



FAMILY FRIENDS FINS
DIVE & TRAVEL

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GLIMPSE OF A TROPICAL ISLAND

06 Days Tour



DAY 01 / 06 JUNE 2025

ARRIVE TO SERENDIB ISLAND

We will be whisked away from the Colombo airport and escorted towards the last held Sinhalese capital of Kandy.

Some days Kandy's skies seem perpetually bruised, with stubborn mist clinging to the hills surrounding the city's beautiful centerpiece lake. Delicate hill-country breezes impel the mist to gently part, revealing colorful houses amid Kandy's improbable forested halo. In the center of town, three-wheelers careen around slippery corners, raising a soft spray that threatens the silk saris worn by local women. Here's a city that looks good even when it is raining.

Stopping for lunch in this picturesque village we will also take the opportunity to shop for their famous sapphires known for their clarity and vibrant colors (did you know sapphires can come in a variety of colors such as pink, yellow and white?). Next we will proceed to Nuwara Eliya commonly referred to as "Little England".



Nuwara Eliya, meaning the City of Light, is located in the central province of Sri Lanka and is considered the most important region for tea production, with the coolest temperatures in the country, ranging from 10-21 degree celsius. Explore the tea estates, the lakes, picturesque landscapes and historic buildings as you discover the elegance and old school charm of Sri Lanka's Little England.

Check-in at the hotel and enjoy evening cocktails. Settle in here, we will be staying for two nights in this mystic hotel in teh clouds.

Overnight Stay at [Heritance Tea Factory](#)

02 Nights



DAY 02 / 07 JUNE 2025

WONDERS OF NUWARA ELIYA

Enjoy a delicious breakfast amidst this chilling atmosphere.

On this leisure day you will have time to explore the Nuwara Elya town. This genteel highland community does have a rose-tinted, vaguely British-country-village feel to it, with its colonial-era bungalows, Tudor-style hotels, well-tended hedgerows and pretty gardens.



For hike enthusiasts, this land offers multiple, interesting sites to immerse. Out of them, below are some of the favorite picks of Aitken Spence Travels. You may *choose one of the below experiences* or take part on your own hiking activities.

Option 1: The Pekoe Trail Stage 22 (Kandapola to Pedro Estate) – The start of this stage is at Kandapola town, a small, yet busy transit in the regional capital of Nuwara Eliya. You will meander along beautiful tea trails on tea estates through remote villages. The trail circles around one of the oldest tea estates in the region: Courtlodge Tea Factory established in 1890, as well as the Pedro Estate Tea Factory, a well-known estate and factory overlooking the surrounding countryside. The Pedro Tea Factory offers interesting and comprehensive guided tours. Keep an eye out for the trail that leads to Lover's Leap waterfall, just off the main trail. According to myth, Lovers Leap Waterfall is said to derive its name from the tragic tale of a prince, who while hunting in the jungle, lost his way. A beautiful damsel rescued him from the local village, and the two became inseparable lovers. But the match was not to the liking of the Eliya King and Queen, so the two decided to leap to their deaths, so they could be united

forever. The iconic Pedro Tea Estate factory marks the end or the start of The Pekoe Trail (The trail can be done wise versa commencing from Pedro Tea Estate and ending from Kandapola). **\$70 USD p/p**

Option 2: Nature Trail at Horton Plains to the World's End – To fully enjoy Horton Plains, you gotta get up early! Ideally you should aim at being at the gate before opening time (6 am) which means leaving Nuwara Eliya around 4.30 am. The continuously changing landscapes make the drive from Nuwara Eliya an experience in itself. The area is home to a few dairy farms, so you will see a lot of cows on green grass lands, a very unusual sight that might make you think for a minute that you are actually in Europe. Horton Plains sits around 2000m above sea level, while Nuwara Eliya is at 1800m. Of course, the higher you go, the more breathtaking the surrounding view gets, especially as the sun rises. The highlight of the Horton Plains National Park hike is definitely World's End, where the plateau ends in a sheer precipice of nearly 900 m! The oceans is nearly 100 km away, but on clear days you can see it ... imagine that. **\$60 USD p/p**

Option 3: A gentle hike towards the cascade of Bomuru Ella falls – Tucked away in the heart of nature, Bomuru Ella waterfalls is a hidden gem that calls to the young and adventurous. The journey begins with a 30-40 minute hike, winding through a serene village where a handful of families live off the land. As you follow the trail, you'll enter a shaded forest that provides welcome relief from the trek's effort. The distant sound of splashing water grows louder as you approach the falls, and soon you're rewarded with a breathtaking view of lush greenery and the cascading waterfall. The soft, dense grass invites you to relax, while the cool, refreshing waters beckon those daring enough for a dip—though it's at your own risk!! **\$35 USD p/p**

Option 4: Explore the viewpoint of Moon Plains – Moon Plains, or Sandathenna, is a 400-meter long, 40-meter deep valley located 6km from Nuwara Eliya. Since 2014, it has become a popular Agricultural and Environmental Tourism Zone. The lush green slopes and misty backdrop are like something from a painting, with wildlife such as deer, buffalo, and various bird species freely roaming. Lucky visitors may even spot the elusive Sri Lankan leopard. Standing at 6,200 ft, Moon Plains offers panoramic views of the countryside and peaks, with the 'Mini World's End' providing a breathtaking look at the landscape below. **\$35 USD p/p**

Overnight Stay at [Heritage Tea Factory](#)

DAY 03 / 08 JUNE 2025

A TIMELAPSE

Awakened by the birds' chirps and the sunrise's boost of dopamine, freshen up and enjoy a tasty morning meal.

As you bid farewell to this enchanting location, the journey continues with a scenic drive toward Nanu Oya railway station, about an hour away. Upon arrival, you'll join your guide and board **the train bound for the breathtaking town of Ella**. This rail journey, winding through lush green mountains and rolling tea plantations, offers 3 to 4 hours of pure beauty. Known as Sri Lanka's most picturesque train ride, it's a chance to take in stunning views and perhaps even make new friends among the locals as the train gently meanders through the hills.



Ella – A small town nestled in the hills of Sri Lanka, Ella is surrounded by large peaks which are covered in lush green tea plantations and cloud forests. Come trek through hills, swim under waterfalls and enjoy the splendid mountain landscapes of Ella.

The Nine Arch Bridge is something that you cannot really miss when visiting Ella. Nine Arch Bridge in the Sri Lanka highlands town of Ella regularly takes center stage in one of the most iconic pictures in the hill country. It is part working railway viaduct, part tourist photo opportunity. This setting, beloved by thousands of Instagram accounts, somehow conveys the relaxed vibe that makes Sri Lanka one of the most treasured holiday destinations in the world.

In completion, you will stop over at a local restaurant for lunch.

After lunch continue towards Yala for your overnight stay.

Yala is most known for the one of the largest national parks in Sri Lanka. Yala National Park is a lush forest of greenery and wildlife interspersed with ruins from ancient civilizations to give you a truly unique experience of human history and nature, to create a one-of-a-kind experience. Embark on a scenic safari to spot the wildlife endemic in the area and discover the ruins of ancient civilizations. The wild side of Sri Lanka awaits.

Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel, linger over the pool and enjoy a cocktail while watching the sunset.

Overnight Stay at [Jetwing Yala](#)

03 Nights



DAY 04 / 09 JUNE 2025

A WILD DISCOVERY

Wake up early this morning as we will head out on a wild expedition at Yala National Park.



Your **safari jeep** rumbles along the dirt tracks, weaving through dense bushes and towering trees. The air is crisp, filled with the sounds of rustling leaves and distant bird calls. Suddenly, a glimpse of a majestic leopard emerges from the underbrush, its spotted coat blending with the golden landscape. Elephants, water buffalo, and peacocks roam freely, painting a vivid scene of life in the wild. Every turn in Yala holds the promise of an unforgettable encounter with nature's untamed beauty.

After a full day of exploring the wildlife, come back to the hotel, relax and show off your spectacular photos!!

Overnight Stay at [Jetwing Yala](#)

DAY 05 / 10 JUNE 2025

AN ADDICTIVE HOBBY

Just like yesterday, reward yourselves by taking part on **another safari**, carefully examining these untamed beasts and their habitats. Yala National Park is a year-round destination for wildlife safaris. The most rewarding time to visit is during the May to September dry season.



There are approximately 215 bird species resident in the park, including seven endemics, along with 44 mammals. The park is divided into five blocks of which block I (where most game drives take place) is renowned for having the greatest density of leopards per square kilometer in the world. Many of the younger males have grown so used to their dominance within the reserve and the jeeps that seek them out that they saunter lazily along tracks and sunbathe on rocky outcrops in full view.

Come back after the safari and rest by the pool enjoying a well deserved beverage.

Overnight Stay at [Jetwing Yala](#)

DAY 06 / 11 JUNE 2025

BID FAREWELL TO THE PARADISE ISLAND

This morning after breakfast, check-out from the hotel and proceed to the commercial city of Colombo.

In Colombo, you will have the opportunity to explore this busy city. Explore the fast-developing city of Colombo, a quaint merging of the old and the new, in a full day tour covering all its key attractions and points of interest including the National Museum, Gangaramaya Temple, Colombo Fort, Independence square, Galle Face Green and more culminating in some classic Colombo shopping.

Proceed towards Banadaranaike International Airport and connect with your departure flight. For those of us with later departures, we will secure a hotel for resting before your flight back to the US.

PRICING

/ Tour package \$1,249 per person

-inclusive of hotel stays, taxes, tours, entrance fees, transport and daily breakfast

-Based on double occupancy / single prices available

EXCLUSIONS

/ Visa fee for Sri Lanka.

/ International air fares.

/ Lunch and dinner throughout the tour.

/ Cost for all optional mentioned experiences (per person):

+ *The Pekoe Trail Stage 22 (Kandapola to Pedro Estate): USD 70.00*

+ *Nature Trail at Horton Plains to the World's End: USD 60.00*

+ *A gentle hike towards the cascade of Bomuru Ella falls: USD 35.00*

+ *Explore the viewpoint of Moon Plains: USD 35.00*