



CLASSIC SRI LANKA & MALDIVES BEACH STAY

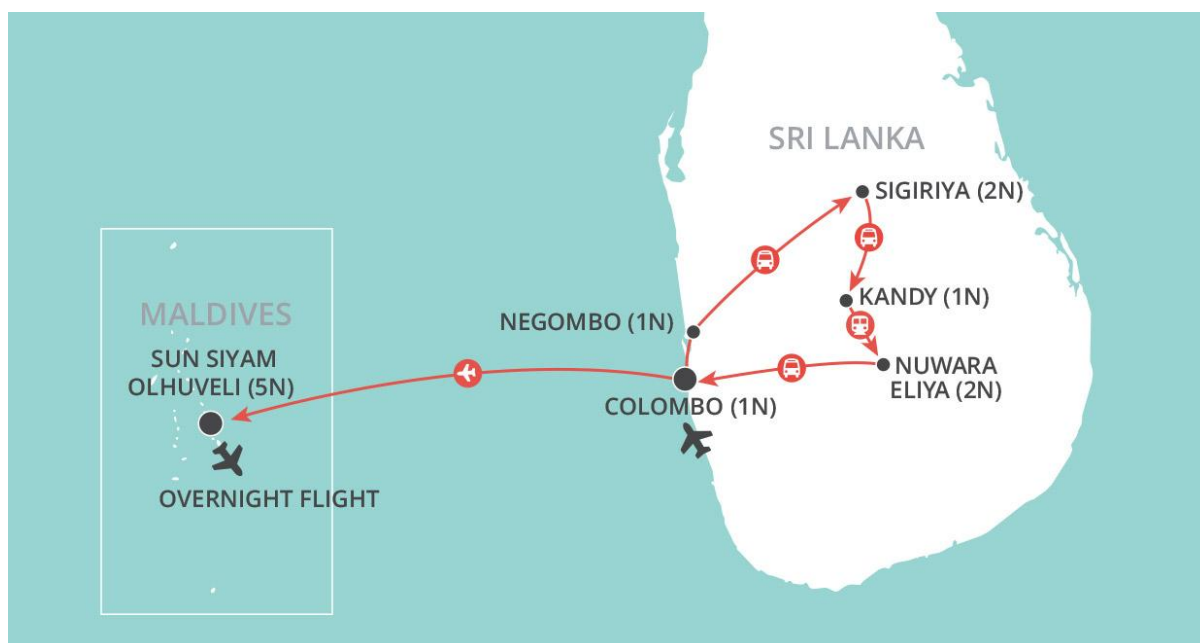
Tour & Beach | 14 Days | Physical Level 1

Negombo – Sigiriya – Kandy – Nuwara Eliya – Colombo – Maldives

Discover the cultural and scenic highlights of Sri Lanka. Begin in Negombo, a relaxed seaside town known for its colonial heritage and fishing communities, before travelling inland to the Cultural Triangle to marvel at the ancient Sigiriya Rock Fortress. Continue to Kandy and soak up the rich traditions of this historic hill capital. Journey onwards to Nuwara Eliya, where rolling tea plantations and cool mountain air create a landscape reminiscent of rural England. Conclude your Sri Lankan adventure in the vibrant capital of Colombo, before flying to the idyllic Maldives, where pristine beaches, crystal-clear waters and abundant marine life provide the perfect tropical escape.

- Summit the spectacular Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- Safari through Minneriya National Park
- Visit Kandy's sacred temple
- Wander through the historic city of Colombo
- Relax and unwind in the Maldives

TOUR MAP



CLASSIC SRI LANKA & MALDIVES INCLUSIONS:

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

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

TOUR & BEACH:

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Southern Asia on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and local guides throughout the tour section of the itinerary (Day 1 – 7), whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience. The beach segment of the itinerary (Day 8 – 12) will be on an all-inclusive basis and will allow you to enjoy time at leisure. This perfectly balanced itinerary combines Sri Lanka's most famous sights with laid-back Maldivian bliss, offering the ideal mix of exploration and relaxation.

To book call **1300 727 998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit wendywutours.com.au

PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

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. Classic Sri Lanka & Maldives is rated 1 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 temples will involve climbing several steps, often without handrails
- You will be required to get on and off boats and rickshaws on certain days
- Climbing Sigiriya Rock involves 1200 steps, with sections near the top being steep and narrow.

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:

The tour is 14 days in duration including return international flights or 13 days in duration based on 'Land Only'.

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.

Join the tour on Day 1 in Negombo and end the tour on Day 13 in Maldives.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

It is our intention is 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 will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive Negombo

Meals: D

Arrive in Colombo where you will be met by your Local Guide from Wendy Wu Tours, to be transferred approximately 45 minutes, to your hotel.

You have the rest of the day to relax or explore as you wish before dinner tonight at your hotel.

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

Negombo - Negombo was once an important commercial trade centre, well known for offering the best cinnamon in the world. Negombo was one of the first towns taken by the Portuguese, only to be captured by the Dutch in 1640 and then recaptured by the Portuguese some months later. The British eventually took control of the town in 1796.

Day 2: Sigiriya

Meals: B, L, D

Following on from breakfast, embark on a 3.5hour journey to reach Sigiriya.

Immerse yourself in the charm of Sevanagama Village, where nature blends seamlessly with culture and rural life. Embark on a serene catamaran ride across the lake, before journeying via tractor into the heart of the village, home to lush paddy fields and vibrant flower gardens.



Your time at Sevanagama Village involves walking through paddy fields and an encounter with locals, who will show you how to cook authentic Sri Lankan cuisine before you are able to savour such flavours for lunch. Enjoy a tuk tuk ride back to the starting point and continue with a late afternoon pottery class, a tradition rooted in the island's cultural heritage.

Today's experiences will last approximately 7 hours.

Please note: This is an authentic rural experience and involves a handcrafted wooden catamaran ride, a tractor journey along village tracks, and walking on uneven terrain. Conditions may be bumpy or dusty at times, which adds to the charm of the experience.

Destination Information:

Sigiriya - The ancient city of Sigiriya lies at the 180m summit of the granite peak known as the 'Lion's Rock'. One of the most dramatic sites in Sri Lanka, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1982.

Sevangama Village – A small rural community located near Sigiriya in Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle and surrounded by farmland, reservoirs and lush forests, it offers an insight into traditional village life largely unchanged for generations. The village provides an authentic glimpse of rural Sri Lankan culture, contrasting with the nearby historic sites such as Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

Day 3: Sigiriya Rock Fortress

Meals: B, L, D

Today you will explore the renowned Rock Fortress, also known as Lion Rock. The ascent involves climbing many steps, most of which have railings, leading to the top of the Rock Fortress.

The climb is quite steep with approximately 1,200 steps, demanding extra caution. Remember to carry ample water supply and wear a sun hat for protection. Plan to spend roughly 3 - 4 hours here.



Be mindful of local individuals offering assistance as they may request a fee. For those not wishing to climb all the way to the top, you can enjoy a relaxed walk through the gardens.

After lunch set off on a 3-4 hour game drive, in a 4x4 vehicle, through Minneriya National Park, where you will have the chance to spot wild elephants, buffalo, crocodiles and more. Afterwards, enjoy a sundowner with a Gin & Tonic in hand.

Destination Information

Rock Fortress - Built by King Kashyapa, the rock fortress is also known as the 'Lion Rock' because a massive lion carved out of the rock once sat at the entrance to the palace. Today only the lion's paws remain. On the summit are the foundations of the Royal Palace built for King Kashyapa, along with a pool, sunrise-facing throne constructed from solid rock and panoramic views of the town below. You will also see the three distinct landscaped gardens; the Water Gardens, Boulder Gardens and Terrace Gardens.

Minneriya National Park – A renowned wildlife reserve in Sri Lanka's North Central Province, best known for "The Gathering," one of Asia's largest seasonal congregations of Asian elephants. Centred around the ancient Minneriya Tank—an irrigation reservoir dating back to the 3rd century AD—the park's mix of grassland, scrub, and forest supports diverse wildlife including deer, buffalo, macaques, and over 150 bird species.

Day 4: Dambulla – Matale – Kandy

Meals: B, L, D

Start your day with a visit to the Dambulla Cave Temple. Comprising of five adorned caves and featuring two primary viewing sections, the temple houses unique cave paintings surrounded by 150 statues of Lord Buddha.

Please note, the temple entails a steep incline with around 800 steps. You will spend approximately 2-3 hours here.



Continue to Matale, approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes away. Here you will visit a spice garden, learning about the different plants harvested, their uses and how they contribute to Sri Lankan cuisine and culture.

Your journey of 1.5 hours continues to Kandy. On arrival head to the Temple of the Tooth Relic, nestled in the heart of the city and home to a sacred relic of Lord Buddha. This evening, witness a Kandy Cultural Show, featuring traditional folk dances, drumming and traditions that have been practiced for generations.

Please note: To reach Dambulla Caves, there is a short, but steep incline with steps. As a sign of respect please dress modestly, with clothing covering your shoulders, arms and legs. Sarongs or scarves can be rented if necessary. Shoes are not permitted to be worn so please take an extra pair of socks with you.

Destination Information

Dambulla - A historic town in central Sri Lanka, known for its well-preserved cave temple complex and its role as a cultural and religious centre. The town is surrounded by scenic countryside and serves as a key gateway to the Cultural Triangle and nearby heritage sites.

Dambulla Cave Temple - Also known as the Golden Temple of Dambulla, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is Sri Lanka's largest and best-preserved cave temple complex. Dating back over 2,000 years, it features five caves adorned with intricate murals and over 150 Buddha statues.

Matale - A vibrant agricultural town located between Dambulla and Kandy, Matale is renowned for its spice gardens and lush plantations. The region offers insight into Sri Lanka's spice cultivation, including cinnamon, cardamom, and pepper.

Temple of the Tooth Relic - One of Buddhism's most sacred sites, this temple houses a revered relic believed to be a tooth of the Buddha. Located within the royal palace complex in Kandy, it remains an important pilgrimage destination and plays a central role in Sri Lankan religious traditions.

Kandy - Kandy is a UNESCO-listed city set amid lush hills in central Sri Lanka and was the last capital of the ancient kings and is known for its cultural heritage, scenic lake, and religious significance.

Day 5: Kandy - Nuwara Eliya

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel this morning before embarking on a scenic train journey of approximately 3 hours to Nanu Oya. Watch as Sri Lanka's luscious hills pass you by, alongside panoramic views of tea plantations, mist-covered mountains and cascading waterfalls.



On arrival, check in to your hotel before commencing on a tuk tuk ride this evening through Nuwara Eliya, often referred to as "Little England" due to its colonial era architecture.

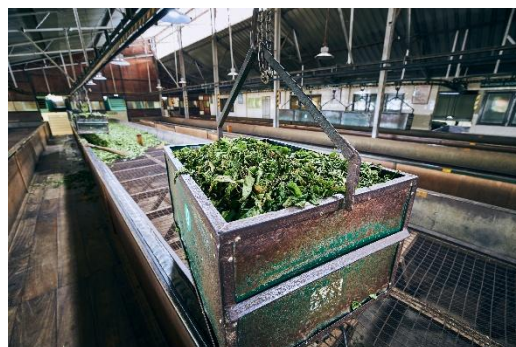
Destination Information

Nuwara Eliya - Nuwara Eliya is a picturesque hill town in Sri Lanka's central highlands, renowned for its cool climate, rolling tea plantations, and colonial-era charm. Often referred to as "Little England," it features well-kept gardens, scenic landscapes, and historic architecture, serving as the heart of the tea industry and a base for exploring the surrounding countryside.

Day 6: Nuwara Eliya

Meals: B, L, D

Your day begins with a visit to a wonderful Tea Factory, where you will discover how tea is made, from rolling, fermenting, drying, cutting and then sieving to grading the tea leaves. You will spend approximately 1 hour here.



Afterwards, enjoy a high tea experience at the Grand Hotel Nuwara Eliya. Delight in freshly brewed Ceylon teas, finger sandwiches, scones and more, as the cool hill countryside surrounds you.

Day 7: Nuwara Eliya – Colombo

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast, transfer to Colombo, a journey of approximately 4 hours and 30 minutes.

Take a panoramic city tour of Colombo, Sri Lanka's capital. Highlights of the tour include the Colombo Museum, Independence Square, the vibrant markets of Pettah and the scenic Galle Face Green promenade along the ocean.



Continue with a guided street food tour, where you will visit some of the city's best local food spots and sample a variety of authentic Sri Lankan snacks and delicacies.

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.

Pettah Market - A colourful series of open-air markets and bazaars located in the Pettah district, selling everything from fruit, vegetables and fabrics to household goods.

Day 8: Colombo – Maldives, Malé

Meals: B,L,D

Today you will fly to Maldives with the rest of your group, a journey of approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Upon arrival, you will be met by a Wendy Wu Tours representative who will escort you to your boat transfer to the island of Malé.

Check in at your hotel, where you will be staying for the next 5 nights at leisure.



Please note, all guided touring ends on this day. On arrival in Malé, you will be met by a representative who will escort you to your transfer. The remainder of your time in the Maldives will be at leisure with no escorted touring included. Should you need any further assistance, an English-speaking representative will be contactable.

You will be travelling to Maldives with the same companions as on the previous days of your tour.

Destination Information

Maldives – Renowned for its crystal-clear waters, white-sand beaches, and vibrant marine life, the Maldives is a world-class destination for relaxation, waters sports and diving.

Malé – Malé is the country's political, economic, and transport hub, and is home to key landmarks including mosques, markets, and the waterfront harbour.

Days 9 -12: Maldives Beach Stay

Meals: All Inclusive

Spend the next few days at leisure in a relaxing retreat within South Malé Atoll, the 4* Sun Siyam Olhuveli resort.

Spanning across three lush islands, Sun Siyam Olhuveli is a stunning beach and spa resort set amidst sparkling turquoise waters and white-sand beaches. The resort provides an idyllic stay, perfect for aquatic adventures, romantic sunsets and pure relaxation along with tropical charm.

Time at leisure can be spent snorkelling, playing tennis or perhaps relaxing at the resort's spa or adults-only infinity pool. Sun Siyam Olhuveli also offers an extensive culinary programme, with multiple restaurants and bars on-site, serving tantalising flavours from around the world, which you will be able to enjoy on an all-inclusive basis.

Please note, facilities and activities are at an additional cost and will require an advance registration which can be made with reception upon arrival.



Days 13 - 14: Depart Maldives

Meals: B

This morning, after breakfast you will transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport, according to the departure time of your international flight.

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



SRI LANKA & MALDIVES TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS:

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.

For the Maldives, you will be issued a free 30-day tourist visa on arrival.

INSURANCE:

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.

EATING IN SRI LANKA & MALDIVES:

Sri Lankan cuisine has cultivated its own distinct flavour over the years thanks to years of colonisation, influence from other nations and a history of spice trading. 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 well 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.

Eating in the Maldives is a delightful experience. The cuisine here offers a rich blend of flavours influenced by local traditions and international cuisines. Dishes in the Maldives are heavily influenced by seafood, with an abundance of fresh fish like tuna, grouper, snapper, and

barracuda prepared in various mouth-watering ways, including grilling, currying, or with coconut-based sauces. Coconut plays a significant role in Maldivian cooking, adding richness and flavour to many dishes, whether it's in the form of creamy coconut milk or grated coconut. Spices are also a key component, with local blends that include cumin, cardamom, chili, and cinnamon, adding aromatic complexity to the cuisine. Traditional dishes like Rihaakuru, a fish paste enjoyed with rice or flatbread, and Mas Huni, a breakfast dish made with shredded tuna, coconut, and onions, offer authentic flavours to savour. Alongside the local delicacies, visitors can indulge in a diverse range of international cuisines offered in resorts and tourist areas, making the dining experience in the Maldives a true gastronomic adventure. Whether enjoying a beachfront dinner, sipping on refreshing fruit juices or cocktails made from tropical fruits, or experiencing a unique dining setting like an underwater restaurant, eating in the Maldives is a feast for both the senses and the soul.

We recommend that when dining in Sri Lanka and the Maldives, you stay open-minded and try to be adventurous.

DEVELOPMENT IN SRI LANKA & MALDIVES:

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 of our suppliers meet local safety standards at 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.

The Maldives has been undergoing various development efforts across different sectors to boost its economy, infrastructure, and social well-being. It's essential to remember that the information provided may not cover more recent developments. Also important to note is that the Maldives is a small island nation facing unique challenges, including vulnerability to climate change and environmental issues. The government and various international organisations continuously work to balance development with sustainability to safeguard the country's natural beauty and resources for future generations.

ACCOMMODATION:

Your accommodation has been selected for convenience of location, comfort or character. It can range from a business hotel in one city to a family-run guesthouse in a smaller town or a heritage-type hotel. Please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality exist between Australia and Sri Lanka. Rest assured that our staff and partners regularly inspect all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours to ensure that standards are met. All hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and a telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic, and hotel rooms' power is often turned off while guests are out. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort or Local Guide.

4* SUN SIYAM OLUVELI IN MALDIVES:

Sun Siyam Olhuveli is a large, contemporary beach and spa resort set across three interconnected islands in South Malé Atoll and is located approximately 45–50 minutes by speedboat from Malé. The resort combines expansive white-sand beaches, turquoise lagoons, and lush tropical vegetation, with a layout that includes dedicated adults-only areas alongside family-friendly zones.

Due to its position within the South Malé Atoll, the resort enjoys a prime lagoon setting with direct access to coral reefs and marine life. The surrounding waters are rich in biodiversity, with opportunities to spot manta rays, dolphins, reef fish, and even whale sharks on excursions.

The resort features a wide range of accommodation options, from beachfront villas to overwater suites, many with private pools and direct lagoon access. Dining is also a major highlight, with a wide selection of restaurants and bars offering international and regional cuisine. Across the resort there are multiple dining venues, ranging from casual beachside eateries to fine-dining experiences.

Facilities available at Sun Siyam Olhuveli include:

- Multiple swimming pools, including an adults-only infinity pool
- Full-service spa offering holistic treatments
- Fitness centre and sports facilities (including tennis)
- Dive centre with direct access to the house reef
- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the resort
- Plus much more!

Activities available at Sun Siyam Olhuveli include:

- Snorkelling and scuba diving on vibrant coral reefs
- Water sports such as windsurfing, jet skiing, and parasailing
- Deep-sea fishing trips
- Island-hopping excursions to nearby local islands
- Beach and recreational activities on land
- Plus much more!

Please note, these services are available at an additional cost and can be arranged with reception upon check-in.

SOUVENIRS:

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.

TIPPING POLICY:

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world, with Sri Lanka & Maldives being 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.

Please note, the above-mentioned tipping policy applies to the guided touring section of the itinerary (Day 1-8). Tipping for the remainder of your trip is discretionary (Day 9-13).

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.

MALDIVES:

Tipping in the Maldives is generally not expected or required, as most resorts and hotels include a service charge in their bills. However, tipping is still appreciated as a gesture of gratitude for excellent service. If you choose to tip, here are some guidelines:

Resorts and Hotels: As mentioned, many resorts and hotels in the Maldives include a service charge in their bills. This service charge is often distributed among the staff. If you feel that the service provided was exceptional and you want to show appreciation, you can give a small cash tip directly to the staff who served you. While there are no set rules, a tip of around US\$5 to US\$10 per day per person is considered generous.

Tour Guides and Boat Crew: If you take excursions or go on guided tours, it is customary to tip the tour guides and boat crew if you are happy with their services. A tip of around US\$5 to US\$10 per person for guides and US\$1 to US\$2 per person for boat crew members is a typical amount.

Spa and Wellness Services: For spa treatments or wellness services, a tip of around 10% of the service cost is appreciated by the therapists.

Diving and Water Sports: If you participate in diving or water sports activities, consider tipping the instructors or guides. A tip of around US\$5 to US\$10 per person is a common practice.

Airport and Porters: At the airports, or if porters assist you with your luggage, it is customary to give a small tip of around US\$1 to US\$2 per bag.

Remember that tipping in the Maldives is entirely discretionary, and there is no obligation to do so. The staff at resorts and hotels are generally well compensated, so tipping is seen more as a kind gesture rather than a necessity. If you choose to tip, use US dollars or the local currency (Maldivian rufiyaa) for tipping, as other foreign currencies may not be easily exchanged.

TRANSPORT:

Vehicles: Vehicles with air conditioning are used for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Road conditions in Sri Lanka have improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of the 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.

Speedboats: Speedboat transfers in the Maldives are a popular and convenient way to travel between the airport and various resort islands. As the Maldives is an archipelago consisting of over 1,000 coral islands, speedboats offer a quick and efficient mode of transportation, especially for resorts located relatively close to the airport or on nearby islands.

Speedboat schedules are typically coordinated with flight arrivals and departures. The resort will arrange the transfer according to your flight details; however, speedboat transfers can be shared with other guests depending on the resort's location and the number of guests arriving or departing.

Operators in the Maldives prioritise safety. Speedboats are equipped with life jackets, and all appropriate safety measures are taken.

APPROPRIATE DRESS:

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 trousers 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. When visiting Jain temples, you must not wear or take in any leather items such as belts, watches, camera straps, purses and shoes.

Religious sites and homes throughout Sri Lanka 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 a site's entrance where it is customary to leave your shoes near the threshold. Occasionally there are 'shoe minders' who will offer to keep your shoes safe for a 'tip' – this is not compulsory; you 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.

MALDIVES: In the Maldives, dressing is generally relaxed, casual and typical of the tropical beach resort environment. On resort islands and beaches, casual beachwear (i.e. swimwear, sarongs, shorts, t-shirts, tank tops, sundresses, and flip-flops) is common attire for daytime activities. Many resort restaurants and bars also have a laid-back dress code, allowing guests to wear casual resort wear during meal times. However, some upscale restaurants may require a more formal dress code in the evenings, such as smart-casual clothing or resort-chic outfits. When visiting local inhabited islands or religious sites, it is essential to be mindful of cultural and religious sensitivities. In these settings, dressing more modestly is respectful, with women covering their shoulders and wearing knee length or longer skirts or dresses and men avoiding sleeveless tops. Regardless of the setting, it's important to prioritise sun protection by wearing sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses while enjoying the Maldives' beautiful outdoor activities and breathtaking sun-drenched landscapes.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

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

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smarttraveller.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:

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: June 2026