Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka has a tropical weather that is dominated by monsoon throughout the year. The north east part of Sri Lanka experiences rainfall from December to March and the south western part experiences rainfall from June to October. Sri Lanka is well known for various natural hazards like tornadoes and cyclones that keep recurring at definite intervals.

## **Population of Sri Lanka**

The population of Sri Lanka is 21,128,772. 24.1% of the Sri Lankan population is between the age group of 0 to 14 years. Out of this number the male population is 2,596,463 and the female population is 2,495,136. 68% of the Sri Lankan population falls between the age group of 15 to 64 years. Out of this number the male population is 7,019,446 and the female population is 7,340,809. 7.9% of the Sri Lankan population falls between the age group of 65 years and more. Out of this number the male population is 783,823 and the female population is 893,096.

## **Government of Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka has a republican government. Its capital is Colombo and there are eight provinces - Central, Sabaragamuwa, North Central, Southern, North Eastern, Uva, North Western and Western. It became independent from the British on the 4th of February, 1948, which is also celebrated as a national holiday. It adopted its constitution on the 16th of August, 1978 and certified it on 31st of August, 1978.

The legal system of Sri Lanka incorporates a number of legal systems like English common law, Kandyan, Roman-Dutch and Jaffna Tamil law. People who are under 18 years old are not allowed to cast votes. Mahinda Rajapaksa is the chief of state and Ratnasiri Wickremanayake is the prime minister. The parliamentary system in Sri Lanka is unicameral and elections are held after 6 years.

### **Cities in Sri Lanka**

If you are looking for a tropical paradise to escape to during your holidays, Sri Lanka is surely the place for you. Home to some of the most beautiful locales, beaches and some of the most wonderful people on earth, Sri Lanka is truly a dream come true for any tourist. No wonder we can always find people digging for information on Sri Lanka to know it better. This tropical country, besides its rich and beautiful locales and picturesque beauty is also known for its rich history that never fails to mesmerize everyone. Do book a tour to Sri Lanka on the next given opportunity and embark on a journey that would be one of the most fruitful and wonderful vacations of your life.

See the magical attractions of teardrop of India - tropical Sri Lanka that sparkles like a glowing stud on aqua Indian Ocean waters. Also referred to as "the pearl of the orient," Sri Lanka spells magic, wonder, beauty and charm. Tour this tiny leisure island fragrant with frangipani gardens, exotic hotels and timeless magic.

Visit the attractions of Anuradhapura that served as the capital of the Sinhalese kingdom for more than 1500 years. See historic remains and enjoy splendid trips to Mihintalle, Buddha Samadhi and Thuparama dagoba. Trek through enchanting tea gardens spread over rolling Kandy hills and travel to local attractions such as Asgiriya monastery, Degaldoruwa temple, the Tooth Relic Temple and more as you see the treasures of Sri Lanka cities.

Travel to Nuwara Eliya that lies about 2000 meters above the sea level. See the Rock Citadel and gardens of Sigiriya, Sri Lanka on your Sri Lanka cities tour. If you want to know more about the cities in Sri Lanka, you can visit the web links mentioned below.

### **Tourist Attractions in Sri Lanka**

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Sri Lanka has such a diverse range of tourist attractions that visitors are often spoilt for choice. But it is comforting to know that all major tourist attractions in Sri Lanka are no longer than a few hours drive away from each other. But nevertheless, some of the most popular tourist attractions in Sri Lanka include the cities of Kandy and Colombo, which are a perfect mix of history, culture and modernity. If you want a peep into Sri Lanka's ancient history, you can visit some of the historical cities like Anuradhapura, Mihintale, Sigiriya, Dambula and Aluvihara.

For those on the lookout for some respite from the crowds to indulge in some golf exercises, Nuwara Eliya is the place for them. For a beach holiday, Sri Lanka offers some beautiful beaches like Negombo, Beruwela, Bentota, Weligama and Mount Lavinia. Among other tourist attractions in Sri Lanka, there are many wildlife sanctuaries like the Yala National Park, Maduru Oya National Park, Horton Plains National Park and the Bundala National Park.

The events and festivals of Sri Lanka also act as major tourist attractions with their color, rituals and celebrations. The Kandy Esala Perahera is the most important event in Sri Lanka that is a 10-day long affair. Then there is the Duruthu Perahara, which celebrates a visit by Buddha to Sri Lanka. Besides, the National Day, the Sri Lankan New Year (March/April) and the Kataragama festival are some of the other important tourist attractions of Sri Lanka.

### **Sample Itinerary – 05 Days / 04 Nights**

#### **Day 01**

Arrival & transfer to Colombo, Check in at Hotel. In the evening city tour in Colombo

Overnight stay at your preferred Hotel - Colombo

**Colombo** - visit fort and Pettah areas and drive past the 100-year-old clock tower, the old parliament and several British built, colonial buildings. other places of interest are, a Hindu and a Buddhist temple, residential areas where you find the stately homes of the affluent, the Bandaranaike memorial international conference hall (BMICH). also visit the ceramics corporation showrooms, the ODEL unlimited dress boutique and the majestic city shopping complex.

#### **Day 02**

After B'fast drive to Kandy, En route visit to Pinawela elephant orphanage. Check in at Hotel. In the evening sight seeing in Kandy including visit to Temple of the tooth relic & Peradeniya Botanical garden.

Overnight stay at your preferred Hotel – Kandy

**Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage** - is a home for about 60 elephants (out of which around 50 are baby elephants) found abandoned or orphaned in the wild. They are being cared, fed and trained by the wild life authority. The best time for your visit is at 9 in the morning, when you will have the opportunity of seeing these ‘babes’ being bottle-fed. You could also see the elephants having their daily baths at a river close by.

**Kandy** - The last capital of the Sri Lankan kings which is a world heritage site. The name Kandy conjures visions of splendor and magnificence. Many of the legends, traditions and folklore are still lovingly kept alive. Drive around the Kandy lake built by the last Sinhala king

Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe in 1806, visit the Kandy town and bazaar, the arts and crafts center and a gem museum and lapidary. The evening is the best time to visit the temple of the tooth relic and thereafter witness a traditional cultural dance show.

### **Day 03**

After B'fast proceed to Bentota, Check in at Hotel. Rest of the day leisure at the Hotel. Overnight stay at your preferred Hotel – Bentota

### **Day 04**

After B'fast day excursion to Galle including boat ride at Madhu river.

Overnight stay at your preferred Hotel – Bentota

**Galle** - was once the chief port of Ceylon as Sri Lanka was named by the British. It is still well known for hand-made lace, tortoise shell curios and ebony elephants. You can also visit the Galle fort (spanning 90 acres), which was originally built by the Portuguese and later extended by the Dutch in 1663. This is a world heritage site.

### **Day 05**

After Breakfast proceed to Airport for the departure.

**Note: Contact us for attractive rates and any customized itinerary on Sri Lanka**