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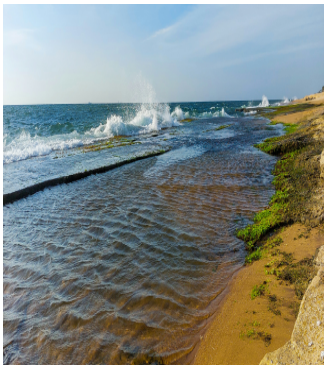
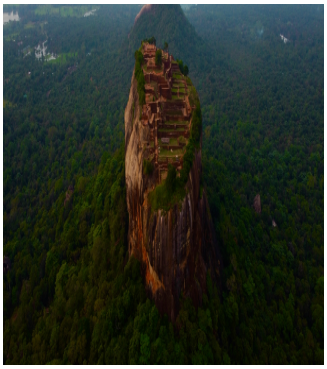
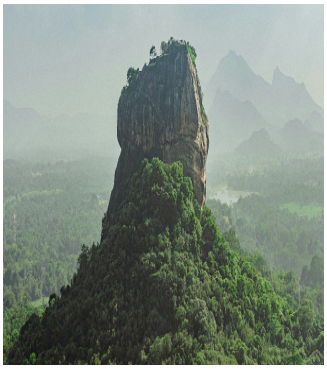
Package Code:GO316621

12 D Hill Country and Sacred Cities - 11 Nights / 12 Days

Cities Covered: >> Colombo >> Negombo >> Sigiriya >> Jaffna >> Kandy >> Nuwara Eliya >> Ella

Remoteness and curiosity welcomes you with open arms as you flow towards Jaffna; an area that has for long been off-limits to travellers. Now full of life, colonial remains and deserted beaches it tempts curious travellers with its stories and tales from the past and the present. Spoiling you also is the lush green hill country with its tea estates and misty mountains. The cultural cities granting you the impressive Sirigiya Rock Fortress, cave-murals, sacred remains and closeness to the charming local Sri Lankan culture. In just 12 days you will get a fine insight into the present day Sri Lanka and its ancient past. From remoteness to bustling city life, from hill country to plains and from culture to nature. Sri Lanka truly embraces it all, giving you the option to go beyond the beaten track, to go well beyond the ordinary.

Day 1: Colombo:

Arrive in Colombo

Welcome to Sri Lanka–a charmingly beautiful country where 5 days ancient cultural immersion and beautiful scape awaits you. Upon arrival in the airport you will be met by our representative and transferred to Negombo. Negombo is approx. 20 minute drive from the airport embracing slow life and beachfront location. For newly arrived travellers it is often a welcomed alternative to the hectic and happening Colombo.
Check in to your hotel and rest for a few hours before capturing the streets of Negombo. You may visit the colonial remains of the Dutch period, a Buddhist temple and a catholic church. Get close to slow life in the local fishing village; walk the lively fish market, and the bustling bazaar.
Overnight at a small boutique hotel.
Overnight at Negombo.
Optional: Do a Boat trip through the Dutch canal, lagoon and sea.
Please note: If you arrive late in the night on day 01 you may go around to see Negombo next

morning on day 02,before departing to Sigiriya.

Day 2: Colombo:

Negombo (Approx. 200 km / 4-5 hours)

Having acclimatized to a new country and new customs, you are ready to venture inlands to the ancient scape of Sri Lanka

Start with a slow breakfast and enjoy a cup of hot Sri Lankan tea. Then transfer to Sigiriya where you will check into your next hotel which is a little hidden gem of a place, where you can relax in touch with nature, but with all of the modern conveniences you need.

Late in the afternoon/early evening when the sun cools down a bit, start your excursion to Sigiriya. Climb the 5thcentury Sigiriya Rock Fortress–an UNESCO world heritage site, built by King Kashyapa (477-495 AD). The 'Lion Rock' is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200 metre from the scrub jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town. A moat, rampart, and extensive gardens including the renowned water gardens ring the base of the rock. Visit the world-renowned frescoes of the 'Heavenly Maidens' of Sigiriya, which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway. These frescoes are painted in earth pigments on plaster.
Overnight at Sigiriya.

Day 3: Colombo:

- Sigiriya (Approx. 1 hour per way)

From a rock fortress to a rock temple–another day of cultural explorations in striking landscape awaits you.
Have your breakfast and transfer to Dambulla, which is about an hour's drive from Sigiriya. Here you will find the World Heritage Site of Dambulla Rock Temple–the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. Built by King Walagambahu in the1stcentury B.C. the complex of five caves holds over 2000 sq. metre of painted walls and ceilings. This makes it the largest area of paintings found in the world. It contains over 150 images of Buddha of which the largest is spanning 14 metres and is a colossal figure of Buddha carved out of rock.
Stop for lunch in town and later in the afternoon you have the option to visit the ancient city of Polonnaruwa–An UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the best planned archaeological relic sites in the country. The relics stand as testimonials of the greatness of the Kingdom's first rulers and
are spread across a huge area. Expect therefore a decent amount of walking, but we guarantee it'll be worth it. If you would rather go back to Sigiriya you have the option to do so. Here you can hire bi-cycles and explore the city at your own pace. The choice is yours.
Overnight at Sigiriya.

Day 4: Negombo:

Jaffna (Approx. 250 km / 5-6 hours)

Prepare to head towards the Northern most part of Sri Lanka, to Jaffna peninsula and the city of the same name. Jaffna has for long been closed land for travellers, but now holds its doors open. The remoteness gives it a distinct local flavour and its multicultural and colonial heritage a colourful, lively and distinct touch.
On your way North you may stop at Murun Kandy Kovil to attend rituals, pass by Kilinochchi town and go through the Elephant Pass, which displays war remains from years of unrest.

Jaffna is in close proximity to the sub-continent of India and is separated from it by the Palk Strait and the Bay of Bengal. The greater part of Jaffna is covered by shallow lagoons and has many interesting islands not very far from the shore. From the 1980's to early 2009, Jaffna was classified as a no-go for traveler sand a war zone. For almost three decades, Somehow, Jaffna survived the endless violence and has sprung back to life.
There are lot of popularly growing tourist attractions around the beautiful Jaffna coastline. Some of the main attractions of Jaffna are the Dutch Fort and unexplored beaches along with some pre-colonial buildings from the Dutch Era. Jaffna is also home to many religious sites including temples, mosques and churches which have been through a rough past but have managed to preserve their beauty. Check in to hotel, and relax at this homely town. As this place has more of Tamil influence and culture, get an evening cooking class to know local food, followed by a dinner.
Overnight at Jaffna.

Day 5: Sigiriya:

Jaffna

After Breakfast at your hotel, explore Jaffna by bicycle with your local guide. You will visit Nallur Kanda swamy Kovil, Dutch Fort (built 500 years ago by the Portuguese),a local fish market, the famous and beautiful Jaffna library and Sangiliyan Thoppu. Along the way, you may stop for lunch at a local place and expect the tour to be around 3 hours.
In after noon visit Casuarina beach, one of the best beaches in the Jaffna area. The shallow waters and the very gentle waves make it ideal for safe sea bathing; the clear blue water and distant views a great place in general to take a break and unwind.
Overnight at Jaffna

Day 6: Jaffna:

Kandy (Approx. 275 km / 6 hours)

After you have enjoyed your breakfast, you will head back South towards the sacred city of Kandy. Your transportation will be an exploration in its own right with beautiful scenery beyond your windows just as you may visit the spice Garden in Matale along the way.
Check-in to the hotel, where you get sense of peace, a bit away from the busy town of Kandy.
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Overnight at Kandy.

Day 7: Jaffna:

Kandy.

After breakfast enjoy the city tour in Kandy. This sacred city was the last capital of the Sri Lankan kings and now an UNESCO 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 1798–a tranquil place in the heart of the city.
In the evening visit the Temple of the SacredTooth Relic–a golden roofed Buddhist temple that houses Sri Lanka's most sacred Buddhist relic–a tooth of the Buddha. And though it is not possible to see the actual tooth as it is kept in a gold casket shaped like a stupa, you will feel the sacred ambience and take in the colours, the gilded gifts and the shrines that comprise the temple complex. Late in the evening ou will experiencea Cultural Show. Some find this funny, while others find it spectacular. You will see the traditional Sri Lankan drummers stirring up a

rhythm and decoratively dressed dancers showing their amazing moves. You will see fire works and fire stunts in a show that truly has something for all.
Overnight at Kandy.

Day 8: Kandy:

-Nuwara Eliya (80 km / 2-3hour)

After breakfast your driver takes you by true mountain roads deeper into the hill country. Lush green tea plantations tug the neatly curving hillsides, dots of colour from the workers picking leaves. Go all the way to flushing Ramboda waterfall to put your feet in the chilly water and have lunch on the way. Visit a Tea estate, famous for a fine variety of mountain tea, to get the story of tea making. You will arrive in Nuwara Eliya around 15:00.Check in at you hotel, and relax. If you still have energy left, you can instead visit the Victoria park or do some short treks.
Overnight at Nuwara Eliya.

Day 9: Kandy:

- Ella. (60 km / 1-1,5hours)

It will be an early start before sun has the grip. At this time it will be cold and crisp. And you should bring a sweater, and breakfast pack. First you drive out to the Horton plains, wild moorland where you go for a trek. Suddenly you will be at the world's end and it seems like all Sri Lanka lies for your feet. It is truly breath taking and beautiful on a clear day, making the trek to here more than worth it. Back down, drive back to your hotel. Later you proceed with your driver through stunning mountain scape to Ella, the slow mountain village most people come to love. Check in, at a place overlooking the mountains and if you are still curious and legs still fresh you can visit the waterfall and the ridge nearby for a fine sunset. If you stay back, the view is just as rewarding
Overnight at an exclusive hotel with the panoramic view.
Overnight at Ella.

Day 10: Nuwara Eliya:

Ella

Start your day slow with a small Sri Lankan breakfast and get ready for a simple though inspiring cooking class. Try your hands in preparing some delicious Srilankan delicacies, and the spicy, fresh treat will be served to you for lunch. Later in the day you may just relax for a lazy afternoon or go to the beautiful Ravana falls and enjoy scenery along the road with colourful food stalls, large rain forest trees, slow market towns and a flow of tuk-tuks. There are also old temples and a cave nearby for a perfect evening.
Overnight at Ella.

Day 11: Ella:

Colombo (225 km / 5-6hours)

After breakfast checkout and drive back to the colorful Colombo.Slowly you descend from the hill country towards the plains and on the way you will find many reasons to stop by local attractions or to take pictures. After your drive you will arrive in the posh area of Colombo and check in to your hotel.In the evening do a walk in the area around to find some of the many hidden treasures in the shape of restaurants, shops and friendly locals. Do your last days hopping or just relax at a café on the street. Overnight a taboutique hotel.
Overnight at Colombo.

Day 12: Ella:

Colombo

Free Start your day easy and relax, as itis the last day of your tour. To make it more relaxing you will get a body massage with acupressure technique. Visually disable people trained in the techniques, would do the massage. They might not talk a lot. However, their hands perform the magic on one's body to give that perfect freshness after a long journey. Later, hopefully still light in mind and body after the treat, get dropped to the airport.

Round Tour Package Includes:
Meals: 11 x Breakfast.
Accommodation: Comfort class hotels (small boutique hotels) on bed and breakfast basis.
Transport: Private car according to itinerary.
English speaking tour guide:
Driver, who speaks basic English.
Others/Activities: Trip to Horton's plain/World's end.
Cooking class in Jaffna with dinner.
Jaffna Cycle Tour.
Cooking class in Ella with lunch.
Acupressure massage by blind people.
There is no overall guide on the tour, but a driver who speaks basic English.
There may be English Speaking tour guides on the pre-organized day tours (only) according to itinerary.

Round Tour Packages Excludes:
Entrance fees
Dinner, Lunch, Beverages, and snacks. (Unless mentioned otherwise)
Extras of personal nature.
Tips and gratuities.
Extra services were other than those specified.
Visa and Insurance
Personal expenses like water bottles, laundry, room service etc
Additional cost due to delays, road blocks, missed connections and situation beyond control

Sri Lanka has now become a round the year destination, however the climate varies from city to city. Expect rain in Colombo and the Hill country (Kandy, Nuwara Elliya and Ella) from April to December.

Terms & Conditions

Go Beyond reserves the right to change, update and/or alter these terms and conditions at any time and without prior notice.

Age Policy : Adults: 06 and above years of age; Children: 0 to 05 years of age

In case of Cancellations of tours or a particular service

Here are the general conditions and guidelines if you are traveling with us OR doing business with us at any destination where we offer our experiences.

Cancellation Policy -

Travelers/Guests/Customers OR booking Agents must notify Go Beyond Tours in writing on mail@gobeyondtours.in for any cancellation. We will NOT provide partial or full refunds for missed or unused services. Our cancellation policies and related fees are mentioned as a percent of the total booking price based on the booking's start date i.e. first day of service.

The following cancellation policy is applicable and applicable fees is mentioned as a percentage of total booking price for Standard Tours booked directly on our website -

- -100% refund of the total booking price IF the cancellation request is received more than 30 days prior to the travel date / first day of service.
- -50% refund of the total booking price IF the cancellation request is received between 15 and 29 days prior to the travel date i.e. first day of service.
- -No refund of the total booking amount IF the cancellation is received less than 15 days prior to the travel date / first day of service.
- -Compulsory cancellation fee applicable once you get the confirmation for trips with non-refundable services like train or air tickets, rides, jungle safari etc.
- -Compulsory Service charge / cancellation fee applicable for customized trips / group tours as mentioned at the time of specific offers

Fixed Departures and shared services

Tours that are operated as "Go Together" / shared services, that is on a "join-in" basis, there is generally a minimum number of passengers that must be booked on the tour in order to assure that the tour departs. IF the number of customers on a particular join-in departure change after our customer books but before the tour departs, we reserve the right, at any time, to offer an alternative price for that departure and / or an alternative departure date notwithstanding the cancellation policy detailed above.

Specially for you Tours / Custom-Made Tours / Private Tours

Customized / Tailor-Made tours might have different cancellation policies at our discretion. The cancellation policy for tailor-made tours are always more stringent and is disclosed to the customer at the time of offer / prior to booking.

Cancellations By Go Beyond Tours

Go Beyond Tours reserve the right to cancel any trip for any reason that may occur due to circumstances that can make it unrealistic to run/continue a tour or service. Tour are ONLY canceled for unusual or unforeseen circumstances that are outside of our control or, in the case of shared / fixed tours, if there are too few people confirmed for us to operate the trip.

At a stage, when we cancel a tour, you may choose between a full refund of the amount paid or credit in that amount for any alternative trip. If the alternative trip is of lesser cost than the canceled trip, we might offer a partial refund, and pay you the difference. If the alternative trip is more costly than the canceled trip, we might ask you to pay the difference amount.

Please note we are not responsible for any incidental expenses or consequential losses that you incur as a result of the booking, such as, but not limited to, visas, vaccinations and non-refundable flights, missed connections, road blocks, adverse weather conditions, medical reasons and situations beyond control.

Customer Liability & Insurance

Guests traveling with us must be protected by their own travel insurance that covers accidents, medical expenses, emergency evacuation and loss or damage to personal effects. By participating in a product, package tour or activity with us, you agree to be responsible for all costs related to the above and exempt and fully release our company, our employees and our local partners from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions or causes of action whatsoever arising out of any damage, loss or injury to yourself, to your property, or death, which may occur as a result of or in the context of participation in a tour or activity, whether such loss, damage, injury or death results from the negligence and/or other fault, either active or passive, of any of the parties described, or from any other cause.

Travelers and participants must be able to provide proof of insurance. All customers traveling with us and our suppliers / service partners do acknowledge that no refunds will be provided for any reason if the customer cannot furnish and we are unable to verify the proof of insurance purchase prior to your trip with us. In all cases, customers should seek refunds from their insurance provider prior to requesting a refund from Go Beyond.

Also note that coverage, such as insurance for trip cancellation or the loss of luggage and personal effects is not required, but strongly encouraged. We are not liable for lost or stolen luggage.

Disputes and applicable law

Please note that any and all Terms and Conditions that you abide by in traveling with us, including all matters arising from these Terms and Conditions, are subject to the law and the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts exclusively in the destination in which we have provided services to you.