

# ROMANTIC ESCAPE

8 NIGHTS / 9 DAYS

## 1st Day. AIRPORT - ANURADHAPURA

On arrival at the Colombo International Airport. Clients will be Welcomed by our representative and transferred to a Hotel at Anuradhapura. Evening at leisure.

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in Anuradhapura.

## 2nd Day. ANURADHAPURA – MIHINTHALE – AVKANA – SIGIRIYA

After breakfast, commence a sightseeing tour in the ancient city of Anuradhapura. From 4th century BC, it was the capital of Sri Lanka until the beginning of the 11th century AD. The ancient city, considered sacred to the Buddhists world over, is surrounded by monasteries covering an area of over sixteen square miles (40 km<sup>2</sup>). Anuradhapura is a City of archaeological and historical interest including Isurumuniya - the first temple to be built in the island, Sri Maha Bodhi Tree- with an authenticated history of more than 2300 years which has been planted from a sapling from the original tree under which Buddha attained enlightenment, Ruwanveliseya - the largest stupa in the island, Jethawanaramaya and Abhayagiriya - which in their original form have been equivalent in size to the Great Pyramids in Giza and have thus been declared as World Heritage Sites , Twin Ponds, Thuparamaya- the first Stupa to be built in Sri Lanka enshrining the left collar bone of the Buddha, the Samadhi Statue - meditating posture etc thereafter drive to Sigiriya. En-route visit Mihinthale&Avkana temple.

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in Sigiriya.

## 3rd Day. SIGIRIYA – HABARANA – POLONNARUWA – SIGIRIYA

After breakfast climb to the Rock fortress Sigiriya. Sigiriya (Lion's rock) is an ancient rock fortress and palace built during the reign of King KassapaI(AD 477 – 495). Contemporary with the paintings of Ajantha and Ellora Caves in India, highlights being the Frescoes, Mirror Wall and the Lion's Paw, and it is one of the Seven World Heritage Sites of Sri Lanka

Then leave for Polonnaruwa via Habarana. In Habarana join the place for an elephant ride. Then do a sightseeing tour in ancient city of Polonnaruwa. (11th Century AD). Visit the many sites of archaeological and historical interest in the Sacred City including the Grate Statue, Quadrangle, Royal Palace,,GalViharaya, Kumara and Lotus Ponds, Thiwanka Image House and many more. And see the one of the country's biggest water reservoirs, the ParakramaSamudraya, which is compared to an ocean.

Dinner and overnightstay at a Hotel in Sigiriya

## **4th Day. SIGIRIYA – DAMBULLA – MATALE – KANDY**

After breakfast leave for Kandy via Dambulla, and Matale. First visit Dambulla cave Temple. It is the largest and best preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. The rock towers 160 m over the surrounding plains. There are more than 80 documented caves in the surrounding. Major attractions are spread over 5 caves, which contain statues and paintings. This paintings and statues are related to Lord Buddha and his life. There are a total of 153 Buddha statues, 3 statues of Sri lankan kings and 4 statues of gods and goddesses.

Then proceed to Kandy. Enroute visit a Spice garden at Matale. Take part in a conducted tour to get some knowledge about the growth and use of spices in the day to day life in Sri Lanka.

Evening relaxe in the hotel and late evening, witness the Cultural Show by traditional Kandyan Dancers and Drummers including "Fire Walking".

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in Kandy.

## **5th Day. KANDY – PERADENIYA – NUWARA ELIYA**

After breakfast visits the Botanical gardens at Peradeniya, It is the largest botanical garden on the island. It is renowned for the collection the variety of Orchids, and has more than 300 varieties of Orchids, more than 5000 spices, medicinal plants and palms trees.

On the way visit a Tea Factory and a Plantation to witness the manufacturing process of world famous "Ceylon Tea" and to taste a pure un-blended cup of factory fresh tea. Also pass by eye-catching views with waterfalls. Evening city tour of NuwaraEliya Including Victoria Park, Gregory Lake and Golf Course, the 119 year old club is situated within the city limits. Established in 1891. One of Asia's finest Golf Clubs.

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in NuwaraEliya

## **6th Day. NUWAR ELIYA – ELLA – YALA**

After breakfast leave for Yala. On the way enjoy the scenery at Ella Gap and also pass by eye-catching views and the Ravana water fall.

In the evening do a half day jeep safari to Yala National park, Yala National Park is the second largest and most visited national park in Sri Lanka. The park covers 979 square kilometers, The park is best known for its variety of its wild animals. It is important for the conservation of Sri Lankan Elephants and aquatic birds.

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in Yala

## **7th Day. YALA – GALLE - BENTOTA**

After breakfast, leave for Bentota via Galle. Visit the Galle Fort which was built first by the Portuguese, then modified by the Dutch during the 17th century. Even today, after 400 years of existence, it looks new and polished with reconstruction work done by Archaeological Department of Sri Lanka, inside the Galle fort which is in a Dutch Colonial building on Church Street is the Cultural Museum.

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in Bentota

## **8th Day. BENTOTA**

Relax the day on the beach.

Dinner and overnight stay at a Hotel in Bentota

## **9th Day. BENTOTA – AIR PORT**

After breakfast leave for Air port for departure flight.

**END OF TOUR**

