



## CHRISTMAS IN SRI LANKA

Classic Tour | 16 Days | Physical Level 2

Colombo – Dambulla – Kandy - Nuwara Eliya – Yala - Hikkaduwa - Colombo

Marvel at magnificent temples, see the World Heritage Rock Fortress at Sigiriya, spend Christmas in a city that celebrates to the fullest, and New Years in the vibrant city of Colombo. You will also discover the fascinating caves at Dambulla and explore the ruined cities of Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura on this festive season tour.

- Climb the spectacular Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- Explore the ruins of Medieval Polonnaruwa
- Discover Udawattakele Rainforest at night
- Treat your taste buds on a Street Food tour in Colombo
- Try your hand at curd making
- Enjoy a canoe ride, cooking and spice garden

## TOUR MAP

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### CHRISTMAS IN SRI LANKA TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Meals as specified
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escorts (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Sri Lanka visa fees for Australian passport holders

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, meals not included, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

### CLASSIC TOURS:

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This tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Sri Lanka on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people. The tours are on a fully-inclusive basis so you'll travel with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

## PHYSICAL LEVEL 2:

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All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights. 'Christmas in Sri Lanka' is rated 2 on the physical level scale. A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time
- Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps, often without handrails
- You will be required to get on and off various sizes of boats and rickshaws throughout the tour

Of course, our National Escorts and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you require any more information about the pace of our tours, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.

## JOINING YOUR TOUR:

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The tour is 16 days in duration including international flight. Please note that flight from Australia arrives very late on day 1 of the tour, so you might consider adding an additional night prior to the tour starting. The departure flight from Colombo to Australia leaves at very early hours of day 16, so you will be transferred to the airport on day 15 after dinner.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour, or when booking pre and post night accommodation with Wendy Wu Tours. Please email your international flight times to [info@wendywutours.com.au](mailto:info@wendywutours.com.au) so we can arrange your transfers accordingly.

Join the tour on Day 1 in Colombo and end the tour on Day 16 also in Colombo. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

## ITINERARY CHANGES:

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It's our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we'll make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### Day 1: Arrive Colombo

Meals: D

Welcome to Sri Lanka, the pearl of the Indian Ocean!

On arrival at the Bandaranaike International Airport you will be met by your Chauffeur guide & transferred to your hotel in Colombo.

The transfer time will be approximately 1 hour to your hotel, where you will check-in. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Early check-in is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.



### Destination Information

**Colombo** - The formal capital city and the business and commercial centre of Sri Lanka. Originally a small sea port, Colombo became prominent in the 15th century with the arrival of the Portuguese. The Dutch later arrived in the 16th century but it wasn't until the British arrived in the late 18th century that Colombo developed into a major city.

### Day 2: Travel to Dambulla

Meals: B, L,D

After breakfast you will transfer approximately 3,5 hours to Dambulla.

Check in to the hotel and relax before heading to Sigiriya rock fortress late this afternoon.

*Please note that reaching the summit requires climbing approximately 1,200 steps and can be physically demanding. If you prefer not to make the ascent, there are plenty of enjoyable alternatives: explore the Sigiriya Museum for fascinating insights into the site's rich history, stroll through the landscaped water gardens at the base of the rock, or unwind and take in the a nearby café.*



### Destination Information

**Sigiriya** - A UNESCO World Heritage site, is the most exquisite example of ancient Sri Lankan art, architecture and landscaping. Built over 1,600 years ago, the now sinister-looking 600 ft. high black rock once appeared like a huge dazzling white cloud floating above the surrounding forests. Its sides were painted with beautiful frescoes of semi-naked nymphs. A massive gatehouse in the form of a lion guarded the entrance to the innermost sanctum of the city – the Sky Palace on top of the rock. It burst briefly into pre-eminence and was then abandoned and lay hidden in the forests for nearly 1,500 years.

**Day 3: Hiriwaduna and Polonnaruwa**

Meals: B, L, D

Today you will be taken Hiriwaduna for a local village experience. Enjoy a catamaran ride on the lake, a tuk tuk trip to a local home to learn all about preparing an authentic Sri Lankan dish.



Next transfer 1 and a half hours to Polonnaruwa an ancient city, to hear the tales of how the king's court was laid out at the ancient city of Polonnaruwa. This city is another important royal capital, with well-preserved 12th century ruins and the impressive stone culture recalls an inspired past. Although nearly 1000 years old, the monuments are arranged in a reasonably compact garden setting and their development is easy to follow.

There will be approximately 2 hours of easy sightseeing on foot while exploring.

*Since this is a religious site – the foot ware should be removed before entering you could wear socks if you wish to.*

**Destination Information**

**Hiriwaduna Village** – A tiny rural village, located in Habarana, with a small community of approximately 2500 people, rich in culture and tradition, offering a wonderful look into a typical Sri Lankan village life.

**Polonnaruwa** - Polonnaruwa was the capital of Sri Lanka from the 11th to the 13th centuries and is a well-preserved city of stupas, frescoes and statues. Visit the ruins of the Royal Palace, Audience Hall and the Bathing Pool in the Royal Palace group, along with the Thivanka Image House, which possesses the best frescoes from the Polonnaruwa period. Also tour Gal Vihara, a magnificent group of rock temples consisting of four separate statues; a meditating Buddha, a smaller Buddha said to be visiting heaven, a standing Buddha and the reclining Buddha entering Nirvana, which is 14 metres long.

**Day 4: Anuradhapura**

Meals: B, L, D

Travel approximately 1 hour to Anuradhapura to explore the magnificent ancient city. Exploration of this ancient city involves approximately 4 hours on foot. Visit the Bo Tree before returning to Dambulla, where the remainder of the afternoon is free at leisure.



### Destination Information

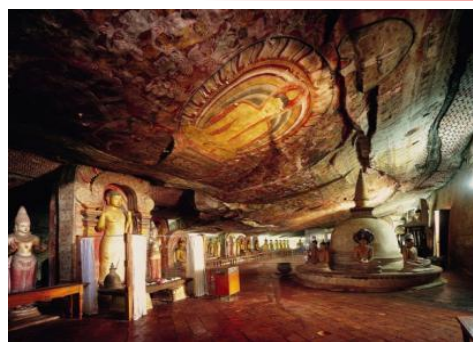
**Anuradhapura** - One of Sri Lanka's most ancient cities. The city's greatest treasures are its dagobas; domes enshrining sacred relics. The most notable is the Ruvanveliseya Dagoba, dating back to the 2nd century BC. Also visit the Jetavanaramaya, the largest dagoba in the world, and the Thuparamaya, said to contain the collarbone of Buddha, and the first dagoba built in Sri Lanka.

**Bo Tree** - The most renowned Buddhist relic is the sacred Bo Tree. It is said that Emperor Asoka's daughter brought to Anuradhapura a branch of this tree, under which Buddha is said to have gained enlightenment. Planted over 2,250 years ago, it is the oldest surviving historical tree in the world.

### **Day 5: Travel Dambulla to Kandy**

Meals: B, L, D

Today you will depart for Kandy, travelling 2,5 hours and visiting the Dambulla Cave Temple on your way. This cave temple has the largest number of Buddha statues all housed in one place, including a colossal, 14-metre-long figure of the recumbent Buddha carved out of the rock. Dambulla Cave Temple is now one of the most popular religious cultural sites in Sri Lanka, attracting tourists from across the globe.



Thereafter you will visit a spice garden in Matale, where you are greeted with farm sourced fresh juice and taken on a guided walk to learn about the garden's collection of produce, from pepper to papaya, cocoa to coconut and mango to mahogany. This evening you visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic followed by an amazing cultural dance show.

*Light Coloured clothing with sleeves and trousers or skirts below the knee length are recommended. Since this is a religious site – shoes should be removed before entering. You could wear socks if you wish to.*

### Destination Information

**Dambulla Cave Temple** - First became significant when it was used as a refuge for King Valagambahu in 1st century BC. Concealed here by the local monks upon returning from exile to his throne at Anuradhapura, Valagambahu showed his gratitude by building a magnificent cave temple for them, which consists of a complex of Buddhist image houses. Its rock ceiling is one large sweep of colourful frescoes, some of which date back over 2,000 years, which depict Buddhist mythology, and the tales of the Buddha's previous births.

**The Sri Lankan garden** - Spread over 15 and a half acres towards the top of a mountain, boasting incredible views of the Aluvihare Mountains.

**Temple of the Tooth Relic** - A sacred tooth relic of the Lord Buddha was brought to Sri Lanka in 4th Century A.D. and has ever since been the symbol of sovereignty for the Sinhalese kings. Although the tooth relic cannot be seen within the temple, on the Esala full moon day of July/August each year, the sacred tooth relic, encased in a golden casket, is taken in procession through Kandy's streets for all to see.

**Day 6: Kandy**

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast take a boat ride on Kandy Lake, giving you breathtaking views of the picturesque city, and from where you can observe a variety of bird species such as the Indian cormorants, wood storks and pelicans.

Enjoy a relaxing afternoon at your hotel before heading out this evening for a walk in Udawattekele rainforest.

**Destination Information**

**Kandy** - Kandy is situated 500m above sea level and is known for its culture and beauty. It is a sacred Buddhist city, famous for the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, Dalada Maligawa. Each year the tooth relic is honoured in Esala Perahera, a religious parade with elephants, drummers and dancers performing in the streets.

**Day 7: Nuwara Eliya**

Meals: B, L, D

Today after breakfast you will be taken to Nuwara Eliya by train. This train journey is approximately 4 hours.

*It is important to note that there could be delays in the train timings, which is beyond our control. Should we not be able to obtain train tickets then this journey will be done by road.*

You will be collected from the station and taken to the hotel in Nuwara Eliya, to check in relax for the rest of your day enjoying the hotel facilities including a fabulous High Tea at the Grand Hotel before your Christmas Eve dinner.

**Destination Information**

**Nuwara Eliya** - Situated at 2,000m above sea level, Nuwara Eliya is the main hill station of Sri Lanka and is known as 'Little England', as it resembles an English country town. It is considered to be an excellent location for tea production due to the cool climate, which creates tea with a unique flavour.

**Day 8: Christmas in Nuwara Eliya**

Meals: B, L, D

Merry Christmas!

After breakfast you will be taken for a tea plantation experience dressed in sarees (The attire worn by tea pluckers to pluck tea).



Your experience starts in the plantation itself with the tea pluckers, giving you the opportunity to learn how to pluck tea then visit the factory where ancient machines pre-dating the industrial revolution wither, roll and dry the tea, followed by learning how to taste different variety of tea. There is normally a little time at the end of the tour for a tea tasting, either of one specific type of tea or occasionally of the various specialties of that factory. Much like a wine tasting, a traditional tea tasting would involve drinking tea (without milk), swilling it around the mouth to get the taste.

Return to the hotel and celebrate the festivities with a scrumptious Christmas day lunch.

**Day 9: Udawalawe**

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast proceed to Yala, where on your way you will visit Udawalawe Elephant Transit Home and participate in the process of curd making. Journey time will be approximately 3 hours.



Though buffalo curd is a quintessential favourite in the Sri Lankan pantry, its arduous journey, from teat to table, is often unheeded. Witness the ins and outs of a dairy farm, where buffalo curd production is the chief livelihood of most locals. Assist the farmers in leading the buffalo's to graze or observe the milkmaids at work. Help yourself to a fresh sip of milk after trying your hand milking a buffalo. Lend a helping hand to the farmers to carry the pots of milk back to their houses and study how the curd is made the traditional way.

Dust off this Sri Lankan traditional experience by finally relishing on a fresh pot of curd sweetened with treacle.

**Destination Information**

**The Elephant Transit Home** - This home helps to care for injured elephants from all over Sri Lanka. Supported by the Born Free Foundation, the complex is a halfway house for orphaned elephants. After rehabilitation, the elephants are released back into the wild, many into the Uda Walawe National Park.

**Day 10: Yala National Park**

Meals: B, L, D

Early morning, and later this afternoon, you will be taken for a jeep safari at Yala National park, where you will embark on an adventure safari through the park.

**Destination Information**

**Yala National Park** - The largest National Park in Sri Lanka. It is located approximately 24km Northeast of Tissamaharama. Yala is the best location to sight and photograph the rare and remarkable leopards. Other highlights of Yala include the herd of wild elephants, bears, wild boars, buffalos, deer, crocodiles and many species of birds. The vegetation ranges from open parkland to dense jungle. There are also an abundance of water supply for animals and birds ranging from waterholes, streams, small lakes to lagoons.

**Day 11: Hikkaduwa**

Meals: B, L, D

Today you will travel 3 hours to Hikkaduwa, where you will check into your hotel and relax for the rest of the day at leisure, enjoying the hotel facilities.

**Destination Information**

**Hikkaduwa** – A seaside resort town in southwestern Sri Lanka. Popular for its beaches that are lined with restaurants and bars.

**Day 12: Galle Fort**

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast you will be visiting Galle Fort, and the journey will take about 1 hour.

During the tour of Galle, you will have the opportunity to visit Galle Fort, Old Dutch Church and Walk along the Rampart.

**Destination Information**

**Galle** - Recognised as the Sothern Capital (116 km from Colombo) and is home to the popular Fort called "Santa Cruz", which is listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The Fort which was initially built by the Portuguese in 1619 has been expanded and further developed by the Dutch and the British. Galle was the main seaport of Sri Lanka before Colombo and still handles shipping and cruising yachts to present.

**Galle Lighthouse** - Stunningly located on the edge of Galle Fort, the lighthouse is one of 14 left in Sri Lanka and is considered the oldest.

**The Dutch Reformed Church** - Originally founded in 1640, the present building dates from 1752 to 1755. The floor of the church is covered with granite tombstones and there is a small graveyard on the premises.

**Day 13: Kosgoda Turtle Sanctuary**

Meals: B, L, D

You are off to visit the Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery, which you will reach after approximately 1 and a half hours transfer.

Stop enroute to visit a cinnamon plantation. Visit the peeling and oil extraction shed where local peelers gather to process cinnamon. Learn all about the uses and benefits of cinnamon and its grading. At the top, there is a breath-taking view, and the chance to try your hand with the tools of the trade in an Ambalama.



Go on to visit the turtle hatchery in Sri Lanka is one of the most recommended things to do. The small town of Kosgoda on the southern strip is famous for its turtle hatchery. Victor Hasselblad turtle research and conservation centre, Kosgoda, is the 1<sup>st</sup> turtle conservation centre in Sri Lanka since 1978. It is privately owned but under observation of the Wildlife Department of Sri Lanka.

At the hatchery, fishermen are paid for rescuing the vulnerable eggs which they collect at night, along the sandy beach. Visitors can witness the exceptional sight of them hatching or even see tanks filled with new born hatchlings. After being fed, the baby turtles are returned back to the sea where they are released when they are 2-4 days old. Once placed on the beach, most baby sea turtles start moving towards the water, flapping their tiny flippers. Children in particular love to visit the hatchery and watch the turtles being released back into their natural habitat.

**Day 14: Travel to Colombo**

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast and checking out of the hotel you travel the 2,5 hours to Colombo.

After check-in you have time to relax before the city tour, which includes a drive past the busy commercial areas, tree-lined residential Cinnamon Gardens. Visit the fort of the former British administrative centre, Sea Street – the Goldsmith's quarters, the bazaar area, a Hindu Temple with elaborate stone carvings and Dutch Church of Wolfendhal dating back to 1749.

Enjoy a New Year's eve dinner at the hotel.

**Day 15: Colombo at leisure**

Meals: B, L, D

Spend New Year's Day at leisure, discovering the many gems of Colombo.

Depending on the time of your flight tomorrow, you may be transferred to the airport after dinner in time for your flight scheduled to depart very early tomorrow morning.

**Day 16: Depart Colombo**

Meals: B

Fly back to Australia, arriving the same day.

*Please note: If you choose land only option, or a later flight departing Colombo, your check out is included until 10am on day 16. For any additional nights or late check out, please contact our reservations.*



## SRI LANKA TRAVEL INFORMATION

### VISAS:

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Entry visas are required by all visitors to Sri Lanka and Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back in Australia.

For the latest information on visa procedures, processing times and requirements, please kindly refer to our website <https://www.wendywutours.com.au/help-and-advice/passports-and-visas/>

Please note, the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate, Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa. Wendy Wu Tours does not accept responsibility for lost or undelivered items.

### INSURANCE:

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It is a condition of your booking that you are insured for the duration of your trip. We recommend comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, medical requirements, luggage, repatriations and additional expenses. At a minimum, the policy is required to cover medical requirements including medical evacuations / repatriations. The choice of insurer is yours.

We strongly suggest you purchase insurance at the time you pay your deposit. This is because cancellation fees and charges are payable from that time. We may request you to provide evidence that you have taken out and paid for a policy to comply with this condition. If you fail to provide a certificate of currency of insurance within a reasonable time after our request, then this will be deemed a cancellation by you and standard cancellation fees will apply.

### LUGGAGE:

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All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

### GROUP SIZE:

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Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by a national escort. There will usually be no more than 28 travellers in a group, although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling. All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 8 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so. For groups with fewer than 10 travellers, departures will operate with local guides only.

### DEVELOPMENT IN SRI LANKA:

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Although Sri Lanka is developing quickly, it still lacks the international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. Concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in Australia. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in Australia; for example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade. All our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday, so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and follow advice from your guide.

### EATING IN SRI LANKA:

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Sri Lanka is home to a melting pot of cuisine. Throughout years of colonisation and influence from other countries and a history of spice trading, Sri Lanka has cultivated its own distinct flavour. Meals as outlined in the itinerary (excluding drinks) are included in our tour. Please be aware that dishes selected for your meals reflect the cooking styles and signature dishes of the local area you are in.

Dishes served in restaurants on our tours are varied. Some will be vegetable-based and some meat-based. Our restaurants are aware of the western palate – there are plenty of non-spiced options. Dishes will usually be served either as a set menu with a few choices, or in a buffet style to allow you to sample many different options.

We recommend that when it comes to Sri Lankan food, you stay open-minded and try to be adventurous!

### ACCOMMODATION:

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All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, and a telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Local Guide or National Escort.

Your accommodation has been selected for convenience of location, comfort, or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family-run guesthouse in a smaller town or a heritage-type hotel. In remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard but do please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between Australia and Sri Lanka. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards are met. Please be aware that there are heightened security measures being carried out at all hotels, on guests and vehicles entering the properties.

### SOUVENIRS:

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We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs, so we include some stops at museums or exhibitions that demonstrates a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places that hold local interest. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance.

### PORTAGE:

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Please be aware that portage is not included on our tours in Sri Lanka. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within the hotel and when using transportation like trains and coaches.

### TIPPING POLICY:

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Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and Sri Lanka is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time. To avoid any inconvenience Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your national escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed amongst your main service providers (for example local guides and drivers) throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the national escort. Any other tipping, such as tips for bathroom attendants or hotel porters that are taking luggage to your room, is at your discretion based on satisfaction of services received, as are gratuities for additional requested special services.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy, but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour, we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour

### TRANSPORT:

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**Coaches:** Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Main and inner-city roads in Sri Lanka have a reputation for being very congested. For this reason, it may not always be possible to return to your hotel after sightseeing to freshen up before going to the restaurant for dinner. Roads in Sri Lanka have generally been improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road - not just one or two kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the sections above are approximations only.

### APPROPRIATE DRESS:

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When visiting temples or mosques, both men and women should dress in conservative, non-revealing clothing. Full-length trousers with a shirt or t-shirt for men; and pants or skirts well below the knee with a top that covers the shoulders and upper arms for women. Women might also consider carrying a 'modesty shawl' in their daypack – this could be a sarong or light scarf – which they can wear over their shoulders and heads to feel more comfortable while sightseeing at mosques.

Religious sites and homes throughout Sri Lanka – for Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Muslims, or Buddhists to name a few – require all visitors to remove their shoes to enter. Even if you then need to walk outdoors, over hot or rough ground, you will not be allowed to wear shoes. You will often find shoe storage rooms near the entrance of a site where it is customary to leave your shoes near the entrance. Occasionally there are 'shoe minders' who will offer to keep your shoes safe for a 'tip' – this is not compulsory so each customer can choose to tip for this service or not. If you do not want to remove your shoes, you will have to remain outside. We recommend shoes that easily slip on and off, and carry a pair of thick, old socks in your daypack, which you can wear to protect your feet from any rough or hot surfaces. The itinerary above will indicate when you need to consider this.

### CLIMBING STEPS:

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Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defense against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries, who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

### VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

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We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful [www.travelvax.com.au](http://www.travelvax.com.au)

### BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

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We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with [www.smartraveller.gov.au](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au) as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up-to-date information about your destination on the same website.

### AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

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Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice including a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

Updated: April 2026