

Adventure in Paradise Summer 2007

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Day 01 Arrival and transfer to Habarana the hub of Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle. The drive will take you through small villages interspersed with paddy fields, coconut and rubber plantations and forests.

In the evening acclimatise to the tropics and relax after the long flight with a leisurely walk along the hotels nature trail which winds its way along a breathtaking dry zone lake. Your first sunset in Sri Lanka, by a lake is guaranteed to be special...



Overnight The Chaaya Village, Habarana

(The Chaaya Village is a unique chalet style hotel set in a 50 acre park bordering a lake. its design is based on the lay out of a traditional Sri Lankan village).



Day 02 After breakfast visit the Rock fortress of Sigiriya.

Sigiriya - A mighty 600 ft high rock-fortress of a 5th century King is famous for its entrancingly beautiful frescoes which are found in a sheltered pocket of the rock. One cannot fail to marvel at the masterful execution of the sinuous forms of these women (originally 500, of which only 19 remain today). The old stairway to the top led through the mouth of a huge crouching lion, carved from the rock- today only the paws remain. Remains of the handsome royal citadel are on the summit.



In the evening take an optional Elephant Back Safari through the forests and villages of Habarana. A wooden platform large enough to hold four people is secured atop an elephant. From this unique perch clients will enjoy Habarana and the surrounding wilderness as the elephant ambles through.



Overnight The Chaaya Village, Habarana

Day 03 Leave early morning with a packed breakfast for Hiriwaduna (05 minute transfer) for a 03 hour trek through this archetypal Sri Lankan village. The trek begins with an awesome walk along a bund of a *Wewa* or man made reservoir. The reservoir itself, the surrounding scrub jungle, marshland and village are a hive of early morning activity. The amazing birdlife, butterflies and possible sightings of crocodile only add to the charm of seeing the villagers as they go about their early morning tasks of fishing, or washing clothes at the periphery of the lake.



You wade through a shallow stream and the sense of adventure heightens when you need to get a Chena Cultivation via a somewhat wider tributary which needs to be crossed on an obliging farmer's catamaran!!



At the Chena cultivation you will stop to enjoy the farmer's humble hospitality. With the guidance of the farmer and his family, pick some of the fresh vegetables or fruit from their plot... whatever's in season..!

The journey continues as you board a waiting 'Bullock Cart'. The cart ride is on a jungle path that wends through dense shrub forests home to many forest birds and other wildlife including monkeys, bear, python and even elephant. Simply lie back on the cart and enjoy the unique view of the forest canopy as the cart rambles through... flashes of blue sky through the dense forest cover, the sight of a giant squirrel hanging precariously off a branch or a flock of rose ringed parakeets flying overhead... all this accompanied by the sound of the bullock clip clopping on the gravel path and the tinkle of the large bells hanging round its neck... a dream holiday in the making....!



Meet vehicle and return to the hotel in time for lunch

After lunch leave for Kandy.

Late evening visit the Temple of the much revered Tooth Relic.



Overnight The Chaaya Citadel, Kandy/Suisse Hotel, Kandy

Day 04 Leave for Nuwara Eliya via Kitulgala.

Kitulgala in the film location of David Lean's masterpiece "The Bridge on the River Kwai"

Take a 01 – 02 hour white water rafting excursion. The short but exhilarating excursion is level 03 rafting and is suitable for most people between the ages of 08 – 65 years. Kitulgala is a great site for many adventure-based activities and boasts a fertile landscape.



Proceed to Nuwara Eliya.

Nuwara Eliya is the heart of Sri Lankan hill country. It is the home of the famous Ceylon Tea and the rolling mountains are a carpet of velvety green tea plantations, interspersed with gushing streams and tumbling waterfalls. The salubrious climate, misty glens and the decidedly British character make Nuwara Eliya a must on any Sri Lankan travel itinerary.



Overnight The Alpine Hotel, Nuwara Eliya

Day 05 Leave early morning for Horton Plains for a trek to Worlds End and the beautiful Bakers Falls (02 – 03 hrs).

Sri Lanka 's highest plateau 7200 ft above sea level in the central mountain country. This 'Fen" is a very scenic region with an astounding variety of scenery from mountains to grasslands, from marshes to trout streams. Sri Lanka's best flavored high grown teas are grown in the surrounding areas. Spectacular view from 'Worlds End' where the plateau plunges a thousand feet in a straight sheer drop. Cool and bracing climate, excellent for trout fishing and very good hiking country. Distinctive flora (many English field flowers grow on the plains) colourful butterflies and many rare highland birds.



Leave afterwards for Yala National Park located at the southeastern tip of the island.

Afternoon jeep safari of The Yala National Park for your leopard experience....

Yala – Sri Lanka's best known national park is popular for Elephant, Leopard, Bear, Crocodile and Wild Boar. More than three times larger than Undawelewe at 97,800 hectares, this is the second largest of Sri Lanka's national parks. Its open undulating terrain made it famous for elephants for many years, but recently the park has also received much fame through publicity by National Geographic and the Discovery TV channels, which focused on a leopard research/conservation and identification project. Claims have subsequently been made that Yala National Park has the world's highest concentration of leopard per square kilometer. This park is primarily shrub jungle with several salt and fresh water lagoons. The areas popular with leopard are rock strewn hillocks with dense shrub in which the animals hide.



Overnight The Yala Village/Priyankara Hotel, Tissamaharama



Day 06 Leave early morning with a packed breakfast to explore the hotel's Nature Trail. This early morning trek through the wilds of Yala provides an exhilarating close-up of the area's wildlife. The path of the trek wends its way through the scrub forest that surrounds the hotel and is home to many species of wildlife including elephant, bear, spotted deer, wild boar and jackal. The trek basically encircles a waterhole which is a favorite early morning haunt for much of the forests wildlife. The mornings climax is breakfast at the summit of a rock outcrop, which is surrounded by a view that is quite simply stunning—azure seas extending on one side with the rare possibility of dolphin sightings and the endless green of the Yala Wildlife Sanctuary on the other side.



Overnight at Galle Face Hotel, Colombo



Day 07 Departure transfer

Costing -

BASED ON PER PERSON TRAVELLING DURING SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2007

	02 pax	03-06 pax
Cost per person sharing double (US\$)	630.00	550.00
Single Supplement	118.00	118.00

Cost includes -

- Accommodation on Half board basis for 05 nights and on Bed and Breakfast basis on the last day in Colombo.
- Transport in an air conditioned vehicle with the service of an English speaking chauffeur guide.
- Entrance fees to places of interest as per the itinerary.
- Rafting in Kithulgala including the equipment.
- Jeep safari to Yala National park including entrance fees.
- Hotel service charges.
- VAT

Cost does not include -

- Entrance fees to places of interest mentioned as optional or not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tip and expenses of personal nature.
- Lunch throughout the tour.

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