



# Birding tour of Sri Lanka Itinerary



walkerrs Tours Limited,

130,Glennie Street,Colombo 02,Sri Lanka.

Tel : 94(11)2421101, 2439034, 2439035 Fax : 94(11)2439026, 2447087

E-mail : Info@walkerstours.com

Web :walkerstours.com



## Birding tour of Sri Lanka

### Mini write-up

Over **240 species** including **33 endemics**; all spotted on a single tour spanning just 14 days! The incredible diversity of terrain and habitat has given rise to an even more incredible diversity of bird species and a very high degree of endemism. Sri Lanka is a dream destination for birders with easy access to national parks and birding locations, bird friendly accommodation and very professional guides.

### Detailed itinerary

#### **Day 01**

Arrival and transfer to Ranweli Holiday Village. Relax and recover from the long flight and adjust to the climate. The resort is a good place to see the first birds of Sri Lanka.

**Overnight Ranweli Holiday Resort, Waikkal**



#### **Day 02**

Morning: boat-trip near Ranweli.

Fits in well as a gentle starter in building up the trip

Key species: Yellow Bittern, Black Bittern, Striated Heron, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Brown-backed Needle-tail.

Afternoon: drive to Habarana.

For those who want to we can do some birding around the Habarana Lake in the afternoon.

**Overnight The Chaaya Village, Habarana**



#### **Day 03**

Morning: walk along the Bird Trail.

Key species: Indian Pitta, Brown Fish Owl, Coppersmith Barbet, Plaintive Cuckoo, Thick-billed Flowerpecker, White-browed Fantail.

Afternoon: safari in Kaudulla National Park.

Key species: Grey-headed Fish Eagle, White-bellied Fish Eagle, Lesser Adjutant, Woolly-necked Stork, Spot-billed Pelican, Jerdon's Nightjar.

**Overnight The Chaaya Village, Habarana**



## Day 04

Morning: short walk on the Bird Trail, the only real birding on this cultural day.

Leave for the Rock Fortress of Sigiriya; one of the most spectacular cultural highlights of Sri Lanka and also a great birding location.

Drive to Kandy.

Afternoon: visit to the Temple of the Tooth and witness a cultural performance.

**Overnight Suisse Hotel, Kandy**



## Day 05

Morning: a gentle walk through the Royal Botanical Gardens in Kandy.

Key species: Fruit-bats, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Crimson-fronted Barbet, Common Hawk Cuckoo, Scarlet Minivet.

Drive to Nuwara Eliya

Afternoon: If time permits take a short walk through the Galway forest which is located just behind our hotel.

**Overnight The Galway Forest Lodge, Nuwara Eliya**



## Day 06

Leave very early in the morning for a long day of birding at the Horton Plains. We start off at the Arrenga Pool for the Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush. We take our time for the walk, taking a break at World's End to enjoying our packed breakfast/lunch.

Other key species: Dull Blue Flycatcher, Kashmir Flycatcher, White-eared Bulbul, Sri Lanka White-eye, Pied Bush-chat, Hill Swallow, Ceylon Bush Warbler, Ceylon Hill Myna, Black-throated Myna.

The rest of the day: at leisure

**Overnight The Galway Forest Lodge, Nuwara Eliya**

## Day 07

Morning: drive to Kitulgala.

In the afternoon we explore the countryside around the guesthouse  
Key species: Indian Swiftlet, Sri Lanka Hanging Parrot, Black Bulbul, Green-billed Coucal, Orange-billed Babbler, Black-headed Yellow Bulbul.

In the evening we try to hear the Serendib Scops Owl.

**Overnight Kitulgala Rest House, Kitulgala**



## Day 08

Morning: a walk through the Kelani Forest Reserve.

Key species: Malabar Trogon, Sri Lanka Spurfowl, Sri Lanka Junglefowl, Sri Lanka Grey Hornbill, Spot-winged Thrush, Crested Drongo, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Sri Lanka Myna, Blue-winged Leafbird, Golden Fronted Leafbird.

Afternoon: drive to Sinharaja.

**Overnight The Blue Magpie, Sinharaja**



## Day 09

A long walk through the Sinharaja Rainforest. With the assistance of a local guide we look especially for the endemics.

Key species: Sri Lanka Blue Magpie, Red-faced Malkoha, White-faced Starling, Dark-fronted Babbler, Chestnut-backed Owlet, Layard's Parakeet, Ashy-headed Laughing Thrush, Brown-capped Babbler, Black-capped Bulbul, Scimitar Babbler, Greater Flameback, Scaly Thrush.

In the evening we try to hear Sri Lanka Frogmouth

**Overnight The Blue Magpie, Sinharaja**



## Day 10

Morning: a second but shorter walk through Sinharaja in search for the endemics which were missed the day before.

Afternoon: drive to Yala

**Overnight The Yala Village**

## Day 11

We take the whole day for our leopard-experience in Yala. In the morning we scan the wetlands for waders. During a long brake at midday we enjoy our packed lunch. After that the safari continues, looking for both birds and greater mammals.

**Overnight The Yala Village**

## Day 12

Morning: after we pack our gear we leave for Bundala. Depending on the water level we search especially for waders and terns.

Key species: Greater Crested Tern, Lesser Crested Tern, Yellow-wattled Lapwing, Small Pratincole, Black-necked Stork. Clamorous Reed Warbler, White-naped Woodpecker.

Driving to Galle, we stop to make a short walk along the tank of Tissamaharama.

Key species: Black-headed Cuckoo Shrike, Blue-faced Malkoha, Spot-billed Pelican, Pheasant-tailed Jacana.

**Overnight Cloisenberg Hotel, Galle**



## Day 13

Morning: sight-seeing in Galle, including a visit to the old Dutch Fort

Afternoon: drive to Colombo.

**Overnight The Cinnamon Grand**



## Day 14

Departure transfer to the airport

