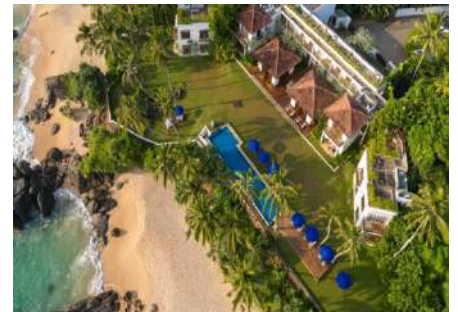




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LUX EXPERIENCE

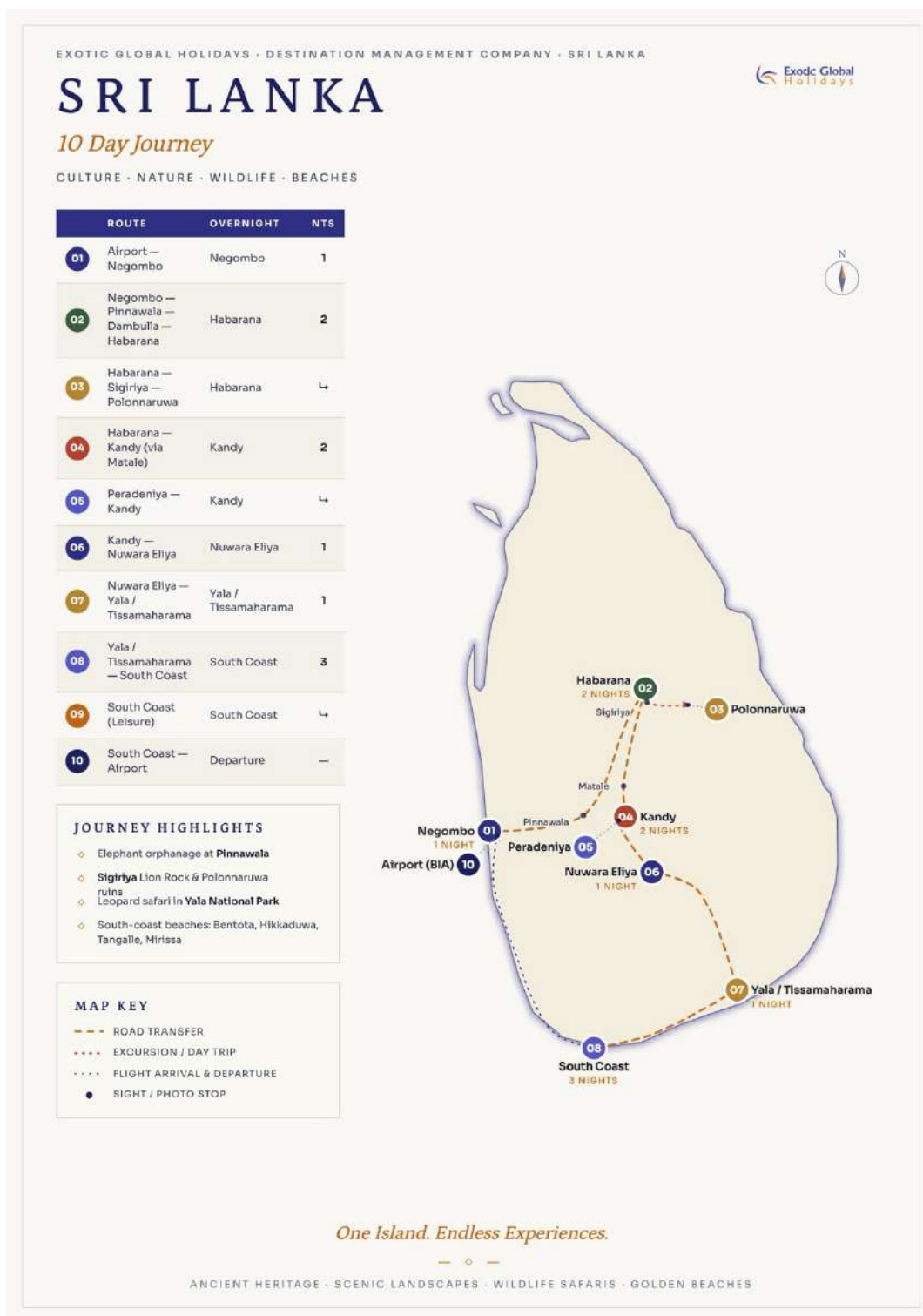
Ten days across one island — ancient cities and living temples, elephants in the wild, mist and tea gardens in the highlands, and a slow finish on the palm-fringed southern coast.

EXOTIC GLOBAL HOLIDAYS · CRAFTING AUTHENTIC
EXPERIENCES THROUGH SRI LANKA

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02 · THE ROUTE

Your journey at a glance



Ayubowan

Thank you for choosing Exotic Global Holidays to shape your Sri Lankan journey. As the island's premier destination management company, we build authentic, unhurried travel around the people who take it — your interests, your pace, your comfort and your budget.

Eleven days are given to Sri Lanka's history, wildlife and landscapes, staying only at the island's most celebrated design hotels. You begin near the coast at Kotugoda, climb Sigiriya Rock Fortress and watch elephant herds gather at Minneriya, walk the last royal capital of Kandy, wake to mist and tea gardens above Nuwara Eliya, track leopards in Yala, and close with three nights on the palm-fringed shore at Balapitiya.

On the pages that follow you will find the journey day by day — sights, suggested timings, our insider tips, accommodation and everything included. Optional add-ons are marked and guidance given throughout, but the rhythm of each day remains yours to set.

We look forward to welcoming you to the island. Until then, may you travel safely and with great anticipation.

03 · DAY BY DAY

The journey, day by day

DAY	ROUTE	OVERNIGHT	NIGHTS
01	Airport — Kotugoda	Kotugoda	1
02	Kotugoda — Habarana / Sigiriya	Habarana / Sigiriya	2
03	Habarana / Sigiriya	Habarana / Sigiriya	↳
04	Habarana — Kandy	Kandy	2
05	Kandy	Kandy	↳
06	Kandy — Nuwara Eliya	Nuwara Eliya	1
07	Nuwara Eliya — Yala	Yala / Tissamaharama	1
08	Yala — Beach (Balapitiya)	Beach (Balapitiya)	3
09	Beach (Balapitiya)	Beach (Balapitiya)	↳
10	Beach (Balapitiya)	Beach (Balapitiya)	↳
11	Beach — Airport	Departure	—

DAY 01 · ARRIVAL — KOTUGODA

Ayubowan! On arrival at Bandaranaike International Airport, you are met by your Exotic Global Holidays chauffeur-guide and assisted with a smooth transfer to your hotel in nearby Kotugoda — just 10 minutes away. Check in and spend the rest of the day at leisure amid the property's gardens, or head into nearby Negombo for the beach, the Dutch canal and the hundred-year-old St Mary's Church with its painted ceiling. In the evening, a seafood dinner by the shore is the easy way to begin.

TRAVEL TIP KOTUGODA IS A SHORT HOP FROM THE AIRPORT, SO THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH — TAKE THE AFTERNOON SLOWLY. IF YOU HEAD INTO NEGOMBO, THE LELLAMA FISH MARKET IS WORTH AN EARLY LOOK BETWEEN 6 AM AND 8 AM IF YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS.

△ Overnight: Kotugoda · The Wallawwa



DAY 02 · NEGOMBO — HABARANA / SIGIRIYA

After breakfast, check out and drive north through the coconut triangle towards the Cultural Triangle. Break the journey at Dambulla, where a stairway climbs a granite outcrop to the Royal Rock Temple — five linked caves holding more than 150 Buddha images beneath ceilings painted with murals that follow every contour of the living rock. Continue to your hotel near Habarana / Sigiriya in time to settle in before an optional afternoon jeep safari into Minneriya National Park, where herds drawn to the receding reservoir make up what is known as The Gathering, one of the largest concentrations of wild Asian elephants anywhere.

TRAVEL TIP DAMBULLA'S STEPS ARE OPEN STONE AND FIERCELY HOT BY MIDDAY — GO EARLY AND CARRY SOCKS, AS SHOES COME OFF AT THE TOP. DEPENDING ON WATER LEVELS, YOUR GUIDE MAY SWITCH THE SAFARI TO NEIGHBOURING KAUDULLA OR ECO PARK; TRUST THE CALL, AS THE ELEPHANTS MOVE BETWEEN ALL THREE.



△ Overnight: Habarana / Sigiriya · Water Garden Sigiriya · night 1 of 2

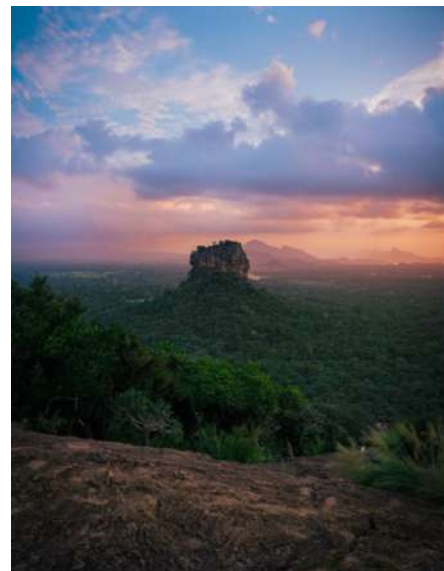


DAY 03 · HABARANA / SIGIRIYA

An early climb up Sigiriya Rock Fortress, the fifth-century citadel King Kasyapa raised on a 200-metre column of rock — water gardens and boulder gardens at the base, the mirror wall and the celebrated frescoes of the Sigiriya maidens halfway up, the giant lion's paws at the final stairway, and the palace foundations and cisterns on the summit with the plains laid out in every direction. In the afternoon, a village experience makes a gentle contrast — a bullock-cart ride, a catamaran crossing of a tank and a rice-and-curry lunch cooked over firewood in a clay pot.

TRAVEL TIP START SIGIRIYA AT 7 AM — BY MID-MORNING THE 1,200 STEPS ARE HOT, CROWDED AND SLOW. WASPS NEST ON THE ROCK FACE, SO KEEP VOICES LOW ON THE UPPER TERRACES; PIDURANGALA OPPOSITE GIVES THE BETTER PHOTOGRAPH OF SIGIRIYA ITSELF IF YOU'D RATHER NOT CLIMB.

△ Overnight: Habarana / Sigiriya · Water Garden Sigiriya · night 2 of 2



DAY 04 · HABARANA — KANDY

Check out after breakfast and head south towards the old royal capital. Break the drive at a Matale-area spice garden, where cinnamon, cardamom, pepper and vanilla grow within a few paces of each other. Nearer Kandy, the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya spread over sixty hectares of avenue palms, an orchid house and a giant Javan fig, held in a loop of the Mahaweli River. Arrive in Kandy in the afternoon with time to walk the lake path.

TRAVEL TIP ASK US IN ADVANCE IF YOU'D LIKE A SHORT STOP AT ALUVIHARE ROCK TEMPLE, THE TRADITIONAL HOME OF SRI LANKA'S PALM-LEAF MANUSCRIPTS, ON THE WAY INTO KANDY.

△ Overnight: Kandy · Jetwing Kandy Gallery · night 1 of 2



DAY 05 · KANDY

A day given to the last capital of the Sinhalese kings, ringed by hills around its lake. The Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic is the spiritual centre of the island and of the Buddhist world beyond it; time your visit for one of the daily pooja ceremonies, when drummers and horn players lead the opening of the shrine and pilgrims press forward with lotus flowers. Add the covered market and craft workshops of the old town, the white Bahirawakanda Buddha looking down over the rooftops, a gem museum and lapidary, and the shaded forest paths of Udawattakele behind the temple. In the evening, a Kandyan cultural performance brings drummers, masked dancers and fire-walkers to the stage.

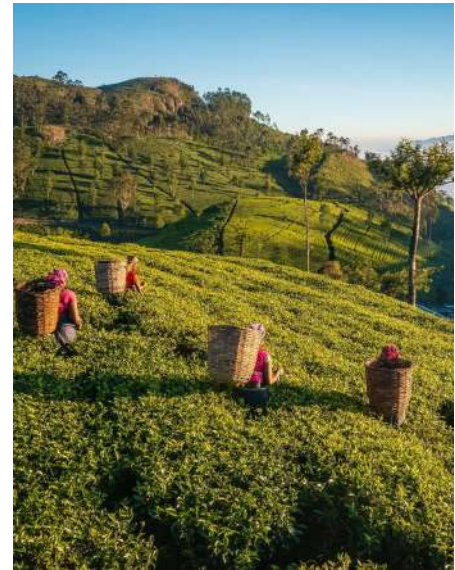


TRAVEL TIP THE TOOTH RELIC TEMPLE ENFORCES ITS DRESS CODE STRICTLY — WHITE OR LIGHT CLOTHING, SHOULDERS AND KNEES COVERED, SHOES AND HATS LEFT AT THE COUNTER. POOJA TIMES ARE ROUGHLY 5.30 AM, 9.30 AM AND 6.30 PM; ARRIVE THIRTY MINUTES EARLY FOR THE CULTURAL SHOW TO GET A SEAT NEAR THE FRONT.

△ Overnight: Kandy · Jetwing Kandy Gallery · night 2 of 2

DAY 06 · KANDY — NUWARA ELIYA

After breakfast, climb out of Kandy into the tea country. Ramboda Falls drops in two tiers beside the highway, and viewpoints open over the Kothmale valley as the road gains height. Break at a working tea factory and plantation to follow the leaf from plucking through withering, rolling and firing to the cup, then taste the difference between grades in the tasting room. Arrive in Nuwara Eliya, the town the British built to feel like home, in the afternoon — time for a stroll or a pedal boat on Gregory Lake before the light goes.



TEA COUNTRY

TRAVEL TIP PACK A FLEECE OR JACKET IN YOUR DAY BAG RATHER THAN THE BOOT — NUWARA ELIYA SITS ABOVE 1,800 METRES AND DROPS TO SINGLE DIGITS AFTER DARK. KEEN FOR HORTON PLAINS AND WORLD'S END? LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE, AS IT NEEDS A VERY EARLY START AND THIS ITINERARY ALLOWS ONLY ONE NIGHT HERE.

△ Overnight: Nuwara Eliya · Camelia Hills

DAY 07 · NUWARA ELIYA — YALA

After breakfast, descend through Ella — the photogenic stone span of the Nine Arch Bridge, the short and genuinely easy walk up Little Adam's Peak for a view straight down Ella Gap, and the cool spray of Ravana Falls beside the road. Continue into the dry lowlands to Tissamaharama, on the edge of leopard country, in time for an optional afternoon jeep safari into Yala National Park.

TRAVEL TIP IF YOU TAKE THE AFTERNOON SAFARI, CARRY A HAT, SUNGLASSES AND A LIGHT WINDPROOF LAYER — OPEN JEEPS ARE DUSTY AND COLD ON THE DRIVE BACK. LEAVE THE DRONE AT HOME; THEY ARE PROHIBITED IN ALL NATIONAL PARKS.

△ Overnight: Yala / Tissamaharama · Uga Chena Huts

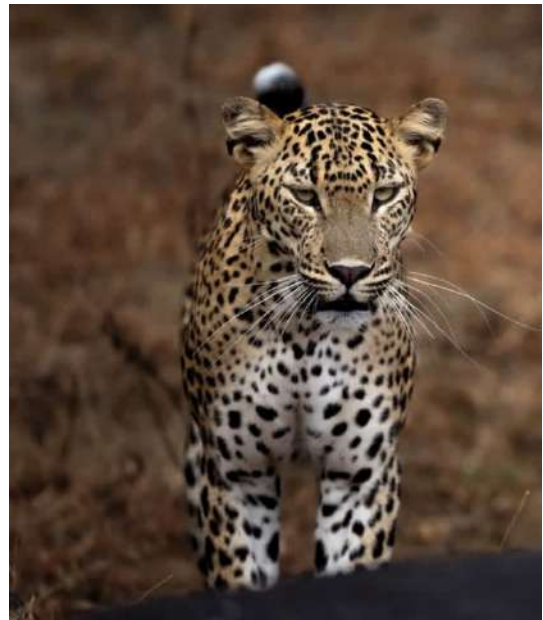


DAY 08 · YALA — BEACH (BALAPITIYA)

An early start for a morning jeep safari in Yala National Park, the island's best chance of a wild leopard and home to elephant, sloth bear, crocodile and a long list of birds across its scrub, lagoons and rock outcrops. Back for a late breakfast, then follow the coast road west towards Balapitiya, with time to stop at Hummanaya, the island's only natural blowhole, and the rock temple of Mulkirigala, where cave shrines and reclining Buddhas are cut into a granite outcrop reached by a long stone stairway. Arrive at your beach hotel by the evening — the first of three nights on the coast.

TRAVEL TIP YALA'S GATES OPEN AT 6 AM AND THE LEOPARDS ARE MOST ACTIVE IN THE FIRST TWO HOURS, SO ACCEPT THE EARLY ALARM. IT'S A LONG DAY ON THE ROAD AFTERWARDS — SETTLE IN FOR THE DRIVE AND LET THE SCENERY DO THE WORK.

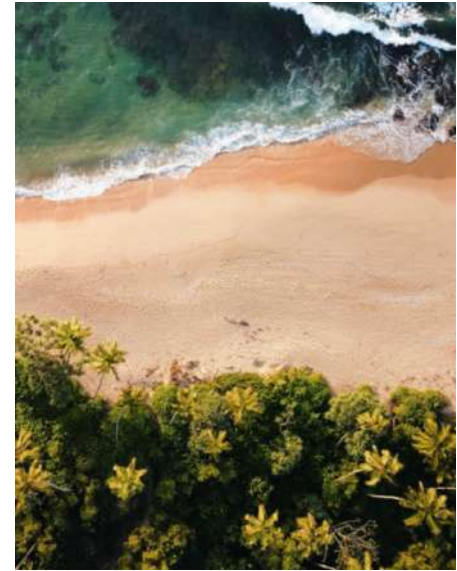
△ Overnight: Beach (Balapitiya) · Kumu Beach · night 1 of 3



DAY 09 · BEACH (BALAPITIYA)

A full day on the coast, shaped however you like it. Galle Fort is the obvious draw — a walled Dutch town of ramparts, coral-stone churches and shaded verandah cafes best walked in the cooler light of early morning or late afternoon, finishing at the lighthouse as the sea turns gold. Closer to the hotel, a boat safari on the Madu River threads mangrove tunnels and tiny island hermitages, and the stilt fishermen of Koggala still perch above the surf at dawn and dusk. Between November and April, an early boat from Mirissa gives you a strong chance of blue whales and spinner dolphins.

TRAVEL TIP THE INDIAN OCEAN HERE HAS A REAL UNDERTOW — SWIM BETWEEN THE FLAGS WHERE LIFEGUARDS ARE POSTED. WHALE-WATCHING BOATS LEAVE AROUND 6 AM AND SELL OUT IN SEASON, SO BOOK THE DAY BEFORE.



△ Overnight: Beach (Balapitiya) · Kumu Beach · night 2 of 3

DAY 10 · BEACH (BALAPITIYA)

A second day at leisure, with Balapitiya's own attractions close at hand, and Bentota's just a short drive away. A short river safari on the Bentota Ganga passes mangroves, a cinnamon island and a Buddhist temple, and the nearby turtle hatchery releases hatchlings into the surf most evenings. History buffs can add the Brief Garden, landscape architect Bevis Bawa's private estate, or simply spend the day by the pool and the sea before the journey home.



TRAVEL TIP BENTOTA'S BEACH IS GENERALLY CALMER THAN THE DEEP SOUTH — A GOOD SPOT FOR SWIMMING AND WATER SPORTS SUCH AS JET-SKIING AND BANANA BOATING, ARRANGED DIRECTLY THROUGH THE HOTEL.

△ Overnight: Beach (Balapitiya) · Kumu Beach · night 3 of 3

DAY 11 · BEACH — BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Breakfast at leisure, and depending on your flight time perhaps a last swim or a stroll along the beach. Your chauffeur-guide then transfers you to Bandaranaike International Airport for your onward flight, with assistance at check-in. We hope you leave with a sense of the island rather than a checklist of it — and we would be glad to welcome you back.

TRAVEL TIP ALLOW AT LEAST THREE HOURS BEFORE AN INTERNATIONAL DEPARTURE, AND REMEMBER THAT BALAPITIYA IS ROUGHLY TWO AND A HALF HOURS FROM THE AIRPORT, SO PLAN YOUR LAST SWIM ACCORDINGLY. BUFFALO-CURD, CINNAMON AND ANY WOODEN OR ANTIQUE-LOOKING ITEM SHOULD BE DECLARED OR CHECKED BEFORE YOU PACK IT; EXPORT OF GENUINE ANTIQUITIES IS PROHIBITED.

△ Overnight: — Departure

Where you will stay

Each destination below is a single, hand-picked property — no comfort-level choice on this itinerary.

DESTINATION	NIGHTS	HOTEL	BASE ROOM CATEGORY
Kotugoda	1	The Wallawwa	Wallawwa Bedroom
Habarana / Sigiriya	2	Water Garden Sigiriya	Deluxe Villa
Kandy	2	Jetwing Kandy Gallery	Deluxe Room
Nuwara Eliya	1	Camellia Hills	Camellia Bedroom
Yala / Tissamaharama	1	Uga Chena Huts	Pool Cabin (single category)
Beach (Balapitiya)	3	Kumu Beach	Kumu Bedroom

The itinerary comprises 10 nights and 11 days. All hotels are subject to availability at the time of confirmation; should a listed property be unavailable, we will do our very best to secure a similar alternative of the same category at the same cost; where that is not possible, an alternative will be offered with any supplement advised to you in advance. See The Fine Print for full hotel terms.

Please note: every property on this itinerary is a small, boutique hotel with very limited room inventory at each category shown above (in several cases, a single-digit number of rooms in the base category). Availability at the base room category is therefore strictly limited and cannot be guaranteed until confirmed in writing — we recommend booking as early as possible, and we will advise promptly if an upgrade or an alternative category is needed to secure the stay.

17 · SPECIAL PROPERTY REMARKS

Special property remarks

Please note the following property-specific policies before booking.

All-Inclusive Inclusions:

- Camellia Hills: All meals, snacks, open bar (spirits/wine/beer/mixers), laundry (5 pcs/day), \$50 credit per room towards Tea Factory visit/cooking demo.
- Uga Chena Huts: All meals, mini-bar, selected wine/beer/spirits, laundry (6 pcs/day), and 2 daily shared game drives including park tickets (reduction of \$100/cabin/day if selecting 1 game drive).

Base Room Configurations:

- Kumu Bedroom: Twin beds only (Max 2 pax; no extra rollaway bed allowed).
- Wallawwa Bedroom: King Double only (Max 2 pax; extra beds only fit from Garden Suite tier upwards).

Pricing & terms

Please contact us for pricing and terms and conditions.

READY WHEN YOU ARE

Ayubowan — and safe travels

Tell us what you would like changed and we will rework the journey around it. Nothing here is fixed until you say so.