

Grand Tour of Sri Lanka







TRIP OVERVIEW

Journey to the heart of this captivating island, boasting an incredible variety of highlights from undiscovered pristine beaches in the East, to ancient civilisations and sacred pilgrimage sites in the Cultural Triangle. Journey high up into the tea plantations of Sri Lanka's hill country and then down to Udawalawe and Yala to experience Sri Lanka's stunning wildlife, and discover the country's rich history in Colonial Galle and the capital, Colombo. Experience the 'Pearl of the Indian Ocean' in depth on this comprehensive, Grand Tour of Sri Lanka.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip to Sri Lanka. Please take the time to read this dossier to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our tour. It includes important information such as flight details, visa requirements and travel insurance.

Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

DAY 1: UK to Colombo

Depart London on your scheduled, overnight flight to Colombo International Airport.

DAY 2: Colombo D

On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel in Colombo.

DAY 3: Colombo B/L/D

Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, is a bustling, cosmopolitan city whose colonial history is still very much evident along wide, shaded boulevards and among its Victorian churches and tumbledown cafes. An introductory half-day city tour visits the vibrant temples and bazaars of Pettah, selling seemingly everything from traditional jewellery to Ayurvedic medicines. A trip to the Old Dutch hospital is a highlight of the newly restored Fort complex, home to some of Colombo's chicest restaurants, cafes and shops. After lunch enjoy the rest of the day at leisure before returning to your hotel for a welcome cocktail and dinner.

DAY 4: Colombo to Dambulla B/L/D

This morning, enjoy breakfast before your leisurely journey to Dambulla. After lunch, visit the Dambulla Rock Temple, where the impressive caves contain over 2000 square metres of painted walls and ceilings which were once gilded by the ancient King to mark his place of worship. This evening will be spent at leisure at your hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

DAY 5: Dambulla to Anuradhapura B/L/D

Early this morning head north to the ancient city of Anuradhapura, the spiritual heart of the Cultural Triangle. Before it becomes very warm, visit the somnolent village of Mihintale and its nearby sacred mountain peak and temple complex. Ancient monastic dwellings and meditations spots are connected by beautiful old stone steps amongst rocky hills. After lunch you will embark on a city tour of Anuradhapura. Recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Anuradhapura is the first capital and undoubtedly the grandest city of ancient Sri Lanka. The city ruins are one of South Asia's most evocative sites and contain a rich collection of crumbling temples, vast monasteries and elaborate palaces. Learn the fascinating history of the first ancient Sinhalese capital and marvel at the sacred Bodhi tree, the oldest authenticated tree in the world, tended by

its dutiful guardians for over 2000 years. Return to your hotel in Dambulla for dinner and overnight stay.

DAY 6: Dambulla and Sigiriya B/L/D

After an early breakfast proceed to Sigiriya. Undoubtedly a highlight of the tour is today's excursion to the awe-inspiring Sigiriya rock fortress. The ancient city of Sigiriya is a World Heritage Site and the city ruins lie on the slopes and summit of the imposing granite peak, towering above the jungle below. Climb up steps carved into the rock face to see the fortified palace and brilliant frescoes or enjoy the spectacular views of ancient citadel and jungle from the lily-pad-covered moats that surround the rock. Return to your hotel for lunch and to enjoy the rest of the day at leisure

Please note: photography is prohibited in parts of the Sigiriya Rock Fortress. Prohibited areas will be clearly sign-posted.

DAY 7: Dambulla to Passikudah via Polonnaruwa B/L/D

After an early breakfast, journey to Sri Lanka's second ancient city. Polonnaruwa became the seat of the Sinhalese kings and Sri Lanka's second ancient capital after the demise of Anuradhapura. Scattered over gently undulating woodland, explore the monumental ruins of the ancient garden-city built by the megalomaniac Sinhalese king, Parakramabahu I, in the twelfth century. Afterwards, continue on to Passikudah where you will spend the next two nights.

DAY 8: Passikudah B/L/D

Today has been left at leisure. With its powder-white sands and emerald-blue waters, Passikudah is the perfect place to relax and enjoy Sri Lanka's laid-back, less-visited East coast.

DAY 9: Passikudah to Kandy B/L/D

After breakfast proceed to Kandy via Matale. Here you will explore a typical Sri Lankan spice garden to observe how a variety of spices are grown. After lunch you will continue to the Central Hills Kandy. Head to the famous Temple of the Sacred Tooth. The golden-roofed temple houses Sri Lanka's most important Buddhist relic – a tooth of Buddha; you will arrive in time for 'pooja' when the heavily guarded room housing the relic is open to both pilgrims and travellers alike.

DAY 10: Kandy B/L/D

Cradled amongst misty hills, the small city of Kandy exudes history, culture and beauty with its calm centrepiece lake surrounded by rolling forested landscapes and colourful houses. Explore the famous botanical gardens of Peradeniya, full of exotic palms, colourful orchids and home to over four thousand species of trees and plants. Then enjoy a tour of the city followed by a day at leisure.



DAY 11: Kandy to Nuwara Eliya B/L/D

This morning you will journey to Nuwara Eliya, often referred to as 'Little England' due to its plethora of colonial bungalows, well-tended hedgerows and pretty rose gardens. The picturesque mountain town is blessed with a salubrious climate and breathtaking views over the surrounding valleys, meadows and peaks. Sri Lanka is one of the world's largest exporters of tea and Nuwara Eliya has been the capital of this industry since the 19th century. En route to your hotel, you will make a stop at a tea plantation to observe the rich traditional process and inhale the heavenly scent of the prestigious Ceylon tea brand.

DAY 12: Nuwara Eliya to Udawalawe B/L/D

A morning tour of Nuwara Eliya begins today, driving through the lush green tea plantations dotted with the colourful saris of the women working in them. Lunch will be served in a local village, Ella, with far reaching views over the misty landscapes beyond before continuing to Udawalawe.

DAY 13: Udawalawe to Tissamaharama B/L/D

Udawalawe national park is renowned for its elephant viewing opportunities against the stunning backdrop of the surrounding hills. Rising early this morning, embark on a jeep safari to witness these majestic creatures in their natural habitat. As well as being home to over 250 elephants, deer, water buffalo, monkeys and a variety of bird species can also be found in the park. Just outside the park is the Elephant Transit Home, an inspirational project started to rehabilitate injured elephants. After this visit, depart for Tissamaharama to enjoy lunch and the rest of day at leisure.

DAY 14: Tissamaharama and Yala National Park B/L/D

After some free time this morning, a jeep safari in the nearby Yala national park awaits. Covering a vast 1200 square kilometres, Yala is Sri Lanka's largest national park boasting a uniquely stunning ocean front setting. Journey through the heartland of wildlife, home to elephants, sloths, deer and, with the highest density of leopards in the world, you may even be lucky enough to spot one of these beautifully elusive animals.

DAY 15: Tissamaharama to Mirissa B/L/D

Departing Tissamaharama, you will travel to the sleepy coastal resort of Mirissa. The idyllic crescent of beach, fringed with coconut palms is the perfect place to crack open a coconut and relax on the soft golden sands by the calm turquoise waters.

DAY 16: Mirissa and Galle B/L/D

This morning will be at leisure for you to further relax or choose an optional whale watching excursion. The south coast of Sri Lanka is arguably the best place in the world to see planet earth's largest ever creatures, the Blue Whale (please note whale watching is seasonal). Late this morning you will travel to Galle, a fort area and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This national treasure has been inhabited by the Portuguese, Dutch and British, all of whom left their distinctive marks visible in the walled Galle Fort and through the sleepy streets strewn with colonial buildings, restaurants and small boutique shops.

DAY 17: Mirissa to UK or Extension ${\sf B}$

After breakfast, transfer to Colombo airport for your flight back to the UK, or continue on to your chosen extension.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS & MAP

Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience, location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to guesthouses. Hotel accommodation is generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note there is no international classification system for hotels, and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and Sri Lanka. All group tours hotels have private bathroom facilities and air-conditioning, where needed.

Rest assured that all accommodation used by Mercury Holidays is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs. If you have booked a triple share please note that your room will be a twin room with a rollaway bed or sofa bed added. This may limit the floor space in the room

Final confirmation of your hotels will be sent in a document approximately 10 days before you travel. Meals

Breakfast is always western style and served in the hotel each morning. Dinner (when included) will be taken in local restaurants or at the hotel. A variety of restaurants are visited giving you the chance to experience a range of dishes and flavours. Please note: Please take cash for drinks in the hotels as cards are not always accepted.

Number of nights Anuradhapura (Mihintale Passikudah Dambulla' Asia Polonnar Colombo Kandy airport Colombo Sri Lanka Nuwara Eliya Bay of Bengal Yala National Udawalawe Park Mirissa Tissamaharama Coach

ON YOUR ARRIVAL

On your arrival in Colombo you will be met by a representative from our local agent, **Aitken Spence**, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/Aitken Spence representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. Your guide will be able to answer any queries. However, if you need to contact Aitken Spence during your stay the details are:

Aitken Spence Travel (Colombo)

4th Floor Aitken Spence Towers 02 315, Vauxhall Street Colombo 02 Sri Lanka Contact number: 0094 112 499623

Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details for Aitken Spence Travel

 Contact
 Telephone number

 Rizmika
 0094 772 916461

 Anil
 0094 777 270500

 Anu
 0094 774 593182

WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

Visas

A visa is required for entry into Sri Lanka. You can apply and pay for your visa online or on arrival in Sri Lanka. Please visit www.eta.gov.lk/slvisa to obtain your visa. Alternatively, we work closely with The Travel Visa Company who will be able to arrange your visa for you on your behalf. Please call them on 01270 250 590 and quote "Mercury Holidays". The visas take around 10 working days to issue and are only valid for 3 months from the date of issue. We therefore recommend that you apply for your visa 8 weeks before travel, however please be aware that your passport will be required for the application so make sure that you will not need it during this time. You can also visit The High Commission of Sri Lanka at 13 Hyde Park Gardens, London,

Please note: If you have chosen to add the 'Kerala Beach Stay' or 'Highlights of Kerala' extension to the end of your tour, you will need to

obtain an Indian visa prior to your UK departure. The Travel Visa Company offers a service which takes can take up to 15 working days at busy times. The cost is approximately £134.

Alternatively you can apply for your own visa. You can apply in person or by post to the Indian Embassy in London: 142-148 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7DU. There are also regional centres elsewhere in the UK. Full details on the process can be found on the Indian Embassy website www.in.vfsglobal.co.uk.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities



the time that you make your bookin

you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call 0800 781 4237 and quote 'WK830' for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury Holidays will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Health and Vaccinations

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.

Physical Accessibility

This tour is accessible to most people with a good level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves climbing of steep stairs and getting on and off coaches/Safari Jeeps at the National Parks. This tour is not suitable for anyone with walking difficulties. All our tours feature a "Tour Pace" to help find the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights, climb stairs and get on and off coaches and boats. The tour pace for Grand tour of Sri Lanka is Advanced. A higher level of fitness as required as you may be on your feet for most of the day though this will be interspersed with regular breaks and vary from day to day. You will be walking around the sights, getting on and off coaches, trains, boats and climbing steps which may be irregular. There may be some time spend at high altitude. You will stay in variety of hotels, possibly including overnight trains, and accommodation standards may not match those you are used to at home.

Our 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.

Group Size

The minimum number of travellers in your group will be 10, and the maximum will be 22. If in the unlikely event there are less than 10 people booked on your tour date, we will endeavour to reduce any disruption to your holiday and try to operate your tour with lower passenger numbers. If we are not able to operate your departure date, then you may be asked to change to a different date and a full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable.

Tour Guides

This is a fully escorted tour, meaning that you will be met on arrival by your national guide who will remain with you for the duration of your trip, ensuring that you have first-hand knowledge at all times. Should the tour not meet minimum numbers, then it will be operated with a driver/guide only

Private Tour

If you have booked a private tour then you will be accompanied by a Driver Guide or a Driver and Local Guides. These will be available to you during all scheduled sightseeing. Private Tours can depart on any day of the week depending on flight and train schedules and the opening days of the

attractions. They will follow the itinerary as described in the brochure unless you have been advised otherwise and you will still have all of the same meals, sightseeing and local excursions included.

Clothing

It is seen as respectful to cover your shoulders and not to expose too much skin in Sri Lanka, so it would be advisable to pack a shawl or similar for women to cover up, including wearing up to/covering your kness when entering religious buildings etc.

Tipping

It is customary to tip both your driver and guide. We would recommend to tip approximately $\pounds 7$ per person per day. This is a total of $\pounds 112$ per person to budget for tips on your trip. Tips will be collected at the end of your tour and are accepted in the local currency.

Currency Exchange

The currency in Sri Lanka is the Rupee (LKR) and it is a closed currency. This means it is not possible to buy Sri Lankan money in the UK before you travel. It is important to budget carefully as you should not take any Rupee (LKR) out of Sri Lanka when you depart. There are foreign exchange offices and cash machines available in most places during your tour. Your tour guide will assist you at the start of your tour with currency exchange. Credit and debit cards are accepted in most hotels and some shops and restaurants; a charge is sometimes added for using them.

Credit Card Information

As normal practice you will be asked for your credit card details on check-in at the hotel in order to cover any extras incurred during your stay. If you do not have a credit card you may be asked for a cash deposit. American Express, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted in hotels.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry, any meals not included in the itinerary as well as drinks and any additional snacks. Approximately £300- £400 per person will be sufficient for the duration of the tour. It is a good idea to try and maintain a supply of small notes and change in the local currency for tipping or small purchases.

Itinerary changes

The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your local guide will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Some road construction and/or weather conditions may lengthen the driving times. Our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.

Please note: Yala Game Park is closed for 30 days from September to October. During this period the safari will be to Lunugamwehera National Park instead.

Passport Information

Your Passport Information is required for this tour. This information is required at least 90 days prior to your departure. Failure to provide this information on time may result in your booking being cancelled with loss of deposit.

WHAT TO PACK

- Insect repellent and sun cream
- Waterproof lightweight jacket
- Sunglasses, sunscreen and hat in summer
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Thick socks for when visiting temples
- Ruck sack
- Swimwear
- · Anti-bacterial hand sanitiser
- · Long trousers and a top with sleeves (required when entering any

religious sites)

- Camera and charger
- An electric plug converter the electricity in Sri Lanka is 230 volts and is a 3 round pin plug or a UK plug
- Loo paper for public WCs
- Binoculars
- Personal toiletries and first aid kit containing travel pills, rehydration powder, plasters, stomach settlers, antiseptic creams, aspirin etc

FLIGHT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details, including terminal, airline and baggage allowance, will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure. A printed E-ticket is no longer required at check-in, all you need to do is present your passport to the staff at the desk and your boarding pass will be given to you.

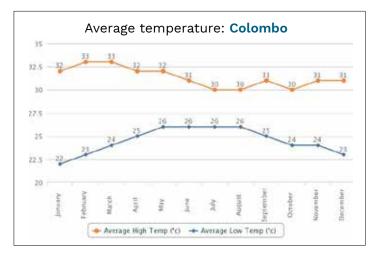
Airport Extras

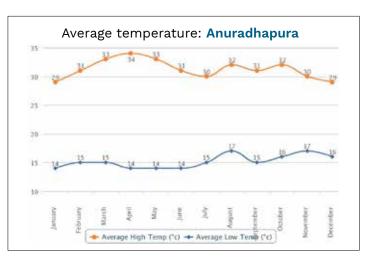
If you wish to arrange Airport car parking, lounges or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras Tel. 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

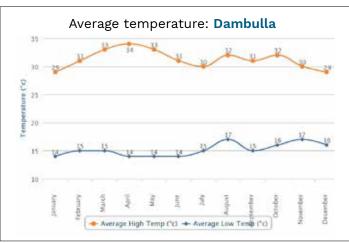


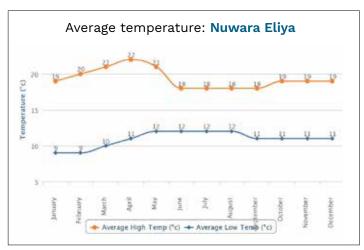
WEATHER AND CLIMATE

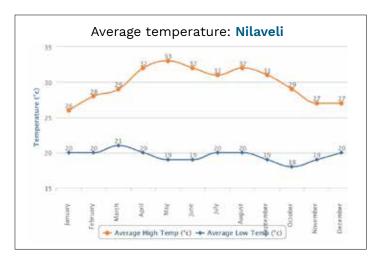
Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.

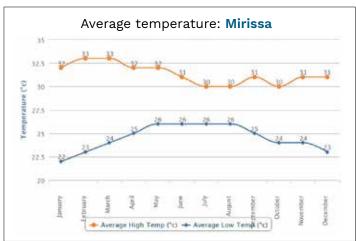














Sri Lanka Beach Stay

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522







TRIP OVERVIEW

Your extended stay in Sri Lanka, at one of the wonderful beach resorts on the west coast of the country allows you to Indulge in a calming massage or relax by the beach.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your Sri Lanka beach stay extension.

Sri Lanka Beach Stay (4 nights)

Located off the southern tip of India, Sri Lanka's warm charm and vibrant culture will seduce any traveller. The island boasts endless golden beaches, timeless ruins, colourful cuisine and a stunning array of native wildlife

Hotel Information

On the west coast of Sri Lanka, Kalutara is the ideal place to relax and indulge yourself with a stay at your chosen hotel at the 3* plus Coral Sands Hotel, the 4* The Palms or the 5* Royal Palms Beach Hotel. Your transfers and accommodation are included and your stay will be on a Half Board or All-Inclusive basis. This will have been confirmed at time of booking.

Hotel Information:

3★ plus Coral Sands Hotel - 326, Galle Road, Hikkaduwa 20000, Sri Lanka.

Contact number: 0094 912 277 436

4★ The Palms - 6th Lane, Beruwala 12070, Sri Lanka.

Contact number: 0094 114 334 834

5★ Royal Palms Beach Hotel - De Abrew Road, Waskaduwa, Kalutara.

Contact number: 0094 34 222 8113

If you have booked another hotel, other than those featured above, this will be shown on your invoice.

The hotels listed are provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take some extra money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs and laundry and any meals and snacks where these are not included.

Tour Guides

Your beach stay is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour. Your main tour will end on day 15 if taking this extension.





FLIGHT INFORMATION



Altogether Better

Highlights Of Kerala

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522







TRIP OVERVIEW

Your 4 night, 5 day tour highlights some of the wonders of Kerala. This tour gives an exciting insight into the fascinating culture of this beautiful Indian state.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require during your chosen add-on to Kerala.

Highlights of Kerala Tour (4 nights)

Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

DAY 17: Colombo to Kochi (Cochin) B

Depart Sri Lanka in the morning for your flight to Kochi, in India's beautiful southern state of Kerala, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel

DAY 18: Kochi to Alleppey $\ensuremath{\mathsf{B}}$

Transfer to Alleppey to board an authentic houseboat, journeying through the scenic backwaters.

DAY 19: Alleppey to Thekkady B

Disembarking your houseboat after breakfast, your tour continues with a drive through the spectacular countryside arriving at the Thekkady Hill Station, home to a stunning wildlife sanctuary.

DAY 20: Thekkady to Kochi (Cochin) B

After an early morning boat ride on Periyar Lake, proceed to Kochi for a city tour.

DAY 21: Kochi (Cochin) to the UK B

Depart after breakfast for your return flight to the UK, via Colombo.

Currency Exchange

The currency in Kerala is the Rupee or Rs. US Dollars and GBP are also widely accepted, should you wish to keep an alternative currency on you.

Tour guides

This add-on to Kerala is fully escorted.

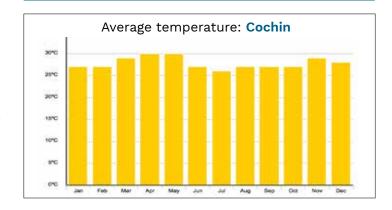
Visa

A visa is required for entry into India. British Citizen Passport Holders will need to obtain an e-Tourist Visa (eTV) for travel to India. We work closely with The Travel Visa Company who will be able to arrange your visa on your behalf. Please call them on 01270 250 590 and quote "Mercury Holidays". The cost of the visa is approximately £134 per person. The Travel Visa Company can only apply for this 120 days before your proposed travel date and takes around 10 working days to issue. It is only valid for a 60 day single entry stay from the date of arrival. When calling the Travel Visa Company they will advise you of any changes to the fees or the procedure, they will also advise you of all information they will require in order to apply for the visa.

Alcoholic drinks

Please note that Kerala has strict laws regarding the governance of the sale of alcohol in public places including hotels and restaurants. The sale and consumption of alcohol is therefore often restricted in hotels, varying from one establishment to another. You may however bring your own alcohol with you for private consumption in your room.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE



FLIGHT INFORMATION



Maldives Beach Stay

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522







TRIP OVERVIEW

Indulge yourself with your fabulous 4 or 7 night extension to the Maldives. Arriving at Male airport you will be transferred to your hotel by speed boat for four nights of pure bliss. Enjoy spectacular views of the bluest seas, whilst you unwind on this island of paradise.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension to your Maldives beach stay.

Maldives Beach Stay (4 or 7 nights)

With luxuriously warm seas and powder white beaches, the Maldives are a picture-perfect holiday destination. The island's unspoiled beaches are possibly the best in the world. Shores are fringed by swaying palm trees and sparkling waters with tropical fish, dolphins and five species of sea turtles.

All you need to know

This fabulous extension begins with a speed boat transfer to the $4\star$ Adaaran Club Rannalhi. Then simply unwind and enjoy the stunning beaches. Your transfers, accommodation and All-Inclusive meals are included.

You will not need to obtain a visa for the Maldives prior to your beach stay extension. You will be granted a free 30 days tourist visa on arrival. A Health Form will need to be completed within 96 hours of departure to the Maldives. This form is available at https://imuga.immigration.gov.mv/ethd/create. Further advice should be sought from the applicable tourist authority for other nationalities and for general queries. We strongly advise you check your destinations' Tourist Board or Embassy for the most upto-date guidelines regarding passport validity.

Hotel Information:

4★ Adaaran Club Rannalhi - Rannalhi, South Malé Atoll. 0096 0064 2688 If you have booked another hotel, other than those featured above, this will be shown on your invoice.

Personal Expenses

The currency in the Maldives is the Maldivian Rufiya. The Maldivian Rufiya is a closed currency and officially you are not allowed to take any cash out of the Maldives. US Dollars are also widely accepted in these destinations, should you wish to keep an alternative currency on you. You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases, such as souvenirs, laundry and items not included in your All-Inclusive package.

Tour Guides

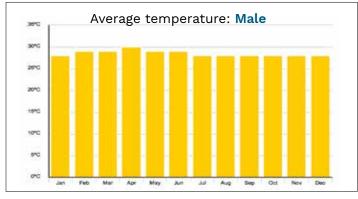
Your beach stay is not escorted by a tour guide and your time will be free to explore the area at your own pace. Representative service will be on telephone contact only due to geographical reasons. If you need to contact your representative during your stay the details are: Emergency number: Nuwan Dissanayaka (Ace Travels Maldives): 00960 7787396

Airport contacts (local agent): Airport hotline number – 009607920058 Sujeewa – 009607920053

Maadhin - 009609809990

PLEASE NOTE: Alcohol is not allowed on entry to The Maldives. If you have bought liquor, beer or related items containing alcohol from a duty free shop while on route to the Maldives, these products must be bonded in the airport's customs department upon arrival. These goods will be returned before departure.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE



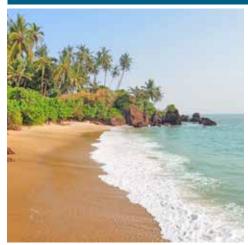


FLIGHT INFORMATION

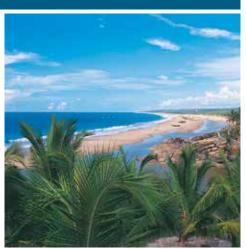


Kerala Beach Stay

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522







TRIP OVERVIEW

Your extension to Kerala offers the opportunity to explore the country further and simply unwind on the beautiful beaches.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your beach stay extension in Kerala.

Kerala Beach Stay (4 nights)

Kerala is one of the most fascinating and distinctive states in India, with networks of tropical waterways, hidden villages and an inviting, palm-fringed coastline. Kerala's enchanting culture, warm climate and dramatic landscapes combine to create a relaxing and captivating destination.

Hotel Information

Your stay will take place at the $5\star$ Uday Samudra Leisure Hotel & Spa on Full Board.

The Uday Samudra Leisure Hotel & Spa is located in the popular resort of Kovalam. Overlooking the sea and only a short walk to Kovalam's popular beaches, this hotel provides excellent guest facilities. Samudra Beach itself offers a selection of restaurants and varied shopping. The busy resort centre of Kovalam is close at hand. Your transfers are included.

Hotel Information:

5★ Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel & Spa - GV Raja Road, Samudra Beach, Kovalam, Contact number: 0091 471 248 1654

If you have booked another hotel, other than the one featured above, this will be shown on your invoice.

The hotel listed is provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take some extra money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs and laundry and any meals and snacks where these are not included.

Currency Exchange

The currency in Kerala is the Rupee or Rs. US Dollars and GBP are also widely accepted, should you wish to keep an alternative currency on you.

Tour Guides

Your stay in Kerala is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

Alcoholic drinks

Please note that Kerala has strict laws regarding the governance of the sale of alcohol in public places including hotels and restaurants. The sale

FLIGHT INFORMATION

and consumption of alcohol is therefore often restricted in hotels, varying from one establishment to another. You may however bring your own alcohol with you for private consumption in your room.

Visas

A visa is required for entry into India. British Citizen Passport Holders will need to obtain an e-Tourist Visa (eTV) for travel to India. We work closely with The Travel Visa Company who will be able to arrange your visa on your behalf. Please call them on 01270 250 590 and quote "Mercury Holidays". The cost of the visa is approximately £134 per person. The Travel Visa Company can only apply for this 120 days before your proposed travel date and takes around 10 working days to issue. It is only valid for a 60 day single entry stay from the date of arrival. When calling the Travel Visa Company they will advise you of any changes to the fees or the procedure, they will also advise you of all information they will require in order to apply for the visa.

Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.

Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details while you are in Kerala; Jayasree Travel and Tours

 Contact
 Telephone number

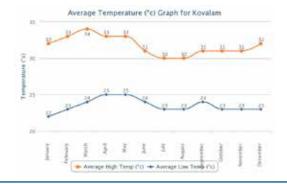
 Ms Jayasree Vikraman
 0091 974 700 5888

 Ms Samitha
 0091 974 471 3380

 Mr Jagdish Nair
 0091 956 208 9699

 Mr Anil Kumar
 0091 984 706 6802

 Mrs Prashansa Alkesh
 0091 997 148 8995





Colombo City stay

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522







TRIP OVERVIEW

Explore this fascinating city at your own pace. Colombo is the commercial capital of the island. Its streets are alive with colourful shops and markets, while temples and mosques reflect its multicultural heritage.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your beach stay extension in Colombo.

Colombo City Stay (2 nights)

Renowned as the bustling commerical capital of Sri Lanka, the historical metropolis of Colombo is brimming with endless colonial architecture, vibrant markets stalls and tantalising local delicacies. Immerse yourself in a city whose distinctly evident multicultural heritage manifests itself in the form of architectural influences throughout its colourful history, up until its independence in the 20th century.

Hotel Information

Your stay will take place at the $4\star$ Mount Lavina Hotel on Bed and Breakfast.

Occupying a beautiful location just south of Colombo the 4-star Mount Lavinia Hotel overlooks a golden sandy beach and offers guests an oasis of luxury and splendour. With a stunning colonial style building the Mount Lavinia Hotel gives guests a taste of the old style splendour of Sri Lanka full of mystique and romance. A choice of restaurants at the Mount Lavinia Hotel will fulfil all your culinary wants and needs.

Hotel Information:

4★ Mount Lavina Hotel -

Address:No. 100 Hotel Road, Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia 10350 Sri Lanka

If you have booked another hotel, other than the one featured above, this will be shown on your invoice.

The hotel listed is provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.

Personal Expenses

We would recommend approximately $\pounds 4-5$ per person, per day for the driver and assistant and $\pounds 4$ per person, per day for the national guides.

Currency Exchange

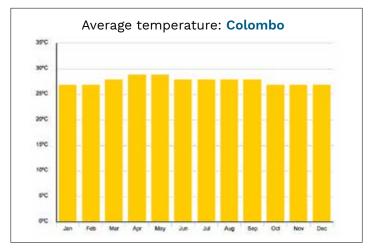
The currency in Sri Lanka is the Rupee, LKR. The Rupee is a closed currency and officially you are not allowed to take any cash out of Sri Lanka. US Dollars and GBP are also widely accepted in Sri Lanka should you wish to keep an alternative currency on you

Tour Guides

Your stay in Colombo is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.





FLIGHT INFORMATION