

June/July 2027: Sri Lanka Nature

19 June – 02 July 2027

Although a relatively small country, Sri Lanka boasts an extraordinarily flora and fauna, with many species endemic to the island. Our adventure will focus primarily on mammals, but we'll also have the opportunity to observe over 100 bird species and evidence of the country's vibrant past at historical and cultural sites such as Sigiriya Fortress, the Temple of the Tooth Relic, and the colonial city of Galle. Both jeep and Elephant safaris are planned in eight different national parks. Among the species easy to spot are large concentrations of Asian Elephants, Sambar deer, Spotted deer, Indian Flying foxes, Toque macaques, and Purple-faced Langurs. We're also reasonably certain to spot Leopards, Gray Lories, Giant Flying squirrel and Sloth bears. If we're lucky, we might even encounter some of the island's rare nocturnal mammals, such as the Rusty-spotted cat, the Fishing cat, and the Jungle cat, or even the endangered Pangolin. This is an exclusive trip for our group of up to 15 people, with special attention to comfort and high standard accommodations.

PROGRAM

19 June

Arrival in Colombo.

Upon arrival at the airport, we will be welcomed by our local guide and transferred to our hotel in **Negombo**.

In the late afternoon, we can enjoy a slow **boat ride in the Negombo lagoon**, surrounded by lush mangroves and home to a rich birdlife, including **Herons, Kingfishers, and Pelicans**, as well as interesting mammals such as **water Monitors and a colony of Macaques**.

Overnight at Hotel Jetwing Beach or similar*****.

20 June

After breakfast, we will continue north to **Wilpattu National Park**, the largest and one of the oldest in Sri Lanka.

In the afternoon, we plan a **wildlife safari to spot wild animals such as Spotted deer, Wild water buffalo, Wild boar, and perhaps even the elusive Sloth bear and Leopard**, which are particularly common in this reserve. **Tufted gray langurs and Purple-faced langurs** are also present, as well as **various Cat species**.

Later, we'll continue our journey to **Anuradhapura, the island's ancient capital**.

Overnight at Hotel The Lake Forest or similar****.

21 June

Today, we will start the day early with a **safari in Wilpattu National Park**, a second opportunity to observe the park's diverse wildlife. This will be followed by an **elephant ride**.

We'll then return to Anuradhapura for lunch, not included. In the afternoon, we will enjoy a **guided tour of the historic Sigiriya Rock Fortress**, an ancient citadel built into the rock in the 5th century and located in central Sri Lanka. Standing nearly 200 meters tall, it is famous for its lion-shaped gateway, splendid frescoes, mirrored wall, and sophisticated gardens, and is recognized as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

Overnight stay at Hotel Elephas Resort & Spa or similar****.

22 June

Before dawn, a **safari in Minneriya National Park**, a renowned nature reserve in central Sri Lanka, is **best known for its elephant herds, where hundreds of animals gather during the dry season**. The park also offers diverse habitats and a rich birdlife, making it a popular safari destination.

Next, we will move to the hill town of **Kandy, Sri Lanka's cultural capital**, surrounded by scenic mountains. We'll visit the **Royal Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya**, known for their vast collection of orchids and tropical flora.

In the evening, we will explore the sacred **Temple of the Tooth Relic**, one of the most important Buddhist pilgrimage sites.

Overnight at Hotel Cinnamon Citadel or similar****.

23 June

After breakfast, we will depart for **Nuwara Eliya**, where we will visit **Horton Plains National Park**, a vast cloud forest that's **one of the few places where you can see the rare Purple-faced langur**.

We will then transfer to the hotel for the overnight stay.

Overnight at Hotel Aliya Red or similar*****.

24 June

After breakfast, depart for the **Sinharaja Rainforest Reserve**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site and the last remaining area of primary tropical rainforest in the country**. Upon arrival, settle into your eco-lodge.

In the evening, we will enjoy a walk during which we will search for endemic and spectacular bird species, such as the **Sri Lankan Blue magpie and the Red-faced Malkoha**, as well as interesting mammals such as the **Torque macaque, the Purple-faced langur, and the Giant squirrel**.

Overnight at Hotel Rainforest Eco Lodge or similar****.

25 June

We will start the day with a second **excursion through the lush rainforest, immersed in the sounds of nature**.

Later, we will move on to **Udawalawe National Park**, one of the best places in Asia to observe **Elephants in the wild**.

In the afternoon, we will **visit the Elephant Transit Home**, a conservation center dedicated to the **rehabilitation of orphaned elephants**.

Overnight at Hotel Centauria Wild or similar****.

26 June

A **full-day jeep safari in Udawalawe National Park**, both in the morning and afternoon. The protected area is home to approximately **500 Elephants** and a wide variety of wildlife, including **Sambar deer, Jackals, Water buffalo, Crocodiles, Spotted deer, Monitor lizards, Monkeys, and an impressive array of bird species**. The park is excellent for spotting the endemic **Ceylon junglefowl and Crowned hornbill**.

Overnight stay at Hotel Centauria Wild or similar****.

27 June

After breakfast, we will depart for **Lunugamwehera National Park** for a safari, exploring its **forested and wetland landscapes**. This is a crucial arid zone habitat and wildlife corridor, home to **Elephants, Sloth bears, and Leopards**.

Later we will continue to **Yala National Park**, Sri Lanka's most famous nature reserve, known for its **dense Leopard population and diverse fauna**.

Overnight at Hotel Cinnamon Wild or similar****.

28 June

Full day exploring Yala National Park with **morning and afternoon safaris**. This park is home to **Leopards, Elephants, Crocodiles, Deers, Wild boars, Peacocks, and over 200 bird species**. The diverse habitats of forests, grasslands, and lagoons make it a paradise for photographers and wildlife enthusiasts, **the ideal place to search for Leopards**.

Overnight at Hotel Cinnamon Wild or similar****.

29 June

Another full day spent exploring Yala National Park with **morning and afternoon safaris**. This park is home to leopards, elephants, crocodiles, deer, wild boars, peacocks, and over 200 bird species. The diverse habitats of forests, grasslands, and lagoons make it a paradise for photographers and wildlife enthusiasts, the ideal place to search for leopards.

Overnight stay at Hotel Cinnamon Wild or similar****.

30 June

This morning, we will visit **Bundala National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, a wetland famous for its migratory birds, including Flamingos and Pelicans**. The reserve is home to **Elephants, Leopards, Fishing cats, Rusty-spotted cats, Torque macaques, Langurs, Wild boars, Spotted deers, Sambar deers, Jackals, Pangolins, as well as Tortoises and Crocodiles**.

Later we will drive along the southern coast, stopping in **Weligama to observe traditional stilt fishing, a unique Sri Lankan practice**.

We will then continue to the **colonial city of Galle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**, known for its Dutch fort and coastal charm.

Overnight at Hotel Le Grand Galle or similar*****.

01 July

After breakfast, we will visit a **Turtle farm in Kosgoda** to learn more about marine conservation.

In the afternoon, we will enjoy a **walking tour of Galle Fort**, exploring its historic bastions, colonial architecture, and the iconic lighthouse overlooking the sea.

Overnight at Hotel Le Grand Galle or similar*****.

02 July

Transfer to the airport in time for the flight home.

VOYAGE MAP



Included in the price:

- All overnight stays in a double room with breakfast included.
- All dinners.
- All transfers.
- All indicated excursions.
- English speaking guide.

Not included:

- Not mentioned meals.
- Alcoholic drinks.
- Flights.
- Any unexpected additional costs due to delays and/or forced stops due to flight connections, including flight changes, hotels and additional meals.

PRICE PER PERSON Euro 5800,00
(Single Supplement Euro 1200)
*Exchange rate 1 USD = 0,85 Euro.