



UNCOVER SRI LANKA'S MYSTERIES WITH BILL PEACH JOURNEYS

Luxury World Journey The Wonders of Sri Lanka

12 Days | 2 – 13 Mar 2021 | AUD\$13,495pp twin share | Single Supplement \$3,000

EXCLUSIVE HIGHLIGHTS

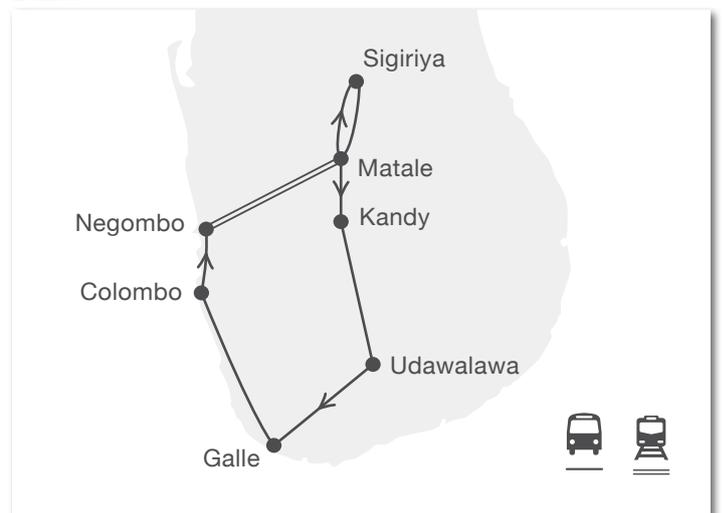
- ✦ Visit the fascinating and diverse cities of Colombo, Kandy and Galle rich in culture and history
- ✦ Luxury accommodation throughout including the Grand Uda Walawa Safari Resort and Shangri La Hotel Colombo
- ✦ Unique Sri Lankan experiences including visiting spice, tea and cinnamon plantations
- ✦ Travel on the luxury heritage train "Viceroy Special" from Negombo to Matale
- ✦ Visit UNESCO World Heritage Sites including Dambulla Caves, Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya Rock Fortress, The Temple of the Tooth
- ✦ Enjoy wildlife jeep safaris in Minneriya National Park and Udawalawa National Park
- ✦ All touring, transfers, entrance fees, portorage and meals included
- ✦ Escorted throughout by an experienced Journey Director and local English speaking guides

"This has been a really enjoyable experience and given me a taste of different cities and regions and a base on which to build."

Penelope Robertson, Toorak, VIC

Join us on this incredible adventure to Sri Lanka. Explore pristine rainforests, ancient rock fortresses and some of the most perfect beaches on the planet. Not to mention the extraordinary wildlife, superb food and welcoming people. Recently named Lonely Planet's number one destination, Sri Lanka is on trend for many reasons.

Considered nature's treasure chest, it also has an incredible cultural heritage. Sri Lanka is home to one of the oldest civilisations in the world where its written history exceeds 2,550 years. Its pre-history consists of planned cities, magnificent palaces and expansive man made reservoirs, stunning temples and monasteries, green gardens and fascinating monuments. Step into a world of wonder as Bill Peach Journeys explores this fascinating country in comfort and luxury. There are so many reasons to join us on this journey to Sri Lanka.





DISCOVER INCREDIBLE SRI LANKA

DAY 1 | ARRIVE COLOMBO

Upon arrival in Colombo, a private transfer awaits to transport you to Jetwing Lagoon Hotel, the finest Ayurveda spa resort nestled beside the serene waters of the Negombo lagoon. The hotel's deep respect and concern for the natural world is instilled through its many sustainable practices.

Overnight: Jetwing Lagoon Hotel or similar

DAY 2 | NEGOMBO

Today is a relaxing day at leisure to recover from the flight. For those interested, there will be the opportunity to tour Negombo. Tonight there will be a welcome dinner.

Overnight: Jetwing Lagoon Hotel or similar

DAY 3 | NEGOMBO - COLOMBO - SIGIRIYA

This morning board the luxury heritage train "Viceroy Special" from Negombo to Matale enjoying lunch on board. Harking back to years gone by, we watch the verdant scenery pass from this beautiful heritage train complete with period fittings, a bar, dining and recreation area with plush seating and an observation cabin. Upon arrival, we then transfer by coach to Sigiriya.

This afternoon we visit Dambulla Caves, an enchanting destination which perfectly showcases Sri Lanka's spiritual and natural charm. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is a cave system with spectacular sculpture & painting strewn throughout. It represents one of the oldest sites for Buddhist monasticism with a history of pilgrimage for 22 centuries.

Overnight: Water Garden Hotel or similar

DAY 4 | SIGIRIYA

Today we visit the ancient city of Polonnaruwa which showcases Sri Lankan architecture dating back to the 12th century AD. We will explore the monumental ruins of the fabulous garden-city created by Parakramabahu I, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We transfer to Minneriya National Park for a jeep safari to see the wild elephants, which can number in excess of 200. Cameras at the ready as they come to feed and bathe during what is known as 'the Gathering'. The elephants are joined by flocks of birds, such as little cormorants, painted storks, herons and large pelicans which fish in the shallow waters.

Overnight: Water Garden Hotel or similar

DAY 5 | SIGIRIYA

This morning drive to Hiriwaduna where we will experience a short bullock cart ride to reach the village. A chance to interact with the locals and enjoy a catamaran ride on Habarana Lake. After a cooking demonstration we transfer to Sigiriya Rock Fortress, one of Sri Lanka's most historical monuments. Referred to by locals as the 'Eighth Wonder of the World', this UNESCO World Heritage Site is an ancient palace and fortress complex of urban planning, water engineering, horticulture and arts. For those interested, a climb to the top offers breathtaking views of the surrounding national park.

Overnight: Water Garden Hotel or similar

DAY 6 | SIGIRIYA - MATALE - KANDY

Transfer to Matale and discover why Sri Lanka is also known as the 'Land of Spices' as we visit a plantation. We will gain an insight into the age old industry of spice production, which attracted many European and Asian merchants to the ports of ancient Sri Lanka. Continuing on we arrive at picturesque Kandy. Sri Lanka's second biggest city and at one time, capital of the last Sinhalese Kingdom. Here we will visit the UNESCO Heritage Listed Temple of the Tooth Relic, one of the most sacred places of worship in the Buddhist world. We will take a tuk tuk ride through this lovely lakeside city to the upper lake region for panoramic views over the city.

Overnight: The Radh Hotel or similar

DAY 7 | KANDY

After your morning at leisure, enjoy an interactive cooking demonstration and learn the basics of Sri Lankan cuisine. After lunch we visit Peradeniya Botanical Garden, which displays more than 4000 species of plants, including orchids.

Overnight: The Radh Hotel or similar

DAY 8 | KANDY - UDAWALAWA

Today we transfer by coach to Udawalawa. After lunch we depart for a safari in Udawalawa National Park, an important habitat for water birds and Sri Lankan elephants which was created as a sanctuary for displaced wild animals. Mostly comprised of grasslands and bush forest, the park is framed by soaring highlands on its northern boundary.

Overnight: Grand Uda Walawa Safari Resort or similar



DAY 9 | UDAWALAWA - GALLE

An early morning safari in Udawalawa National Park before transferring to Galle, a city rich in culture and history having been a prominent seaport for the Persians, Arabs, Greeks, Romans, Malays, Indians, and Chinese. One of the best preserved colonial-era cities in Southeast Asia, Galle has been declared a World Heritage City.

Overnight: Marriot Welligama or similar

DAY 10 | GALLE

Today we tour Galle exploring the varied architecture reflecting Portuguese, Dutch and British rule including the majestic Galle Fort which is testimony to Dutch rule in the 17th century.

Overnight: Marriot Welligama or similar

DAY 11 | GALLE

An early morning transfer to Mirissa, one of the best locations in the world to see a gigantic Blue Whale. Of the 80 species of cetaceans identified worldwide, 26 are found in the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. Sea turtles and numerous dolphins in pods may also be spotted.

Later this morning we visit a cinnamon plantation and discover the unique process of harvesting this spice before enjoying a cinnamon infused lunch. We visit the legendary Handungoda Tea Estate famous for the white tea it produces. It is said to have been exclusively produced for the Chinese Emperor Tsong. Our farewell dinner this evening will be accompanied by traditional music.

Overnight: Marriot Welligama or similar

DAY 12 | GALLE - DEPART COLOMBO

Mid morning we transfer to Colombo. Sri Lanka's capital and bustling commercial hub, Colombo was a magnet for successive traders and conquerors – initially the Arab merchants, then Portuguese, Dutch and British imperialists. Colombo's colourful street markets, colonial-era buildings, museums and galleries, churches, mosques and temples exemplify its diverse history.

Following lunch we check in to our hotel where you can relax in your room or enjoy some last minute shopping. After dinner at the hotel, transfer to the international airport to board your flight home taking with you fond memories of an unforgettable Sri Lankan discovery.

Pre Flight Accommodation: Shangri La Colombo or similar

"I would like to again express my appreciation of Bill Peach Journeys. From the initial contact to the completion of the trip all staff were professional, efficient and helpful. The fact that most of my travel companions had made several BP journeys speaks volumes for the organisation."

Joan Lum, Mentone, VIC





ABOUT LUXURY WORLD JOURNEYS

Our worldwide collection of journeys are operated by a select number of preferred travel partners who we have chosen because of their expertise within specific regions and who combine the same style and superior level of service that has become synonymous with Bill Peach Journeys. Each of the worldwide journeys have a Bill Peach Journeys stamp of quality.

When you travel on a Bill Peach Luxury World Journey everything is included. This means not only does your holiday include accommodation, dining and all excursions but every one of these elements is the finest in its class. Throughout the journey you will have a Journey Director on hand to look after each detail.

FITNESS LEVEL - MODERATE

“Highlights were the ease of travelling. An excellent tour and leader who went beyond her duties to make sure everyone was catered for.”

Mrs Pam Mison, Valentine, NSW

WHY BILL PEACH JOURNEYS?

- ✦ A name you can trust with over 36 years of experience in the luxury travel industry
- ✦ Fully inclusive journeys, all meals, accommodation, touring, entrance fees, portage taxes and luggage
- ✦ International travel requires expert planning and organisation. Our Journey Planners ensure you enjoy an intimate exploration of the places visited in comfort and style
- ✦ A dedicated Journey Director that ensures you are looked after every step of the way
- ✦ Local professional guides at every location
- ✦ 70% of our travellers return to travel with us again within the first year of their initial journey

For more information please call our Reservations Team on 1800 252 053 (Australia),
0800 445 700 (New Zealand) or visit www.billpeachjourneys.com.au
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